



News Letter Journal

Weston County

March 2, 2023

Newcastle, Wyoming

Year 137

Week 9



Legislators mourn bills that 'died'

Alexis Barker
NLJ News Editor

As the Wyoming State Legislature's general session approaches its end, local legisla-

tors are mourning bills that are essentially dead as shenanigans continue at the state capitol.

"We had two bills on ESG (environmental, social and governance) from Senator [Bo]

Biteman, of which the House Appropriations Committee dropped substitute bills on both and then killed the bills. The pharmacy benefit provider bill suffered the same fate in the

Revenue Committee, however the bill was not killed," Sen. Cheri Steinmetz, R-Lingle, said in her weekly update. "Shenanigans are being played within the state legislature. We

hope they don't continue and that we can pass some important legislation for the State of Wyoming and our citizens.

— See **Legislature**, Page 2

County looks at website renovation

Alexis Barker
NLJ News Editor

In the hopes of being more transparent and user friendly, the Board of Weston County Commissioners says, it is contemplating overhauling the county's website. Concerns about the website were brought to light during conversation earlier this year regarding which newspaper should be designated as the county's legal newspaper of record.

— See **County**, Page 8

Parties agree to revisit dispatch split

Alexis Barker
NLJ News Editor

During a joint meeting on Feb. 22, the Newcastle City Council and Board of Weston County Commissioners agreed to revisit the issues that led to a march toward creation of two separate dispatch facilities — one city, one county — to service residents.

For the past several years, tension between the two entities escalated, resulting in the city's decision to move the Newcastle Police Department and dispatch services to City Hall and the county's decision to start up and operate a second dispatch center.

The main point of contention between the two bodies involved who would oversee dispatch operations. The county supported the creation of a joint powers board to oversee dispatch operations, while the city wanted to maintain oversight of the dispatch center. The city also proposed an updated service contract with the county.

Commissioner Don Taylor, Councilman Tyrel Owens and other members of both governing boards have been adamant over the past two years that two dispatch centers is not the right solution to end the ongoing debate.

Other government officials, including Sheriff Bryan Colvard and Weston County Emergency

— See **Dispatch**, Page 6

Rubber stamp

Alexis Barker
NLJ News Editor

Residents of Weston County who have been demanding to see the findings of an outside investigation into actions of the Weston County Commissioners are unlikely to ever have those demands met, because it doesn't appear any "findings" actually exist.

Months before the News Letter Journal and other interested parties filed a lawsuit against the Board of Weston County Commissioners over the use of a secret ballot to select a replacement for former Rep. Hans Hunt in October 2021, a group of concerned residents asked Weston County Attorney Michael Stulken to request an investigation into the legality of the vote.

Documents recently obtained by the News Letter

— See **Ballots**, Page 6

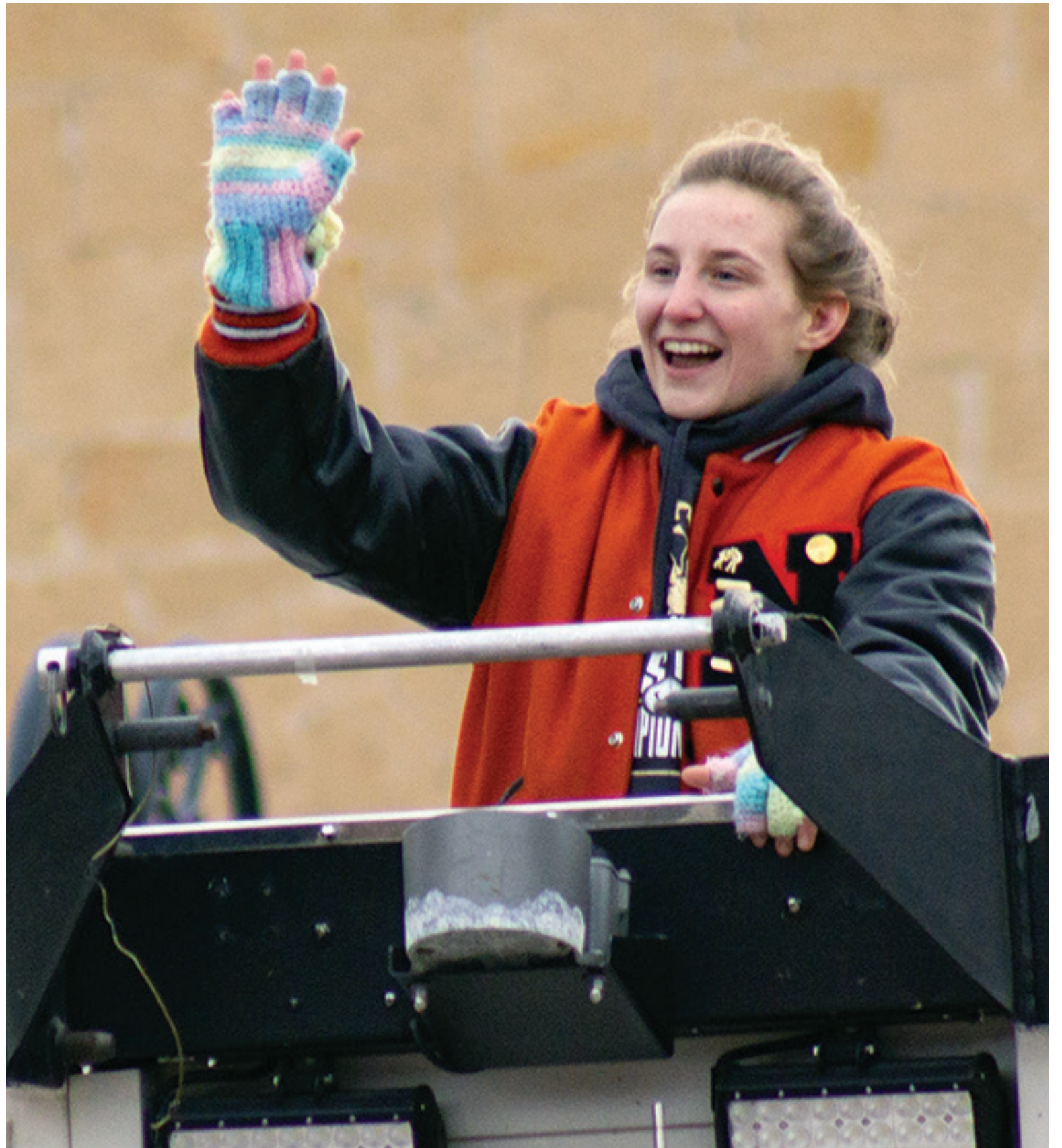


Photo by Amy Menerey/NLJ

Kyah Miller, Newcastle High School senior and champion of the 3A State Wrestling Tournament in the 120-pound weight class, waves as she takes a victory tour down Main Street atop a Newcastle Volunteer Fire Department truck on Monday. Miller is the first NHS student to win in the girls' state wrestling category, and the first in the state to take the state championship in the 120 class.

GIRLS can WRESTLE, TOO!

Sonja Karp
NLJ Sports Editor

When she started her high school wrestling career as a freshman, Kyah Miller knew what she was up against. She would be pitted against boys who were physically stronger than her, and she knew that there were probably not many wins in her future.

Miller stuck with it, though, and picked up some wins along the way in her first three years. Though she isn't sure of the exact number, Miller figures she beat around 20 boys throughout her high school career. As a

junior, she got fifth place in the JV boys division of the Shane Shatto Tournament in Douglas, and last season she actually made it to the boys state tournament at 113 pounds.

Though she went two and out at state, it was a huge accomplishment to make it through regional competition and earn a state berth. It was indicative of how far she had come in the sport to be in the top eight of the 3A East Conference at 113 pounds.

Finally, in her senior year, Wyoming sanctioned a girls' division in wrestling, so Miller had

— See **Miller**, Page 7



Photo by Kim Dean/NLJ

Newcastle's pride of Kyah Miller is echoed on the marquee of the Dogie Theatre.

WEATHER FORECAST

Thursday
Partly Cloudy
Hi 34, Lo 21



Friday
PM Snow
Hi 33, Lo 14



Saturday
Mostly Sunny
Hi 33, Lo 21



Sunday
Partly Cloudy
Hi 38 Lo 20



Monday
Mostly Cloudy
Hi 34, Lo 18



Tuesday
PM Snow
Hi 30, Lo 17

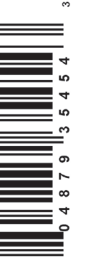


Wednesday
Snow
Hi 30, Lo 17



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City seeks administrator

Alexis Barker
NLJ News Editor

The city of Newcastle is seeking a city administrator, despite not having all the details on the job description or pay hammered out. The Newcastle City Council voted on Feb. 21 to begin advertising the position with pay depending on experience.

As previously reported in the August 2022 story, "City will no longer have an engineer," the council decided to not hire an engineer to replace Mike Moore, who retired on Aug. 15.

Instead, the council said it hoped to hire a grant writer to aid the city in securing funds to complete projects. At the time, council members stated that they believed a grant writer would benefit the city more

than an engineer.

On Feb. 21, Councilman Don Steveson said that hiring a city administrator whose top priority would be grant writing is a way the city can tackle important city infrastructure needs.

"Grant writing should be the top priority in order to get streets fixed. I think this is the way we accomplish that," he said.

Steveson noted that the position would not oversee all city operations, and that department heads would be the leaders in their own departments.

"This position is a resource," he said.

Councilman Tom Voss said it is crucial that the council clarify the job description.

"We don't want them (the administrator) messing with the chief of police or anything," Voss said.

Mayor Pam Gualtieri suggested that the council wait to vote on the job description until specific wording can be added. Council members could then vote during the March 6 meeting.

"I think we need to move on," Councilwoman Ann McColley said, suggesting that the city begin advertising the position.

Gualtieri supported McColley's idea, stating that the city could advertise the position as one with pay depending on experience. Meanwhile, the council could work out the "little pieces" in the job description and pay scale, she said.

To view this discussion, go to the News Letter Journal's YouTube channel to watch the Feb. 21 Newcastle City Council meeting.

Legislature from Page 1.....

However, the Speaker of the House is continuing to hold many bills of vital importance to the citizens of Wyoming in his desk drawer: We had several bills that passed the senate dealing with parental rights, educational choice, and the protection of children that have been killed, in the speaker's drawer."

She continued, explaining that the House has been dropping substitute bills on Senate sponsor bills.

According to wyoleg.gov, a substitute bill is a bill that is requested after a committee makes extensive amendments. The substitute bill incorporates all committee amendments into a new version of the bill and is presented as an amendment printed on buff colored paper. If the committee amendment is adopted by the body in Committee of the Whole all further amendments to the bill are made to the substitute bill.

"This is an action that, up to this point, has been rarely used, especially without contacting the prime sponsor of the bill in advance. It is unfortunate that the legislature has developed to these types of tactics," Steinmetz said.

Steinmetz isn't the only one frustrated with how the Legislature is moving forward and with the use of substitute bills.

Rep. Allen Slagle, R-Newcastle, also expressed dissatisfaction with the way the ESG bills were handled. In his weekly update, he said that Feb. 21 was a disappointing day in the legislature.

"Then, in Revenue Committee, the SF0151 Wyoming prescription drug transparency act was heard and, basically, they ended up replacing it with a substitute bill, which amended it — taking out all the protections for small pharmacies and leaving it so it mostly benefited Big Pharma and the mail-order prescriptions," Slagle said.

"Then, the final thing that was the straw that really made it a bad day for me, is HB0106, I was a sponsor of that to put a moratorium on eminent domain for distribution lines from wind charges — the governor vetoed that bill this evening," he continued. "Today, we will be looking at a lot more bills, and it's just kind of been a rough year for those who are fiscally and morally conservative. A lot of our votes are pretty close."

House majority floor leader Chip Neiman, R-Hulett, also expressed frustration in his Feb. 24 update.

"I have mentioned SF144 before, which prohibits doctors from performing procedures on children relating to gender transitioning and reassignment and revokes doctors' licenses if they administer sex change to minors," he said.

"I strongly supported this bill, which protects children from making a permanent decision about their bodies that cannot be undone. This bill went before the House Appropriations Committee, who effectively killed it. This bill passed out of committee with a do-not-pass recommendation, meaning it goes to the bottom of the list and bill deadlines will make

it tough for this good bill to be heard."

Another bill supported by Neiman failed to pass the Senate Appropriations Committee, he said. The bill would have banned the state from contracting with companies that have previously boycotted fossil fuels.

"I sponsored a similar bill that prevents financial institutions from discriminating against Wyoming energy companies," Neiman said. "Although I hoped for a different outcome for these bills, I look forward to more discussion on these measures during the interim."

In response to the frustrations of local legislators, Speaker of the House Albert Sommers, R-Pinedale, said in a press release that, as the speaker, he has the responsibility of keeping the representatives focused on getting work done for the people of Wyoming.

"Part of this leadership responsibility is choosing which standing committee a bill goes to and whether it gets sent to a committee at all," he said. "I take this responsibility seriously; bad policy can create major consequences for Wyoming. Bills that are unconstitutional, not well vetted, poorly written, duplicate bills or debates, and bills that negate local control, restrict the rights of people, or risk costly litigation financed by the people of Wyoming should not become law."

Specifically mentioning the SF0172 ESG State Funds Fiduciary Duty Act as an example, Sommers said the act, in theory, has merit, but that it's the legislators' job to determine how the bill would play out in Wyoming's reality.

"I sent SF0172 to the Appropriations Committee to ensure it was evaluated on its substance. The bill bans Wyoming government officials from contracting with businesses that have boycotted fossil fuels or are considering climate change in their investments," he stated in the release. "Members of the Appropriations Committee identified significant gaps in the language. The Treasurer's Office raised questions about how the bill may impact Wyoming's investment portfolio. This bill is not worth risking our state's fiscal future just to send a message. I am hopeful that the language in this policy can be tightened up in the interim to allow us to support our base industries while preserving our investment strategies."

As for keeping bills in his drawer to prevent their passage, Sommers said this is another way to ensure that the state legislature stays focused on solving pressing issues for Wyoming. He also acknowledged three different bills that were not sent to committees — HB0162, County option tax-affordable housing, HB0193, Carbon capture energy standards-repeal, and HB0115, Election administrations.

"The Wyoming Constitution allows the legislature to meet in session for only 60 working days over two years. This time constraint is by design and helps curtail frivolous bills being defeated over a lengthy period," Sommers concluded. "I will continue to do my best to keep us focused in the brief time remaining in the session."

journalism



professional gathering and reporting of information to society. When errors are published, corrections are issued. Investigative journalism reveals hitherto unknown crime, corruption, and wrongdoing.

GOOD CITIZENS

FEBRUARY 2022

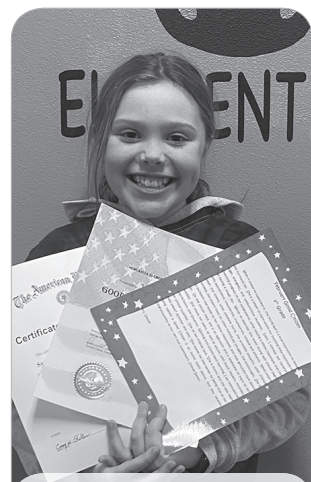


American Legion Post # 3 proudly presents Good Citizen Certificates to these Newcastle Elementary School students



Kendall Watt
3rd, Mrs. Back

As we are in the heart of the month of February, kindness comes to mind as a quality of a good citizen. One student in our classroom is always kind in so many ways! Above all, this particular student has a big heart with all of those that she encounters each day. She wants to make people happy whenever she can. Her big smile every day can light up the room! She quietly comes in and is ready to get to work. She has great work ethic, making sure she gets all her work done and asks what to do next. Her optimistic outlook on life adds a great touch to our classroom. I often hear her quietly offering to be a pal to anyone. Her classmates pointed out that she is helpful and plays and works well with others. They also notice that she never complains. I appreciate this humble and kind young lady each day as I get to know her better. Our February Good Citizen is truly a gift to our entire class. Congratulations to Kendall Watt, third grade's Good Citizen.



Sydney Baker
4th, Mrs. Giesler

When it comes to sweethearts, this young lady is a true inspiration to those who surround her. She is a helper to many within our bustling little classroom of eager, energetic, and rambunctious students. Daily, I witness her carefully checking progress on her assignments, while helping a fellow classmate that may be having a tough day. Words to describe this lovely young lady should begin with appreciative, considerate, trustworthy, reliable and athletic. When others speak, she listens, when someone hurts, she provides empathy, when friends succeed, she cheers them on, when individuals struggle, she encourages. She is an excellent role model to her fellow classmates, and they genuinely care about her. On the soccer field, she is an aggressor and a teammate to many of her buddies. She treats her peers, as well as adults, with much respect, kindness, appreciation, and sincerity. Walking into school each morning, I am reminded of her unique qualities. One of her friends said, "She is funny, and she tells really great jokes!" Another one said, "She makes me feel better by being nice to me." Being named a good citizen is an honor many desire, but few receive. Congratulations to our very own sweetheart, Sydney Baker!



Dustin Porter
5th, Mrs. Hebbring

As the year progresses through fifth grade, student behavior often changes, and not always for the better. However, this student can be counted on to be reliable and kind since day one! He knows where to draw the line between fun and off task. His personality, humor, and drive brighten the day of both teachers and classmates. Room 149 is lucky to have an amazing student that shows Determination in academics and athletics. Provides understanding and help to his peers. He has a sharp and witty character. His time management is on point, he gets his work done and is ready for his next task. He is insightful and is a great class participant. Dustin Porter is noteworthy and a great example of a good citizen!

NOTICE

**The Weston County Hospital District's
March meeting will be Thursday, March 9
at 5:30 p.m. in the WCHS Boardroom.**

**A Zoom link for the meeting will be posted
on wchs-wy.org the week of the meeting.**

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2021
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nlj IDEAS

news letter journal

Our View Our community's backbone

It is pretty easy to take our local businesses for granted. In an era when we turn more and more to online sources for "fulfillment," the brick and mortar businesses can seem less vital and convenient than they used to — and their importance to our community is often overlooked. So we are proud every year to produce our local business directory, the Get it Here Guide, and excited to begin rolling out this year's edition. There are entries in the annual guide for dozens of Weston County entities, and we hope you take the time to check

them out when you see a copy. And you will see them. The News Letter Journal will distribute them on news racks throughout Weston County throughout the year, and we invite you to pick one up and take it home so you can read about the people and businesses who continue to provide goods and services to their friends and neighbors — and continue to be there for our community. Unlike their online competitors, these heroes also support the organizations and endeavors that define life in Weston County, and without their time,

money and talents, much of what we hold dear simply wouldn't exist. These people also serve on local boards and support countless charities, and it really is hard to imagine life in Weston County without them. So pick up the Get it Here Guide this week — or get to know our local businesses by checking them out on our website. You can find each business in our online Business Directory and read all about them there. The full E-edition of the Get it Here Guide will be available under our Special Sections tab.

POLL of the WEEK

QUESTION:
 Should Governor Mark Gordon sign legislation to prevent crossover voting?

- Yes
- No

Go to newsjlj.com to vote!
 Look for results in next week's News Letter Journal.

RESULTS:
 Do you think all abortion should be banned in Wyoming?

- No 68% (26 votes)
- Yes 32% (12 votes)

News Letter Journal: WPA and NNA Award Winner

WHO



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Bob Bonnar Publisher
Kim Dean Managing Editor



Alexis Barker News Editor
Nicole McFarland Sports Photographer



Sonja Karp Sports Editor
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Circulation: Ann Cottrell
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Photographer: Tyler Sage

WHAT

We strive to cover all the news and entertainment important to the people of Weston County, Wyoming. Our entire staff takes part in the decision-making process of what appears in these pages and all content is locally generated. If you have a story idea please contact any of the people you see here. NLJ editorials appear in the upper left hand corner of this page and are written from the position of the newspaper, usually with the influence of several people, and in the hope that they will carry the weight of our 100-plus years of leadership. The personal columns and letters appearing elsewhere on this page, and others, represent the opinions of single individuals and do not necessarily reflect the position of the newspaper. The NLJ welcomes and encourages your Letter to the Editor. We will print all signed, original letters of local interest. Please provide a phone number for verification. We will not publish letters that are libelous or scurrilous in nature. Letters of thanks are offered at a reduced price in our classified section.

WHERE

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WHEN

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WHY

To provide news and entertainment for, and to serve the best interests of, the people of Weston County



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Deadline for Letters to the Editor is noon on Friday

New McDaniel book highlights underdogs

Like many Davids fighting their Goliaths, the heroes picked by author Rodger McDaniel in his new book suffered greatly, but caused great change in the Cowboy State.

The book, "Profiles In Courage, Standing Against The Wyoming Wind," recently came out and features some old friends of mine. Rodger sent me a copy, and folks like the late Tom Bell deserve some mention.

It was more than 50 years ago when a rancher named Herman Werner went to war against various endangered species at his Douglas ranch. During hearings before U.S. Sen. Gale McGee's federal committee in 1971, it was determined that 770 eagles had been shot, along with 222 coyotes, six elk, five bobcats and a bear.

"In addition to the shootings, other birds had been poisoned. Placed in the carcasses of antelope, thallium sulphate caused the deaths of eagles feeding on the dead animals," Rodger writes. "A witness at the December hearing said he knew of sheep men who would 'drive across grazing areas tossing the poison out left and right.' Natrona County Attorney

John Burke said carcasses of the seven antelope found on the Diamond Ring ranch were baited with enough thallium sulfates to kill all the animals in the state."

Bell is Wyoming's most famous environmentalist. Nobody else even comes close.

And back in 1970, he was my customer. I met him when I took over the Lander newspaper, Wyoming State Journal, as publisher. We were printing

Tom's fledgling little newspaper and he was always behind on paying his bills. He was always struggling.

The man who brought me to Wyoming, the legendary publisher Bruce Kennedy, encouraged me to collect Bell's past-due bills. I was just 24 years old and had not been in Wyoming for more than a week.

Although intimidated, I went to my first meeting with Bell and was astounded to find this incredibly humble, skinny, little one-eyed man.

His desk was a table with hundreds of file folders lined up across the top. No file cabinets, I asked him? He replied

that once something was out of sight, he could not focus on it.

His desk was a mess. In some ways he was a mess. Pay his printing bill? How? He was in the process of losing his beloved Tweed Lane ranch and money was tight.



Bill Sniffin
 My Wyoming

As a young idealist journalist, I fell under his spell. Here was a man who was really saving the world. The old axiom of "think globally, act locally" comes to mind when I learned about what he was doing.

Bell led the effort to expose the killing of all those eagles.

Rodger's book goes into great detail the trials of Bell, and Bell roasted other people, too.

I have always been a big fan of Gov. Stan Hathaway, but Bell spent his adult life ripping the governor. The two men hated each other. When Hathaway was asked what he was going to do the day after his governorship ended, he said he was going to drive over to Lander and punch Tom Bell in the nose.

This book is full of important and telling anecdotes.

His detail on Bell alone is enough to recommend this

book. During my first years in Wyoming, I was really squeezed between my boss demanding I collect that past-due bill and my zeal to support this almost religious effort by Bell to "save" Wyoming.

By the way, the eagle killer Werner was inexplicably killed when his car veered across traffic and collided head-on with a truck north of Rawlins not long after the hearings.

Bell claimed Werner's kind of reckless disregard for Wyoming's most basic treasures was happening all-across the Cowboy State. Bell felt there was a "good old boys club," and he almost single-handedly took them on.

He founded the strongest environmental newspaper in the region with High Country News, along with the Wyoming Outdoor Council. He also was the impetus for forming the Powder River Basin Resource Council.

The book also profiles another of my heroes, Lynn Dickey of Sheridan. What a great Wyoming citizen.

Despite some amazing physical handicaps, she was a leader in everything she did during her short life serving the people of Wyoming.

Other folks profiled include

Sissy Godwin, Jeran Artery, The Black 14 at UW, former U.S. Sen. Joseph O'Mahoney, former U.S. Rep. Teno Roncalio, the Simpson family of Cody, the Wind River Reservation, Heart Mountain, former Gov. Lester Hunt, former U.S. Sen. Gale McGee and former U.S. Rep. Liz Cheney.

This column barely scratches the surface of all the great stories and wonderful detail in this 351-page book. McDaniel struggled during the pandemic years putting this effort together. It is a must-read for people who care about Wyoming and who wonder how we got to where we are today.

My only complaint is that there are almost too many footnotes, which is testimony to how much McDaniel is a stickler to historical accuracy. Congratulations to him and all the folks who helped him for this outstanding effort.

Bill Sniffin is a retired newspaper publisher who has penned a number of books about Wyoming. Check out additional columns written by Bill at billsniffin.com, and find volumes from his coffee table book series for sale at the News Letter Journal.

Christmas is coming, and I want a diamond

As Andy Williams croons, "It's the most wonderful time of the year."

Except instead of kids jingle-belling and everyone telling you to be of good cheer, it is the crack of the ash and maple, the pop of the leather and the sizzle of a fast ball. Yes, kids, it is time for baseball.

It is 9/4 inches and 5 ounces of leather, string and cork, 60 feet, 6 inches separating two players at the top of their game and 90 feet that can mean the difference between glory and goat. It is home runs, suicide squeezes, sac flies and drag bunts. Fastballs, sliders, change-ups and everyone's least-favorite relative Uncle Charlie. The seventh-inning stretch, the call to the bullpen, pinch hitters and broken bats.

Ah, America's pastime. Whether you follow an MLB team, a minor league affiliate, college, beer league, Little League or all of the above,

baseball is the king of summer. Nothing compares to an evening game under the lights, complete with popcorn, stadium dogs and an ice-cold beverage. It is the perfect way to bring a close to a perfect night.

The beauty of summer ball is that there is always some special event going on: the College World Series (including the women's softball world series in that), the Little League World Series, various summer leagues — including in this region, the Spearfish Sasquatch and the Casper Spuds of the

Independence League. I have been to the stadiums where both play, and it is an awesome experience. There is the MLB Midsummer Classic, with an All-Star game, Home Run Derby and various other activities. If you are so inclined to see an MLB game, it is just a hop, skip and a jump to Coors Field in Denver to catch the Rockies playing, and I can tell you it is a great time.

The history of baseball dates to 1849, when the Knickerbockers played the New York Nine at Elysian fields. It was a one-sided affair, the Nine rolling the Knickerbockers 23-1 in four innings. From that rout, a game was born that would span generations. It would give rise to superhuman figures — George Herman Ruth (the Babe), Mickey Mantle, Willy Mays, Nolan Ryan, Reggie Jackson and more modern-day heroes such as Ken Griffey Jr., Derek Jeter, Miguel Cabrera and Pedro Martinez. Then there are current superstars such as Mike Trout, Shohei Ohtani, Bryce Harper and Clayton Kershaw. On the fast-pitch softball side, you have stars such as Jennie Finch, Dot Richardson, Jessica Mendoza and Cat Osterman. All out there for young men and women to pretend to be on the sandlot.

Speaking of sandlots, that is one of the great things about baseball. A few friends, a ball, a bat and an open field and you have a game. No need for 18 players. Get however many you can,

form teams and adapt the rules to what you have. Only have eight 8 to 10 players? Simple. One pitcher, a catcher and the others in the outfield. If the ball doesn't leave the infield in the air, it is an out. If it falls in front of the fielders, it's a single; over their heads, a double; hits the fence, a triple. There are so many variations that can be thought up. Let your imagination run wild. It is a very egalitarian game.

Last, let's go local. Right here in Newcastle we have had for the past nine years a great event on Father's Day weekend in the Annual Mefford Memorial Majors Tournament. This annual event runs from the Friday before Father's Day to Sunday and features Little Leaguers from all over the region. Keep an eye out for flyers with dates and fundraising and donation opportunities.

Get down to the ballpark and support these budding young superstars. Show them the community spirit, offer to volunteer and most of all, let them be kids playing the sport they love.


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 Dana Gordon (Board Member) 746-4660
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 Dana Mann-Tavegia (Board Vice-Chair) 746-8159

Jason Jenkins (Board Member) 629-0378
 Joe Prell (Board Member) 307-941-0462
 Sean Crabtree (Board Member) 307-689-2505
 Paul Bau (Board Member) 307-465-2418
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You're invited to the
90th Birthday Celebration
for




JoAnn Fassbender
Sunday, March 5, 2023, 2-4pm
First United Methodist Church
23 N. Seneca, Newcastle
No gifts please. If desired, a card may be sent to: JoAnn Fassbender, 311 S. Spokane Ave., Newcastle, WY 82701

FREE HEARING TESTS
FRIDAY, MARCH 10
WESTON COUNTY SENIOR CENTER
627 PINE ST., NEWCASTLE, WY 82701

FREE HEARING TESTS are from 9-11 a.m. by Annette Frerichs, Board Certified in Hearing Instrument Sciences. Anyone who has trouble hearing is welcome to come in for a hearing test using modern electronic equipment to find out if a tiny modern hearing aid may help. Diagrams showing how the ear works and some of the causes of hearing loss will be available.


Everyone should have a hearing test at least once a year if they have any trouble at all hearing clearly. Even people now wearing a hearing aid or those who have been told an aid won't help should have a hearing test and find out about current hearing aids.

To schedule an appointment, call 1-800-742-2192. Evening appointments are available for those who work, and **in-home appointments too!** Beltone Hearing has been serving the hearing impaired for more than 80 years.




Send community announcements to
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I GOT MY COVID-19 VACCINE!



Add one more layer of protection to keep you and your family safe. www.cdc.gov

Call Weston County Public Health at 746-4775, or your local pharmacy today to get your COVID vaccination or booster.

Obituaries

VELVA GAYLE (KRUGER) ENGEL
Sept. 4, 1945–Feb. 18, 2023

Velva Gayle (Kruger) Engel, age 77, loving mother of four, and adoring wife to husband Keith Engel, passed away Feb. 18, 2023, of natural causes.

Gayle was born Sept. 4, 1945, in Ovid, Colorado, to her parents, Velva and Del Kruger. She grew up in northeastern Colorado with her brothers, Bill Kruger and Dan Kruger.

She graduated from Sterling High and then went to Northeastern Junior College of Colorado, where she was a part of the rodeo club and choir.

Gayle met the love of her life, Keith Engel, and they married on Nov. 7, 1965, and built a beautiful life together for the past 57 years throughout Colorado and Wyoming. Together they raised four children, Kelly, Jim, Lora, and Shon, and were blessed with seven grandchildren.

Gayle was passionate about her animals, camping, fishing, and family. She trained horses, rescued countless dogs, and built a small ranch in Upton, Wyoming, with Keith, where they have lived for the past 48 years. In later years, they shared the joy of their registered Boer goats and enjoyed the many friends they made in the livestock community.

Throughout her life, she passed on to her children and grandchildren her love for rodeo, spent hours practicing with them,

and traveled wherever the trail took them to cheer them on. This gift went beyond her family; as a 4-H leader, she mentored the young up-and-coming cowboys and cowgirls.

Gayle was welcomed with open arms into heaven by her sons, Shon and Kelly; her brother, Bill, her parents; and many loving family members that went before her.

Her family said, "As a family, we will forever cherish our memories together and remember the loving wife, sister, mother, and grandmother she was and the life lessons she bestowed upon us."

We will celebrate her life daily and embrace the advice she would share with all mourning her, 'Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened.' Gayle's legacy lives on in the hearts and lives of her children and grandchildren."

The family will plan a celebration of life for a future date.

Online condolences may be written at fidler-isburgfuneralchapels.com.

MELVA ARLENE (BAY) RAWHOUSER
Sept. 16, 1938–Feb. 26, 2023

Melva Arlene Rawhouser passed away Feb. 26, 2023, at Weston County Manor, after a stroke in November 2013.

She was born Sept. 16, 1938, at the family ranch north of Hulett, Wyoming (close to Seeley, Wyoming) to Tom and Arlene (Stull) Bay.

She attended schools in Hulett and Moorcroft, Wyoming.

In 1953, she married Jack Bolin. Together they had a daughter, Barbara "Bobbi" Marie Bolin.

In 1958, she married James Franklin. Together they had three daughters and one son: a daughter, stillborn (unnamed), a son, Ricky James, a daughter, Raelene Dee, and a daughter, Roxy Lee.

She then married Dale Malley, inheriting a step-son, Sonny.

In 1978, she married Mike Rawhouser. Melva loved socializing with her friends, dancing, fishing, and gardening. Her jobs consisted of waitressing, bartending, cleaning motels, and doing income taxes for multiple people.

She is survived by her brother, Gene Bay of Newcastle; her daughters, Raelene (Kurt) Wilson of Cleburne, Texas, and Roxy (Gayle) Weeg of Newcastle; grandchildren, Michelle (Lee) Nuss of Belgrade, Montana, Marcie (Mike) Hobbs of Powell, Wyoming, Megan (Pat) Lengerich of Madison, Indiana, Cody (Jessica) Nielsen of Hulett, Mandy (Nick) Ringler of Marsing, Idaho, Trista (Anthony) Wiggan of Cleburne, Justin (Keisha) Wilson of Fort Worth, Texas, Lonnie Weeg of Rapid City, South Dakota, Jesse (Heather) Weeg of Gillette, Wyoming, Colton Weeg of Amherst, Wisconsin; 22 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents; husband, Mike Rawhouser; daughters, stillborn and Bobbi Nielsen; and son, Ricky James.

At the request of Melva, she wished for cremation and no services.



Melva Rawhouser



Velva Engel

Throughout her life, she passed on to her children and grandchildren her love for rodeo, spent hours practicing with them,

An extra 15 minutes each day

Scrolling through Facebook the other day, a post caught my eye and has stuck with me now for over a month. I took a screenshot of the post, emailed it myself at work, and have it now on a sticky note on my computer screen: 15 minutes each day = 91 hours per year. What could you do with 91 hours?

The post said that, at first, those 15 minutes each day might not seem that noticeable, but over a period of time, the impact of those 15 minutes will begin to surface — as long as you commit to those 15 minutes consistently. Those 15 minutes that you are dedicating is just 1% of the entire day, yet by being intentional with how you use that 1%, you could have big outcomes.

When I first read this post the first thing that came to my mind was, what if each of my 4-H members committed to an extra 15 minutes of 4-H time a week to start with? This is only an extra 13 hours a year, but what a huge difference that could make for so many of them! It could be spent by working on their record books, setting goals, or working on a project. Last month we focused on setting goals for our 4-H projects and involvement which means we should all have a

few things that we are wanting to work towards in 2023. So, it should be easy to decide what to spend those 15 minutes on for 4-H.

- Record books: spending 15 minutes a week on record books would make them so manageable and almost enjoyable! You'd be surprised at how easy they are in tiny chunks!

- Project goals: want to learn a new skill to go with your 4-H project? Fifteen minutes a week guarantees that you'll be learning something towards your goal each week!

- Community service: spend 15 minutes a week giving back to your community in some way

- Thank you notes: take 15 minutes a week to write someone a handwritten thank you note — expressing gratitude will make you and the recipient both feel great.

The initial post that started me thinking also talked about the 1% rule, which led me to a quick Google search for what the 1% rule is. This rule talks about the power of tiny gains, and that choosing to become 1% better every day equals

37.78% improvement at the end of a year! That 1% improvement doesn't seem notable and sometimes isn't even noticeable, but 37% at the end of the year certainly is noticeable and can be very meaningful!

I've been mulling this idea over each time I see my sticky note, and have been trying to be very intentional about investing an extra 15 minutes a day into different aspects of my life. The first place I started was at home, spending 15 minutes at the end of the day before I sit

down to relax to put things where they belong and have the house in order. It certainly didn't take long for the benefits of those 15 minutes to start showing up and making a big difference! That success has pushed me to do the same thing at work in different areas, and I know it will start making a noticeable difference soon.

Erin Presche is the 4-H Youth Development educator for Weston County. She can be contacted at 204 W. Main St., Newcastle, at 746-3531, or by emailing epresche@uwyo.edu.



Erin Presche 4-H Proud

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Daily Devotional Reading

March 3 Deuteronomy 30-32	March 7 Joshua 8-10
March 4 Deuteronomy 33-34	March 8 Joshua 11-13
March 5 Joshua 1-4	March 9 Joshua 14-17
March 6 Joshua 5-7	Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society

- **ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH:** Rev. Norm Brotzman, 216 S. Seneca, 746-2249. Call to Worship 9:30 am; Children's Church during Call to Worship; Faith Rally Sunday 6 pm
- **BAHA'I FAITH:** Firesides (open to all) 1st & 3rd Fridays 7:30 pm at 15 Skyview Dr, 746-3626
- **CAMBRIA COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH:** 19 Stampede St. 746-2321. Sunday School 9:15 am; Worship 10:30 am; Youth (6-12 grades) and Adult Bible Study Sunday Evening 6-7 pm; Wednesday Night Youth and Adult Bible Study 6 pm; Life Recovery Bible Study Sunday Night 7 pm
- **CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH:** Rev. Kenti Barling, S. Summit & Winthrop Streets, 746-9684. christchurchnewcastle@gmail.com. Service times: Sunday 4 pm
- **CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH:** Pastor Rob Carr, 224 West Road, West of Dow Park, 746-2415. Sunday Worship 9 am
- **CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS:** Bishop Ty Checketts, 120 Ash, 746-4131. Sunday Sacrament Mtg 9 am; Sunday School 10:20 am; Relief Society & Priesthood Mtg 11:15 am
- **CHURCH ON THE HILL:** Pastor Wayne Wilson, 301 Delaware, 746-9663. Adult Sunday School 9:30 am; Prayer 10:15 am; Worship 10:45 am; Prayer Service Tuesday 6 pm; Undeafened Youth/children's ministry (3 years old-12th Grade) Wednesday 6 pm
- **CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC CHURCH:** Father Brian Hess, 19 W. Winthrop, 746-4219. Saturday Mass 5 pm; Sunday Mass 8 am; Weekday Mass 7 am
- **COUNTRY CHURCH:** Four Corners, Pastor Bill Haley and Micah Popma, 746-9712. Worship 10 am
- **FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH:** Pastor Ben Roberts, 903 S. Summit, 746-2188. Sunday School 9:15 am; Worship Service 10:30 am; Evening Service 6 pm; AWANA Clubs Wednesday 6:30 pm
- **FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH:** Rev. Ron Sample, 23 N. Seneca, 746-4119. Adult Bible Study 8:45 am; Traditional Church Services 10 am; 10:15 am Children's Church; Youth Group Sunday evenings 5:30-7 pm
- **GATEWAY FELLOWSHIP:** Pastor Jon Anderson, 12 Old Hwy. 85, Evangelical Free Church, Bible Study 9:15 am, Worship 10:30 am. Call 746-8091
- **KINGDOM HALL OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES:** 5018 US Hwy 16, 746-2319 or 746-4517. Tuesday 7 pm. Congregation Bible Study, Theocratic Ministry School and Service Meeting, Sunday Public Talk 10 am; Watchtower 11 am
- **NEWCASTLE FOURSQUARE CHURCH:** Pastor Mick Bohn, 1525 S. Summit, 746-3618. Sun. Worship 10 am; Wed. Night Prayer
- **OSAGE COMMUNITY CHURCH:** 348 Sheridan St. in Osage, 465-2341. Sunday School 10 am; Worship 11 am
- **SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST:** Pastor Lester Bently 612-240-7536, 78 Old Hwy 85. Saturday Sabbath School 9:30 am; Worship 11 am
- **ST. ANTHONY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH:** Father Brian Hess, Upton. Sunday Mass 5 pm
- **UPTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH:** Pastor Donnie Holt, 834 Pine, Upton, 468-9302. Worship 9 am; Fellowship 10 am
- **VICTORY NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH:** Rev. Theodore L. Halls, 414 Pine, 746-4366

Just as people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment. ~ Hebrews 9:27

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**25 Years Ago
March 5, 1998**

U.S. Forest Service law enforcement officers are getting tough on snowmobilers who trespass on cross country ski trails. Acting on a complaint from local skier Larry Cole, Forest Service Law Enforcement Officer Phil Geenen has already ticketed one violator.

"I think the area's going to grow," Joe Croell, owner of Croell Redi-Mix, Inc., based his cautious predictions on construction jobs for which he's been asked to supply concrete. Croell said that any area in the Black Hills is bound to grow.

"I have got to have a plant down here in a couple of months," he said.

Champs! Two Dogies wrestled to state championship titles last weekend in Casper. Mitch Johnson, 103 pounds, and Jerod Farella, 130 pounds, both ranked number one in the Wyoming State Coaches' Poll, did not disappoint their fans.

Newcastle High School grad Carol Curtis has returned to head up the School Within A School program.

Legislators are in their fourth week of wrangling over how best to spend the state's money. The session began in February with a weeklong special session to debate the school funding issue.

Denim Day was held Friday, Feb. 13 — no need to be superstitious. Participants raised nearly \$190 for B.R.E.A.D., Newcastle's food pantry.

If you look at something long enough, you can make out whatever image you like, but enough News Letter Journal customers commented that the frost in our front window looked like a praying Madonna to merit a run of (a) photo. If nothing else, it serves as testament to the everyday miracle that we can recognize our faith in an office products window.

**50 Years Ago
March 1, 1973**

Two students from Newcastle (David J. Halsey and Lanny B. Reimer) are currently among the 89 Wyoming students now attending professional schools in other western states under a special low tuition plan coordinated by the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE).

William F. Nolan, manager for Mountain Bell in Newcastle, will retire from active employ-



Weston County's History Through the Archives of the News Letter Journal

ment with the Telephone Company March 31. He will be on vacation from Feb. 24 until his official retirement.

Duane McKinney, Osage postmaster, has been transferred to Yellowstone National Park, effective March 3. McKinney has been postmaster at Osage for the past four years and will be the assistant postmaster at the park.

The Newcastle Dogie swimmers placed third in the Wyoming high school state championship. The team set a new school record of 3:54 in the 400 yard relay.

Jessie Whitney spent Monday morning at the home of Phyllis Bayne sewing her drapes. Both she and Kenneth were dinner guests at the Baynes' that day.

Terry Lynne Hockett,

Newcastle High School junior, has received an honorable mention for her poster in the governor's committee to employ the handicapped poster contest.

Miss Helen Miller, Extension Home management specialist, University of Wyoming, is working with Susie Knutson, CEHE, and the local planning committee in planning the third Consumer Day Program in Newcastle.

**100 Years Ago
March 1, 1923**

Friday of last week the new \$110,000 high school building now practically completed by the contractors, was accepted by the School Board of District No. One and formally dedicated to the purposes for which it was built in a series of programs

starting in the morning and continuing practically all day, and concluded with a banquet served by the Home Science class of the high school.

And here we are with another good and sufficient reason why the McDonough family continues to be interested in our schools. A nine-and-a-half-pound boy arrived at our home at 12:50 pm. Friday, Feb. 23, with both mother and baby doing fine.

The Junior class of the Newcastle high school will give their class play, entitled, "Am I Intruding?" It is based on a mystery plot that holds the attention from start to finish, and turns out quite differently from what anyone in the audience is expecting.

Most of the moisture from the recent snow falls is going into the ground, especially where the ground has been broken. Of course a snow is not so good as a rain, but it all helps in a country where we never get too much moisture.

Among the delightful parties of the past week was that given Saturday evening when the hospitality of the Julian home was extended to 16 of their friends. The event being a farewell party in honor of Mr. and Mrs. John Backen who are leaving in a few days for their home in Casper.

Mrs. Irma Godfrey as clerk of court, is demonstrating in a practical way that this office can be filled in a creditable manner by a woman.

BOARD OPENINGS

The Weston County Board of Commissioners

is accepting Letters of Intent

for the following board positions:

PREDATOR (SPORTSMAN #1): 1 OPENING

PLANNING: 3 OPENINGS

MALLO BOARD: 1 OPENING

These positions will be open until filled.

Those wishing to apply may mail a letter to:

Weston County Clerk

1 West Main Street

Newcastle, WY 82701

or bring the letter in person to the Weston County Clerk's Office, Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



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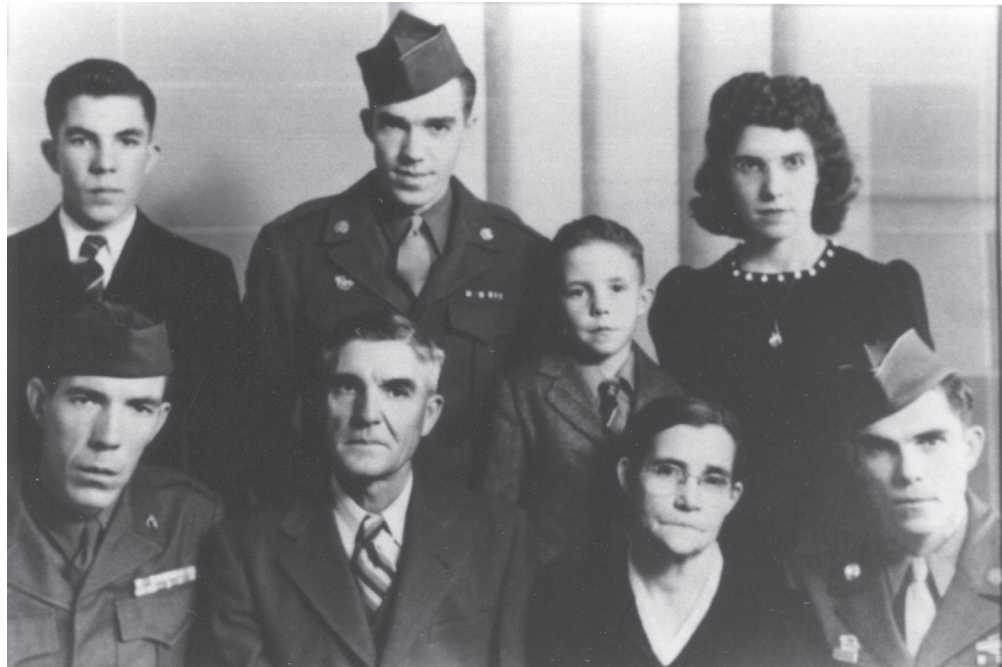


Photo Courtesy of WC Historical Society/ Louis Shook Collection

This is a picture of the Bob Shook family.

**Weston County Republican Party
2023 Meeting Schedule**

MEETINGS ARE EVERY 4TH MONDAY, 6 P.M.

March 13: Weston County Senior Center (Officer Elections)

April 24: Upton Community Center

May 22: Weston County Senior Center

June 26: Upton Community Center

July 24: Weston County Senior Center

August 28: Weston County Senior Center

September 25: Upton Community Center

October 23: Weston County Senior Center

November 27: Weston County Senior Center

Visit our website WestonCountyWY.gov for up-to-date information.

For information, contact Kari Drost, Weston County Republican Party Chair, at Karidrost72@yahoo.com, or 307-312-0768; or call Ann or Allen Slagle at 307-746-2804; or Jamie Farnsworth at 307-746-8111.

Everyone welcome!

WESTON COUNTY MEETINGS & EVENTS CALENDAR

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LET US KNOW WHAT'S UP!

Is your group or organization hosting an event? Send your event listings to design@newsli.com for inclusion in the News Letter Journal's weekly What's Up Calendar, sponsored by Pinnacle Bank.

Feb. 1-28	Soccer Registration	Online
Thurs. March 2	7AM T.O.P.S. #218	WC Senior Center
	1PM Crafts	WC Senior Center
	1PM American Legion Auxiliary Mtg	WC Senior Center
	4PM WC Museum District Board Mtg	Anna Miller Museum
	6-8PM WCNRD Estate Planning	WCNRD
	7PM Alcoholics Anonymous	WC Senior Center
Fri. March 3	9AM Caramel Rolls	WC Senior Center
	1PM Bridge	WC Senior Center
	5:30PM BINGO	VFW Hall
Sun. March 5	1PM Oral History w/Rhonda Stearns	WC Library
	2PM JoAnn Fassbender 90th Birthday	First United Methodist Church
Mon. March 6	9AM Exercise Class	WC Senior Center
	1PM Computer Clinic	WC Senior Center
	7PM AA Meeting	WC Senior Center
	7PM Newcastle City Council	City Council Chambers
Tues. March 7	9AM WC Commissioners	WC Courthouse
	11AM Story Time	WC Library
	1PM Bridge/Dominoes	WC Senior Center
Wed. March 8	6:30-8:30AM Wellness Wednesday	WC Health Services
	9AM Exercise Class	WC Senior Center
	9AM-1:30PM GiGi's Closet	First United Methodist Church

78%

Of Wyoming adults read **PUBLIC NOTICES** in print or digital newspapers.

Public notices enable citizens to monitor actions of government, and serve as watchdogs for government officials and private interests.

Source: *The Wyoming Market Study, 2022*; by Coda Ventures



To learn more, contact your local newspaper or the WPA at: 307.635.3905 • wyopress@wyopress.org

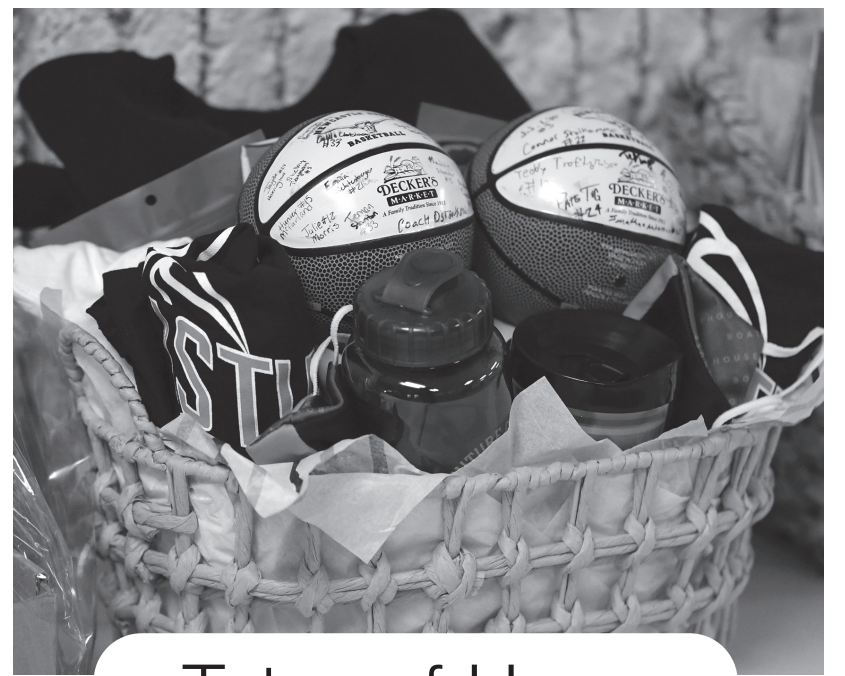
MTR CATTLE CO. BULL SALE

**March 11, 2023 • Buffalo Livestock Marketing
44 TW Rd, Buffalo, WY 82834
Lunch at noon – sale begins at 1 p.m.**

Please make arrangements to view the bulls at the ranch in Buffalo



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For more info: mtrcattlecompany.com
Miles cell 307-217-0408
Tiffany cell 307-217-0409



Totes of Hope

The Dogie Basket, donated by Newcastle High School basketball teams sold for a total of \$170, during the annual Totes of Hope silent auction held on Feb. 23, during the NHS Dogie and Lady Dogie basketball games. The basket featured Dogie gear and balls, signed by both teams. At right, The Bee Kind basket, donated by the Sagebrush Sisters, sold for a total of \$150 to Hurricane Services.



Photos by Nicole McFarland/NLJ

Above, Casey Cunningham, with the help of JR Graham, auctioned off some of the Totes of Hope auction items live during the game. The auction raised a total of \$5,320.50. According to FBLA adviser Alysha Engle, this is the most the auction has raised since before the COVID-19 pandemic.

Dispatch from Page 1

Management Coordinator Gilbert Nelson, have stated on several occasions that the two entities working together to avoid two dispatch centers is the most feasible and fiscally responsible option.

During the Feb. 22 meeting, both Taylor and Owens continued to rally behind the boards, working together to figure out a way to work together with one dispatch center.

While there was some bickering back and forth to begin the Feb. 22 meeting, Councilman Tom Voss put the brakes on

management Coordinator Gilbert Nelson, have stated on several occasions that the two entities working together to avoid two dispatch centers is the most feasible and fiscally responsible option.

“With all that being said, how do we go from this (the dispatch split) to one dispatch?” he asked.

Voss said that the purpose of the meeting was to come to an agreement on how to keep one dispatch.

“That is the only question we are here about,” he reiterated.

“The main thing I see as someone coming in, is there is a lot of miscommunication,” Commissioner Vera Huber said. “There are a lot of things said

and the disagreements since, the two boards agreed that Newcastle Police Chief Chuck Bowles, Sheriff Bryan Colvard and Upton Police Chief Susan Bridge should discuss dispatch services moving forward and present a proposal to the board.

Both entities expressed support for a dispatch oversight board, whether that be an advisory board or joint powers board.

“The white elephant in the room is that for 20 to 30 years dispatch has been under the control of one entity...,”

Commission Chairman Ed Wagoner said. “This way, with a joint powers board we can come together as one entity to control dispatch. ... If you have one board, advisory or joint powers, over dispatch. I think a lot of the problems work themselves out.”

Mayor Pam Gualtieri said that the police department will continue relocating to City Hall, no matter what decision is made about dispatch services. She noted that the move should be a positive one for both entities, due to the lack

of space at the Weston County Law Enforcement Center. Taylor maintained that the two entities need to keep the ball rolling, citing a time crunch with the moves and purchase of dispatch equipment.

In closing, Bowles reminded everyone in the room not to forget the community they serve. He said that if the focus is removed from the city and county hating each other, the two entities can refocus to provide what they all want, safety for the residents of Weston County.

Ballots from Page 1

Journal offer no indication that witnesses were questioned or evidence examined in an “investigation” conducted into the legality of the secret ballot process the commissioners used.

When residents requested the investigation, Stulken claimed a conflict of interest and former Campbell County Attorney Mitchell H. Damsky was tasked with investigating the residents’ concerns, but correspondence between Stulken and Damsky, which is the only documentation that has been provided regarding the investigation, would indicate that no actual review or investigation ever took place.

“Michael — please find power point presentation regarding open meetings and public records requests. Would you be so kind as to make these presentations to your commissioners? If you do, I will consider the matter concerning your commissioners closed,” Damsky told Stulken in an email on May 10, 2022.

The email thread shows that a slide presentation was sent from former

Gillette City Attorney Sean Brown to Damsky on May 3 in an email that said, “open meetings and public records. Might be a typo here or there.” The PowerPoint presentation in question was not provided to the News Letter Journal, but it doesn’t appear that the commissioners viewed it either.

On June 2, Damsky reached out to Stulken asking if he had presented the PowerPoint to the commissioners. If so, he said, “I will close my investigation.”

Deputy Weston County Attorney Jeani Stone responded to this email, letting Damsky know that the commissioners did not view the presentation, but had received training from Jeremiah Rieman, executive director of the Wyoming County Commissioners Association. She noted that the training was approximately four hours and included information on open meetings and proper etiquette in conducting meetings.

“Hoping that will satisfy what you are needing?” Stone asked.

After confirming that the training

took place after the “present allegation,” which was apparently a reference to the citizens’ complaints over the use of the secret ballot, Damsky responded, “I will close the file!”

Damsky, whose term as Campbell County attorney expired in January, did not respond to questions regarding the investigation. Current Campbell County Attorney Nathan Henkes also did not respond to questions submitted via email. The News Letter Journal has also requested information from the Wyoming Attorney General’s Office on how such investigations are to be conducted, but there was no response to those queries prior to press time.

News Letter Journal Publisher Bob Bonnar said the correspondence between the attorneys demonstrates why the newspaper and co-plaintiffs, Ray Norris, Kari Drost and Patricia Baumann, felt that the actions of the commissioners needed to be reviewed by the courts.

“We long suspected that government officials were not taking the concerns

of citizens seriously in this matter, and the manner in which this so-called ‘investigation’ was conducted certainly confirms those suspicions,” Bonnar said. “There is no indication that any evidence was examined or witnesses questioned, so I don’t know how you can call this an ‘investigation.’”

According to Stulken, Damsky was provided with the documents from the Concerned Citizens of Weston County that were received by the Weston County Attorney’s Office, but he admitted that he is uncertain if Damsky talked to anyone about the situation.

“I did not conduct the investigation. Mr. Damsky’s office did,” Stulken said in response to questions posed by the News Letter Journal. “The matter was forwarded to Mr. Damsky for investigation, and he made his decision.”

When asked if the public was made aware of this decision, Stulken responded, “Mr. Damsky had complete prosecutorial discretion on this particular matter, and this is the decision that he made.”

When asked about the level of his own involvement in the investigation after he had declared a conflict of interest, Stulken said that the only thing he did is try to have Stone coordinate something to meet Damsky’s directives.

“Ms. Stone advised Mr. Damsky of the training that occurred in April of 2022, and Mr. Damsky, in his professional judgment, then closed the file. Mr. Damsky wanted a PowerPoint presentation presented, training had already occurred, and there was nothing left to be done. The entirety of the remedy was Mr. Damsky’s charging discretion,” Stulken said in response to the News Letter Journal’s questions.

Bonnar called the investigation a “rubber stamp,” and said he believes that those involved failed to represent the people they were elected to serve.

“It really seems that everybody was working for the county commissioners and nobody was working for the people of Weston County,” Bonnar concluded.

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Cheers come in all sizes

Freya Hintz, at left, was one of the many mini cheerleaders that took to the court to perform during halftime on Thursday, Feb. 23, in the Dogie Dome. The cheerleaders are part of the AAces Program. Carlee Borton performs a cheer with the other minis. Below, one of the cheerleaders gives a hug and a helping hand to another.

Photos by Nicole McFarland/NLJ



Miller

from Page 1.....

her chance for a run at a state title. She took it seriously, and she made it happen Friday at the Ford Center in Casper where she wrestled her way into the history books, winning the 120-pound weight class title.

"It's just so cool and I'm so happy," Miller said, beaming. "It definitely was a challenge and a journey to get here."

Miller went into the state tournament ranked second in the state, behind a sophomore from Jackson, and with a record of 27-2. As such, the first couple of matches were relatively easy for her, given her top seeding going into the tournament.

She ran into trouble in her semi-final match-up against a senior from Green River, Zella Maez. As the seconds waned during the third and final period, Miller was down by 1 point. With about 6 seconds to go, Maez had her down and Miller needed an escape to push the match into overtime.

Somehow, with just one second remaining in the match, she found a way to get up and get away to tie things up at 7-7, so on to overtime they went where it is a sudden death situation, meaning that the first person to score wins the match.

“She was just about to head-and-arm me, but I was able to put her in a bear hug and take her down. When the ref blew the whistle, I didn't even realize that I had won!”

—Kyah Miller

"I don't even remember half of what happened," Kyah admitted. "I didn't really know what was going on, but I just knew I needed to take her down. She was just about to head-and-arm me, but I was able to put her in a bear hug and take her down. When the ref blew the whistle, I didn't even realize that I had won!"

"I cried when it was over, and he raised my hand," Kyah said, chuckling. "When I talked to Lee [McCoy] afterward, he reminded me that we still had one more match to go so I needed to stop crying."

On Friday, Miller was up against Aspen Henry, a junior from Thunder Basin High

School, in the championship match. Miller was familiar with Henry, having wrestled her a few times throughout the season.

"I was nervous because I knew that it wouldn't be easy since it was her last match of the year and a big one for her as well as for me," Miller explained. "She was pretty aggressive at first, but that didn't last for too long, and I was able to get the pin."

Miller had a point advantage over Henry as they ended the first period, and then 45 seconds into the second, she got the pin for a decisive win and earned her state champion title.

"It still hasn't sunk in that I'm a state champion," said a grinning Miller. "People have been congratulating me, but it still doesn't feel like it's real."

Coach McCoy admitted to being emotional right along with Miller after she won the title.

"Her character speaks volumes to stick with something after experiencing so much failure and still really buying into what coaches are saying," McCoy said. "You don't see that much commitment and resilience anymore, so it was awesome."

"Another thing that was really unique that I didn't see with any other team, was that Kyah was our captain and our leader throughout the season," he continued. "She is awesome and it couldn't happen to a better kid. It's kind of one of those fairy tale things that I will remember always."

This was Miller's 10th year of wrestling. For the first six years, she wrestled in the Fall Guys program, then also participated in middle school, although every match she wrestled in middle school was exhibition only.

Then, in high school, she was in the same situation for the most part. She was able



Photo courtesy of Kim Vrana

Kyah Miller showed the 120-pound weight class what she was made of as she wrestled her way to a Wyoming State Championship in the inaugural girls' state wrestling tournament Thursday and Friday at the Wyoming Ford Center in Casper. Below, Miller celebrates her state championship win with a big hug from head coach Lee McCoy. Assistant coaches Tommy Schlater, left, and Shaide Bowthorpe, right, share in the joy of the moment.

to wrestle exhibition matches against girls from time to time, but whenever she was put into the lineup for the Dogies/Bobcats, Miller was pitted against a male opponent.

It goes without saying that having to practice against boys and wrestle against boys gave Miller the upper hand when she was finally given the opportunity to wrestle in a sanctioned girls' division this season.

"I've lost a lot of matches, but now I'm state champion," she said. "I have always looked up at the wall of state champions and wanted to see my name there. It is so cool that now it will be there, and I am the first girl to get her name on that wall."

Miller is also hoping to continue her wrestling career at the collegiate level next year at Colorado Mesa University.



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Snow dump

Last week saw a huge dump of snow for most of the Black Hills region — and beyond — but, despite the heavy snow that brought much-needed moisture, the overall moisture still hasn't reached the normal amount it usually does for this time of year. According to Susan Sanders, meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Rapid City, Newcastle's official snowfall for January was 9.1 inches, above the normal of 6.8 inches. In February, last week's storm brought the area to a total of 4.1 inches, which was below the normal of 7.7. The winter total to date is 19.1 inches, below the normal through February accumulation of 28.4 inches. As far as moisture content goes, Sanders said, Newcastle had .94 inches this year compared to the normal of 1.18 inches. Never fear, however, as more moisture is due in the coming week, with snow expected Friday and next week. The snow, though it sometimes causes slick roads and drifts, creates a spectacle when the clouds blow past and the sun breaks through revealing bright patterns of shadow and light against a vivid blue backdrop.

Photos by Amy Menerey/NLJ



County

from Page 1

Since then, Commissioner Vera Huber has looked into the website and how it might be improved. Part of her process involved analyzing the website, as well as other county websites in the state, she said. Huber also collected information on website providers. She updated the commissioners at their Feb.

21 meeting about her findings. "Ours is very inadequate compared to others. They (other counties) have more information put out; they are more transparent," Huber said to the board. "We could make ours more user friendly with more information." Huber said that the website's

lack of information could negatively impact the county in terms of new businesses and people. "I have been thinking about it a lot, too, and there is disinformation out there that is false at times," Commissioner Nathan Todd said. Todd said that the county could provide information

in the commissioners' own words, suggesting a feature called the chairman's corner. "Something where we can tell the public what we are working on, how we are proceeding with things," Todd said. "It is a chance to put more information out there from the chairman."

Huber added that the county could also share news articles, such as information from the Bureau of Land Management or U.S. Forest Service, so that the public understands more of what is going on in the area. With a newly designed, more informational website, she said, the county would have the ability to improve it and add new information as often as it likes.

According to Sheriff Bryan Colvard, county officials currently have to work with the current provider, Wyoming Network, to update information. Both Civicplus and Revize, Huber said, allow for information to be updated locally. Both

the board and Colvard were intrigued by the convenience this ability would give county officials. "There is stuff we need to put up that needs done immediately. That would be awesome. Right now, we have to relay that on," Colvard said.

Huber said that the various boards in the county would also be able to use the website to provide information.

According to Huber, Civicplus would cost the county \$1,000 up front and another \$4,500 to \$5,000 a year. Revize would cost the county \$5,000 up front and another \$1,000 a year, with a five-year contract.

Huber later told the News Letter Journal that both of these costs include website design and migration of information from the current county website to the new one.

Currently, the county pays Wyoming Network through Jub Jub approximately \$106 a month in fees associated with the website, Huber told the

News Letter Journal. Weston County Clerk Becky Hadlock reported that the county pays \$525 a year for the website alone.

In 2021, the News Letter Journal reported in the story "Clerk clarifies process," that the county has unlimited updates for the website but that those updates are done through the hosting company jubjub.com. The 2021 story specifically discussed the process of uploading the recordings from county commissioners meetings to the website.

At the time, Hadlock reported that the files were too big to send electronically and were therefore uploaded annually. At this time, the most recent meetings available on the county website are recordings from 2020.

To view this discussion, go to the News Letter Journal's YouTube channel to watch the Feb. 21 Board of Weston County Commissioners meeting.



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- Department of Economics faculty member Anne Alexander will talk about UW's collaborative work on the City of Newcastle's Heritage Park project.
- Also, hear from UW students from Weston County: Newcastle High School graduate Dylan Drost and Upton High School graduate Ethan Mills.

Free appetizers will be served, and a cash bar will be available!

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Sports

News Letter Journal

SPORTS SCHEDULE

NEWCASTLE HIGH SCHOOL

Ladies' Basketball			
3/2-4/23	V	3A East Regionals @ Torrington	A NOON
3/9-11/23	V	3A State Championships @ Casper	A NOON
Men's Basketball			
3/2-4/23	V	3A East Regionals @ Torrington	A NOON
3/9-11/23	V	3A State Championships @ Casper	A NOON
Track			
3/6/23	Practice	Rapid City Central HS	H TBA
3/17/23	Practice	Jamboree @ Gillette	A TBA
Ladies' Soccer			
3/6/23	Practice	Jamboree @ Gillette	H TBA
3/17-18	Practice	Jamboree @ Gillette	A TBA
Men's Soccer			
3/6/23	Practice	Jamboree @ Gillette	H TBA
3/17-18/23	Practice	Jamboree @ Gillette	A TBA

Making history

Last Friday was a big day. It was a big day for a senior here at Newcastle High School, who won her first state title in high school wrestling, and the first ever state title for NHS in girls' wrestling.

It was a big day for the Dogies/Bobcats as they crowned their first and only state champion at the 2023 3A State Tournament.

It was a big day for girls in the Newcastle school system.

It was a big day for women in general.

Wyoming finally joined with 34 other states across the country as they sanctioned a women's division in wrestling for the 2022-2023 season.

Wyoming — known as the equality state because it was the first to grant full suffrage to women —



Sonja Karp
Karpe Dogie

was, ironically, the last state west of the Mississippi to make the move to sanction women's wrestling in high school.

In fact, only portions of the eastern seaboard, most of the northeast portion of the U.S., Indiana, Kentucky and Louisiana have yet to get on board with it.

Hawaii was the trailblazer, making it a sanctioned sport in 1998, and by the 2013-2014 season, only five other schools had followed suit.

It would be the 2018 and 2019 seasons where it really began to take off as seven schools joined the ranks in each of those two seasons.

By 2020, Montana, Colorado, Utah, Idaho, Nebraska and South Dakota had a sanctioned division for girls, so Wyoming was completely surrounded by states who

— See Karpe, Page 10

Newcastle brings home a champ

Dogies/Bobcats place five at state tourney

Sonja Karp
NLJ Sports Editor

With the threat of impending inclement weather, the Newcastle/Upton wrestling team left for Casper on Monday afternoon to ensure that they would be able to compete at the 3A State Wrestling Tournament, which began Thursday for the girls and Friday for the boys.

The inaugural girls' state wrestling tournament began at 10:30 Thursday morning at the Ford Center.

"The girls' tournament was a lot of fun, and it was a lot more of a relaxed atmosphere than the boys," McCoy explained. "They let the coaches and girls be out there mat-side, and it was run much more like a regular tournament, so it was a lot less stressful for the girls and the coaches."

Courtney Matthews went in for the Newcastle/Upton team unseeded at 115 pounds, and was defeated by a Natrona opponent in her opening round, then lost her second match to a girl from Evanston, closing out her tournament experience.

"Courtney competed well, but fell short in both matches. She got the experience though which was great," McCoy said.

Newcastle senior Kyah Miller made history, however, when she went in seeded second at 120 pounds and won her way to the championship match.

"Kyah rolled through her first two matches against the Rocky Mountain and Riverton girls, pinning the first in 22 seconds and the second in 1:38."

In the semi-final match, however, Miller ran into a tough opponent from Green River who nearly derailed Miller's goal of a state title.

"The semi-finals match took about 10 years off of my life," McCoy said. "Kyah was down one point with six



Photo courtesy of Kim Vrana

Jacob Prell (170) ended his high school wrestling career with a sixth-place finish at the 3A East State Tournament last weekend in Casper.

seconds left in the match and she was on the bottom. I turned around because I just couldn't watch, but at the very last second, she got an escape and scored the one point to tie it up."

Miller scored with a takedown in the sudden death overtime to move on to the finals for her shot at the state title. In the finals, she wrestled a Thunder Basin girl she had wrestled, and beaten, a couple of times throughout the season. Miller did it again, pinning her in 2:45 seconds and securing the very first girls state championship title for the state of Wyoming at 120 pounds.

"It was pretty dang special, and after she won we were both very emotional," McCoy admitted. "She and I talked and she made me cry. She asked me if I remembered that the goal that I set for her freshman season was to make it through three periods without getting pinned. And now she's

a state champion."

On Friday, 10 Dogie/Bobcats began competition at the 3A State Tournament, and four of those 10 placed at the end.

Sophomore Haven Vrana finished second at 106 pounds by pinning his way through the opening round and the quarter-finals, then winning a nail-biter in the semi-finals with an 8-7 decision.

"That was a lot like Kyah's semi-final match, except that Haven was up by one point," said McCoy, with a sigh. "It literally came down to the last second, and there was some discussion after the match ended before it was confirmed that he had actually won."

In the championship, Vrana was against Lucas Todd from Green River, who was the top-seeded wrestler from the west coming into the tournament.

"We knew it was going to be a

tough match, so our plan was to go out and create as many fireworks as we could," McCoy explained. "I knew that the kids from Green River don't like a lot of craziness in their matches, and that's where Haven really thrives. We took the leash off and told him to go out and do 'Haven things.'"

Vrana did just that, but in the second period McCoy explained that he stopped moving on the bottom and was caught in a cradle, giving his opponent three back points.

Down by three in the third period, Vrana knew he had to make a big move and get caught again for back points, which he couldn't make up, so he lost the title by a 6-0 decision.

"It was one of the best matches that Haven has ever wrestled. He just gave up those two back point situations, which was definitely disappointing."

— See Wrestlers, Page 16

Dogies wrap up regular season

Sonja Karp
NLJ Sports Editor

The Newcastle High School boys' basketball team took care of their case of the first quarter blues last week, as they finished out their regular season hosting Douglas on Thursday, and Buffalo on Saturday. Although head coach Allen Von Eye's crew dropped both contests, in each game, they started out strong — which is something the Dogies had been struggling to do over the last few weeks.

"For two games in a row,

we came out to a faster start, which we have stressed at length," Von Eye began. "They weren't hesitant, and they did a nice job of attacking and executing the way we wanted to."

The Dogies also handled the pressure that both teams applied against them quite well.

"We've been doing a much better job lately against full court pressure," Von Eye said. "Where we still need to do some work is in the half court, working against that-in-your-face, on-the-line, up-

the-line defense."

Against the No. 1-ranked Bearcats on Thursday, the Dogies put up 14 points in the first quarter. Unfortunately, Douglas also got off to a good start and scored 27 of their own. From there, the Bearcats continued to build their lead to come away with the 87-38 victory.

"We battled hard, and even though it doesn't show in the final score of the game, we felt we played hard and did some good things on offense," Von Eye insisted. "We're doing the things we

want to do to get the shots we want to take. They don't always fall, but we're getting the looks, which is great."

Zander White led his team with 15 points, Quint Perino was next with 9, Pate Tavegie and Teddy Troftgruben each scored 4 points, JJ Lipp put in 3, Wyatt Cole had 2 and Thatcher Troftgruben chipped in 1 point to round out the scoring.

On Saturday, the Dogies played their best defensive game of the season against Buffalo, according to Von Eye.

"Our rotations and our scramble mode was so much better. We helped and helped the helper, so that was great," said Von Eye. "We played more zone in both games than we have been playing, and we executed it much better. We closed out on shooters and made it difficult for them to get off the shots they wanted."

Newcastle got off to another fast start like they did against the Bearcats on Thursday, once again scoring double digits by the end of

— See Men, Page 10

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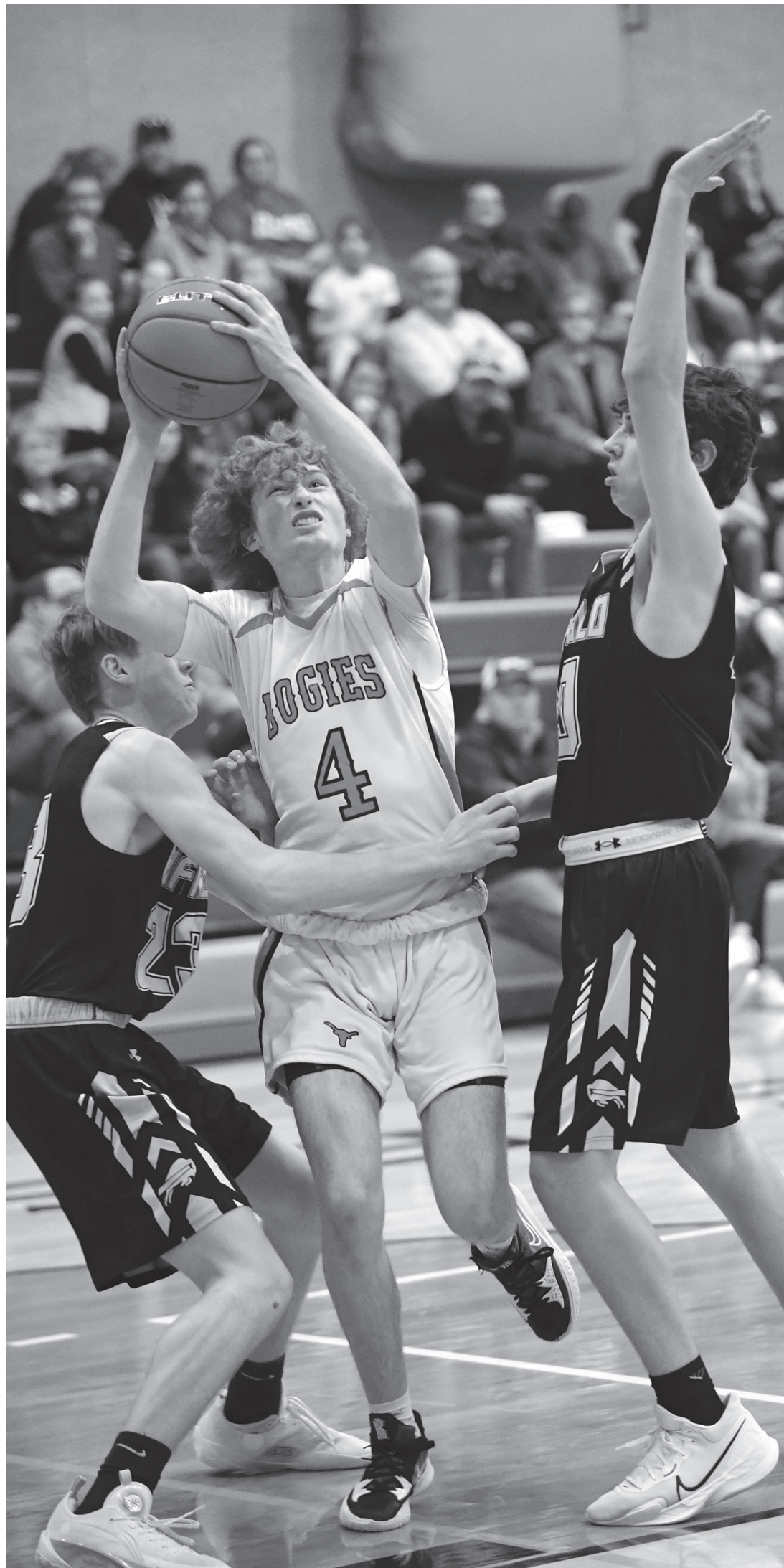


Photo by Nicole McFarland/NLJ

Zander White left it all on the court in the Dogies' last regular season contest, against Buffalo on Saturday. White led his team in scoring and the Dogies played one of their best games of the year.

Got a local story idea?

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Men from Page 9

the first quarter. This time, they were able to keep the score close, only allowing Buffalo 18 to their 10.

In the second quarter, the Dogies went blow for blow with the Bison, scoring 12 points apiece to keep the deficit to just eight at the half.

with 7 points. Tavegie added 3 points, and Lipp and Teddy Troftgruben each scored 2 points.

NHS Men's Basketball

Newcastle v. Douglas 2/16/23: 38-87
 Quint Perino: 9 points, 3 rebounds
 Zander White: 15 points, 2 rebounds, 4 assists, 1 block
 Wyatt Cole: 2 points, 1 assist
 JJ Lipp: 3 points, 1 rebound, 2 assists
 Will Beastron: 2 rebounds
 Thatcher Troftgruben: 1 point, 2 rebounds, 2 steals
 Teddy Troftgruben: 4 points, 6 rebounds, 1 assist
 Pate Tavegie: 4 points, 2 rebounds, 1 steal

Newcastle v. Buffalo 2/18/23: 31-57
 Quint Perino: 8 points, 5 rebounds, 1 steal, 1 block
 Zander White: 9 points, 7 rebounds, 4 assists, 2 blocks
 Wyatt Cole: 7 points, 8 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal, 1 block
 JJ Lipp: 2 points, 1 rebound, 2 assists, 1 steal
 Will Beastron: 1 rebound
 Thatcher Troftgruben: 1 rebound, 2 assists, 2 steals, 1 charge taken
 Teddy Troftgruben: 2 points, 3 rebounds, 1 assist, 2 steals
 Pate Tavegie: 3 points, 1 steal

"We weren't hesitant against them, so we attacked the basket. I think part of that was also due to the confidence we gained when we played them up there," Von Eye said. "Other than the first quarter, we played three really good quarters against them last time, so we knew we could do it."

"We were so incredibly proud of them, and we told them that at the end of the game. We've been wanting 32 minutes of good, solid basketball, and we got pretty close on Saturday," Von Eye said. "That gives us a lot of hope and confidence heading into the regional tournament. We've gotten better each week, which was exactly what we wanted to do at the beginning of the season, and we like how the bracket shakes out for us."

Buffalo was able to outscore the Dogies by 5 in the third quarter to extend their lead to 13, then some offensive struggles in the final quarter of play by Newcastle factored into the team's 57-31 loss.

The 3A East Regional Tournament tips off on Thursday in Torrington. The Dogies will be pitted against Douglas, who is the No. 1 seed from the Southeast Quadrant, at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday.

Once again, White led his team in scoring, with 9 points, Perino was next with 8, while Cole was right behind

Karpe from Page 9

had offered it as a sport for women in high school.

I guess it's better late than never though, and finally, this year, Wyoming girls had the opportunity to compete in their own division against opponents they were equal to or better than.

When Kyah Miller won her state title becoming the first ever girls state wrestling champion for Newcastle High School — and the first 120-pound girls state champion in the entire state of Wyoming — she reminisced with her coach Lee McCoy about their goal for her in her freshman year of high school competition.

The goal they set was for her to make it through three periods without getting pinned before the end of the season. They knew that getting a win was going to be extremely difficult, so they set their sights on making those improvements and getting stronger and more

skilled throughout the year.

Kyah struggled against male opponents for three years. She practiced against boys every day for four seasons. There were occasional female opponents at tournaments and duals, but every match they wrestled was exhibition only.

Finally, in her senior year, Kyah had the chance to show how good she had become, having had to overcome all that adversity for three years, and she ended her season going 31-2.

That's a pretty special moment, and one she — and everyone at NHS — will never forget.

Kyah is leaving a lasting legacy and is someone that young girls will look up to as they see options for wrestling in their future. She proved that hard work and perseverance pays off, and she will go down in history as a pioneer in girls wrestling in Newcastle and in Wyoming.



Newcastle Calves

Middle School Boys Basketball

2022-23



8th Grade

Coach Nate Smith, Coen Tavegie, Kaden Hall, Kyan Allen, Dane Crabtree, Mason Rawhouser, Landon Hatheway, Adam Butler, Ridge Checketts, Lillie Morrill, Josie Smith

7th Grade

Front row: Kiah Wineteer, Dylan Hespe, Troy Christensen, TJ Harrington, Adryan Wolfe, Kylar Sadler, Scott Rayburn. Back row: Colten Hatheway, Lukas Benshoof, Dustin McCarthy, Landen Hill, Connor Kitch, Coach Mike Pederson



6th Grade

Front row: Serenity Kline, Levi Tysdal, Gustavo Munoz-Galvan, Jaiden Bailey, Davyn Hoffman, Asic Dawson. Second row: Ethan Parsons, Scott Sadler, Teegon Martinez, Noah Parsons, Owen Evenson, Bridger Hill, Kaia Pederson, Coach Candi Stanton



Photo by Emily Hartinger/Skull Creek Photography

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Legal Notice

NOTICE OF SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION AND ACCEPTANCE

Notice is hereby given that the City of Newcastle, Wyoming has issued a certificate of substantial completion to Whetsell Carpentry LLC, 26 Breakneck Rd. Newcastle, Wyoming 82701, for work performed for the Newcastle Police Department Remodel at 30 N. Summit Ave., Newcastle WY 82701. The City has

accepted the work as completed according to the contract and associated documents and therefore the contractor is entitled to payment of the full amount due under the contract, which will occur on April 14, 2023.

The City of Newcastle, Wyoming
By: Pam Gualtieri, Mayor

(Publish February 23 and March 2, 2023)

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Newcastle, Wyoming will hold a public hearing on March 20, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers located on the second floor of the City Administration Office, 10 W. Warwick, Newcastle, Wyoming to consider the petition for annexation, filed by Jessie W. Canaday, to annex the following described real property into the City of Newcastle:

A tract of land lying in the SE ¼ SE ¼ of Section 19, Township 45 North, Range 61 West of the Sixth Principal Meridian, Weston County, Wyoming, and more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at a 1 ½" aluminum cap marking the intersection of the east right-of-way line of Christensen Drive and the north line of the City Limits of the City of Newcastle, which lies S 88°33'36" W, along the said north city limits line, 208.7 feet from an axle hub, the basis of bearing for this description;

Thence N 01°15'06" W, 389.09 feet to a 1 ½" aluminum cap;
Thence N 88°37'34" E, 774.46 feet to a 1 ½" aluminum cap;
Thence N 88°33'19" E, 143.10 feet to a "Cap";
Thence S 01°26'41" E, 137.15 feet to a "Cap";
Thence S 88°33'19" W, 143.10 feet to a "Cap";

Thence S 01°26'41" E, 284.90 feet to a 1" pipe on said City Limits Line;

Thence S 89°15'32" W, along said City Limits Line, 417.76 feet to a "Cap";

Thence S 88°44'06" W along said City Limits Line, 149.43 feet to a "Cap";

Thence N 01°16'27" W along said City Limits Line, 28.30 feet to an axle hub;

Thence S 88°33'36" W along said North City Limits Line, 208.70 feet to the point of beginning. Said tract of land encompasses 7.76 acres.

There are no anticipated infrastructure improvements to be required of either the landowner or the City of Newcastle related to the proposed annexation. All City of Newcastle services can be immediately available to the area proposed to be annexed upon annexation, and all applicable service costs and fees are as provided in the Newcastle City Code. The current and projected property tax mill levies imposed by the City of Newcastle is 8 mills. A location map of the area proposed to be annexed can be seen at the Newcastle City Hall.

Dated this 24th day of February, 2023
CITY OF NEWCASTLE
Stacy Haggerty
Clerk/Treasurer

(Publish March 2 and 9, 2023)

Legal Notice

ABANDONED VEHICLE SALE

There will be a sale of the following 6 vehicles on March 16, 2023 at 1 p.m., 32 Skyview Dr., Newcastle, Wyo.

1. Mini MG Convertible
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(Publish March 2 and 9, 2023)

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

Last week's answers

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Gwamma by JaNel M. Farnsworth



- ### THE OSCARS
- ACROSS**
1. Adam and Eve's son
 5. Blink of an eye, for short
 8. Tricep location
 11. Laughing on the inside, in text
 12. ____ bowl, frozen dish
 13. Bid on a house, e.g.
 15. Show off
 16. Actor's role
 17. Nostrils
 18. "Everything Everywhere All At Once" or "The Fablemans" nominee
 20. Trampled
 21. Humpty without t
 22. *Cate Blanchett's 6-time nominated movie
 23. Store in a silo
 26. Tiny crustacean
 30. Chop off
 31. Not digital
 34. Cut with a beam
 35. Empty spaces
 37. Not good
 38. Relating to pond scum
 39. Capri or Catalina
 40. Lament
 42. ____ Khan
 43. Full event
 45. *He's won the most academy awards
 47. Jump key

48. Not yes, nor no
50. Male sibs
52. "The Fablemans" composer John ____
- 53-time nominee
55. Resin-producing tree
56. Call to Mary
57. Get-out-of-jail money
59. Bye, in Castile
60. Ages and ages
61. Competitive advantage
62. Appetite
63. Farm female
64. Fender-bender damage
- DOWN**
1. Key often used with ctrl
 2. Gold rush, e.g.
 3. Purse with notions
 4. Leeches, alt. sp.
 5. Dandruff locale
 6. This bird gets the worm?
 7. Give a traffic ticket
 8. Big do
 9. Cattail, e.g.
 10. "____ Harris Goes to Paris," Best Costume Design nominee
 12. Tarzan and such
 13. Like beer at a kegger (2 words)
 14. "The Banshees of Inisherin" nominee
 19. Polynesian dance, pl.
 22. Dress like Ancient Greeks

FIND THE SOLUTIONS IN NEXT WEEK'S PAPER

Newcastle City Council Minutes

NEWCASTLE CITY COUNCIL CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS MINUTES TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2023

Mayor Gualtieri called this regular meeting of the Newcastle City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. Those present were Council members Don Steveson, Ann McColley, Daren Downs, Tyrel Owens, Tom Voss and John Butts. Also present were, Public Works Supervisor Greg Stumpf, Police Chief Charles Bowles, City Clerk/Treasurer Stacy Haggerty and City Attorney Dublin Hughes via Zoom.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mayor Gualtieri amended the agenda to reschedule presenting Norma Shelton with a certificate of recognition and Newcastle Ambulance Service. Ann McColley moved, seconded Daren Downs to approve the agenda as amended. **MOTION CARRIED.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Tom Voss moved, seconded Don Steveson to approve the minutes of the regular meeting and executive session of Monday, February 6, 2023. **MOTION CARRIED.**

NOMINATIONS FOR RECOGNITION: None
CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION: None
CITIZEN'S BUSINESS—IN WRITING:

Robert Coberly requested sewer forgiveness due to a leak. Don Steveson moved, seconded Tyrel Owens to approve forgiveness in the amount of \$446.84. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Tom Voss moved, seconded Tyrel Owens to declare First State Bank/First Northern Bank of Newcastle as a depository of public funds. **MOTION CARRIED.**

CITIZEN'S BUSINESS—VERBAL:
Ed Keisinger was present to express his concerns regarding the reduction of deer in town, condition of streets and street light outages.

PUBLIC HEARING: as advertised at 7:30 p.m. to renew liquor licenses.

Retail Licenses:
Retail liquor license #1; Perkins Tavern, LLC dba: Perkins Tavern; Lot 6, Block 10, Original Townsite.

Retail liquor license #2; Short Stop #1, LLC, dba. Short Stop Fuel Mart, A tract of land in the NESW of Section 30, T45N, R61W of the 6th PM Weston County.

Retail liquor license #3, Deckers Foods Center of Newcastle, Inc., dba Smoke Shop Liquors. A tract of land being a portion of Quarter Horse Addition, Zoned C-1.

Retail Liquor License #4, Cap & Bottle, LLC, dba Cap N Bottle; Lots 10 & 11 Cannon Subdivision of Lot 20 Block T, County Clerk Addition, Zoned C-1

Retail liquor license #5, B&D Holding Newcastle, LLC; Commercial C-1, a portion of Lots 1&2, all of Lot 3 Block 2 and a portion of Block 3, Home Builders Addition.

Retail liquor license #6, Mini Mart, Inc., dba Loaf N Jug #167; A portion of Block 3, of the replat of homebuilders Addition #1, Newcastle, Weston County, Wyoming.

Retail liquor license #7, BW Gas & Convenience Retail, LLC, dba Yesway #1182, Lots 1-2 and parts of lots 3-5, Block 9, Original Town of Newcastle, Weston County, Wyoming.

Retail liquor license #8, Maverik, Inc., dba Maverik #458; Weston County Parcel #4561292301800/Zoned Commercial.

Bar & Grill Licenses:
Bar & Grill license #1, Isabella's LLC, dba Isabella's, Southerly 60' of Kits 1-3, Block 10, Original Town, Zoned C-2.

Bar & Grill #2, Newcastle Lodge & Convention Center, LLC dba Grazer's Burgers & Beer, located at 22918 Highway 85, Newcastle, Wyoming 82701. Tract 1-A, W1/2SW1/4Sec 28, T45N R61W, 6th PM Weston County, Wyoming.

Club Licenses:
Club liquor license #1, Newcastle Country Club, dba Newcastle Country Club, NE1/2, SW 1/2 of Sec 20, T45N, Range 61W of 6th P.M., Zoned Ag. Tyrel Owens moved, seconded Ann McColley to approve the liquor licenses as presented, noting the renewal of Retail License #4, Cap N Bottle is conditional upon receiving a new lease before March 31, 2022. Motion carried.

Restaurant Licenses:
Restaurant liquor license #5, Curley Que, LLC, dba Curley Que's Diner, Lot 9 of Block 6 or the Original Addition of Newcastle. Zoned Commercial. Tyrel Owens moved, seconded Daren Downs to approve the liquor licenses as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MAYOR/COUNCIL REPORTS: None
OLD BUSINESS:
Tyrel Owens moved, seconded Don

Steveson to move forward with advertising for a City Administrator after revisions are made. Discussion was had, **MOTION CARRIED.**

Councilman Owens referenced the resolution for the Chapter 56 Permit. Council will review the resolution and discuss at next meeting.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:
City Clerk/Treasurer Stacy Haggerty reported that the clerks had been working with the Public Works department on asset management products from Aktivov.

Public Works Supervisor Greg Stumpf reported that there would be little or no progress on the Well No. 5 project this week due to weather, possibly setting the building towards the beginning of March. The 90% plans for the pump station at Well No. 5 have been received, estimated cost \$415,245.00 going to bid mid-March. Mr. Stumpf then stated that SLIB will meet next week regarding the ARPA grants and he will be attending those meetings. Delaware Ave. and York Street as well as Sheridan and Rodeo Streets projects have been put in for SRF funding. Meeting with Wyoming DEQ and Trihydro on Landfill 1 remediation on design phase was held last week. He also reported on Aktivov asset management. Don Steveson asked if the deadline for the Intended Use Plan was met, yes it was.

Police Chief Charles Bowles reported calls of service: WC Sheriff 38, Newcastle PD 49, Upton PD 19, Newcastle Ambulance 13, Upton Ambulance 1, Newcastle Fire 2, Upton Fire 0, Weston County Fire 30. Chief Bowles then stated that he trying to organize the move of Police Department with the school's Football Coach.

City Attorney Dublin Hughes reported that papers had been served to Teresa Ackley. Clerk/Treasurer Haggerty stated that the demolition work had been done at the Ackley property.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:
Cemetery Committee is scheduled to meet on February 23, 2023 at 4:30 p.m.

OTHER BUSINESS: Special Meeting regarding Dispatch Services is scheduled for February 22, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

CLAIMS AGAINST THE CITY: Tom Voss moved, seconded Don Steveson to pay the claims against the City dated February 6, 2023. **MOTION CARRIED;** Daren Downs abstained. Tyrel Owens moved, seconded Ann McColley to adjourn this regular meeting of the Newcastle City Council. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Claims: Aced Embroidery, embroidery, \$150.00; Ad-Pro, supplies, \$33.92; Advanced Drug Testing, random testing, \$52.00; Shenae Alberts, deposit refund, \$100.00; Alpha Communications, tower rent, \$95.00; American Business Software, website updates, \$37.25; American Solutions for Business, billings cards, \$1,726.55; Matthew Anderson, mileage, \$200.00; Antler's, refreshments, \$18.00; Charles Bartlett, reimbursement/ink, \$61.94; Bearlodge Engineering, engineering services, \$38,864.06; Black Hills Energy, energy services, \$3,553.32; Cambria Supply, fittings, \$8.00; Culligan, bottled water, \$58.50; Double D, supplies, \$199.44; Heather Draine, reimbursement/ supplies, \$77.00; DRM, Well No. 5 Project, \$434,217.21; DRM, retainage, \$4,875.61; Eastern Wyoming Equip., supplies, \$2,787.83; Engineering Associates, Well No. 5, \$13,083.74; ESO Solutions, ER fire package, \$1,504.20; Farnsworth Services, portable sanitation, \$750.00; Ferguson, meters/supplies, \$18,206.68; Laboratory Corp. of America, testing, \$32.80; Marco, copier fees, \$295.65; Minuteman, FD services, \$1,772.71; Newcastle Motors, repairs, \$238.59; Newcastle VFD, supplies, \$3,642.68; Norco, FD batteries, \$176.33; One Call of WY, membership/ CDC CON, \$83.50; Powder River Energy, energy services, \$1,384.29; Rapid Delivery, delivery services, \$22.10; Rick's Electric, Fire Hall fixtures, \$8,287.35; Genell Rothleutner, PD cleaning, \$200.00; Short Stop, Fuel, \$2,371.67; Jessica Shrake, refund, \$124.10; Michael Staiger, mileage, \$345.00; UBC Precast, Dow Park Restrooms, \$31,205.00; USA Bluebook, rain pants, \$392.67; Valli, monthly services, \$103.85; Verizon, cell service, \$380.88; Becky Vodopich, cleaning services, \$300.00; WC Fire Protection, generator, \$553.63; WC Treasurer, \$4,336.09; Woody's Food Center, supplies, \$159.73; Wyoming First Aid & Safety, supplies, \$433.08; Wyoming Rents, interest, \$71.01.

Pam Gualtieri, Mayor
ATTEST: City Clerk/Treasurer, Stacy Haggerty
(Publish March 2, 2023)

Cowboy State Look-In

Courtesy of the Wyoming News Exchange

State finds no wrongdoing

GILLETTE (WNE) — The Wyoming Secretary of State investigated a complaint made against the former Campbell County Clerk and found she did nothing wrong.

In early December, the Coal Country Conservatives political action committee filed a complaint with the state against then-County Clerk Susan Saunders for her "biased and unethical statements and actions."

This was a response to Saunders filing a complaint with the state in the fall because the PAC did not file reports with her office about where it was getting its money from or how it spent its money. Due to a loophole, the

PAC was not in violation of any state laws. Laura Cox of the PAC said Saunders was in violation of state statute because she didn't notify the PAC of the complaint before filing it.

The Wyoming Secretary of State initially passed on investigating the complaint, Cox said. She submitted the complaint again in late January, and the Secretary of State ended up conducting an investigation.

"I asked for an answer, they gave me an answer, and it wasn't exactly the answer I'd hoped for," Cox said. "I'm all right with it."

It determined that the Wyoming statute cited did not

apply to the situation, because it involved a complaint and not a criminal charge. This means Saunders was not required by law to notify the PAC that she was filing a complaint.

If civil or criminal charges were pursued, the statute would apply, Cox said.

"Unless you intend to go to the sheriff and press charges, nothing is to be done," she said.

That's not a route that the PAC wants to go down, Cox added. "It's not something that we're going to pursue," she said. "That's the end of it."

This story was published on Feb. 25, 2023.

Funds for high-speed internet

CHEYENNE (WNE) — Gov. Mark Gordon announced Thursday that Wyoming has been awarded \$70.5 million in federal funds for broadband infrastructure in locations that lack access to adequate service.

The American Rescue Plan's Capital Projects Fund will deliver high-speed internet service to an estimated 11,700 Wyoming homes and businesses.

"These funds will help Wyoming address many of the challenges laid bare by the coronavirus pandemic, particularly in rural areas of our state," Gordon said in a news release. "We will utilize these funds to ensure Wyoming communi-

ties and businesses have access to the high-quality, modern infrastructure they need to access critical services."

Wyoming's award will fund the Connect Wyoming program, a competitive grant program managed by the Wyoming Business Council.

Connect Wyoming is designed to fund last-mile broadband infrastructure projects in areas throughout the state that currently lack internet access at speeds of 100/20 Megabits per second (Mbps) to facilitate access to work, education and health monitoring.

This story was published on Feb. 24, 2023.

Heart Mountain opens exhibit

POWELL (WNE) — The Heart Mountain Interpretive Center on Feb. 18 opened its new exhibit, Parallel Barbed Wire, which features the remarkable stories of Heart Mountain incarcerated Clarence Matsumura and Holocaust survivor Solly Ganor.

Matsumura grew up in Los Angeles, graduated from UCLA and was working in radio before he was incarcerated at Heart Mountain with the rest of his family.

Ganor was a child living in Lithuania before the Nazi invasion forced him and his family into a Jewish ghetto and then a forced-labor camp in Bavaria.

The paths of Ganor and Matsumura crossed while Ganor was on a death march from

his forced-labor camp outside the Dachau death camp and Matsumura was in a forward observer unit of the all-Japanese American 522nd Field Artillery Battalion.

Matsumura rescued Ganor after he had collapsed in the snow aside the road on which he was marching to the mountains south of Dachau.

After the war, Ganor went to serve in the Israeli Army during its war for independence, while Matsumura returned to the United States. They lost track of each other until they were reunited in 1992 by historian Eric Saul.

Ganor chronicled their relationship in his memoir, "Light One Candle," which the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation

has recently republished.

"This exhibit has been over a year in the making," said Krist Ishikawa Jessup, who curated the exhibit. "Combing through books, oral histories, primary documents, and with the assistance of Clarence's and Solly's families, we were able to piece together this amazing history. Though Clarence and Solly's stories are a micro study of wider historic events, they expose the patterns and strategies of state-sponsored persecution and remind us that fear, racism, and hatred, when left unchallenged, can wreak destruction in any place and at any time."

This story was published on Feb. 23, 2023.

USNS Cody christened in Alabama

CODY (WNE) — When he first got a call six years ago from then Secretary of the Navy Richard Spencer, Cody Mayor Matt Hall was initially taken aback by the secretary's suggestion to name a new Navy vessel after the town.

A small landlocked Wyoming town 1,000 miles from the nearest ocean isn't necessarily the first place someone thinks of when naming a naval vessel, Hall told attendees at the USNS Cody christening ceremony Feb. 25 in Mobile, Ala.

But the more Hall talked with Spencer, the more he saw the connection between his hometown and the Navy's newest expeditionary fast transport.

"As Secretary Spencer and I waxed about politics and our Wyoming culture, why my town was being chosen surfaced," Hall said. "The Cody community embodies the same virtues and values embodied by our friends at (USNS Cody builder) Austal USA ... as well as the values of our protectors and saviors who put themselves in harm's way."

Hall was one of the guests of honor who gathered to celebrate the completion and christening of the Navy's newest vessel and its indelible connection with the city of Cody.

Cody joins Casper, Cheyenne, Laramie and a few other communities as Wyoming cities chosen as U.S. Navy ship namesakes. The USNS Cody will be one of nearly 100 U.S. Navy ships operating globally each day, according to a U.S. Navy press release.

As an expeditionary fast transport, the USNS Cody will be able to transport personnel, equipment and supplies, and will also have enhanced medical capabilities.

"This is a platform that truly represents a quantum leap forward for Navy medicine's ability to care for our shipmates," said Rear Admiral Bruce Gillingham, Surgeon General of the United States Navy.

This story was published on Feb. 27, 2023.

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— Margaret Sullivan, "Ghosting The News"

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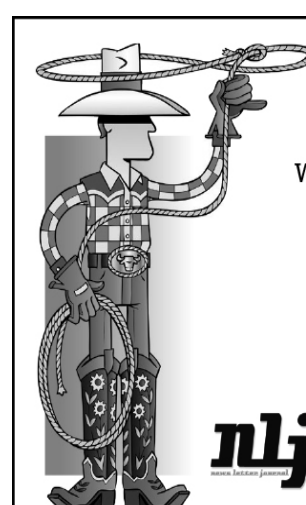


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Librarian

The Weston County Library is accepting applications for the position of adult services librarian. Open until filled. Contact Brenda Mahoney-Ayres at 746-2206 for more information. Applications may be picked up at the library.

MISC

For sale
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COMMUNITY

Helping Hands Foundation of Weston County
 Are you in need of funds for medical traveling assistance? Contact Glenna at 307-468-2316 or Carol at 746-2298.

Alcoholics Anonymous

AA meets at WC Senior Center family room, 627 Pine St., Mondays and Thursdays, 7-8pm. Contact Stan 746-9199.

TOPS

TOPS meets at three Newcastle locations each week: Tuesday at 4pm at First United Methodist Church, call Joyce Brown at 307-629-1033; Thursday at 8am at WC Senior Center, call JoAnn Dunn at 746-2654;

and at 9 am Thursdays at First Baptist Church, call Ellen Butts at 746-4251. All are welcome!

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NA meets at Church on the Hill, 6:30-7:30pm, every Tuesday. Call Shawn at 307-575-6641.

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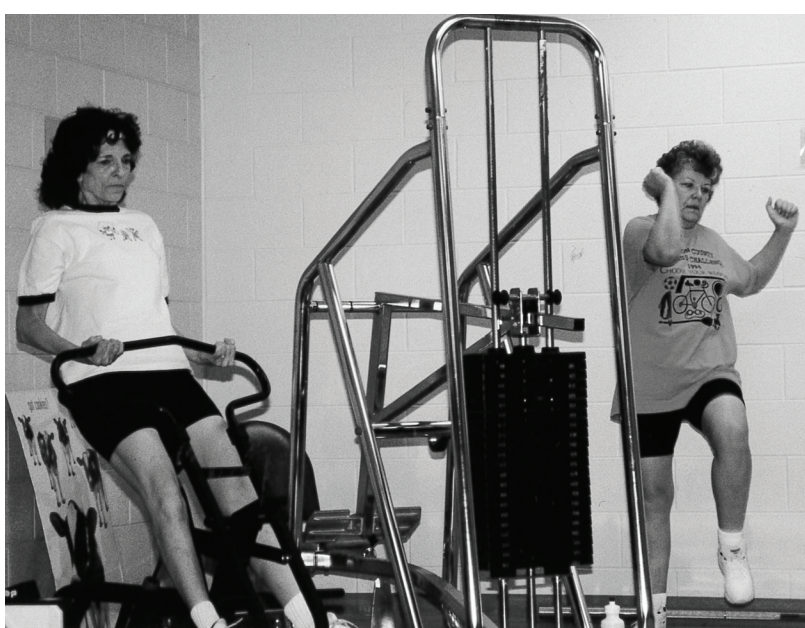
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Ladies even the score against the Bison

Sonja Karp
NLJ Sports Editor

The Newcastle High School Lady Dogies finished out their regular season last week with two more tough games against the No. 1-ranked Lady Bearcats of Douglas and the No. 2-ranked Lady Bison of Buffalo.

Douglas picked up their second win against Newcastle on Thursday, but their margin of victory was much closer than it was when the two teams met in Douglas. On Feb. 16, the Lady 'Cats handled the Lady Dogies, winning 80-41, and this time they had to finish strong to come away with the 60-46 victory.

Then, on Saturday, Newcastle hosted the Lady Bison who had bested them by 11 a month ago in Buffalo. This time, the Lady Dogies were the dominant team who walked away with a 61-42 victory.

"This was a much better week for us, even though the Douglas game didn't come out the way we would have liked," NHS Head Coach Chad Ostenson began. "However, I saw some things that we did really well and we will tweak a few things for when we see them again."

The Lady Dogies came out firing on all cylinders against Douglas on Thursday, and led the No. 1-ranked team 15-12 at the end of the first quarter. However, the Lady 'Cats took advantage of a few mistakes by Newcastle in the second quarter to take a 30-18 lead into the locker room at the half.



Photo by Nicole McFarland/NLJ

The Lady Dogies gave the No. 1-ranked Lady Bearcats of Douglas a fight on Thursday, despite dropping the contest 46-60. Jaylen Ostenson's face says it all when it came to how physical the contest was throughout its entirety.

Newcastle made up some ground in the third quarter to pull within 11, and they got to within 6 points as the

contest neared the end, however, they then had to foul, which inflated the score to the 16-point differential.

"They are a good team and they took advantage of our mistakes," Ostenson admitted. "I bet if we look at the stats, their points off our turnovers made the difference in the game."

Jaylen Ostenson led her team with 22 points, Hunter McFarland was next with 10, Jayde Harrington added 8 points while MacKenzie Conzelman and Oakley Checketts chipped in 3 points apiece.

On Saturday, the Lady Dogies were ready for a win, and it was evident as the contest against the Lady Bison got under way. Newcastle put on an offensive and defensive clinic in the first quarter, jumping out to a 20-8 lead heading into the second.

"I think that Buffalo is probably the best team in the state," Ostenson said. "Our defense looked very good against them, like it did against Douglas, and we shot well and we also took care of the ball really well."

Buffalo chipped into the Lady Dogie lead in the second quarter, but Newcastle still held a 6-point advantage heading into the locker room.

In the second half, Newcastle outscored the Lady Bison 32-19 to come away with the win.

Ostenson again led her team in scoring with 21 points, Conzelman was next with 14 points on the back of hitting four three-pointers, Shelby Tidyman was right behind with 13 points, Harrington added 6 points and pulled down 17 rebounds, Checketts had 5 points and McFarland chipped in 2 to round out the scoring.

In the last couple of weeks, the

NHS Ladies' Basketball	
Newcastle v. Douglas 2/23/23: 46-60	Newcastle v. Buffalo 2/25/23: 61-42
Jaylen Ostenson: 22 points, 8 rebounds, 1 assist, 5 blocks	Jaylen Ostenson: 21 points, 8 rebounds, 5 assists, 2 blocks
Shelby Tidyman: 2 rebounds, 2 assists, 4 steals	Shelby Tidyman: 13 points, 5 rebounds, 2 assists, 2 steals
Hunter McFarland: 10 points, 3 rebounds, 2 assists, 2 steals	Hunter McFarland: 2 points, 1 rebound, 2 assists, 1 steal
MacKenzie Conzelman: 3 points, 2 rebounds, 1 block, 1 charge taken	MacKenzie Conzelman: 14 points, 7 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 block
Oakley Checketts: 3 points, 2 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal, 1 block	Oakley Checketts: 5 points, 1 steal
Jayde Harrington: 8 points, 10 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal	Jayde Harrington: 6 points, 17 rebounds, 1 steal, 1 block
Sydney Pederson: 1 rebound, 1 assist	Sydney Pederson: 3 rebounds

Lady Dogies have gone up against their toughest competition of the season, which is just what Coach Ostenson wanted for his team as they prepare for the regional tournament this weekend.

"Last year, we might have peaked the week before regionals, but I think we're going in the right direction now," Ostenson reported. "We knew we would be going through the gauntlet these last two weeks, and we did, but I think it was just what we needed to get us ready for tournament time."

The Lady Dogies will tip off the 3A East Regional Tournament in Torrington with the 9 a.m. game on Thursday as they take on the Lady Trailblazers on their home court.

Wrestlers

from Page 9



Photo courtesy of Kim Vrana

Scott Larson (126) lost his opening round of the 3A State Tournament to his teammate Trey Schneider but fought his way through the wrestle backs to take fifth place.

McCoy said. "Getting second place is such a disappointment, but he handled it so well and we are just really proud of him."

After claiming the regional

championship last week, Jackson East went in as the top-seeded 120-pounder from the East Conference. He pinned

his way to the semi-finals, but a

mistake in that match knocked him out of contention for the title.

"He has developed a bad habit in the last few weeks of

putting his head down when he is on top," McCoy explained. "He is strong enough that he can get away with that with some kids, but against state tournament competition, that mistake cost him."

The Pinedale wrestler who beat East, and who ultimately claimed the state title for the 120 class, took advantage of that mistake to pin Jackson, casting Jackson into the consolation semis. East pinned his Worland opponent in 2:45, but then lost to Green River in much the same fashion as he lost his championship semi-final match, to take home fourth place.

"So I think that the Pinedale kid talked to the Green River kid and told him what Jackson was going to do, because he was ready for him," McCoy mused. "Jackson was beating the Pinedale kid in the semis and was really taking it to him when he got stuck. The same thing happened in the third place match. He put his head down and got pinned in the first period."

At 126, Trey Schneider and Scott Larson had the unlucky situation of facing off against each other in the opening round. The results of that match was that Schneider defeated Larson by a 6-3 decision to advance to the quarter-finals, sending Larson into the wrestle-backs.

Larson lost in the first round then blazed his way through the wrestle backs to take fifth.

"Scott had a great tournament at regionals, but he really turned it on at state," McCoy said. "We are super proud of Scott and he showed a lot of

NHS/UHS Wrestling		
Newcastle/Upton @ 3A State Tournament in Casper 2/16-18/23		
Boys Team Results:		
1. Green River 223.5	126: Scott Larson 5th Place 4-2	19. Rock Springs 41
2. Cody 167	126: Trey Schneider DNP 1-2	20. Wright 40
3. Evanston 164	132: Casey Matthews DNP 0-2	21. Rawlins 38.5
4. Pinedale 152	138: Thomas Prell DNP 0-2	22. Lovell 37
5. Rawlins 133	170: Jacob Prell 6th Place 3-3	22. Lyman 37
6. Worland 128	285: Heath Henkle DNP 1-2	24. Big Piney 36
7. Douglas 126.5		25. Moorcroft 33
8. Powell 96.5		25. Wheatland 33
9. Lander 87.5		27. Thermopolis 31
10. Buffalo 72.5		28. Lingle-Ft. Laramie/Southeast 28
11. Newcastle/Upton 72		28. Newcastle/Upton 28
12. Mt. View 62		30. Laramie 26.5
13. Lyman 58		31. H.E.M. 26
14. Wheatland 50		32. Cody 22
15. Torrington 45.5		32. Lander 22
16. Riverton 41.5		34. Rocky Mountain 19
17. Burns/Pine Bluffs 39		35. Burns/Pine Bluffs 18
Individual Boys Results:		36. Lusk 17
106: Charlie Bowles DNP 0-2	Girls Team Results:	37. Hulet 15
106: Haven Vrana 2nd Place 3-1	1. Star Valley 184	37. Cheyenne South 15
113: Landon Norman DNP 1-2	2. Pinedale 129	39. Mt. View 14
120: Jackson East 4th Place 3-2	3. Sheridan 102	40. Dubois 10
	4. Kelly Walsh 97	40. Riverton 10
	5. Kemmerer 88	42. Sundance 2
	6. Cheyenne East 79	Individual Girls Results:
	6. Thunder Basin 79	115: Courtney Matthews DNP 0-2
	8. Wind River 68	120: Kyah Miller 1st Place 4-0
	9. Cheyenne Central 59.5	
	10. Glenrock 56	
	10. Worland 56	
	12. Evanston 52	
	13. Green River 48	
	13. Shoshoni 48	
	15. Buffalo 44	
	16. Natrona 43.5	
	17. Campbell Co. 43	
	17. Powell 43	

character after that first round, which was really hard on him and the team. But, he bounced right back and had a great remainder of the tournament."

Jacob Prell, at 170, won his first round match in 55 seconds with a pin. In the quarter-finals, he was up against a Mt. View opponent who, according to McCoy, he should have beaten, but unfortunately he lost the match with a sudden death decision in overtime.

Prell was able to bounce back and come through the wrestle backs to the fifth place match where he fell to a Lander opponent by a 10-3 decision, taking home sixth place.

Charlie Bowles went in unseeded at 106 and finished his season going two and out. Landon Norman (113) was the three seed from the East Conference, however he went

two and out as well on Friday.

After winning his first match against Larson at 126, Schneider lost his next two matches, ending his tournament early.

Casey Matthews (132) and Thomas Prell (138) were in really tough weight classes and drew tough draws for their first round. Each went two and out.

Heath Henkle won his first match at 285 pounds, but then lost the next two, ending his high school career.

The Dogies/Bobcats will lose Jacob Prell, Henkle and Miller to graduation, so the team will not be returning anyone from 145 pounds and up.

"Overall, it was a good tournament for us," McCoy concluded. "Hopefully we'll get more kids out next year so we can be competitive in duals and in our own practice room."

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