

Sports

THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2023

Thursday Pool Results

TEAMS				
Hagen	19	2	214	101
Nelson	18	3	218	97
Ott	16	5	191	124
Heisz	15	6	183	132
Dusters	13	8	180	135
Olson	9	12	156	159
Knoble	10	11	145	170
Larson	8	13	157	158
LaLande	7	14	142	173
Clark	3	18	115	200
Allen	7	6	97	98
Meyer	2	19	114	201

WOMEN				
M. Forde	39	24		
M. Larson	34	29		
R. Hagen	35	28		
K. Hammond	32	31		
G. Nelson	37	26		
S. Olson	22	38		
J. McBride	22	35		
S. Heisz	20	37		
K. Kelter	20	40		
T. Hird	18	45		
S. Swadley	21	39		
B. Anderson	19	41		
J. Gill	19	44		
J. Lalande	17	40		
S. Muller	15	39		
K. Bartel	12	15		
J. Conner	14	22		
M. Decker	7	17		
T. Hughes	4	14		
V. Ingle	2	1		
A. Strait	2	1		
J. Lee	4	5		
K. Sobeck	1	5		
J. Meyer	2	10		

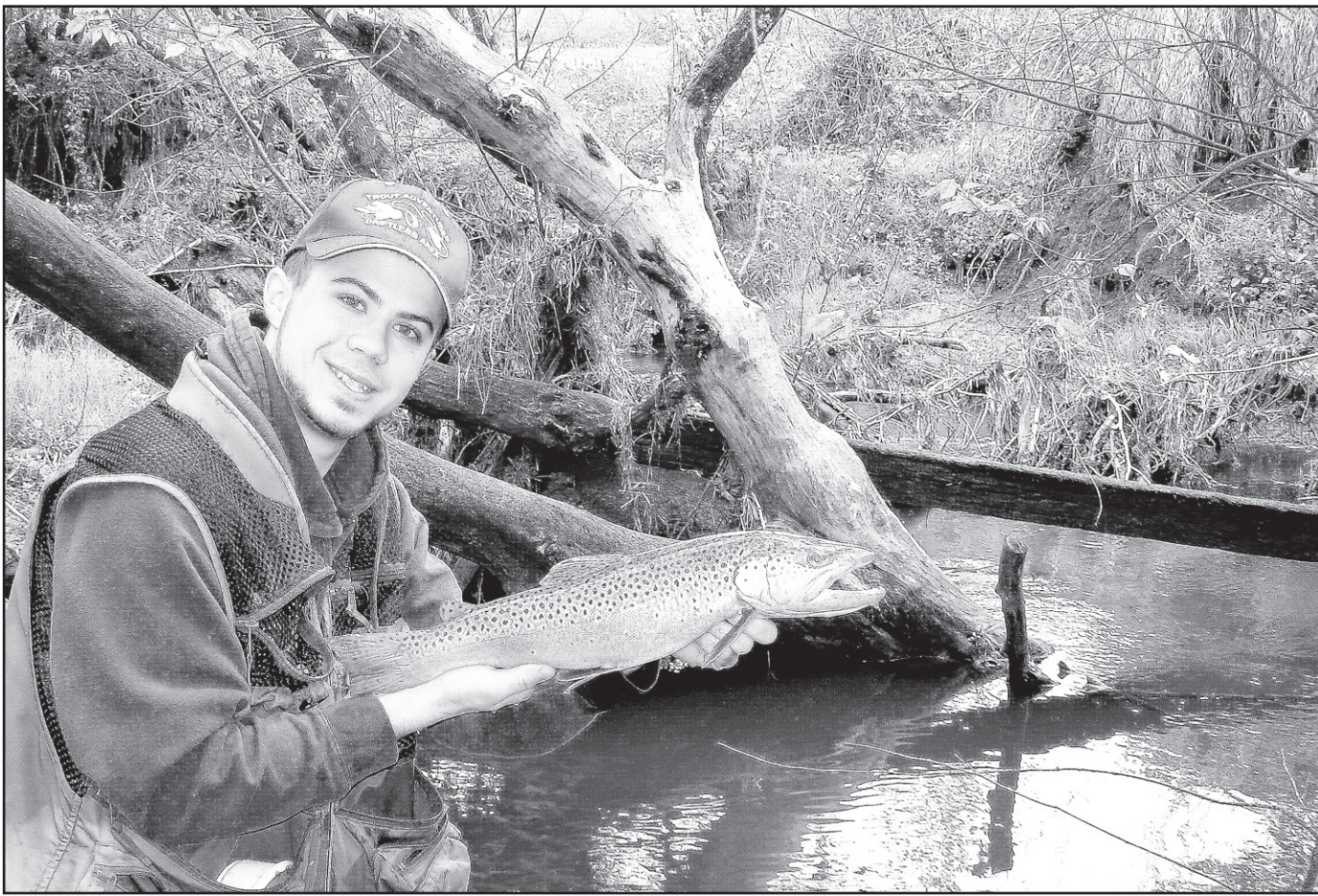
MEM				
Lance Hagen	54	9		
Jeremy Thayer	54	9		
Rick Salmon	51	12		
Tim Erickson	50	13		
Tim Albert	42	21		
Ivan Heisz	44	19		
Delon Olson	44	19		
Dave Nelson	39	21		
Dan Chapman	43	20		
Ed Heisz	41	22		
Mike Heisz	38	19		
Mark Sherry	40	23		
Jack Ott	38	25		
Jordan Gardner	39	24		
Mark Meyer	39	24		
Matt Meyer	37	26		
Nathan Hagen	38	19		
Vernon Smith	38	19		
Shawn Sherry	34	29		
Trevor O Kane	35	28		
Charlie Heisz	34	29		
Ron Sobeck	32	31		
Dan Hooverson	37	20		
Bryant Olson	31	26		
Andy Meyer	31	29		
Thomas Holt	30	24		
Todd Brudos	30	24		
Ryan Smith	29	31		
Dale Fisher	28	32		
Darren Martin	32	25		
Tony Clark	29	34		
Lee Hagen	29	34		
Larry Clark	24	39		
James Robert	26	37		
Ray Gill	21	42		
Xzavier Zellman	20	40		
Randy Heisz	19	29		
Scott Allen	23	19		
Bob Allen	20	22		
Joe Rosera	21	15		
Gary Wickman	16	29		
Jason Knoble	12	6		
Ken	9	3		
Ray Erickson	7	2		
Dave Cook	7	14		
Derrick Heisz	9	0		
Theron	5	7		
Skip Fortney	5	4		
Dave Gunderson	4	8		
Ralph Swadley	4	5		

Photo contest planned

The Friends of the Refuge Headwaters are encouraging all amateur photographers to capture the beauty of the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge for a contest.

The Refuge, includes much of the lands and waters of the Mississippi River from Wabasha to Rock Island. Photos will be accepted until October 27, 2023.

Photographers may enter a total of three photos in the following categories: Scenic Views, Wildlife and Plants, and Connecting People with Nature. There is a fourth category for Young Nature Photographers, under 16. Cash prizes will be awarded. For complete rules, visit friendsoftherefugeheadwaters.org or call Stephanie Edeler at 507-454-7351.



THE HARD-CAUGHT BROWN pauses for the photo just a moment before Joe gently releases the fish. The point 'dirt,' Joe's nickname, made, was that worms can catch fish where spinners and other artificial lures just can't go. Notice the fence line hole, behind him, from whence the fish came.

Let Joe 'dirt' Chadwick show you

Only some can thread the needle

By **LEN HARRIS**

It was the first time we had chased trout together. I had seen him handle pike and 'smallies' before. He knew what to do with a fishing rod.

We walked out to his childhood trout haunt. I say childhood because 'dirt' barely had any peach fuzz yet. He was young and full of energy and brimming with confidence.

He tried to talk me into putting a worm on. I told him I hung up the worms when I was 10 years old. He told me that this area was full of down trees and my panther martin would not work in his mess.

We agreed to disagree and we walked out to the end of the permission he had, and started fishing back to the truck. He tried one more time to get me to put a crawler on. I made fun of his night crawler and went to leave and he told me not to go very far away, because he would need the net quickly. I smiled and thought "Yeah right."

He found a near impossible hole. The only way

you could fish it was downstream. He had to navigate lots of downed barbwire in the stream and float a crawler under a log jam. He took off his split shot for this crazy approach.

Screamed for the NET

The boy went down on his stomach and crawled the last 20 yards to the obstacle course he called a hole. I got bored watching him and walked 10 yards away to fish. I did not even get a cast in and 'dirt' was screaming "NET!"

I crashed through the thick cover and found him battling a large brown in about two feet of water. It was a battle royal. The trout was not budging from under the down tree. I barked at 'dirt' and asked him what he was waiting for?

Joe was remarkably calm and turned to me and said: "I need you to help when I get it out from under the mess. It is going straight for the wire in the stream and then that is when you need to be there with the net and get it before it gets tangled in the wire."

I sat down my rod and placed myself in the mess the best I could.

"How in the heck did you get your worm through the mess at all?" I said to Joe.

He calmly told me to net the trout and we could talk after that.

Then, he muscled the trout out of the mess. He was right. It bolted upstream and tried to get into the barb wire. I had the net positioned perfectly and the fish netted itself. I remember thinking it seemed like a fast ball going into the catcher's mitt.

It took me a while to get out of the water. In my haste to get in there I had wrapped the wire around my ankles. Joe came over and grabbed the net and I extracted myself from the wire. It took me a while. Both ankles of my waders had holes in them when I was through.

'Dirt' was reviving the trout when I got back to him. He explained when he worm fished, he sets the hook on the first pause or nibble. Most people do it wrong and the trout inhales the worm and

dies. The trout was hooked on the top lip and just barely.

I snapped a photo of his sweet brown in the water and then a quick glory shot and off it went back to its labyrinth it called home.

Worm secrets revealed

Joe told me the secret to floating a worm under structure was the current going into the hole. He also noted where the deepest cut out under the structure was. This is where the big boy lived facing upstream.

He used one half of a crawler and hooked it only once through the collar of the crawler. The bait needed to come to the trout natural looking. No wad of worms hooked numerous times. The hook point would be hidden in multiple hook throughs of the crawler.

Joe likes a bait holder hook in a size eight. Anything bigger came through unnaturally. No long shank hooks because they tend to fail. He stressed to set on first pause or bite. No dead sticking. Joe Chadwick the monster slayer.

Ridge & Valley

All-Conference Boys Basketball

Player of the Year:
Evan Payne, Seneca

Coach of the Year:
Brian Kwasny, Seneca

1st Team All-Conference

- Jr., Landon Pedretti, DeSoto
- Jr., Mason Zink, DeSoto
- So., Channing Brown, Ithaca
- So., Sammy Clary, Ithaca
- Jr., Ry Gehrke, Kickapoo
- So., Andrew Munson, North Crawford
- Sr., Evan Payne, Seneca
- Sr., Brennan Wallin, Seneca
- Sr., Seth Bunders, Wauzeka-Steuben

Honorable Mention

- So., Zander Jones, Ithaca
- Jr., Hayden Fowell, LaFarge
- Jr., Aaron Camlek, LaFarge
- Jr., Gavin Jacobus, North Crawford
- Jr., Deekin Smith, North Crawford
- So., Dawson Davidson, Seneca
- Fr., Cooper Lomas, Wauzeka-Steuben
- Jr., Micah Salisbury, Ithaca
- So., Garrett Jennings, Weston

Sportsmanship Team

- Sr., Evan Koch, DeSoto
- Sr., Alan Pomeroy, Ithaca
- Sr., Nolan Alexander, Kickapoo
- Sr., Ty Wirts, LaFarge
- Sr., Carter Halverson, North Crawford
- Sr., Jaden Starkey, Seneca
- Sr., Carson Redman, Wauzeka-Steuben
- Jr., Logan Bingham, Weston

Conference Standings

- Seneca, 13-1
- Wauzeka/Steuben, 12-2
- Ithaca, 10-4
- North Crawford, 9-5
- DeSoto, 6-8
- Kickapoo, 4-10
- LaFarge, 1-13
- Weston, 1-13



Player of the Year indeed!!

Seneca's Evan Payne (3) showed why he was selected to be the Ridge & Valley Conference Payer of the Year with this drive down the lane past three Hornet defenders to start the second half of the WIAA Regional Championship a couple of weeks ago. Despite the efforts of Payne and his teammates, Wauzeka-Steuben won that game. However, the Royals held onto the satisfaction of having won the conference championship game earlier.

Ridge & Valley

All-Conference Wrestling Honors

Coach of the Year:
Grant Sutter Pec-Argyle

Girls 1st team

- 100, Mariyanna Miller, Kickapoo-LaFarge
- 107, Hailey Yaktin, DeSoto
- 114, Darci Jelinek, NCS
- 126, Gwen Walker, Kickapoo/LaFarge
- 138, Angelica Stedman, Kickapoo/La Farge
- 165, Anna Logue, North Crawford/Seneca
- 235, Manda Hemmersbach, Kickapoo/LaFarge

Boys 1st team

- 106, Aidan Gruenenfelder, Pecatonica/Argyle
- 113, Lukas Orloff, Pecatonica/Argyle
- 120, Jakob Orloff, Pecatonica/Argyle
- 126, Derek Franzen, Ithaca/Weston
- 132, Jordan Parker, River Ridge
- 138, Sammy Nelson, Pecatonica/Argyle
- 145, Dyami Heisz, NCS
- 152, Lincoln Manning, Ithaca/Weston
- 160, Levi Wehrle, River Ridge
- 170, David Fargen, Ithaca/Weston
- 182, Wyatt Hilby, Ithaca/Weston
- 195, Caleb Birkrem, Ithaca/Weston
- 220, Marshall Self, Ithaca/Weston
- 285, Ryan Biermeier, Ithaca/Weston

Boys honorable mention

- 106, Jaren Grimsled, North Crawford/Seneca

- 113, Hailey Yaktin, DeSoto
- 120, Ethan Stowell, Ithaca/Weston
- 126, Gavin McDowell, DeSoto
- 132, Will Doescher, Pecatonica/Argyle
- 138, Ashtin Bennett, Ithaca/Weston
- 145, Nolan Waldner, Ithaca/Weston
- 152, Seth Greeno, DeSoto
- 160, Colton Clark, Kickapoo/LaFarge
- 170, Justin Obert, DeSoto
- 182, Ethan Bass, Kickapoo/La Farge
- 195, Jayden Barragan, River Ridge
- 220, Jayvyn Jones, DeSoto
- 285, Owen Callahan, River Ridge

Sportsmanship team

- 12, Jayvyn Jones, DeSoto
- 9, Hunter Moe, Ithaca
- 11, Maverick McCauley, Kickapoo/LaFarge
- 11, Gwen Walker, Kickapoo/LaFarge
- 9, Nick Liedtke, North Crawford/Seneca
- 9, Emerson Koch, Pecatonica/Argyle
- 10, Owen Bedward, River Ridge

Conference standings

- 5-0, Ithaca/Weston
- 4-1, DeSoto
- 3-2, Kickapoo/LaFarge
- 2-3, River Ridge
- 1-4, Pecatonica/Argyle
- 0-5, NCS