Entries sought for 2017 Grand Rodeo Parade

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCG EDITOR

FORT MADISON - The Tri-State Rodeo just announced their entertainment lineup for 2017 and now the rodeo’s parade committee is looking to solidify its lineup.

Parade committee Chairman Kirk Sherwood said Saturday that entries are now being sought for the annual parade and there are several ways to for those interested in participating to sign up.

Sherwood said the parade has been attracting upwards of 20,000 people each year and it’s a great opportunity for clubs, businesses, organizations, and residents to be part of a large-scale community event.

Once again this year prizes will be awarded in each category with Theme Floats earning prizes of $100, $75 and $50 for 1st through 3rd. Non-theme floats can win $90, $60 and $40 prizes. Prizes are also awarded for the top three places in Decorated Car/Truck, antique car/truck and miscellaneous.

Entry fee is $20 and checks can be made to the Tri-State Rodeo. Sherwood said this year he would like to see more bands in the parade as over the years band sizes have diminished and marching bands have been supplanted in some school districts with field competition bands so the field has dwindled. The parade is offering to reimburse mileage, as has been done in the past, to entice schools to send marching bands to the parade.

Hot topics
Iowa Fertilizer Company officials say alarms heard over the weekend were nothing of concern as the facility goes through final testing before coming on line.

north of the fertilizer plant and using the roads behind there to access their property. IFC is also asking the state to allow them to construct an acceleration lane on the north-bound side of 61 for truck traffic heading north out of the plant. According to the Lee property owners behind the plant. The move would ultimately be decided by the Iowa Department of Transportation and would force southbound traffic to travel to the first Fort Madison interchange and use the newly constructed RISE highway to access their property. Residents would also have the option of turning at the BP station on Hwy 61

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Sports:

FMCSD doubles service hours for 2018

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCG EDITOR

FORT MADISON - With a 10-hour volunteer community service requirement in place for current FMHS seniors to graduate, high school officials have decided to double down on the requirement.

FMHS Principal Greg Smith said he still has over 100 seniors who haven’t met the 10-hour requirement this year and last year many students waited ‘til the last minute to get their hours in.

“There was a rumor out there that we couldn’t make them do it, so I’ve been making it a point this past week when I’m in classrooms to tell students they still need to get their volunteer hours in,” Smith said. “Now they’re all running around trying to get their hours in. We sent out a voice message tonight and we even had a class meeting about it.

The new requirement will go into effect with the 2018 freshman class that comes to the school next year.

Once this policy goes into effect anyone at the high school will be able to get their hours whenever they want all the way up to graduation. We’re talking the whole six years of high school,” Smith said.

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DES MOINES – Main Street Iowa hosted the 31st annual Main Street Iowa Awards Celebration on Friday, April 7, 2017 at Hoyt Sherman Place in Des Moines. The program honored the efforts of those who work day in and day out in downtown revitalization in Iowa. The event was attended by approximately 550 individuals representing communities across the state.

Conrad Hellman, Fort Madison Main Street Board member and Holy Trinity High School student, received a Leadership Award for his dedication and hard work to the development of downtown Fort Madison. Conrad Hellman, Julie Hellman, and Cassandra Gilbert represented Fort Madison Main Street.

Main Street Iowa has annually presented awards honoring outstanding accomplishments, activities and people that are making a difference in Iowa’s Main Street districts. Projects large and small are recognized and serve as outstanding examples of what historic commercial district revitalization is all about.

Fifteen projects and activities occurring in local Main Street communities were selected to be recognized from the 160 competitive nominations submitted. The honors were presented by Governor Terry E. Branstad, Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds and Debi Durham, director of the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA).

“The Main Street Iowa program has stood the test of time since its introduction in 1985. The program continues to bring businesses, jobs, investment and vitality to our states’ communities, both big and small,” stated Branstad. “The Main Street Approach works, and Main Street Iowa has been a national model because we are creative, we embrace change, we demand local initiative and action, while holding strong to our roots as an historic preservation program.”

“Healthy, historic commercial districts are a key deciding factor for industrial and business recruitment,” said Reynolds. “Since 1986, local Main Street programs have made a significant impact on Iowa’s economy with 4,514 new businesses and a net gain of 13,402 jobs. More than 740 building projects have been reported with an investment in those rehabs of over $2 billion. Last year alone, the Main Street Iowa network surfaced 156,135 total documented hours of human capital invested into Iowa’s downtown revitalization efforts. This demonstrates a tremendous commitment to Iowa’s Main Streets.”

During the event, 10 communities were recognized for reaching significant benchmarks based on private dollar investments made in the purchase and revitalization of properties within their respective commercial districts. Centerville and Lansing were recognized for reaching the $1 million benchmark in the last year and Ft. Madison was honored for $2 million in local investment. Ames and Guthrie Center were recognized for achieving the $5 million level. Des Moines 6th Avenue, Chariton, Corning, State Center and Ottumwa all attained $10 million in local investment since being designated as local Main Street programs. Four communities were recognized for significant anniversaries. Osceola was recognized for 20 years of participation as a designated Main Street community. Cedar Falls, Spencer and West Des Moines were recognized for 30 year anniversaries.

For more information about Main Street Iowa and how all Iowa communities can access commercial revitalization assistance through the Iowa Downtown Resource Center, visit iowaeconomicdevelopment.com/MainStreetIowa, e-mail mainstreet@iowaEDA.com or call 515-725-3051.

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OBITUARIES

THOMAS HAROLD MOHRFELD

Thomas Harold Mohrfeld, 73, of Fort Madison, IA passed away Saturday, April 8, 2017 at the University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics in Iowa City. Tom was born on December 6, 1943 in Fort Madison, IA. He was the son of Harold and Mary Florence Mohrfeld. Tom graduated from Aquinas High School in 1961 and continued his education by playing college basketball and graduating from Marquette University in 1965. He served in the United States National Guard. On October 26, 1968, he married Mary Alice Wudy in Milwaukee, WI. Tom spent his entire career in the financial industry, most recently with Ameriprise Financial. He volunteered his time to the Southeastern Community Foundation, Aquinas Catholic School System, Ss. Mary and Joseph Catholic Church Ministries and served as the President of United Way. Tom enjoyed both playing and watching golf and was an avid Cardinal, Packer, and Notre Dame fan.

Those left to honor his memory include his wife, Mary Alice Mohrfeld of Fort Madison, IA; one daughter, Jennifer Gill and husband, Gregg of St. Charles, IL; one son, Jeffrey Mohrfeld and wife, Christine of Colorado Springs, CO. He is also survived by his five grandchildren, Kaitlyn and Alexandra Gill and Addi- son, Mason, and Gracyn Mohrfeld; one brother, John Mohrfeld, wife Jean of Menomonee Falls, WI; nephews, Michael, Andrew & Christopher Mohrfeld & families and a brother in law, Tom Wudy, wife Ceil of pewau- kee, WI.

A celebration of his life will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, April 12, 2017 at St. Ss. Mary and Joseph Catholic Church with Rev. Mark P. Spring officiating. A luncheon will follow the service at McAleer Hall.

The family requests memorial contributions be made to the Leu- cine & Lymphoma Research Foundation or Holy Trinity Catholic Schools System. Memorial contributions may be mailed to Thomas H. Mohrfeld, c/o King-Lynk Funeral Home, 502 Main St., P.O. Box 198, Fort Madison, IA 52627.

Pen City Current - Tuesday, April 11, 2017 - 3
Sports

FMHS girls spikers lose at Keokuk

Lady Hounds play tough first half, but can’t get shots in net

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - Fort Madison’s girls soccer team is finding ways to get shots in just their fourth season in play, but couldn’t get by Keokuk 5-0 Monday night at the Baxter Sports Complex.

Head coach Sebastian Siefert said the Lady Hounds had ample shots but just couldn’t find the net. “Taylor Shannon, Dezire Kline and Emily Wolf didn’t find the target though we had many opportunities during the first half,” Siefert said.

He said the Hounds had a very strong first half holding the Chiefs scoreless for the first 10 minutes. Siefert said Kaeli Hutson, Braxtyn McGhyghy and Brynn Schroeder played the wings and are starting to get a good understanding of their roles and expectations.

“Likely ran the most of anyone on the pitch and played their positions well. It’s exciting to see things starting to fall into place. I feel like we have been here before in years past, I just hope this year we can actually continue to progress and let the scoreboard reflect that,” Siefert said.

The Lady Hounds travel to Davis County on Tuesday.

Hounds girls fall to Keokuk netters

Two matches go to 9 games but Hounds can’t find the build in weekend win

BY PCC STAFF

KEOKUK - The Lady Bloodhounds couldn’t capitalize on an invitational win over the weekend and fell in girls tennis action Monday night in Keokuk.

Fort Madison only got two singles wins at No. 3 and No. 6 and got a win at No. 3 doubles before falling to the Chiefs 3-6.

Hope Gray got the Lady Hounds on the board with an 8-3 win over Keokuk’s Lauren Hasselbush at No. 3 and Charissa Smith dropped Keokuk’s Maddy Miller 8-2.

No. 1 Katie Larson came up just short of a win against Jakala Hall 7-9 and Kearstyn Johnson fell to Madison Etter 4-8. Larissa Ferrill fell to Allie Brookhart after pushing the match to the ninth game but fell 7-9. Mercedes Doty fell to No. 5 singles 3-8 to Lexi Walrath.

The Lady Hounds didn’t fare much better when paired up in doubles action as Larson and Gray fell to Etter and Brookhart 3-8, Johnston and Ferrill fell by the same count to Hall and Hasselbush. Smith and Doty defeated Walrath and Miller 8-2 to get a win for the Lady Hounds.

“Most of these matches had games that were very close,” Head Coach Amy Doherty said. “The scores don’t really reflect the effort behind each point. It’s not the result we wanted, but each girl learned a little about what they need to work on going forward.”

The Lady Hounds travel to Davis County on Tuesday.

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Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Earlier action

FMHS’s Emily Wolf drives in action last weekend against Canton. Wolf and the Lady Hounds were blanked by Keokuk Monday night 5-0.

Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Two matches go to 9 games but Hounds can’t find the build in weekend win...
FORT MADISON - With winds blowing close to 30 mph, the Fort Madison Bloodhounds kept their composure and outlasted Keokuk 6-3 in boys tennis action Monday in Fort Madison.

Head Coach Dean Hogan, who is playing with only two players who saw any real time playing last year, said he considered his team an underdog going into the match.

“We’re a very young team and I considered us to be the underdogs tonight. We just don’t have a lot of match toughness under our belt from last year, but the kids are doing very well.”

At No. 1 singles the Bloodhounds Dante Seaney got behind early with Keokuk Reid Rieder in the first set being down as much as 1-4, but never got down and kept running down shot after shot. After Rieder took the first set it was becoming clear after several 10 to 15 shot rallies, that Seaney wasn’t going away.

He fought back to take the second set by running down shot after shot and frustrating Rieder out of his game. After Rieder took the first set it was becoming clear after several 10 to 15 shot rallies, that Seaney wasn’t going away.

The Hounds paired up and sent Keokuk home sweeping the doubles action.

At No. 1 doubles Conrad Hellman and Tim Shin fell at No. 6 singles to Keokuk’s Gage Stice and Hernandez downed Seaney and Hernandez. Shocks were in the last three singles matches with Austin Krueger falling to Peyton Skinner at No. 4 in another long match.

Austin took the first set 7-6 (7-2 tiebreak) but dropped the second set 2-6 and then lost the tiebreaker 10-7. At No. 5 singles Conrad Hellman fell in a tiebreaker to Keokuk’s Gage Stice 6-7 (7-5), 7-5 and then lost the tiebreaker 6-10.

Timm Shin fell at No. 6 singles 2-6, 1-6 to tie the match at three apiece and then needed a 7-5 tiebreaker to take the second set.

The Hounds paired up and sent Keokuk home sweeping the doubles action.

Gettign some pace

Sam Avery gets some torque on his return in Monday’s action. Avery won his match in straight sets to help the Hounds move to 2-0 on the season. See page 9 for more photos.

“No Latex Paints Please

*No Latex Paints Please

Great River Regional Waste Authority will be accepting the following Household Hazardous Waste items during the Annual Community Clean Up Event. We encourage you to call ahead and make an appointment for the collection.

• Fertilizers, Herbicides, Insecticides, Pesticides
• Oil Based Paints, Paint Thinners & Solvents
• Household & Auto Cleaning Products
• Car Batteries, Motor Oil, Antifreeze
• Car Batteries and Rechargeable Batteries
• Swimming Pool Chemicals
• Propane Tanks
• AND MORE!

Call 319-372-6140 to schedule your appointed time or to check to see if your items qualify for this event.

2092 303rd Avenue• Fort Madison, IA (319) 372-6140
VISIT US ONLINE: www.facebook.com/grrwa
www.grrwa.com

Great River Regional Waste Authority’s Earth Day Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event Saturday April 22nd, 2017 ~ 9:00am to 12:00pm Located in Central Park

Fort Madison Residents Only, No Businesses Please
Classifieds

Laser Operator Needed

**Responsibilities to be included but are not limited to the following:**
- Create Nest programs based on customers’ Purchase Orders and drawings.
- Revise programs to eliminate errors, and retest programs to check that problems have been solved.
- Analyze job orders, drawings, specifications, and design data to calculate dimensions, tool selection, machine speeds, and feed rates.
- Observe machines on trial runs or conduct computer simulations to ensure that programs and machinery will function properly and produce items that meet specifications.
- Modify existing programs to enhance efficiency.
- Sort shop orders into groups to maximize materials utilization and minimize machine setup time.
- Compare computer printouts with original part specifications to verify accuracy of instructions.
- Perform preventative maintenance or minor repairs on machines.
- General housekeeping on and around the laser and the laser room.

**Required Skills:**
- Computers and Electronics—Knowledge of computer hardware and software, including applications and programming.
- Mechanical—Knowledge of machines and tools, including their designs, uses, repair, and maintenance.
- Mathematics—Knowledge of arithmetic, geometry, and their applications.
- Production and Processing—Knowledge of raw materials, production processes, quality control, costs, and other techniques for maximizing the effective manufacture and distribution of goods.
- English Language—Knowledge of the structure and content of the English language including the meaning and spelling of words, rules of composition, and grammar.
- Education and Training—Associates Degree or equivalent experience.

**Hours:** 2nd Shift M-F 3:00 p.m. to 12:00

**Pay Rate:** Depending on experience

**Company Benefit Package:** Health, Vision, Life and Dental Insurance, Long Term and Short Term Disability, 401K, Profit Sharing, Flexible Spending Account, Paid Holidays, and Company paid Uniforms.

**How to apply:**
Please send a Resume to: kevinm@steffweld.com or visit our website for an application http://www.steffweld.com

Contact Information: Kevin Mehaffy, 1311 Pilot Grove Road, Pilot Grove, Iowa, 52648, 319-469-3961

Application Deadline: April 28th, 2016

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- Granite Counter Tops
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- 3 Full Baths
- 9 ft. Finished Basement
- Modern Open Floor Plan
- New Family Friendly Neighborhood
- Great Central Location
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All Green Oak Homes come with warranties and low utility bills!

Contact Jill at 319-470-2540 to view!

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NEW CONSTRUCTION IN WEST POINT

26 Green Oak Court, Fort Madison Iowa
New Construction Built in 2017

- Spacious Lot and a Half Yard
- 3 Car Garage
- Granite Counter Tops
- 4 Bedrooms w/ Master Suite
- 3 Full Baths
- 9 ft. Finished Basement
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OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, April 13 • 4:30-6pm
225 Avenue E
Hosted by Linda Reding

Beautiful 4 bedroom home with large rooms, recently redecorated and ready to move into. This home features stainless steel appliances, main floor laundry, eat in kitchen and formal dining room, main floor office or bedroom, open staircase, large living room and big bedrooms. Newer roof, siding and gutters on house. 24' X 36' insulated garage and workshop, plus carport. Large wrap porch great location near Old Settlers Park.

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4 BR • 1.75 BA • 3 car garage • 2,052 sq. ft. 8,700 sq. ft. lot

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- Upgraded Kitchen with High End Cabinetry

All Green Oak Homes come with warranties and low utility bills!

Contact Jill at 319-470-2540 to view!

http://www.greenoakdevelopment-ia.com/
100-plus hours of volunteer service earns Silver Chord

HOURS - Continued from Page 1

they want. “We want them to appreciate giving their time back and see that it’s important,” Smith said. We’re really trying to push that agenda and we’re also going to give a silver chord to anyone going forward that has more than 100 hours of service in their high school career.”

Board member Gayla Young said that’s an added honor and it looks really good on a resume.

Other changes that would take effect would include a weighted-grading system for advanced courses, again starting with the class of 2021, which is the incoming freshman class for the 2017-18 school year.

Smith said the school district has been trying to get this added to the curriculum for years and the high school feels they are at a good place to get that started with the next freshman class.

Assistant Principal Patrick Lamb reiterated that next year’s sophomores, juniors, and seniors will not be eligible for weighted-grading in their classes.

The school also amended the vocational requirements from one credit to two and added a business credit requirement. Those two additional courses reduced the elective requirements from 21 to 19, again effective with the incoming freshman class.

In other action, the board approved as a part of the consent agenda the hiring of Anthony Shiffman as head football coach and English Instructor/At Risk at the Creative Learning Center. They also hired Wanda as special education and 8th grade basketball coach, Hannah Puls as Associate Elementary.

The school also amended the vocational requirements from one credit to two and added a business credit requirement. Those two additional courses reduced the elective requirements from 21 to 19, again effective with the incoming freshman class.

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County Board of Supervisors, 70 percent of truck traffic leaving the facility would be headed north. Harris said IFC would shoulder the entire cost of the closure and the acceleration lane.

“The first thing is safety for the community and our operations. It is the most critical aspect of our operations,” he said.

“As we move closer to full production anyone would want to look at traffic patterns and what are the safest options for the community. The trucks are new customers, not employees, so it’s hard to dictate what they do. We’re considering working with the DOT to see if that makes more sense. We’ve looked at what is the safest for people moving through the community and that turn presented safety issues that we take very seriously. From our perspective, looking first and foremost from a safety perspective, it makes more sense for it to be closed.”

Harris also said IFC has heard comments that the closure would hinder emergency responses and he said that wouldn’t be the case.

“Emergency crews would access that turn under the plans right now. We’re open to hearing from anyone with other options and we understand there are other concerns we have to consider the overall safety of everyone involved,” he said.

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He said the IFC is very appreciative of the Lee County Board of Supervisors partnership as the facility has come to fruition and is fully understanding of their position.

VOTE

ROSS BRADEN
Lee County Attorney
May 2nd, 2017

“Looking to the future of Lee County”

Lee County Attorney, Ross Braden, is dedicated to protect and serve Lee County, Iowa to make it a safer place for our children and community as a whole!

IFC: Safety at center of crossover closure

IFC - Continued from Page 1

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Rauenbuehler, Chandler
Hellweg, Ava Peitz, Maria
Raquel Schneider
Hellman, Abby Holtkamp,
success!
dents on their academic
advertisers are excited to
The
Pen City Current and its
quarter honor rolls. The
have announced their 3rd
Holy Trinity Catholic Ju-
FORT MADISON –
Holy Trinity Catholic releases 3rdQ honor roll
PCC STAFF
Thornton
Brett Schneider, Collin
Mohrfeld, Maya Rashid,
mantha Hoenig, Madison
Conrad Hellman, Sa-
Fullhart, Austin Haas,
Aden Alfred, Sabrina
kis, Katie Scoville
Emily Box, Elyse Pothitakis,
Avery, Taylor Boeding,
cole Pothitakis, Samantha
Vasin Thurman
12th Grade – Denver
Abol, Quinn Abolt,
Camila Almeida, Na-
talia Almeida, Camer-
on Bahl, Alexs Boyd,
Alyssa Hennan, Yang-hee
Kim, Addison Malinski,
Avery Malinski, Bailey
Merschman, Shianne
Moeller, Joshua Pieper,
Nicholas Pothitakis,
Alse Randolph, Justin
Rempe, Dante’ Seaney,
Ben Tingsu, Margaret
Walker
A Honor Roll
7th Grade - Lucy
Graham, Ace Mierotto,
Mitchell Pothitakis, Kassi-
dy Randolph, Aval Rashid,
Anna Sobczak, Jackson
Van Hamme
8th Grade – Danny
Caruso, Taylor Crabtree,
Katherine Dennig, Claire
Pothitakis, Alison
Robu, Jason Thurman,
Emma Torgler
9th Grade – Blake
Crabtree, Abby Dimgan,
Claire Graham, Jacob
Mohrfeld, Ryan Otte, Elle
Rashid, Maile Sheerin
10th Grade – Josh-
ua Bazz, Kyle Schetz,
Hannah Torgler, Jorie
Whitaker
12th Grade – Alex
Bentler, Lillian Schier-
brock, Jordean Stein, Kir
Walljasper
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• Immunizations
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FMSS 6th grade A,B honor rolls

Editor’s Note: We’re run-
ing the FMSS 6th grade A & B honor rolls in their en-
tirety because several names were inadvertently left off the pre-
vious listing. We apologize
for the error and congratu-
late these students for their
academic success.

6th Grade A Honor Roll
Faith Bennett, Aidan
Boyer, Madisyn Brewer,
Dany Buchanan, Haley
Craft, Ran Delfesien,
Kaden Dunn, Kevin
Durand, Shayna Eid,
Kencade Fraise, Taegan
Hamilier, Kalyssa Han-
sen, Venus Hunter, Trista
Jones, Molly Knipe, Macy
Lebeck, Mateo Loza-
no, Londyn McCellan,
Brian Mckillan, London
Medland-Berry, Allison
Miller, Raimi Monnier,
Cameron Nabors, Cade
Packard, Aidan Pеннock,
Jennifer Perez, Makenna
Pixler, Tanner Settles, Tate
Settles, Taven Settles,
Madison Sherwood,
Daniel Sokolik, Zander
Sper, Emily Steffen-
meier, Autumn Stephens,
Abigail Stockwell, Selena
Stotts, Abigale Stuecker-
juergen, Kailey Sutlif,
Payton Sutcliffe, Nathaniel
Swaig, Benjamin Thele,
Breena Walston, Vance
Walz, Jamiah Williams,
Hayden Woolver
6th Grade B Honor Roll
Allivia Aker, Gideon
Anderson, Gavin Archer,
Robin Bahi, Katherine
Beach, Lucas Benedict,
Zachary Boilesen, Brandt
Booten, Jordyn Boyer,
Mathew Brown, Maxwell
Brunswig, Brianna Byrd,
Bryce Cohn, Zander
Crank, Matthew Davis,
Paige Dettmers, Bailey
Dodson, Drew Dravis,
Rylee Dubois, Nakodah
Dunlap, Colton Durbin,
Jacob Enger, Cayla Feier-
hammer, Charles Fullen-
kamp, Kaitlen Gagler,
Sarah Gram, Collin Gre-
enwald, Gavin Horton,
Ember Johnson, Colton
Jones, Kelsey Kruse, Gage
Langrir, Dominic Lopez,
Trevor Luke, Emma Lur-
vey, Erik Millard, Mala-
chi Muse, Shaves Peters,
Kayrn Pierce, Neosha
Rehm, Cameron Shut-
well, Michael Six-Jones,
Edictia Smutney, Tanner
Stoerner, Brennan Ulik,
Lillonna Walz, William
Watkins, Garrett White,
Madison Winn, Tyler
Young

FMSS 6th grade A,B honor rolls

Winners

Above, Dante Se-
aneey tries a slice
Monday in the first
set. Seaney won his
No. 1 singles match
against Keopluk, Be-
low, Johnny Herma-
deoz works the net in
his win.

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