

# SPORTS

Friday, March 24, 2023

## Pohlman will receive renovation

**JIM FRANZ**  
Sports Editor

BELOIT—If you noticed a bunch of old Beloit Snappers items from Pohlman Field going up for auction this week, you may have easily drawn the wrong conclusion.

Instead of signaling the final demise of the long-idle ballpark, those sales actually are a sign of its rebirth.

City of Beloit Director of Parks & Recreation Matt Amundson says renovation of the facility is currently underway, which included the removal of the old Snappers references as well as removal of parts of the ballpark which had fallen into disrepair since the Snappers moved to ABC Supply Stadium in August, 2021.

“We’re trying to make it a viable, safe facility for the public to be at,” Amundson said. “We also wanted to put up signage rebranding the ballpark as a City of Beloit facility.”

That’s why the Snapper paraphernalia had to go.

“There was a bunch of stuff I had suggested we just throw away, but instead we took it to Beloit Auction Service and hopefully selling it will help pay for some of the improvements in the renovation process,” Amundson said.

More **POHLMAN** | A17



Amundson



# ROSE-Y FUTURE

Roscoe’s Cassioppi will wrestle at Iowa

**JIM FRANZ**  
Sports Editor

Roscoe native Rose Cassioppi said it seemed to her that people were convinced she was heading to the University of Iowa to wrestle long before she actually made the decision herself.

“Everyone was always saying Rose is definitely going to go to Iowa and I would always say that I am going to explore my options,” she said in a telephone interview from Colorado Springs, Colo. “I guess they turned out to be right.”

The former Hononegah High School state champion said she did consider Southern Oregon University, but officially committed to the Hawkeyes’ inaugural women’s wrestling team on Monday.

“It’s a great school, it’s close to home and I connected with all the girls on the team,” she said. “I think they’re going to have a great program. Making the decision was stressful because you really are

deciding your future. But I definitely am making the right decision and I feel good about it.”

It’s been two years since Iowa first announced it would become the first Division I Power Five Conference school to field a women’s wrestling team. There are seven NCAA D-1 schools offering women’s wrestling as a collegiate sport while overall there are 124 women’s programs.

Cassioppi was one of the first 15 to join the Hawkeyes.

“I think there will be a lot more,” she said. “They’ll keep recruiting and they’ll have a pretty big team when they’re done.”

The fourth-ranked 164-pound woman wrestler in the nation, Rose was always expected to follow her older brother Tony’s footsteps to Iowa. A former Hononegah state champion, Tony Cassioppi placed third at the Big Ten Championships and fourth at the recent NCAA championships. The heavyweight as another year of eligibility there.

“It’s going to be fun wrestling for a year with Tony,” Rose said.

Being away from home won’t be anything new.

More **CASSIOPPI** | A18

JIM FRANZ/BELOIT DAILY NEWS

Rose Cassioppi will be among the first Hawkeyes women wrestlers.



JIMMY OSWALD/BELOIT DAILY NEWS

Turner’s Ryleigh Rose puts down a sacrifice bunt during Thursday’s win against Evansville.

## Clark walks it off for Trojans

**JIMMY OSWALD**  
Staff Writer

BELOIT—Thursday’s Rock Valley Conference match between Beloit Turner and Evansville quickly turned into a pitching dual with plenty of strikeouts and soft groundouts.

So, it was only fitting that Kamryn Clark’s walk-off single to give the Trojans a 3-2 season-opening win in extra innings over the Blue Devils wasn’t some booming hit, but a soft pop hit towards the shortstop.

“I was pretty nervous,” Clark said about her final at-bat. “But I just took a deep breath. We’re pretty good at being steady, and I’m a pretty steady hitter on my travel ball team. It came into use there.”

It was the small-ball mentality that sparked the winning inning for Turner. Maddy Hoening reached on an infield error before she stole second. Taylor Veins popped out to first base, and Autumn Meris was hit by a pitch.

With Clark at the plate Hoening stole third, setting up the

winning hit from the sophomore.

“Oh, Kam had the confidence when she went up there,” winning pitcher Ryleigh Rose said. “I knew when I saw that look in her eye, that she was going to get a hit. And she hit it right in between where she needed to hit it. I knew as soon as it came off the bat that she had it down.”

Rose had to share that unwavering calmness that Clark exhibited throughout her eight innings of work.

More **TURNER** | A16

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

MLB Spring Training AMERICAN LEAGUE			
W	L	Pct.	
Los Angeles	15	9	.625
Kansas City	17	11	.607
Toronto	16	11	.593
Houston	12	9	.571
Boston	13	10	.565
Tampa Bay	14	11	.560
Seattle	12	10	.545
Baltimore	13	12	.520
Texas	12	13	.480
Chicago	10	12	.455
Minnesota	10	13	.435
Oakland	10	13	.435
Detroit	12	16	.429
New York	10	15	.400
Cleveland	8	14	.364

NATIONAL LEAGUE			
W	L	Pct.	
St. Louis	14	6	.700
Atlanta	13	9	.591
Chicago	14	10	.583
Los Angeles	13	10	.565
Washington	12	10	.545
Cincinnati	13	11	.542
Philadelphia	14	12	.538
Arizona	13	13	.500
San Francisco	12	12	.500
San Diego	12	14	.462
Milwaukee	10	13	.435
New York	9	14	.391
Pittsburgh	9	14	.391
Colorado	10	16	.385
Miami	6	15	.286

**Thursday's Games**

N.Y. Yankees 1, St. Louis 1  
 N.Y. Mets 2, Atlanta 2  
 Toronto 3, Minnesota 0  
 Boston 7, Pittsburgh 4  
 Philadelphia 4, Detroit (ss) 1  
 Chicago Cubs 11, Arizona (ss) 1  
 San Francisco (ss) 6, Chicago White Sox 3  
 Arizona (ss) 11, L.A. Dodgers 5  
 Milwaukee 4, San Diego (ss) 2  
 San Diego (ss) 6, Kansas City  
 Detroit (ss) 8, Baltimore 8  
 Houston 5, Washington 4

**Friday's Games**

Minnesota vs. N.Y. Yankees (ss) at Tampa, Florida, 1:05 p.m.  
 N.Y. Mets vs. Tampa Bay at St. Petersburg, Florida, 1:05 p.m.  
 Chicago White Sox vs. Oakland (ss) at Mesa, Arizona, 4:05 p.m.  
 Milwaukee (ss) vs. L.A. Dodgers at Phoenix, Arizona, 4:05 p.m.  
 San Francisco vs. Kansas City at Surprise, Arizona, 4:05 p.m.  
 Texas vs. Chicago Cubs (ss) at Mesa, Arizona, 4:05 p.m.  
 Cincinnati vs. Arizona at Scottsdale, Arizona, 4:10 p.m.  
 Colorado vs. Milwaukee (ss) at Phoenix, Arizona, 4:10 p.m.  
 San Diego vs. L.A. Angels at Tempe, Arizona, 4:10 p.m.  
 Atlanta vs. Boston at Fort Myers, Florida, 6:05 p.m.  
 N.Y. Yankees (ss) vs. Baltimore at Sarasota, Florida, 6:05 p.m.  
 St. Louis vs. Washington at Palm Beach, Florida, 6:05 p.m.  
 Pittsburgh vs. Detroit at Lakeland, Florida, 6:05 p.m.  
 Philadelphia vs. Toronto at Dunedin, Florida, 6:07 p.m.  
 Houston vs. Miami at Sarasota, Florida, 6:40 p.m.  
 Chicago Cubs (ss) vs. Cleveland at Goodyear, Arizona, 9:05 p.m.  
 Oakland (ss) vs. Seattle at Peoria, Arizona, 9:40 p.m.

BASKETBALL

NBA EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
x-Boston	50	23	.685	—
x-Philadelphia	49	23	.681	½
New York	42	33	.560	9
Brooklyn	39	33	.542	10½
Toronto	35	38	.479	15

Southeast Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Miami	40	34	.541	—
Atlanta	36	37	.493	3½
Washington	32	41	.438	7½
Orlando	31	43	.419	9
Charlotte	23	50	.315	16½

Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
x-Milwaukee	52	20	.722	—
Cleveland	46	28	.622	7
Chicago	34	38	.472	18
Indiana	33	40	.452	19½
Detroit	16	57	.219	36½

WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Southwest Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
y-Memphis	45	27	.625	—
Dallas	36	37	.493	9½
New Orleans	35	37	.486	10
San Antonio	19	54	.260	26½
Houston	18	55	.247	27½

Northwest Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
y-Denver	49	24	.671	—
Minnesota	37	37	.500	12½
Oklahoma City	36	36	.500	12½
Utah	35	37	.486	13½
Portland	32	40	.444	16½

Pacific Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Sacramento	43	29	.597	—
Phoenix	38	34	.528	5
L.A. Clippers	38	35	.521	5½
Golden State	38	36	.514	6
L.A. Lakers	36	37	.493	7½

**Wednesday's Games**

Denver 118, Washington 104  
 Indiana 118, Toronto 114  
 Miami 127, New York 120  
 Golden State 127, Dallas 125  
 Milwaukee 130, San Antonio 94  
 Memphis 130, Houston 125  
 Philadelphia 116, Chicago 91  
 Minnesota 125, Atlanta 124  
 Portland 127, Utah 115  
 L.A. Lakers 122, Phoenix 111

**Thursday's Games**

Orlando 111, New York 106  
 Cleveland 116, Brooklyn 114  
 Charlotte at New Orleans, 8 p.m.  
 Oklahoma City at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

**Friday's Games**

Indiana at Boston, 7 p.m.  
 San Antonio at Washington, 7 p.m.  
 Detroit at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.  
 Houston at Memphis, 8 p.m.  
 Charlotte at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.  
 Milwaukee at Utah, 9 p.m.  
 Chicago at Portland, 10 p.m.  
 Philadelphia at Golden State, 10 p.m.  
 Phoenix at Sacramento, 10 p.m.  
 Oklahoma City at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.

FOOTBALL

XFL North Division					
W	L	Pct	PF	PA	
DC	5	0	1.000	134	90
St. Louis	3	2	.600	110	106
Seattle	3	2	.600	102	88
Vegas	1	4	.200	105	134

South Division					
W	L	Pct	PF	PA	
Houston	4	1	.800	136	76
Arlington	3	2	.600	69	86
San Antonio	1	4	.200	74	79
Orlando	0	5	.000	81	152

**Saturday's Games**

Seattle at Orlando, 1 p.m.  
 St. Louis at Vegas, 7 p.m.

**Sunday, March 26's Game**

San Antonio at Arlington, 3 p.m.

**Monday, March 27's Game**

Houston at DC, 7 p.m.

HOCKEY

EASTERN CONFERENCE							
Atlantic Division							
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
x-Boston	71	55	11	5	115	269	153
Toronto	71	43	19	9	95	245	196
Tampa Bay	73	42	25	6	90	252	228
Florida	72	36	29	7	79	252	247
Ottawa	72	35	32	5	75	228	233
Buffalo	70	33	31	6	72	251	263
Detroit	71	31	31	9	71	209	235
Montreal	72	28	38	6	62	203	268

Metropolitan Division							
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Carolina	70	46	16	8	100	233	181
New Jersey	71	45	18	8	98	247	193
N.Y. Rangers	72	42	20	10	94	243	195
N.Y. Islanders	72	37	27	8	82	215	198
Pittsburgh	71	35	26	10	80	229	230
Washington	73	34	31	8	76	233	227
Philadelphia	71	27	32	12	66	192	236
Columbus	70	22	41	7	51	189	273

WESTERN CONFERENCE							
Central Division							
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Minnesota	72	41	22	9	91	216	197
Dallas	71	38	19	14	90	247	199
Colorado	70	41	23	6	88	233	196
Winnipeg	72	40	29	3	83	218	203
Nashville	69	35	26	8	78	198	205
St. Louis	71	32	33	6	70	224	258
Arizona	72	27	33	12	66	203	250
Chicago	71	24	41	6	54	176	255

Pacific Division							
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Vegas	71	44	21	6	94	235	200
Los Angeles	71	41	20	10	92	247	229
Edmonton	72	41	23	8	90	283	243
Seattle	70	39	24	7	85	245	227
Calgary	72	32	25	15	79	231	226
Vancouver	70	31	34	5	67	237	265
Anaheim	71	23	38	10	56	184	288
San Jose	71	19	37	15	53	204	274

**NOTE:** Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

x-clinched playoff spot  
 y-clinched division  
 z-clinched conference

**Wednesday's Games**

Pittsburgh 5, Colorado 2  
 Edmonton 4, Arizona 3, OT

**Thursday's Games**

Philadelphia 5, Minnesota 4, SO  
 Washington 6, Chicago 1  
 N.Y. Rangers 2, Carolina 1  
 St. Louis 4, Detroit 3  
 Toronto 6, Florida 2  
 Ottawa 7, Tampa Bay 2

# PREPS: SoBos rip Pecatonica in season debut

DAILY NEWS STAFF

**SOUTH BELOIT**—The South Beloit softball team poured on the runs early as it took down Pecatonica 9-2 in its season opener on Thursday evening.

The SoBos brought across three runs in the first and second to build up a strong lead over the visiting Indians.

South Beloit tallied two more runs in the fourth inning and another in the fifth as it recorded 10 hits in the victory.

Senior Trinity Mesch pitched a complete-game gem as she only allowed a single hit while striking out a whopping 17 batters.

Mesch had three hits and two RBIs to go along with her stellar outing in the pitcher's cycle while Macey Line-man recorded three hits and brought three runs across.

Maren Davis took the loss for the Indians as she struck out 12. She also had a hit and an RBI at the plate.

**NORTH BOONE 6, DURAND 4:** Pitcher Camryn Carter collected her second victory of the young season as she tossed seven innings while striking out six in the Vikings' (2-0) win over the Bulldogs on Wednesday.

Senior Kamryn Spohr got the scoring started with a two-out, two-run single in the first. Olivia Johnson recorded her first varsity hit, and then

added two more as she went 3-of-5 from the plate.

**HONONEGAH-HUNTLEY POSTPONED:** Hononegah's softball team moved its non-conference season opener at Swanson Stadium from Thursday to Friday.

**BELOIT MEMORIAL-SUN PRAIRIE WEST POSTPONED:** The Purple Knights also postponed their season opener at Telfer Park against Big Eight foe Sun Prairie West on Thursday.

The teams will make up the game on May 15.

**BASEBALL: NORTH BOONE 9, MARIAN CENTRAL CATHOLIC 6:** The Vikings moved to 2-0 on the season after a solid offensive performance against the visiting Hurricanes on Wednesday.

JJ Ford had a spectacular evening at the plate, going 3-of-4 with a double and four RBIs while scoring one run. Jimmy Gibbs was solid as well, hitting 2-of-3 with two RBIs and a double.

Owen Meredith had two runs while going 1-of-2 at the plate.

Ford tossed two innings while allowing six hits and four runs, none of them earned, while striking out five. Eli Lopez got the win after throwing five innings with three hits and two runs, one of them earned. He also had six strikeouts.

# FASTBREAK: Wainwright headed to IL with groin injury

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Adam Wainwright was in line for his seventh opening day start. Instead, the veteran St. Louis Cardinals right-hander will begin what's slated to be his final season on the injured list with a groin injury.



Wainwright

Cardinals manager Oliver Marmol told reporters Thursday before St. Louis' spring training game against the New York Yankees that Wainwright could miss

several weeks.

The 41-year-old apparently strained his groin in a workout before Team USA lost to Japan 3-2 in the championship game of the World Baseball Classic on Tuesday. Wainwright went 2-0 with a 2.25 ERA over eight innings to help the U.S. reach the final.

**CLEARWATER, Fla.**—Philadelphia Phillies first baseman Rhys Hoskins needs surgery for a torn ACL after injuring his left knee Thursday fielding a grounder in a spring training game and is expected to miss a significant amount of time.

The Phillies did not say when Hoskins would have the

surgery or exactly how long the slugging first baseman might be sidelined.

Hoskins hit 30 homers with 79 RBIs last season for the reigning National League champions.

He was backing up to play a chopper on Thursday when the ball popped out of his glove. Sooner after, he fell to the ground and began clutching his left knee. Teammates gathered around him before he was taken off of the field.

PRO FOOTBALL

**GREEN BAY, Wis.**—The Green Bay Packers re-signed outside linebacker Justin

Hollins on Thursday.

Hollins recorded 2½ sacks in six games for the Packers last season after they claimed him off waivers from the Los Angeles Rams on Nov. 24.

The 27-year-old Hollins played 34 games for the Rams from 2020-22 and was part of their 2021 Super Bowl championship team. He spent his rookie season with the Denver Broncos, who selected him out of Oregon in the fifth round of the 2019 draft.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

**NEW YORK**—Markquis Nowell broke the NCAA Tournament record for assists in a

game with 19, his last two on spectacular passes in the final minute of overtime, and Kansas State beat Michigan State 98-93 on Thursday night in a Sweet 16 thriller at Madison Square Garden.

Playing in his hometown and fighting through a second-half ankle injury, Nowell found Keyontae Johnson for a reverse alley-oop with 58 seconds left in OT to give the Wildcats (26-9) the lead for good in this back-and-forth East Region semifinal. He then threw an inbound pass to Ismael Massoud, who knocked down a jumper with 15 seconds left for a 96-93 lead.

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JIM FRANZ/BELOIT DAILY NEWS

Senior Emma Middleton will be Beloit Memorial's No. 1 starting pitcher this season. The Knights had their home opener postponed Thursday.

## New Beloit Memorial softball coach hopes to build ranks

**JIM FRANZ**  
Sports Editor

BELOIT —While first-year head softball coach Chad Davis wishes he had several more players out for the sport at Beloit Memorial this spring, he likes what he sees in practice so far.

"After scrimmaging with Turner (Tuesday) I'm very excited about how fundamentally sound the girls were," Davis said. "They also swung the bats well. Everybody was making contact."

The Purple Knights will have to wait to get their season underway. They had their Big Eight Conference and season opener against Sun Prairie West postponed by expected inclement weather.

"The conference won't allow games to be played if it is 40 degrees or colder," he said.

That will just give the Knights a little more

time to prepare. Davis has 17 players in the program, including four freshmen, so Beloit won't field a jayvee team this spring.

"It's going to take some time to rebuild the program," the coach said. "I think we have a number of freshmen coming in next year to get the numbers back up to where they should be."

Davis said the Knights will rely on senior pitcher Emma Middleton to be the team's ace with junior Chesney Bishop the team's No. 2.

"That's the extent of the pitching depth so we're really going to be counting on those two," the coach said.

Catching them will be junior Allie Gustafson, who earned All-Big Eight Second Team honors a year ago when the Knights were 8-10 in conference and tied for sixth place in the 10-team league.

## Cassioppi/ from A20

After winning a state title in the first all-girls IHSA state tournament in 2022, she elected to spend what would have been her senior year at Hononegah instead training in Colorado Springs with the Elite Accelerator Program at the Olympic Training Center.

"I miss my family and some of the other wrestlers back home, but this is definitely the best decision I could have made," she said. "I love it here. The environment is great. Everyone wants to be here and work hard. I have great partners and coaches. I'm in

an awesome program where I feel I am getting stronger and better every day."

She already has all sorts of impressive credentials, including being a three-time Fargo All-American.

Rose is looking forward to having her younger sister Angelina visit her next week. The Hononegah sophomore recently won her second straight IHSA state wrestling title.

"She is on spring break this weekend and then hang out next week when she is on spring break," Rose said. "I plan on getting her in the wrestling room and maybe I can beat up on her a little."

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## Pohlman/ from A20

Pohlman Field will continue to be home to the Beloit Memorial High School baseball team after the City Council approved a three-year agreement with the school district on Monday. The City also has an agreement with Rockford University to play its varsity and varsity reserve home baseball games at Pohlman this spring.

“We have spent a lot of time trying to get the field up to or close to the playing standards when the Snappers played there,” Amundson said. “Both school district and city staff have been working on that.”

Some improvements are simply addition by subtraction. Sections of the old bleachers beyond first base and beyond third base were removed as well as the party decks down both lines. Those areas were considered unsafe.

Some of the sprucing up is as simple as a coat of paint.

“We removed all the outfield signage and uncovered the actual fence,” Amundson said. “When the weather gets nicer we hope we can paint it one consistent color.”

Other aspects to the facelift will be a bit more costly.

“We turned on the lights and there are 12 lights

out, but no more than two per tower,” Amundson said. “It’s not an immediate need for Beloit Memorial or Rockford, which will have weekend double-headers starting at noon. But at some point, we will want to use them. We have an estimate at what it would cost to bring the equipment in to replace those and how many man hours it will require. It’s not a budgeted item so we are going to have to figure out how we’re going to address that.”

The future use of the main building, which included the Snappers offices, clubhouses and batting cages hasn’t been determined. The Beloit Memorial baseball and softball teams are able to currently use the clubhouses.

“We will have discussions,” Amundson said of use of the available space. “One of my suggestions will be to convert that to a small community center where you could have some classroom spaces. I’d like to see that (building) used year-round.”

In addition to the Knights and Rockford University, the local youth baseball program Bennie Elite will use Pohlman Field as a practice site over the summer.

“Pohlman Field has been one of the gems of

our parks system and now it has been sitting pretty much vacant for the better part of 18 months, probably longer,” Amundson said. “I want to see it be a viable baseball facility. The more use we have, the more justification I have to look at further expenditures there.”

Telfer Park’s history dates back to 1960 when lands was purchased by the city for \$30,000. Originally called Greenfield Park, it was changed to A.D. Telfer Park in 1964 in honor of Archie Telfer, Beloit’s city manager for nearly 25 years, and a baseball diamond was added that year.

Countless high school, Legion and Beloit Blues games were played there before the ballpark underwent a major upgrade and became home to the Class A Midwest League Beloit Brewers in 1982.

Renamed Pohlman Field after Beloit’s “Mr. Baseball” Harry C. Pohlman, the stadium was improved again and again, but minor-league ballpark standards were finally impossible to meet there and ABC Supply Stadium became the answer to the franchise’s prayers.

Now it looks like the old ballpark has a reprieve and baseball games will continue being played there into the future.

## Bears sign free-agent LB Cole

LAKE FOREST, Ill. — The Chicago Bears signed linebacker and special teams contributor Dylan Cole to a one-year contract on Thursday.

Cole has 104 tackles, two sacks and two interceptions in 61 games over six seasons with the Houston Texans and Tennessee Titans. He played in 15 games and made eight starts last season — his second with the Titans — and set a career high with 50 tackles. He also played

74% of Tennessee’s special teams snaps.

Cole signed with Houston in 2017 after going undrafted out of Missouri State in his hometown of Springfield.

HENDERSON, Nev. — The Las Vegas Raiders re-signed wide receiver Keelan Cole and signed free-agent cornerback Duke Shelley on Thursday.

Cole caught 10 passes for 141 yards and a touchdown last season. He previously played for the

Jacksonville Jaguars in 2017-20 and the New York Jets in 2021.


Shelley played for the Chicago Bears in 2019-21 and then joined the Minnesota Vikings last season. He has 11 starts over 41 career games with 84 tackles and 12 pass breakups. Shelley started five games last season with career highs of 31 tackles and eight pass breakups. He also had an interception.

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JIMMY OSWALD/BELOIT DAILY NEWS

Maddy Hoenig is congratulated by Turner teammate Cacee Carl (8) after scoring a run in the sixth inning against Evansville on Thursday.

**Turner/** from A20

The senior had a whopping 13 strikeouts while only allowing three hits and two walks with two runs, one of them earned.

“Ryleigh is so poised out there,” head coach Brian Maxwell said. “That is such a blessing, and I know she isn’t going to get rattled out there.”

Rose knew she had to be on her A-game for each and every pitch as Evansville’s Haley Ross tossed a gem of her own

through much of the game.

“Ross is very good,” Rose said. “Once I know it’s a pitching duel, I’m just trying to throw strikes. I want to throw some movement and keep them off-balance. I’d rather have little short hops or slow rollers because I know that we can make the plays.”

Ross tossed the entire game while allowing five hits and six strikeouts.

The Trojans struck first when Meris, who had hit an infield single before swiping a pair of bags, scored on Clark’s

fielder’s choice in the second

The Blue Devils answered in the fourth when Brooklyn Schultz, who had reached on an error, scored on another error off Ava Vest’s bat.

The tie held until the sixth when a sacrifice bunt from Vest scored Tailer Bartelt, who had singled.

Needing a run to tie it, Mikaya Pingel hit a lead-off single in the sixth. She later scored on a single up the middle from Meris, who went 1-3 with a HBP on the day.



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# Young but experienced Cougars aim to move up in RVC

**JIMMY OSWALD**  
Staff Writer

CLINTON—Last season was a bit of a learning experience for the younger Clinton softball team.

Now, it's time for the Cougars to show the Rock Valley Conference all that they have mastered.

"We had a lot of close games last spring," third-year head coach Ross Reincke said.

"Those were situations that we had to learn from. We're in a better position now. And we're at the point where our program numbers are growing."

While Clinton graduated both All-RVC first teamer Paige Hendricks and second teamer Elli Teubert, it returns

several young players who excelled despite their lack of varsity experience.

Juniors Allie Bell and Ashley Theisen, who received honorable mentions, are both expected to make big impacts alongside teammates such as junior Karlee Morris and sophomore Vada Matts.

"This year we really need to practice to become stronger," Bell said. "That way we can fill the place of (those graduates) when the season starts so there isn't a huge loss."

Reincke said that he expects those younger players to be more than capable of stepping into those veteran roles.



Bell



Theisen



Morris

"It's a situation where a lot of these girls play together during the summer," he said. "And we do a lot of work together year-round. They get along very well and all of them push each other to be better."

Bell is the Cougars' top bat returning after she hit .360 last season and had an on-base percentage of .442.

"As a hitter, Allie is just so consistent," Theisen said.

"She is always the one you

can count on in those high-pressure situations. She is great as a leader too."

Sophomore Neveah Garcia was third on the team in hitting last year (.310) despite being thrown in as a freshman, and Reincke said the ceiling is high for the Cougars' batters.

"Our lineup should be solid," he continued. "Neveah is probably going to be the center of the lineup. With her and Allie, and we have a lot of speed around them, (it will be promising)"

Theisen will anchor the rotation after showing the conference how much of a stud the young freshman can

be on the mound. She went 6-6 with a 2.78 ERA.

"She got thrown into it," Morris said. "And everyone adapted nicely to Ashley being on the mound. She just did so great in her situation."

Garcia and Matts were also part of the uber-young rotation, which featured three freshmen, and Reincke is confident that their work on the mound will only improve this season.

"Ashley is going to carry the water for us," he said. "She's going to do most of the work as she did a great job last season. And have a couple of other solid sophomores who can eat some innings for us as well."

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# QB Young throws for NFL scouts

**JOHN ZENOR**  
Associated Press

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — Nick Saban says his quarterback, Bryce Young, is the best prospect in the upcoming NFL draft.

Now, the star Alabama passer and 2021 Heisman Trophy winner is trying to convince NFL teams — the Carolina Panthers, in particular — that the Crimson Tide coach is right, at Thursday's pro day on campus.

Young threw a scripted series of 50 passes mostly to former teammates before a large contingent of NFL coaches, scouts and executives representing all 32 teams. Young and Ohio State's C.J. Stroud are vying to be the first player taken on April 27.

"It was great to be back here throwing to my guys again," Young said. "This was a really cool experience. I always dreamed of having a pro day and to be able to have it means a lot to me."

The Panthers continued their quarterback tour of prospects for the No. 1 pick they acquired from Chicago in a trade.

# BAY wrestlers head to state championships

**JIMMY OSWALD**  
Staff Writer

BELOIT—The future of wrestling in Beloit is looking bright as ever after four members of the Beloit Area Youth Wrestling (BAY) have qualified for the Kids Folkstyle State Championships.

The Spartans, the recently re-named 4th through 8th grade competitive division of BAY, are coached by Tanner Hollis, and he said his squad overcame quite a few challenges this season.

"The team has had a lot of bumps and bruises along the way," Hollis said. "The beginning of the season was kind of rocky, but they grouped together and have been an unstoppable force since then."

Beloit wrestled its way through several hard-fought matches against other clubs throughout the season, and they brought seven wrestlers to the regional championships in Fort Atkinson.

Hollis added that the success the Spartans experienced with so many fresh faces was great to see.

"A lot of the kids this year were first-year kids or they only wrestled one or two years," he said. "And they wanted to try out the competitive side of it. It's been fun watching them grow."

Three eighth-grade girls, Amiyah Clark (125 pounds), Aubrey Hollis (138) and Gracie Blue (152), along with a fifth-grade boy, Bryson Miller (90), all earned a spot in the state championships, which take the top three finishers from regional competition.

Hollis attends Turner Middle School while Clark is a student at Aldrich and Blue goes to Delavan-Darien. Miller attends Garden Prairie Elementary/Turner.

"Amiyah is always rock solid," Hollis said. "She is always focused and ready to go. And she has high expectations, just like Aubrey does. And Aubrey has been one the kids lean on the most because she is a seasoned



Beloit Area Youth Wrestling state-bound participants include, standing from left: Amiyah Clark, Gracie Blue and Aubrey Hollis. Front kneeling, Bryson Miller

veteran when it comes to this sport. Grace is a first-year wrestler who is also a basketball player. And it says a lot about her qualifying because she's coming into a weight bracket with stronger and bigger girls, and it can be intimidating for a first-year wrestler.

"It's Bryson's first year doing competitive wrestling, and he just comes in and works so hard. He doesn't complain or get down; he has been level headed all the way through."

The fearsome foursome will wrestle at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison on Friday and Saturday in the meet that is sanctioned by the Wisconsin Wrestling Federation (WWF).

• PARKVIEW/ALBANY YOUTH WRESTLING: The Vikings enjoyed tremendous

success at the varsity level this past season, with a record-high seven wrestlers on the Beloit Daily News All-Area Wrestling Team, and that success seems to be prevalent among the youth as well.

Parkview/Albany took 23 wrestlers to regionals and 13 of them moved on to the state championship.

Those state-bound athletes include: Erik Hanson (145), Tavin Bomkamp (115), Wyatt Quinn (82), Sonny Stenberg (185), Levi Nath (100), Nolen Rebman (110), Daelyn Lowe (81), Westin Huffman (66), Tatem Constantini (66), Colby Loveridge (85), Kyron Smith (72), Jackson Allen (63) and Alisha Genore (55).

## REGIONAL FORECAST

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### ALMANAC

Through 3 p.m. Thursday  
High/low ..... 45°/36°  
Normal high/low ..... 48°/28°  
Last year high/low ..... 52°/39°  
24-hour total precipitation ..... 0.05"  
Month to date/normal ..... 1.30"/1.42"  
Year to date/normal ..... 6.38"/4.66"

### STATE FORECAST

Clouds and sun today. Mostly cloudy tonight. Snow, some heavy, accumulating 1-3 inches along Lake Michigan; a little snow, accumulating a coating to an inch in the southwest. Partly cloudy in the northeast.

### WEATHER TRIVIA™

Q: What type weather increases during spring in the U.S.?

A: Severe thunderstorms and tornadoes

### IN THE SKY

The Milky Way arches between Gemini and Orion this evening. To find Orion, look for the line of three bright stars that marks Orion's Belt, in the south in early evening. To find Gemini, look for a pair of even brighter stars high in the east.

Source: UT McDonald Observatory

### SUN AND MOON

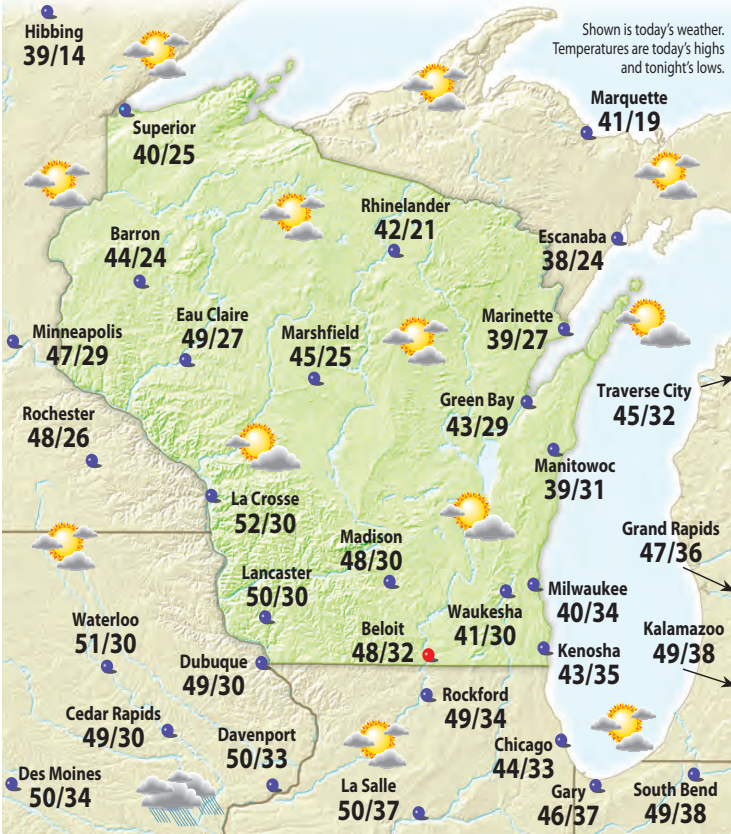
Sunrise today 6:53 a.m.  
Sunset tonight 7:13 p.m.  
Moonrise today 8:23 a.m.  
Moonset today 11:03 p.m.



Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather.com ©2023

### ACCU WEATHER 5-DAY FORECAST FOR BELOIT

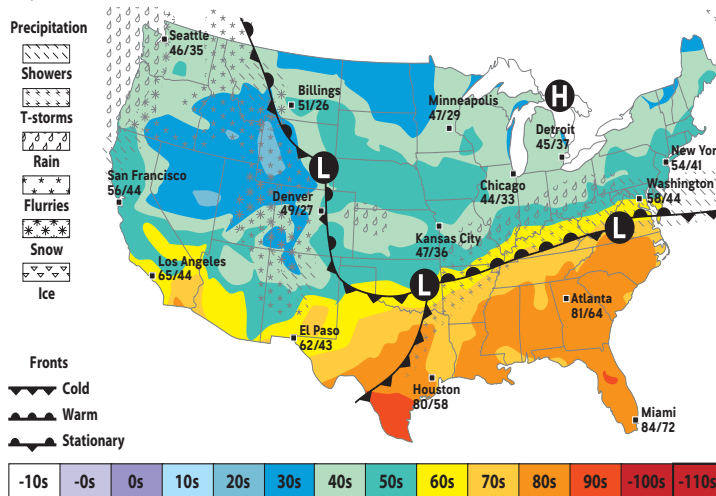
TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Times of sun and clouds	Snow, 1-2"; breezy, colder	Not as cold	Cloudy with a shower or two	Some sun, a shower in the p.m.
48 32	38 26	45 28	42 27	44 29
Winds E 8-16	Winds NNW 10-20	Winds WNW 4-8	Winds ESE 4-8	Winds NW 6-12



### NATIONAL FORECAST

Friday, March 24, 2023

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day. Forecast high/low temperatures are for selected cities.



A corridor of drizzling rain with areas of flooding will extend from the Ozarks to the Ohio Valley with lesser showers in the mid-Atlantic today. Severe storms will fire south of the heavy rain over the lower part of the Mississippi and Tennessee valleys. As rain falls along the Northwest coast, snow will extend from the Cascades to the Rockies.

### National extremes Thursday for the 48 contiguous states

High: Zapata, TX at 96°

Low: Poplar, MT at -9°

### NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Sat.	City	Today	Sat.	City	Today	Sat.
	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W		Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W		Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	81/64/pc	81/60/t	Milwaukee	40/34/pc	38/30/sn	Athens	68/47/s	67/53/pc
Boston	51/35/pc	40/36/sn	Minneapolis	47/29/pc	43/26/c	Baghdad	82/58/pc	83/61/pc
Chicago	44/33/c	40/31/sn	Nashville	77/62/c	76/46/sh	Beijing	54/38/c	48/29/c
Cincinnati	52/49/r	64/35/t	New Orleans	83/71/c	86/68/s	Berlin	61/46/sh	54/43/r
Cleveland	42/39/c	64/36/r	New York	54/41/c	47/42/r	Buenos Aires	81/65/c	85/50/sh
Dallas	81/55/r	77/49/s	Orlando	90/64/s	91/68/pc	Cairo	87/63/pc	72/57/sh
Denver	49/27/pc	39/17/sn	Philadelphia	52/43/r	52/46/r	Jo'burg	66/56/c	71/57/sh
Detroit	45/37/c	53/33/r	Phoenix	68/49/s	70/45/s	Kabul	51/41/r	53/42/r
Dubuque	49/30/pc	38/27/sn	Reno	43/25/c	40/23/sf	London	56/44/sh	58/44/sh
Honolulu	83/74/sh	84/74/c	St. Louis	49/42/r	54/36/c	Mexico City	82/55/c	84/56/pc
Indianapolis	50/46/r	54/32/c	Salt Lake City	38/26/sn	37/24/sf	Paris	62/47/r	59/46/c
Las Vegas	62/40/s	55/41/c	San Diego	64/49/pc	61/48/s	Rome	64/52/pc	66/48/pc
Los Angeles	65/44/pc	65/43/s	San Francisco	56/44/pc	56/42/s	Sydney	75/66/r	72/67/r
Marquette	41/19/pc	30/26/sn	Seattle	46/35/r	45/35/pc	Tokyo	73/50/sh	54/49/r
Memphis	77/58/t	73/50/s	Wash., DC	58/44/sh	64/52/c	Toronto	43/32/pc	48/33/r

W-weather, s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, l-ice