

THE HIGHS AND LOWS OF THE POSTSEASON



Girls Volleyball Sectionals:

- Monticello volleyball punches 2nd ticket to state
- Brodhead falls in 5-set heart breaker to Randolph

Boys Soccer Sectionals:

- McFarland edges Sugar River again

Cross Country State Championships:

- Monroe boys, girls run well

Girls Swimming:

- MNG swimming 6th at Badger West championships

Football Level 2:

- Miracle rally pushes Monroe over Pewaukee
- Redbirds tame Wildcats, again
- Brodhead-Juda to face PDC in redemption game
- Black Hawk-Warren halts Assumption



Times photos: Adam Krebs, Natalie Dillon and Thomas Gunnell
TOP: Monticello celebrates winning the WIAA Division 4 Oshkosh Lourdes Sectional Championship Oct. 29 over Green Bay N.E.W. Lutheran. **ABOVE:** Monroe's Drew Indergand points to the scoreboard after catching a touchdown with 12 seconds left, setting up the game-winning 2-point conversion to push the Cheesemakers past Pewaukee and onto Level 3 of the WIAA Division 3 football playoffs Oct. 28. **ABOVE RIGHT:** Brodhead players are hit with emotion after their WIAA Division 3 New Glarus Sectional Championship loss to Randolph Oct. 29. **NEAR RIGHT:** Monticello's Kelsy Grant flips a ball over the net. **FAR RIGHT:** Brodhead's Abbie Dix blocks a spike attempt by Mineral Point in the sectional semifinal Oct. 27. **BELOW LEFT:** Black Hawk-Warren's Lucas Milz follows a blocker in his team's win over Assumption in the D7 playoffs Oct. 28. **BELOW CENTER:** Darlington defenders celebrate a turnover in a D6 win over Belleville Oct. 28. **BELOW RIGHT:** Monroe's Tucker Markham (23) follows pulling blocker Isaac Bunker (64) against Pewaukee.



TIME FOR A CHANGE

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- ✓ **Safety** in our healthcare choices, for our children, for our elders, for our environment
- ✓ **Opportunity** in voting, education, worker rights and reducing the income gap

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November 8th

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STATE SENATE

Cardinals emphatically thump Laconia 49-7

By Natalie Dillon
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BRODHEAD — With a 29-point third quarter, Brodhead (9-2, 5-2 SWC) rolled through Laconia (6-5, 4-3 Flyway) in the WIAA D5 Level 2 playoff game on Friday, Oct. 28.

The Cardinals opened the game with one score in the first quarter and added another six points in the second for a 13-7 lead. Brodhead's offense broke the game open with a 29-point third and closed the game with another touchdown in the fourth.

Gabe Bockhop was 6-for-7 with a 16-yard TD pass to David Masloske. On the ground, Blake Matthys ran for 175 yards and three touchdowns. Aidyn Vondra and Sean Huffman also recorded rushing TDs. Defensively, the Cardinals were led by Marcus McIntyre with nine tackles.

Brodhead will face conference rival Prairie du Chien (9-2, 7-0) in Level 3. The Blackhawks ran the SWC, scoring 239 points while only allowing 92. In the regular season, Prairie defeated Brodhead 30-21, shutting the Cardinals out in the second half.



RJ Photo: Thomas Gunnell

Black Hawk-Warren's Lane Marty hauls in a grab during the Warriors' 26-9 victory over Wisconsin Rapids Assumption Oct. 29 in a WIAA Division 7 playoff game.

Black Hawk-Warren marches on to Cashton

Warriors shut down Royals in Level 2

By Thomas Gunnell
Darlington Republican
Journal

SOUTH WAYNE — “Happy but not satisfied” has been Black Hawk/Warren's manta during the 2022 season. Warriors' head coach Desie Bredon may not be entirely satisfied with how is team played in Friday's Level 2 playoff game against #7-ranked Assumption, but it's safe to say he was very happy with the results.

Bredon's squad held the state's fifth-best rushing attack to less than 100 yards on the ground and also limited the state's ninth-best scoring offense to only nine points as the #2-seeded Warriors (8-3 overall) shut down the #3-seeded Royals, 26-9, in a WIAA Division 7 Level 2 playoff football game held at Murphy Field on Friday, Oct. 28.

“Happy but not satisfied.” That's what I told the boys after the game. I'm super happy with the results, but I'm not satisfied with how we played as a whole,” said Bredon after leading the Warriors to their fourth victory in a row. “I'm absolutely shocked at the outcome. With as good as Assumption is, I did not see this going this way. To contain their offense like we did, I'm so proud of these guys.”

The Central Wisconsin Conference-Small champion Royals (10-2) came into the night averaging 346 rushing yards and over 400 yards total offense per game while scoring nearly 45 points per contest. They wouldn't find the

going so easy against the Warriors' D.

After gaining just nine yards on their first two drives, the Royals hit on four plays of 24+ yards on their next three drives— two of which ended in scores— to take a 9-8 led on the Warriors. However, after gaining 150 of their 159 first-half yards on those three drives, the Royals were held to two yards on their final seven possessions.

“They presented a ton of challenges for our defense. We switched around some stuff to shut down their running game. For our guys to do what they did, I'm so proud of them,” added Bredon.

Senior quarterback Reed McNutt got the Warriors rolling on the first play from scrimmage with a 73-yard scamper down to the Royals' 3-yard line. On the next play, he connected with senior running back Lucas Milz in the flat for a touchdown. Senior Landen Mahoney's two-point conversion run put the hosts ahead 8-0 just over two minutes into the game.

A fumbled near the goal line prevented the Warriors from adding to their lead on their second possession, and then the Royals cut the deficit to 8-6 on QB Jack Klatt's 41-yard TD run with 8:29 remaining in the first half.

Assumption got the ball right back and marched down to the Warriors' 10 before the drive stalled. On fourth down, Mason Kubis booted a 27-yard field goal to put the guests on top 9-8 with 2:54 left in the half.

The Warriors went to the air to regain the lead before the intermission. A long return by junior Lane Marty set them up

See **WARRIORS, Page B5**

WIAA FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS, LEVEL 2

Cheesemakers get revenge

MHS resuscitates state hopes with miracle 22-21 come-from-behind win against Pewaukee

By Adam Krebs
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MONROE — The Cheesemakers spent the entire offseason focused and preparing for a rematch with Pewaukee, which scored 28 unanswered second half points en route to winning the 2021 Division 3 Level 4 playoff game.

This fall, in Level 2, Monroe's players and coaches got that chance, and the rollercoaster finish was worth the wait. Senior George Brukwicki hit Drew Indergand in the corner of the end zone with just 12 seconds left in the fourth quarter, and then Brukwicki ran in the 2-point conversion to give the No. 1-ranked Cheesemakers (11-0) a heart-palpitating 22-21 victory on Oct. 28 at T.R. Holyoke Field.

“I was in disbelief,” Monroe senior lineman Isaac Bunker said. “A lot of the guys — the seniors coming back — we were there on that cold November day (in 2021) experiencing the other side of this with the defeat. It really hurt because we were a good team and should have won that. It felt good to break the curse and get them back for once.”

The roaring comeback almost never had to be. Like last year, Monroe staked itself out to a 14-0 lead in the second quarter. Also like last year, fourth-ranked Pewaukee (8-3) made the most of opportunities to not only tie the game, but take the lead in the fourth quarter.

“When things went wrong, we tanked last year,” Monroe coach Toby Golembiewski said. “We didn't tank this year. Just having last year's film to prep with was an invaluable resource. There was really no surprises. And to bring almost everybody back to make it almost a rematch of it.”

Tucker Markham and Alex Hernandez had TD runs in the second for the Cheesemakers, but a late momentum swing off a couple of big plays had the Pirates, the defending state champions, down inside the Monroe 5-yard-line just 30 seconds later on the game clock. A short TD run by Ryan Borckmann brought it to 14-7 at halftime.

“Loads of adrenalin after last year's game. We were coming into this one with a chip on our shoulder,” Markham said. “We were giving it our all for sure.”

In the second half, Monroe's defense came up big twice, only for Pewaukee to find another way to sneak in a couple of scores. In the third quarter, Hernandez fumble at his own 22 gave the Pirates the ball in prime field position, but Monroe stuffed Pewaukee at the line of scrimmage on 4th-and-1 from the Monroe 2.

As time wound down in fourth, Pewaukee faced another fourth down decision. With just over 4:30 to play, the Pirates had a 4th-and-7 at the Monroe 34. Monroe DB Gavin Foulker stepped up on the outside and stoned the Pewaukee receiver, forcing yet another turnover. Cheesemaker fans in the stands, and many players, saw the final 4:12 as a formality, with Monroe needing to just sustain a drive to run out the clock.



Times photo: Adam Krebs

Monroe's senior Charlie Wiegel runs off the field with the game ball after intercepting Pewaukee's last-ditch pass as time expired in Monroe's 22-21 victory Oct. 29 in the WIAA Division 3 playoffs.

Instead, the ball squirted away from Keatin Sweeney just two snaps later, and Pewaukee had the ball back at Monroe's 34. This time the Pirates converted the drive for points just four plays later on a 22-yard pass from Owen Dobberstein to Logan Schill in the back corner of the end zone with just 2:28 remaining.

On the second play of Monroe's next drive, Brukwicki scrambled to his right and threw to a wide-open Tony Wolf in the middle of the field, who then squirted free for a 23-yard gain and across midfield. Monroe then called for a second pass play, but this time Pewaukee's Andrew Jones came untouched on the blind side, jarring the ball loose from Brukwicki on the sack. Matthew Kuglitsch then recovered the fumble and rumbled untouched 48 yards for a TD and giving the Pirates the lead with just 1:16 left, stunning the crowd and Monroe players.

“In that moment I was like, ‘Really? This is how it's going to end?’ But I saw we had time on the clock,” Brukwicki said.

Golembiewski stuck to the passing game for the final drive, putting the ball — and the game — in the hands of his senior QB.

On the first play of the drive, Brukwicki rolled out to his right, but tucked the ball away and ran for the sideline as all of his receivers were covered. As he went

See **CHEESE, Page B7**

Redbirds bounce Belleville

Darlington's 'D' tames Wildcats top-ranked pass attack in 28-6 victory

By Natalie Dillon
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DARLINGTON — Sophomore Ross Crist and the Darlington Redbirds (10-1, 7-0 SWAL) headed into their Level 2 playoff game against conference rival Belleville (9-2, 6-1) with confidence, having beat the Wildcats 34-24 three weeks ago in the regular season. Darlington proved itself — and its conference championship — with a 28-6 victory Oct. 29 in a WIAA Division 6 playoff game at home.

“We were super hyped up, ready to go,” Crist said. “We wanted to really put our foot down and go at them strong.”

The Redbird defense set the tone early, forcing a three-and-out on Belleville's opening drive. Reagan Jackson made a tackle at the line of scrimmage, and the defense broke up the subsequent pass on third down.

In its opening drive, Darlington ran down the field for a touchdown. The Redbirds had four consecutive first-down rushes — three from Cadyn Burbach and one from Maddox Goebel — followed by a three-yard TD run by Breylin Goebel. Darlington took the 8-0 with a successful two-point conversion on the ground from Breylin Goebel.

The next three drives — two for Belleville and one for Darlington — resulted in three-and-outs.

Tye Crist opened the second quarter with a rushing first down, and on third and two, Crist moved the chains yet again for the Redbirds. On the next play, Burbach was stopped just short of the goal line. Crist took the next hand off and found the end zone. Despite a failed two-point conversion, Darlington took a 14-0 lead.

The Redbird offense returned to the field shortly after, as Crist intercepted Aidan Keyes's tipped pass.

Burbach's 22-yard pass to Will Murray set Darlington up with a first-and-goal situation. On the next play, Burbach took it to the house by himself



Times photo: Natalie Dillon

Darlington's Cadyn Burbach rushed for 113 yards with two TDs against Belleville in a WIAA Division 6 Level 2 playoff game Oct. 29 in Darlington.

and kicked the subsequent extra point for the 21-0 lead. The two scores in the second quarter were just 1:10 apart for the Redbirds.

“We run option, and our quarterback has to be a runner,” head coach Travis Winkers said. “He [Burbach] doesn't always get the respect since he's a smaller dude, but he's a heck of a quarterback.”

After another third-and-out by Belleville's offense, Darlington looked poised to eat up the remainder of the half with a series of runs. A fumble — recovered by the Wildcats — shifted the momentum, though.

With a first-down pass from Keyes, Belleville set itself up for a first-and-goal opportunity. The offense shot itself in the foot, however, getting called for back-to-back holding penalties. On third and 21, Talan Crist sacked Keyes, setting up a fourth and 38.

With just 1:40 left in the half, Belleville called a timeout to set up its offense. The timeout proved effective, as the Wildcats scored on the next play. Keyes stepped out of the pocket to avoid a tackle and connected with Kaden DeSmet for a 36-yard TD pass.

Belleville got another offensive opportunity before the end of the half, as Darlington fumbled yet again.

“I think that's the first time in three years that Breylin [Goebel] has ever fumbled,” Winkers said of the uncharacteristic turnovers.

Keyes quickly found Nate Meier for a first down and spiked the ball to stop the clock with 27 seconds remaining in the half. A false start on the offense and key tackle by Bryan Lazaro-Mendoza prompted a Wildcat timeout with 18 seconds left.

Brady Long brought Belleville's offense to a halt with an interception — Keyes' second of the game — allowing Darlington to take a knee into the half.

The Redbirds received the ball to begin the second half and relied on Burbach's legs for another TD. Burbach had three first-down rushes in the drive and scored on a 7-yard run. He completed the score with an extra point. The drive ate up the first six minutes of the third quarter.

Belleville's offense started to gain momentum, as Keyes and DeMarcus Conner combined for three first downs in the drive. But just as quickly as the Wildcats found their rhythm, they lost it with an interception by Breylin Goebel.

The remainder of the third quarter — and the beginning of the fourth — was

See **REDBIRDS, Page B4**

Local Sports Schedule

FRIDAY, NOV. 4

WIAA Football Playoffs, Level 3

Division 3: West Bend East at Monroe, 7 p.m.
Division 5: Brodhead-Juda at Prairie du Chien, 7 p.m.
Division 6: Darlington at Kenosha St. Joseph, 7 p.m.
Division 7: Black Hawk-Warren at Cashton, 7 p.m.

WIAA Girls Volleyball State Semifinals, at Green Bay

Division 4: Monticello vs. Athens, 9 a.m.

SATURDAY, NOV. 5

WIAA Girls Volleyball State Championship, at Green Bay

Division 4: Teams TBD, 9 a.m.

WIAA Girls Swimming Division 2 Sectionals

Monroe-New Glarus at Sauk Prairie, 1 p.m.

Cheese

From Page B3

out of bounds, he was hit by two Pirates, and a 15-yard late hit penalty flag was thrown, putting Monroe right back near midfield with 1:05 left. Four snaps later, with time ticking into the low 20-seconds, Brukwicki rolled out again, narrowly breaking a tackle that could have been a sack, and found Wolf again open, just one yard beyond the line to gain.

"(Brukwicki) was flying by the seat of his pants a little bit, but he made it happen. He is fully of age out there," Golembiewski said. He called a time-out to talk it over with 17 seconds left and his team at the Pewaukee 18.

Brukwicki was looking for just one person on the next snap: Indergand.

"In the huddle George told me he was going back pylon in the end zone, so I knew that's where I had to go. The DB was playing me on the inside, so it worked out perfectly. I was just able to turn my body around. I didn't even know where I was on the sideline, I just wanted to secure the ball and do a little toe-tap at the end," said Indergand, a senior wideout.

"I'll remember that one forever. Drew is just an animal out there. Perfect toe-tap, perfect pass," Brukwicki said.

As Indergand got up, he motioned to Golembiewski to go for the 2-point try, and the coach wasted no time obliging.

"I just remember scoring the touchdown and seeing there was 12 seconds left, and I thought to myself, 'Let's end it here — we have 2 yards to go and we've done it all game.' I loved it. Every bit of it was perfect," Indergand said.

Brukwicki took the snap and belled to his left on an option. Fullback Alex Hernandez drew a linebacker to the outside, and Tony Wolf sealed off the edge. Brukwicki then cut upfield and into the end zone, sending T.R. Holyoke into a frenzy.

"Gutsy 2-point conversion call — and I liked it," Brukwicki said. "Put the ball in my hands on an option, and



LEFT: Keatin Sweeney runs through a tackler in the fourth quarter. **RIGHT:** Monroe's Drew Indergand puts up two fingers to signal to the sideline to try a 2-point conversion after he caught a tippy-toe sideline touchdown with 12 seconds left to bring Monroe within a point of Pewaukee. The coaches obliged, and Monroe converted to win 22-21 and move on to Level 3 of the playoffs.



Times photos: Adam Krebs

I tried to make a play. We put that play in on Wednesday — to kind of throw off some things on their defense

Pewaukee still was able to snap the ball three times in the final 10 seconds, but senior Charlie Wiegel, playing in the prevent defense, intercepted the ball as time expired.

"I'm keeping this," he said of the game ball. "Last year we had our 'oh crap' moment and let ourselves fade away. This time we fought back. We knew we could get it done."

Pewaukee finished the night with 80 yards passing and 150 rushing. Monroe gained 234 rushing yards in the game, with Hernandez tallying 85 yards. Markham had 67 on 11 carries, while Sweeney had 46. Brukwicki was 4 of 6 passing for 56 yards.

"At the start of the week, I talked to coach (Shawn) Paulson, who does the substitutions for us at running back. I told him I wanted more carries, and he said I would sub in more because (Kaden) Kuester was going to be lined up on Schill, their stud wide receiver," Markham said.

"It's back to business for another home game on Friday," Brukwicki said.

UP NEXT: WEST BEND EAST (9-2)

While the Cheesemakers had Pewaukee circled on the whiteboard all offseason, they also had goals of following in Pewaukee's footsteps and returning Monroe to state for the first time in more than 25 years — and the first title since 1994.

"Hopefully we can end this season with a win. We haven't lost on our home field in 17 games. We don't plan

on losing on this field," Bunker said. "I've never lost on T.R. Holyoke on varsity, and I want to keep it that way," Markham said.

Monroe gets No. 10-ranked West Bend East (9-2) in Level 3, the final home game of the season. Monroe has won 17 consecutive games at T.R. Holyoke Field, dating back to Oct. 18, 2019 against Edgewood.

"We just have to maximize every game. We have to maximize practice, because we have one more game here at T.R. Holyoke. I'm going to love it and try to enjoy every last moment," Indergand said.

WBE, the Suns, finished tied for second in the North Shore this season and beat McFarland (21-7) and No. 5 Mount Horeb-Barneveld (36-13) in the first two rounds of the playoffs. Monroe beat both teams by a combined score of 79-19 in the first two weeks of the season.

The Suns also have wins this season against playoff-bound teams Waterford, Homestead, Sheboygan North and Nicolet. Their two losses came against conference champion Hartford and second-place Slinger.

WBE has outscored opponents 306-164 this season, and have gained 3,751 yards of offense (2,629 rushing, 1,122 passing) while giving up 2,574 (1,630; 944) on defense. By comparison, Monroe has outscored opponents 488-83 and leads the state with 4,394 rushing yards and 4,910 total yards of offense (399.5 yards per game).

Peyton Fountain is the Suns QB, and he's thrown for 1,090 yards, 6 TDs and 6 INTs this season. He's also added 294 yards and 9 TDs on the ground. Colton Kress is the team's

leading rusher with 1,488 yards and 16 TDs, with Cutler Schmidt second in rushing with 567 yards and 8 TDs. Nate King is the heavy-lifting WR, with 25 catches for 484 yards, nearly three times more than the second most on the team.

Brukwicki has 412 yards passing this season, with 5 TDs and an INT. Hernandez leads all rushers with 1,244 yards and 13 scores, while Sweeney has 1,196 yards and 22 TDs. Kuester has 618 yards and 12 TDs, with Lane Meier (407 yards) and Tucker Markham (384 yards, 8 TDs) also carrying a strong load of the offense. All six rushers average 9.3 yards per carry or more this season.

The Cheesemakers have benefited from a strong senior class and returning starters from last year's team, including the entire offensive line and all but one offensive skills starter.

"Our team chemistry this season is insane. There are so many seniors, and we've been playing together for so long," Markham said. "We always band together, and with the juniors, too. We are a brotherhood, really."

Should the Cheesemakers win in Level 3, they would move on to face either New Berlin West (9-2) or Port Washington (9-2) in Level 4, the game would be played at a neutral site to be determined later.

Also remaining in the Division 3 playoff field are No. 2 Onalaska (11-0), No. 7 Rice Lake (9-2), West Salem (10-1) and Green Bay Notre Dame (8-3). The last of these four remaining teams will play for the state championship at Camp Randall Stadium in Madison. Rice Lake lost to Pewaukee last year.

CC

From Page B2

Xiema Miranda rounded out Monroe's top five at 67th (21:48.8) and 73rd (21:55.6), respectively.

The entire girls' varsity team will return next season, as none were seniors.

Monroe's boys finished 15 of 16 with 320 points, as two of their runners weren't at their top game.

"We had two key runners that were less than 100 percent heading into the state meet," Mosher said. "Had this been earlier in the year, those two would have rested, but with it being the state meet and a huge accomplishment just to qualify, we ran those guys to give them the experience and the victory lap, if you will, for a great season and career."

Jared Batz—steady eddy—led Monroe as he had all year. He took 26th with a time of 17:28.7.

"He was able to beat quite a few runners from other schools that had beaten him all year, something that he put as a personal season goal, so we were all happy to see him accomplish this for his last high school race," Mosher said.

Tre Dammen, in his breakout freshman year, took 32nd with a time of 17:34.3. He was the third-fastest freshman in D2. Benjamin Erdley—who typically was the No. 5 or 6 runner—challenged his PR with a time of 18:37.2.

Padraic Houston and Wyatt Stevenson rounded out the top five with times of 19:11.0 (89th) and 19:37.9 (100th), respectively.

Batz and Anthony Wels graduate, but the team has talented up-and-coming runners to fill their shoes.

Other local runners at state included Carter Scholey of Belleville, who finished third overall in D3 (16:20.5). Kalena Riemer of Brodhead/Juda took 88th (21:30.4) in D2.

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