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**KNOW IT
TODAY**

**9/11 tribute at
skydiving center**

Chicagoland Skydiving
Center in Rochelle hosted a
9/11 tribute recently.

Page 5

WEATHER

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
81 55	84 52
FRIDAY	SATURDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
88 59	88 61

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OBITUARIES

- FRANKLIN DALE SCOTT
- RICHARD T. TURNER
- JOHNNY ASBURY SR.

See page 4

INSERTS

- ALDI
- FARM & FLEET
- ACE HARDWARE

INSIDE

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Fiegenschuh receives contract extension

Wording changed regarding \$18 million in electric bonds

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — The Rochelle City Council unanimously voted to renew the employment agreement of City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh until May 2023.

Fiegenschuh's fourth anniversary as city manager was Sept. 11 and Mayor John Bearrows and city council members completed his annual performance review. Fiegenschuh's new agreement runs concurrent with Bearrows' current term ending in May 2023.

"I would say that over my term as mayor, which is 2.5 years now, and speaking for both council members new and old, most all of us have been with Jeff all the way along," Bearrows said. "I'm extremely impressed with the leadership that he provides for the entire team in a lot of different ways. I want to publicly thank him for that. He's very on top of the game. When things need to be done, he's very proactive and I think the city and all the residents are

extremely fortunate to have the leadership of the city manager that we do."

Bond issuance

The city council approved an ordinance authorizing and providing for the issuance of \$18 million in bonds to finance improvements to Rochelle's electrical system. A similar ordinance was approved on Aug. 23, but it did not include language for the payment in lieu of taxes that the city transfers to the general fund.

Fiegenschuh said the bonds will be done in two issuances so local banks have an opportunity to bid. A second issuance would be done in January. He said he's not sure about taking out the entire \$18 million and the second issuance is still up in the air.

Transformer rental

The city council unanimously approved the rental of an electrical distribution transformer which will cost \$58,860 for month one, \$22,000 for months two and three and \$19,800 per month



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

Detective Terry Inman (middle) was a recipient of a Good News Award from Rochelle City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh (right) during Monday's City Council meeting. The two are pictured above with Police Chief Eric Higby (left).

after four.

On Aug. 26 Rochelle Municipal Utilities received oil test results for the substation transformer at its diesel plant that showed high levels of flammable gas. RMU's engineering consultants recommended it be taken out of service immediately.

The rental transformer has already been delivered and put online. At a July council meeting,

a \$628,500 purchase for a new power plant transformer was approved. Blake Toliver, RMU superintendent of electric operations, said the rental will have to be used until the new unit is delivered in an estimated eight months.

Subdivision plat

The council unanimously approved the preliminary and final plat of

subdivision for properties located at 608 W. 2nd Ave., 127 N. 6th St., 522 W. 2nd Ave., 118 S. Washington St. and 512 W. 2nd Ave.

The reasoning for the two-lot subdivision is to combine eight parcels. The city plans to use lot one to construct wellhouse number four.

Lot two is vacant for potential commercial development.

See CITY page 2

Park district partners with KSRA

Association provides opportunities for people with disabilities

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — The Flagg-Rochelle Community Park District joined the Kishwaukee Special Recreation Association as a partner agency in 2016.

The organization, which works in the communities of DeKalb, Sycamore, Genoa, Sandwich and Rochelle, strives to enhance the lives of people with disabilities by cultivating diverse recreational opportunities within those areas. Among the programs KSRA offers are field trips, cooking class, bowling, a seven-week camp, parents night out, sports, dances and fitness.

"Recreation is something that is difficult sometimes for individuals because of their needs," KSRA Executive Director Dawn Schaefer said. "But it's so important. A lot of kids and adults, anyone who is learning, learns better through play. You don't realize you're working towards a goal.



(COURTESY PHOTO)

The Flagg-Rochelle Community Park District joined the Kishwaukee Special Recreation Association as a partner agency in 2016. The organization strives to enhance the lives of people with disabilities by cultivating diverse recreational opportunities within those areas.

Social interaction, you do that by playing games and being with your peers. All the things you learn with social emotional health.

Schaefer said KSRA

works on a whole person through recreation so they don't realize they're working on their skills. They're too busy having fun. KSRA also provides

inclusion support for those with special needs that want to sign up for programs within the park district.

"We'd send an aid or a

sign language interpreter," Schaefer said. "I'd talk with staff on how to better organize the program."

See KSRA page 3

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LOCAL NEWS



Rochelle Mayor John Bearrows and Sarah Flanagan of the Rochelle Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution (left), came together for a special proclamation for Constitution Week during Monday's City Council meeting. City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh also presented a Good News Award to Finance Director Chris Cardott (right).



(PHOTOS BY JEFF HELFRICH)

CITY: Council votes to continue permit waiver program

From page 1

Small businesses

The city council unanimously voted to continue its small business permit fee waiver program. The program began on Dec. 9, 2019. The program was designed to assist small businesses with fees that are associated with opening a new business or expanding a business within the

city that include electric, water, sewer and building permits.

To date, \$6,748 in permit fees have been waived. The program was extended for five years until Dec. 31, 2026.

Railroad park

The findings of a survey done of visitors to the city's railroad park were detailed at the meeting. Director of Marketing, Public Relations & Tourism Jenny

Thompson said improvements are planned for the park like replacing siding, redoing the doors and upgrading the restrooms.

Some long-term ideas include more parking and an extended viewing area. The city plans to allocate \$60,000 in American Rescue Plan funds towards improvements of the park.

Good News

Fiegenschuh presented Good News awards to Ro-

chelle Police Detective Terry Inman and City Finance Director Chris Cardott.

Rochelle Police Chief Eric Higby said Inman took a call of theft of over \$39,000 from CHS Ethanol on Feb. 22. Inman conducted an investigation that involved numerous banks, businesses, municipalities and law enforcement agencies across four states and several search warrants were executed for records. Inman's work ultimately

resolved the case.

Cardott was awarded after the city recently retained its A+ credit rating.

"The reason we were reaffirmed with the A+ was strong management with good financial policies and practices, strong budgetary performance, very strong budget flexibility and very strong liquidity," Fiegenschuh said. "That says a lot about the council and staff. This award is for Chris and everybody else."

Constitution week

Bearrows made a proclamation for Constitution week.

"Thank you for still commemorating this special week for the Rochelle DAR," Sarah Flanagan, who accepted the proclamation, said. "The United States constitution stands as a testament to the tenacity of Americans throughout history."

Exelon preparing to refuel Byron plant

BY JERRY NOWICKI
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

SPRINGFIELD—The Illinois Senate put the final legislative stamp on an energy regulation overhaul

bill Monday, sending it to Gov. JB Pritzker, who says he will sign it.

The culmination of years of negotiation, the measure passed by a 37-17 vote.

"After years of debate and discussion, science has prevailed, and we are charting a new future that works to mitigate the impacts of climate change here in Illinois," Pritzker

said in a statement after the bill's Senate passage. "(Senate Bill) 2408 puts the state on a path toward 100 percent clean energy and invests in training a diverse workforce for the

jobs of the future. Illinois will become the best state in the nation to manufacture and drive an electric vehicle, and equity will be prioritized in every new program created."

The final proposal forces fossil fuel plants like Rochelle's Prairie State Energy Campus in Marrison, Illinois offline by 2045 and spends billions of dollars to subsidize renewable and nuclear energy to prevent the closure of facilities like the Byron nuclear plant.

The bill provides \$694 million in total over a five-year period to subsidize three nuclear plants owned by Exelon Corporation, preventing the closure of the plant in Byron that Exelon said it would take offline Monday in the absence of legislative action. It issued a statement after the bill's passage saying it would begin the refueling process.

Prairie State Energy Campus, which the City of Rochelle has \$150 million

in debt with until 2042, and another municipal coal plant had caused a stalemate, as the plants and the lawmakers within their districts pushed back on the hard 2045 decarbonization date.

The final bill provides that the facilities must be carbon-free by 2045, and must reduce carbon emissions by 45 percent by 2035. If they can't, they have three years to comply or shut down part of their generation capacities to come into compliance.

Other fossil fuel plants are required to go offline between 2030 and 2045, depending on the energy source and the level of carbon emissions.

Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service covering state government and distributed to more than 400 newspapers statewide. It is funded primarily by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation.



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Four Rochelle students graduate from NIU

DEKALB—Over 580 students received their degrees from Northern Illinois University in August. Included among the graduates from Rochelle were Rachel Guerrero, bachelor of arts, political science - international politics;

Lauren Hauck, master of arts, psychology; Kimberly Reiss, master of science in education, special education - advanced special education practices and Paige Spangler, doctor of philosophy, counselor education and supervision.

Lenkaitis among historic Iowa undergrad class

IOWA CITY, Iowa—This fall's incoming undergraduate class at the University of Iowa—a group that includes Sofia Lenkaitis of Rochelle—has yet again topped previous records in achievement with a higher average high

school grade-point average (GPA), at 3.81, than any previous class. The average high school GPA for the classes of 2024 and 2023 were 3.78 and 3.76, respectively. Lenkaitis is majoring in University Honors in Iowa's University College

LOCAL NEWS

KSRA: Rochelle residents can participate in programs

From page 1

“We’d work with the individual who requests the accommodation to make sure they are successful at any level they want to be within the inclusion program. We support all choices of recreation. KSRA just has more experience in working with kids and adults with disabilities so we look more in-depth into the programming.”

KSRA plans to work with the park district to do a parent’s night out one Friday a month at The REC Center where youth and mid-teens will go swimming and play in the gymnasium. The three hour program is also open to siblings of those with disabilities.

In the past in Rochelle, KSRA has done a parent’s night out at Teen Town along with bowling at T-Byrd Lanes.

Maureen Stevens, superintendent of administration & finance at the park district, has been on the KSRA board for three years. She said with Flagg-Rochelle being a small district, its programs aren’t always geared specifically towards people with disabilities. KSRA’s programs and inclusion services help to accommodate those that need it. “Instead of having to turn people away because



(COURTESY PHOTO)

KSRA plans to work with the park district to do a parent’s night out one Friday a month at The REC Center where youth and mid-teens will go swimming and play in the gymnasium. The three hour program is also open to siblings of those with disabilities.

we can’t accommodate whatever disability it is that they may have, KSRA steps in and saves the day and lets them participate,” Stevens said.

Rochelle area residents can also participate in KSRA programs in the other areas it works in like DeKalb or Genoa without having to pay out-of-district fees. Stevens said she enjoys being able to broaden the park district’s reach, which doesn’t often happen.

Stevens believes the

new REC facility lends itself well to special recreation. It’s one-level and wheelchairs or accessibility devices can be used on the turf. The flooring on the courts is durable.

“It opens up the door to all sorts of activities that could happen there rather than just basketball and volleyball,” Stevens said. “The pools are really nice because there are ADA-accessible lifts to get into both pools.”

Schaefer agreed and said having The REC as

an option is “really exciting” and she thinks it will allow KSRA to build more programs in the Rochelle area.

The pandemic “screeded KSRA to a halt,” Schaefer said. She tasked staff with keeping people involved and engaged. Some virtual programming was done. KSRA was able to bring its largest program, Camp Maple Leaf, back when guidelines allowed.

“Our parents said it wouldn’t work virtually,”

Schaefer said. “We had it and went the full seven weeks following guidelines with 30 kids. It was a great time. A lot of the parents were thankful the kids could get out and be around their peers.”

Schaefer called the need for special recreation “wide and far-reaching.” When she started with KSRA four years ago, she spoke with all of the school districts and got the numbers of kids in special education. Not every child in special education needs

KSRA’s services, but she knows based on those numbers her organization has room to grow.

“Being able to have somebody take a swimming lesson or participate in a program that they wouldn’t normally be able to is huge,” Stevens said. Especially now more than ever. You don’t really realize it until you’re someone who is needing it or has a child who needs it. And then once you receive it, it’s just a weight off your chest.”

Rochelle Community Hospital hosts 21st golf outing

‘We thank everybody for their support of the event’

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — Eighty-two golfers took to Fairways Golf Course in Rochelle Monday for the Rochelle Community Hospital golf outing.

The event is in its 21st year and had about 15 more golfers than it did last year. Last year, the event had to be pushed from August to September to allow for more attendees due to COVID-19 guidelines. The outing committee ended up liking the date, so it stayed in September.

“The funding comes from our sponsorships and day-of-event things we do like the raffle prizes,” RCH’s Michelle LaPage said. “Every year our committee and foundation board pick a different thing to fund or help at the hospital. This year, we’re going to be designating the money to be used towards a community screening. We’ll be advertising that later through the hospital and working with our lab to be able to provide low-cost screenings for the community.”

LaPage said after the stress of working during the pandemic the event is a “nice break” for RCH’s management team to be out and get to talk and mingle with vendors or people from the community that they know.

“It’s always really well-received,” LaPage said. “We thank everybody for their support of the event.”

Debbie Kersten and Stephanie Crawford were set up at hole one at Fairways representing the RCH Foundation. Kersten said the outing brings the community together and has been a great fundraiser



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

Eighty-two golfers took to Fairways Golf Course in Rochelle Monday for the Rochelle Community Hospital golf outing. The event is in its 21st year and had about 15 more golfers than it did last year.

over the years.

Crawford said the purpose of the foundation

and outing is to support the hospital and its needs. “Bringing people from

the community together,” Crawford said. “Bringing people from even outside

of the community to bring recognition to what the foundation does. What

the hospital does. I think that’s the importance of the golf outing.”

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Pictures will be added after
Monday, Sept. 13th.
Sorry - No presales or previews.

Obituaries

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Rochelle Police Department

On Sept. 13 at 8:15 p.m. Jose L. Barazza, 55, of Rochelle was cited for disobeying a stop sign. He signed a promise to comply and was given a Rochelle court date of Oct. 22.

Ogle County Sheriff's Department

On Sept. 14 at 2:16 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop on Illinois Route 251 at Illinois Route 72 for an equipment violation. After an investigation, Azaleia Ellis, 19, of Rockford was arrested for no valid driver's license. Ellis was also cited for operating and uninsured motor vehicle and no registration light. Ellis was released from the scene on a \$2,500 I-Bond.

Obituaries

Home, 400 N. 6th St., Rochelle is assisting the family with funeral arrangements. www.UngerHorner.com.



LOCAL NEWS



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

Chicagoland Skydiving Center makes 9/11 tribute

Rochelle's Chicagoland Skydiving Center, along with many other dropzones across America, participated in 'Flags in the Air - a Skydivers Tribute to 9/11' on Saturday. Rochelle Police and Fire representatives were on hand for the tribute to the 20th anniversary of the terror attacks on the World Trade Center in New York in 2001. Skydivers filled the air with an American flag and dove in formation. The national anthem was sung as skydivers landed at the Rochelle Municipal Airport.

City of Rochelle confirms A+ bond rating

ROCHELLE — The City of Rochelle recently held a bond rating call with Standard and Poor's for an upcoming Electric System Alternate Revenue Source General Obligation Bond sale. The city's

current bond rating of A+ was reaffirmed, a press release said.

"For a rural community our size this is an above average bond rating," a press release said. "Some of the reasons for the

reaffirmation of the current rating include: Strong management with good financial policies and practices, strong budgetary performance, very strong budget flexibility and very strong liquidity."

"A strong credit rating is an important piece of our strategic plan," City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh said. "The ability to take advantage of lower interest rates and current construction costs to complete

projects today will save our residents money in the long run."

In the coming months, the City of Rochelle anticipates extending \$18 million of Electric System Alternate Revenue Source

General Obligation bonds to fund top priority electric infrastructure projects through the community. This transaction will not affect property tax rates as the bond payment will tie to electric revenues.

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LOCAL VIEWS

Guest column

Laura Fessler devoted her life to giving

“I am woman, hear me roar.” Before Helen Reddy sang these words in 1972 there were women making their voices heard.

One such woman was Laura Fessler. Born Laura Sechler in Pennsylvania, she and her family moved to Rochelle when she was very young. Laura was educated in the Rochelle school system.

In 1879, Laura married James Fessler. James was a successful businessman and banker. Though James was a very prominent member of the community, Laura was not going to live in her husband’s shadow. She had a light of her own and was not going to hide it beneath a bushel. Laura Fessler was committed to improving her community and the lives of those who lived and worked there.

Laura founded the Humane Society in Rochelle. She was instrumental in securing the Iron Fountain that today sits in front of the Flagg-Rochelle Museum on 4th Avenue. The fountain serves humans, dogs, cats, birds, and horses. Many who grew up in Rochelle have slaked their thirst at the fountain.

Laura pushed for legislation at the state level for the adoption of a state tree, bird, and flower. She also fought to have the school children of Illinois determine the winners. It was Jan. 29, 1908 that the State of Illinois passed legislation adopting the Oak, Cardinal, and Violet, in no small part due to the efforts of Laura Fessler.

In 1915, Laura Fessler became the first woman candidate for city council in a local election. With no woman’s vote, she missed being elected by fewer than 180 votes. The 19th Amendment, or Woman’s Suffrage, was passed in Illinois on June 10, 1919. Illinois was the first state to pass the right of women to vote and that was four years after Laura was almost elected.

It was 1979, 64 years later, before a woman was elected to office in Ro-

chelle. Laura owned one of the first electric cars in Rochelle. In 1915, she was driving “green.”

A member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Order of the Eastern Star, Rochelle Woman’s Club and the Rochelle Civic Council, Laura kept busy.

With the outbreak of World War I, Laura became active in the support of our troops at Camp Grant in Rockford. The troops could count on Laura and her friends to organize book collections, baked goods, knitting, sewing and social activities for the warriors. If the soldiers had a need Laura found a way to answer their call.

She was trained in surgical dressing and nursing and when the Spanish Flu was decimating our troops Laura was at Camp Grant working in the camp hospital trying to save lives. In a war where 45,000 soldiers died from flu, Laura was on the front lines.

From her home at 520 N. 6th St. Laura established an impromptu park on the empty lot across the street from her house. She began a new mission, create a city park that could be utilized by all of the citizens of Rochelle.

Through her involvement with the Woman’s Club she began work toward acquiring land for a city park. Unfortunately, time was not on Laura’s side. She became ill and passed in 1920.

The Woman’s Club was successful in buying land on the south side of town in 1922. Initially called Oak Park, the land was given to the City of Rochelle and re-named Memorial Park. It became the first park for the City of Rochelle fulfilling one of Laura’s greatest dreams, a place where every person could go and be surrounded by nature.

Laura lived a life devoted to giving and we all enjoy the fruits of her labor.

Tom McDermott is a Flagg Township Museum historian and Rochelle city councilman.



Tom McDermott

The painful legacy of a crime covered 31 years ago

I find myself grieving for someone I’ve never met every Sept. 17 — for the past 31 years.

Back in 1990, I was working as the night police reporter for the Quad-City Times when I was dispatched to a fire at a school playground at 9 p.m.

I was one of the first on the scene. I walked to where I saw smoke rising from some tall weeds on the edge of the playground, looked down and was met with the body of a child that had been doused with gasoline and set on fire.

I staggered backwards gasping for air. I could feel the bile rise in my throat and my knees go weak. It was the last thing I expected to find on a crisp autumn evening in Davenport, Iowa.

I was there when the firefighters, the detectives, the medical examiner and a horde of reporters arrived.

And I stood a few feet from the smoldering remains wondering: Who would do such a thing?

What evil lurked in the shadows that committed such an act?

We later learned that the victim was Jennifer Ann Lewis, a pugnacious tom-boy from Rock Island’s west end. She was last seen buying gum from a neighborhood store.

She never came back. Year after year, I’ve learned a bit more about this girl. And the more I learn, the sadder I become.

I’ve wondered what her life would have been like if she had lived.

A teacher’s aide told me how

Jennifer liked to twirl around in frilly dresses hiking the hem higher and higher as she spun. Her best friend told me how they played with “My Little Ponies” together.

Her mother recalled her daughter’s sweet disposition, how she loved her newborn baby brother and her dog, Bowser.

We name buildings after wealthy benefactors, bridges after politicians and streets after celebrities. But our collective recollection of children who die at the hands of others fades.

A granite monument funded by the community was placed on the playground where Jennifer’s corpse was found. Awhile back, I went looking for it only to learn vandals long ago destroyed it.

Even in death, she isn’t accorded the respect her life was due.

No one that night walked away from that school yard unchanged.

One former police lieutenant froze on a witness stand years later as he suffered a “flashback” to that horrible night. A police sergeant, who I knew well, had a fit of rage years later when Jennifer’s name was evoked.

A corporal at that scene descended into alcoholism.

For me, slumber was elusive for weeks following that fateful night.

Another reporter who was there confessed to her teenage sons, decades later, that it is the one image from her journalism career that she can’t rid her mind of.

During the past five years,



Scott Reeder

I spent much time researching the case. I’ve found myself interviewing vagrants beneath underpasses in New Orleans, knocking on doors of Mississippi shacks and wading through thousands of pages of Iowa court documents.

I now know much more. But am I any closer to understanding? Well, I certainly don’t understand what would possess someone to commit such evil.

I produced a podcast on the case and Jennifer’s name is now known by many. I want to write a book about the crime. But each time I sit down to write, I’m met with the image of a bucktoothed smile and the unassuming brown eyes of a child who never turned 10.

That photo haunts me.

To this youngster, whom I’ve never met, I can only promise: Your memory will not be lost.

A man is serving a life sentence for her murder. He’s been tried four times for the same crime – three convictions and one hung jury. His appeals continue.

Although three juries have found him guilty, when I think of Jennifer, I prefer to think of innocence.

I think of a child without guile who was raped, strangled and burned. I think of a youngster who ran down school hallways telling teachers and classmates alike about her upcoming birthday.

She just didn’t know that was the day she would be buried.

Scott Reeder is a veteran journalist. He works as a reporter in the Springfield area. Scottreeder1965@gmail.com.

VOICE ON THE STREET

Question:

Saturday is National Cheeseburger Day. Where is your favorite place to get a burger in Rochelle or around the area?

“In Rochelle, The Rack. Outside of Rochelle, MC Tap or Ridott corner.”

Lauri Hays

“Portillos.”

Allen Huhn

“My house.”

Doug Baker

“MC Tap has the best burgers for venturing slightly out of Rochelle. In Rochelle, Culver’s has the best in my opinion! Headon’s has some amazing monster burgers if you’re trying to cook at home!”

Lindsey Cooper

“T-Byrds.”

Mary Ellen Kenney-Gomez

“JC’s at the corner of Illinois Route 251 and Illinois Route 72.”

Phyllis Jones

“Pub 64.”

Nancy Kane Spencer Kessen

“MC Tap.”

Andrea Fletcher

“Chana Tap.”

Jennifer Roeglin Helfrich

“Grubsteakers.”

Eric Paul

“Acres Bistro! Best burger I’ve had in a long time!”

Emily Whitaker

“The Rack’s burgers are great.”

Sharon Rae Johnson

“Jay’s in Oregon.”

Jimmy Rot

“MC Tap hands down!”

Willie Watson

“MC Tap.”

Lorri Adams Mayer

How to contact government officials

U.S. Con. Adam Kinzinger
1218 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C.
20515
(202) 225-3635

IL Sen. Brian Stewart
M104A State House
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 782-0180

IL Rep. Tom Demmer
314 Capitol
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(217) 782-0535

Have a letter you want to submit to us? Send it to (news@rochelle-news-leader.com

KEEPING YOU IN TOUCH WITH YOUR LOCAL LEADERS

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The Rochelle News-Leader encourages responsible letters to the editor on subjects of interest to our readers. Editing may be necessary for space, clarity or to avoid obscenity or libel, but ideas will not be altered. All letters must bear the handwritten signature of the writer and include address and phone number or e-mail address for verification purposes. Neither the street address nor phone number will be printed. Letters should be typed or legibly

handwritten, and no anonymous letters will be published. Any letters from boards or organizations must include at least one name of an individual. Any criticism of public officials should be limited to issues related strictly to their position or actions made in office, as personal attacks will not be published. Letters involving private disputes between the writer and a business will not be published. Political endorsements will be published,

however letters from candidates endorsing themselves will not be printed. Letters may be dropped at the News-Leader office (211 IL Route 38 East), mailed to the News-Leader (P.O. Box 46, Rochelle, IL 61068) or e-mailed (news@rochellenews-leader.com.) The News-Leader reserves the right to edit or reject any letter to the editor for any reason, and letters chosen for publication do not necessarily reflect the views of this newspaper.

COMMUNITY

Preston and Lidren lead the cast of Romeo & Juliet

RTHS Theater Co. returns to the stage with show this weekend

ROCHELLE — After a very long wait and the unique experience that creating a Christmas Eve radio show broadcast offered, members of the RTHS Theater Company are very excited about returning to the stage.

The fall show is an abridged version of the classic Shakespeare play, *Romeo & Juliet* at 7:30 p.m. Saturday evening, Sept. 18 and a 2 p.m. matinee Sunday, Sept. 19. Tickets are \$5 for general admission and \$2 for students and educators.

Director Amy Creuziger presents the cast as JJ Arredondo as Chorus, Mirella Cevada as Sampson and Apothecary, Ben Hunley as Balthasar, Indigo Marsden as Benvolio, Natalie Higueros as Capulet, Pigeon Burgholzer

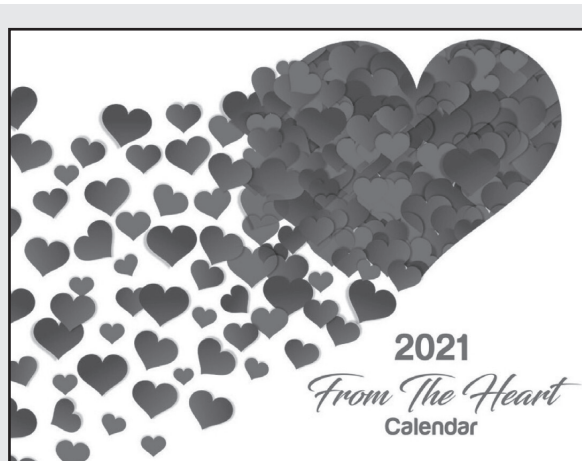


as Lady Capulet, Ashes Glover as Mercutio, Paul Swartz as Tybalt, Preston as Romeo, Lidren as Juliet, Olivia Dreska as Nurse and Lord Montague, Z Brizuela as Friar Laurence, Ranboo Hull as Paris and Prince, Jeanette Valle as Stage

Manager, Kaylie Stith as Stage Manager, Liam Wise as Lighting, Set & Sound Crew Chair, Jennifer Heinrich as Costume Chair, Cassandra Aguilera as Prop Chair, Kiley O'Brien as Costume Crew, Kasey Jones as Deck Manager,

Molly Boehm as Costume Crew, Seven Spencer as Set Crew and Deck Manager and Princess Saxton as Set & Deck Crew.

The set crew includes Ryan Hansen, Amanda Grant, Luis Nambo and Denia Rincon.



- Aug. 21 - Nick Gilbert, Aurora, \$25
- Aug. 22 - Laura Evangelista, Rochelle, \$50
- Aug. 23 - Sophie Meyers, Rochelle, \$25
- Aug. 24 - Lauri Hays, Rochelle, \$25
- Aug. 25 - George Meusel, Amboy, \$25
- Aug. 26 - David C. Tess, Barrington, \$25
- Aug. 27 - Cally Gustafson, Topeka, KS, \$25
- Aug. 28 - Nancy Bingham, Rochelle, \$25
- Aug. 29 - Blake Wetzels, Lindenwood, \$50
- Aug. 30 - Sandy Sullivan, Rochelle, \$25
- Aug. 31 - Tom McDermott, Rochelle, \$25
- Sept. 1 - Eric Cech, Rochelle, \$25
- Sept. 2 - Riley Zimmerman, Rochelle, \$25
- Sept. 3 - Kathy Pfeiffer, Rochelle, \$25
- Sept. 4 - Joe Meadows, Rochelle, \$25
- Sept. 5 - Neysa McCammond, Stillman Valley, \$50
- Sept. 6 - Peggy Holt, Rockford, \$1,000
- Sept. 7 - Zachary Meyers, Rochelle, \$25
- Sept. 8 - Diane (Cedar Siding), Rochelle, \$25
- Sept. 9 - Becky Myroth, Rochelle, \$25
- Sept. 10 - Donna Williams, Rockford, \$25
- Sept. 11 - Kevin Hummel, Rochelle, \$25
- Sept. 12 - Peggy Holt, Rockford, \$50
- Sept. 13 - Bobbie Colbert, Rochelle, \$25
- Sept. 14 - Shelley Haws, Rochelle, \$25
- Sept. 15 - Dana Schmidt, Byron, \$25

Checks to winners will be mailed out at the end of each month

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Sept. 15
Robert Lee

Sept. 17
David Jones

Sept. 18
Jenny Rosenbach

Sept. 18
Amie Eggenburg

Terry & Teresa Dodillet

Sept. 19
Leland & Lucy Hazlip

Madison Wooten

Sept. 22
Krew Sullivan

Sept. 23
Chris Doering

John Worley

Sept. 28
Ashley Bunker

Sept. 29
Josh Walker

THE KITCHEN TABLE MENU

Sept. 16 – (Thursday) – Pulled Pork over Corn Cakes with either BBQ Sauce or Syrup, Coleslaw

Sept. 17 – (Friday) – No dinner tonight due to the Cooks and Carpenters Fundraiser next Friday.

Sept. 21 – (Tuesday) – Taco Salad, Cheese Quesadillas

Sept. 23 – (Thursday) – Italian Meatloaf, Green Beans, Salad, Dinner Rolls

Sept. 28 – (Tuesday) – Sloppy Joes or Black Bean Burgers,

Salad, Tater Tots, Baked Beans

Sept. 30 – (Thursday) – Beef Stroganoff, Peas, Dinner Rolls

KIDS MENU: Chicken Nuggets w/Fries

****All menus are subject to change. If you would like to check before coming out, please call us at 815-561-9074 as we will put the menu on the answering machine.**

www.KitchenTableRochelle.org

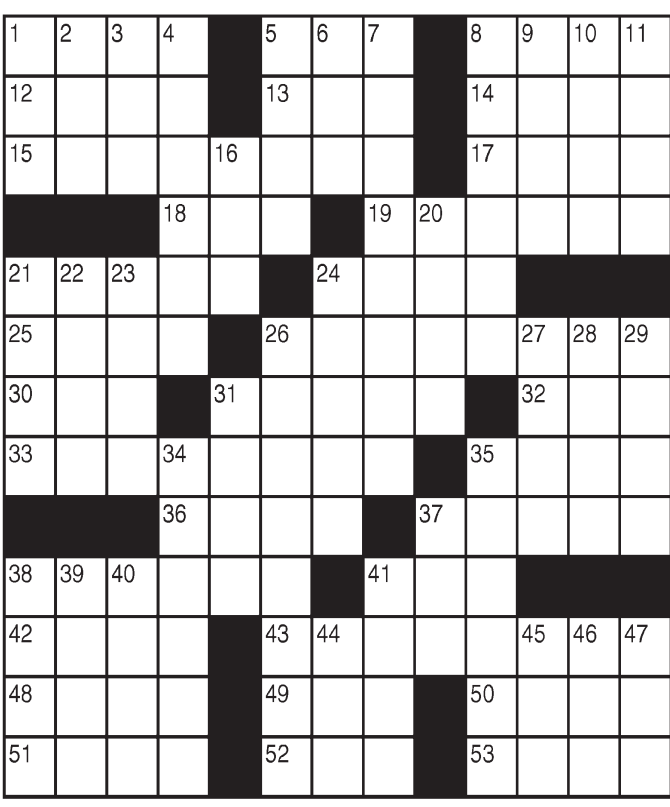


Coffee Break

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Havana's land
- 5 For each
- 8 — Valley, Calif.
- 12 Miles away
- 13 Parisian pal
- 14 Former Yankee slugger, to fans
- 15 Abe Lincoln's first home
- 17 Cello's ancestor
- 18 In the style of
- 19 Shiny, as a photo
- 21 Trombone part
- 24 Swizzle
- 25 Ireland
- 26 Backyard structure



- 30 Old
- 31 Move to one side
- 32 — roll (winning)
- 33 Theme park attraction
- 35 Landed
- 36 Mater lead-in
- 37 Test score
- 38 Spider's creation
- 41 Spill catcher
- 42 Location
- 43 Cozy spot on the slopes
- 48 Sandwich
- shop
- 49 Last (Abbr.)
- 50 Jeopardize
- 51 Pieces for one
- 52 Evening hrs.
- 53 Hose woe
- tune
- 8 Relishes
- 9 Eye part
- 10 Cattle calls?
- 11 In a lazy way
- 16 Hearty quaff
- 20 Joyful tune
- 21 Lowly worker
- 22 Stead
- 23 Press agent?
- 24 "The March King"
- 26 "OK" gesture
- 27 Spanish greeting
- 28 Oklahoma city
- 29 See socially
- 31 Only
- 34 Aloha State
- 35 Garden shelters
- 37 Baseball's Hodges
- 38 Scoundrels
- 39 Sandwich treat
- 40 Phone inventor
- 41 Morsels
- 44 Carrier to Amsterdam
- 45 Cacophony
- 46 Fed. property manager
- 47 Heart chart (Abbr.)

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	4		7				2	8
		6			9			1
2				8		4		
5			8					2
3		8		1		6		
	7				2		5	
8	3			7				9
	9		3			1		
		2			6		8	

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: Q equals S

KZW BIEWB IQIGVVJ UXWQ
HGYBVJ QVXOVJ, PIK ZW ZGQ
PWUIE QSBYEKYEU. ZW OGEKQ G
AZGEUW XH SGAW.

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3	8	7	9	5	6	2	1	4
5	5	8	2	3	7	6	9	
6	9	2	1	7	4	5	3	8
4	5	8	2	3	9	1	7	6
7	9	6	4	1	5	8	2	3
2	1	3	7	6	8	4	9	5
6	7	4	3	8	1	6	5	2
1	3	5	6	4	2	9	8	7
2	8	9	5	6	7	3	4	1

Answer

3	8	7	9	5	6	2	1	4
5	5	8	2	3	7	6	9	
6	9	2	1	7	4	5	3	8
4	5	8	2	3	9	1	7	6
7	9	6	4	1	5	8	2	3
2	1	3	7	6	8	4	9	5
6	7	4	3	8	1	6	5	2
1	3	5	6	4	2	9	8	7
2	8	9	5	6	7	3	4	1

Answer

King Crossword

The runner usually goes fairly slowly, but he has begun sprinting. He wants a change of pace.

CryptoQuip

LOCAL NEWS

Foundation announces fall scholarship recipients

MALTA — The Kishwaukee College Foundation recently announced student scholarship recipients for the fall 2021 semester.

The foundation awarded \$198,479 to 173 Kish students through 282 scholarships. Scholarship funds are made possible through generous gifts from members of the community, local businesses and industry

and area agencies and associations. Students are selected on a competitive basis, according to each scholarship's specific requirements.

Kishwaukee College students from Rochelle received the following awards: Beulah & Roberta Hackett Endowment — Nicole Sheets; Bud & Kay Stocking Rochelle Rotary Endowment — Kaitlynn Ost and

Sarah Owen; Charles & Mary Roberts Memorial Endowment — Allison Seebach and Rebecca Bunker; Dean & Betty Burgemeister Endowment — Nicole Sheets; Employee Give Scholarship Fund — Brooke Myroth and Rebecca Bunker; Forging Foundation Scholarship — Micah Koziol; Founder's Endowment Fund — Kaitlynn Ost; Jesus Romero

Hispanic Endowment — Arlette Garcia and Brandon Villa; Kishwaukee College Engineering Scholarship — Micah Koziol; LaVerne "Dutch" Johnson Memorial Fund — Kaitlynn Ost; Nancy D. Castle Scholarship — Brandon Villa; Ruth Ashelford Pollock Nursing Fund — Diana Penaran and Mandi Lamb; Ruth I. Hall Nursing Endowment — Diana

Penaran, Mandi Lamb and Nicole Sheets; Tom & Nancy Roberts Theatre Endowment — Breanna Heisner; Vernon & Dorothy Smith Memorial Endowment — Kaitlynn Ost, Macey Ryan and Micah Koziol; Veronica M. Ream Endowment — Angel Cruz.

Students who wished to remain anonymous are omitted from this list.

The online application

process for the spring 2022 Kishwaukee College Foundation scholarships will be open from Monday, Sept. 13, to Monday, Oct. 18, with more than \$180,000 in funding available.

For more information on foundation scholarships, contact the Kishwaukee College Foundation at 815-825-9800 or visit www.kish.edu/kcfscholarships.



(COURTESY PHOTO)

The Kishwaukee College Foundation announced the Fall 2021 scholarship recipients. Applications for Spring 2022 Foundation scholarships will be accepted from Sept. 13 to Oct. 18. Pictured are Fall 2021 Foundation scholarship recipients.



(PHOTO BY AL HUHN)

Saturday morning accident sees car in Kyte Creek

A one-vehicle accident early Saturday morning ended with a car in the Kyte Creek near Washington Street and Fairways Golf Course. There were no injuries. At 8:36 a.m. the driver of the vehicle, Randi R. Spinnie, 34, of Rochelle was cited for no valid driver's license and improper lane usage, Rochelle Police said. She signed a promise to comply and was given a Rochelle court date of Oct. 22.



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*Many of the tax and legal matters discussed are complex. Please rely on a competent tax and legal counsel when making financial decisions. This is an outline of benefits only and not a contract. Details are contained in the certificate issued to each member.



For details, contact your local WCU representative:
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ROCHELLE NEWS-LEADER • SECTION 2 • PAGE 1

SPORTS



BATTLING THE SPARTANS

The Lady Hub volleyball team faced off against Sycamore on Tuesday.

See page 6 for more details

RTHS Boys Soccer

Hubs outlast Royals

Underclassmen step up as Rochelle knocks off Hinckley-Big Rock 5-3

HINCKLEY — With several started sidelined on Monday, Rochelle's varsity soccer team leaned on its freshman and sophomore players to step up when the Hubs faced Hinckley-Big Rock.

Freshman Alberto Casillas shined with three goals, while sophomore Eli Luxton added one goal and one assist as Rochelle held off the Royals 5-3 and moved to 5-5 on the season. Senior Josue Orozco chipped in a late goal for the Hubs, who were without their starting goalkeeper and two starters on defense. Rochelle will face Sycamore at home on Wednesday at 4:30 p.m.

"We've played some tough soccer over our last few games and it was nice that we had some kids out there today who were able to earn some more varsity experience," head coach Brad Male said. "Our young guys need that experience and we want to keep working them in."

Junior Christian Harding and sophomore Nathan Sergeant held their own as the team's starting

center backs on Monday, helping Rochelle keep Hinckley-Big Rock scoreless in the first half. The Hubs found the net in the 33rd minute, with junior Jared Montano finding Casillas inside the Royals' penalty area for a goal to put Rochelle ahead 1-0. Junior Jace Whitehead connected with Luxton on a through ball during the 38th minute to extend the Hub advantage.

"Alberto's intensity has helped us a lot and he really looks for the ball," Male said. "He wants to score the ball and I like to see that from him. We just have to keep moving the ball effectively and working him into the offense so he can have more one-on-one opportunities."

The Royals avoided the shutout in the 51st minute, taking advantage of some miscommunication by the Rochelle defense to cut the Hub lead to 2-1. Rochelle responded immediately, though, with Luxton assisting Casillas' second goal of the evening in the 53rd minute.

See HUBS page 3



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Junior Christian Harding battles for possession during the Rochelle Hub varsity soccer match against Hinckley-Big Rock on Monday.

Rochelle Junior Tackle

Junior Hubs sweep home series with Dixon

Fifth, sixth and seventh-grade teams remain undefeated on season

ROCHELLE — The Rochelle Junior Tackle teams won all four match-ups against Dixon on Saturday. The fifth, sixth and seventh-graders remained unbeaten on the season, while the eighth-graders recorded their third win. Rochelle will face Byron on the road next Saturday.

8th Grade (3-1)

Trailing 6-0 in the first quarter, Rochelle bounced back when Brode Metzger broke loose off the left side for a 16-yard touchdown run. After recovering a fumble on defense, Rochelle took the lead after Metzger's 32-yard rush and Gavin Neale's 21-yard touchdown rush in the second quarter. Neale added a 32-yard touchdown run in the third quarter to extend the lead.

The Junior Hubs led 22-6 late in the third quarter, when Metzger stepped up with a sack on defense and Neale scored his third touchdown of the afternoon on a 23-yard run. With Rochelle leading 28-6 in the fourth quarter, Van Gerber connected with Reece Harris on a 33-yard pass that set up a 9-yard rushing



(PHOTO BY ROBIN RETHWILL)

Gavin Neale carries a Dixon defender into the end zone during the Rochelle Junior Tackle eighth-grade football team's game on Saturday.

touchdown from Keagan Albers. Rochelle won by a final score of 35-6, with Metzger rushing for 84 yards while Neale finished with 83 rushing yards.

7th Grade (4-0)

Angel Hernandez ignited the Rochelle offense

in the first quarter, rushing for a 48-yard touchdown to give the Junior Hubs the early lead. Dylan Manning intercepted a Dixon pass later in the quarter, returning the ball 67 yards for a defensive touchdown to extend the lead. Manning added to Rochelle's

advantage with a 22-yard touchdown run in the second quarter.

The Junior Hubs sealed the win with a 34-yard rushing touchdown from Hernandez during the third quarter.

See RJT page 3



(PHOTO BY ROBIN RETHWILL)

Angel Hernandez scored two touchdowns for the Rochelle Junior Tackle seventh-grade football team.



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HUB SPOTLIGHT



(PHOTO BY MARCY DELILLE)

Freshman Logan Johnson recorded 65 rushing yards and one touchdown during the Rochelle Hub football game against Hononegah on Monday.

Freshman Hubs fall against Hononegah

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE — The Rochelle Hub freshman football team hosted Hononegah on Monday, fighting hard but falling by a score of 28-14. Logan Johnson

led the Hub offense in the game, rushing for 65 yards and one touchdown.

Grant Gensler added 68 yards rushing in the game, while Lauro Cabral recorded seven tackles. Ryan Senne, Corbin Harris and Jordan Bly each finished with one sack in the loss.



(PHOTO BY MARCY DELILLE)

Freshman Grant Gensler rushed for a team-high 68 yards during the Rochelle Hub football game against Hononegah on Monday.

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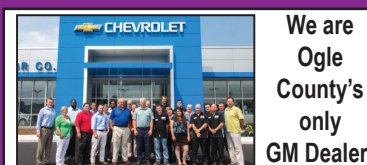
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GO HUBS!

SPORTS



Juniors Jace Whitehead (left) and Jared Montano (right) fight for the ball during the Rochelle Hub varsity soccer match against Hinckley-Big Rock on Monday. The Hubs outlasted the Royals 5-3 to move to 5-5 on the season.

(PHOTOS BY RUSSELL HODGES)

HUBS: Freshman forward Casillas scores three in win

From page 1

After Hinckley-Big Rock inched closer with a goal in the 59th minute, the Hubs answered once again, with Casillas cashing in on an Orozco assist during the 61st minute. “I’m pleased with the

way our young guys are playing right now,” Male said. “It’s just a matter of working them into the rotation during some of these games and getting them some experience. I thought they earned that experience today and I’m happy with their

progress.” The Royals had one final opportunity to potentially even the match late in the second half, scoring on a chaotic sequence inside the Rochelle penalty area during the 75th minute to make it a 4-3 match. But an error from

the Hinckley-Big Rock goalkeeper allowed Orozco, who deflected a punt with his body, to roll an easy goal into the back of the net in the 79th minute.

DeKalb

The Rochelle Hub varsity soccer team hosted

DeKalb for nonconference play on Saturday, falling 8-2 to drop to 4-5 on the season. Senior Josue Orozco and freshman Fernando Diaz each scored one goal, while freshman Alberto Casillas and junior Jared Montano each notched assists.

Kaneland

The Rochelle Hub varsity soccer team faced Kaneland on the road this past Wednesday, losing 10-2 and dropping to 4-4 with the loss. Senior Josue Orozco and sophomore Diego Salazar each scored one goal.

RJT: Junior Hubs face Byron on the road this weekend

From page 1

Despite Dixon scoring a fourth-quarter touchdown, Rochelle won by a final score of 28-6. Manning rushed for a team-high 92 yards in the win, while Hernandez finished with 82 rushing yards. Adam Cobos and Keegan Cathina led the defense with four tackles each.

6th Grade (4-0)

Luke Chadwick rushed for a 13-yard gain early in the first quarter to light the spark for the Rochelle offense. Zachary Johnson forced a turnover later in the first quarter, intercepting a Dixon pass and returning the ball 11 yards. After Cohen Haedt rushed for 12 yards, Chadwick found the end zone from 1 yard out for the first and only Junior Hub touchdown of the game.

Andrew Eyster forced a second Dixon turnover in the second quarter, recovering a fumble to give the ball back to the Junior Hubs. Haedt rushed for a 33-yard gain off the right side before finding Chadwick for a 26-yard pass play during the third



(PHOTO BY ROBIN RETHWILL)

Mikey Chadwick runs the ball for the Rochelle Junior Tackle fifth-grade football team against Dixon on Saturday.

quarter. Rochelle held off Dixon by a final score of 8-6, with Chadwick totaling a team-high six tackles for the Junior Hub defense.

5th Grade (4-0)

Braxton Bruns scored Rochelle’s first touchdown of the afternoon, sprinting down the field for a 47-yard

score with the Junior Hubs trailing 6-0. Bruns added a second touchdown run in the second quarter, finding the end zone from 20 yards away to extend the Rochelle lead. With the Junior Hubs ahead 16-6, Bruns rushed for 41 yards down the left sideline to set up a 1-yard touchdown pass from Riley

Smith to Vinny Tornabene late in the second quarter.

Mason Lopez recovered a fumble for the Junior Hubs during the third quarter, setting up a 31-yard rush from Bruns and a 15-yard touchdown rush from Mikey Chadwick. Leading 32-20 in the fourth quarter, Bruns ran for 27 yards and



(PHOTO BY ROBIN RETHWILL)

Cohen Haedt takes a carry for the Rochelle Junior Tackle sixth-grade football team.

Chadwick carried the ball for 19 yards before Nolan Zick cashed in the drive with a 6-yard rushing touchdown. Rochelle won

by a final score of 40-28, with Bruns recording a team-high 153 rushing yards as well as 10.5 tackles on defense.

RTHS Volleyball

Lady Hubs defeat Plano for first conference win

Rochelle spikers concede losses against Genoa-Kingston, Sandwich

PLANO — The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity volleyball team scored its first Interstate 8 Conference victory of the season Tuesday evening, defeating Plano 25-19, 25-9 to move to 8-5 on the season.

Junior Isela Vasquez finished with 14 assists for the Lady Hub offense, while senior Sylvia Hasz totaled seven kills and three aces. Juniors Macy Ramos and Addie Friestad combined for seven kills,

with freshmen Dempsey Atkinson and Taelynn Rodeghero each notching two aces in the win.

G-K

The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity volleyball team fell

6-25, 9-25 against an undefeated Genoa-Kingston team on Thursday, falling to 8-6 on the season with the loss.

Senior Sylvia Hasz recorded two kills and freshman Taelynn Rode-

ghero added two blocks in the match.

Sandwich

The Rochelle Lady Hubs varsity volleyball team continued Interstate 8 Conference play against

Sandwich on Monday, falling 11-25, 21-25 to drop to 8-7 on the season. Senior Sylvia Hasz recorded eight kills and one block in the loss, while junior Isela Vasquez added 15 assists and two blocks.

SPORTS

RTHS Girls Tennis



Junior Abby Tarvestad (left) and senior Jordin Dickey (right) battle in doubles play during the Rochelle Lady Hub varsity tennis team's match with LaSalle-Peru on Tuesday.

(PHOTOS BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Lady Hubs drop match with L-P

Rochelle takes road losses at Dixon, Ottawa

ROCHELLE — The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity tennis team continued Interstate 8 Conference action against LaSalle-Peru on Tuesday, falling by a score of 5-0 and moving to 3-4 on the season.

Senior Emma Hicks suffered an 0-6, 0-6 defeat against Carlie Miller at No. 1 singles, while senior Madison Ost was taken down 0-6, 0-6 against Catherine Engels at No. 2 singles. Seniors Jordin Dickey and MeLisa Young battled with Emmie Hachenberger and Ava Lannen at No. 1 doubles, coming close in both sets before ultimately falling short in a 4-6, 5-7 defeat.

Seniors Josie Lundquist and Megan Thompson also played a competitive match against Izzy Pohar

and Jenesis Greening at No. 2 doubles, scoring nine games but ultimately falling short in a 5-7, 4-6 loss. Senior Ashley Knight and junior Abby Tarvestad earned six game victories, hanging tough but falling 3-6, 3-6 against Avery Brorelli and Emma Hocking at No. 3 doubles.

Dixon

The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity tennis team faced Dixon on the road Monday afternoon, falling 5-0 and dropping to 3-3 on the season. Senior Emma Hicks suffered a 0-6, 1-6 defeat against Chloe Coil at No. 1 singles, while senior Madison Ost fought hard in the first set against Rylee Pfoutz at No. 2 singles, conceding a tiebreaker before ultimately dropping the match 6-7, 1-6.

Seniors Jordin Dickey and MeLisa Young won six games in their 4-6, 2-6 loss against Leah Kuehl and Grace Ferguson at No. 1 doubles. Seniors Josie Lundquist and Megan Thompson went three sets against Addison Arjes and Kyarra McGlown at No. 2 doubles, winning the second set but losing the third set in a 3-6, 7-5, 4-10 loss. Senior Ashley Knight and junior Abby Tarvestad won eight games in their 5-7, 3-6 loss to Leah Stees and Sienna Kemmeran at No. 3 doubles.

Ottawa

The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity tennis team battled Ottawa on the road this past Thursday, falling 5-0 in an Interstate 8 Conference matchup to drop to 3-2 on

the season. Senior Emma Hicks went down 0-6, 0-6 against Ella Marvel at No. 1 singles, while senior Margaux DaCosta filled in at No. 2 singles for the Lady Hubs, falling 0-6, 0-6 against Ottawa's Sara Meyer.

Seniors Jordin Dickey and MeLisa Young took seven games in their 4-6, 3-6 loss against Kyleigh Olszewski and Jenna Smithmeyer at No. 1 doubles. Seniors Josie Lundquist and Megan Thompson claimed five games in their 1-6, 4-6 loss against Rylee O'Fallon and Emma Cushing at No. 2 doubles, while senior Ashley Knight and junior Abby Tarvestad also recorded five games in their 4-6, 1-6 defeat against Madison Lineback and Emma Stumpf at No. 3 doubles.

RTHS Golf

Hubs handed I-8 loss against Plano

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE — The Rochelle Hub varsity golf team faced Plano in conference play this past Friday, losing the road matchup 184-212 to fall to 0-11 on the season. Junior Griffin Ohlinger fired 49 for the Hubs, while junior Damen Harrington added 51 in the loss.

Rockford

The Rochelle Hub varsity golf team competed in the Brad Fowler Invitational hosted by Rockford East this past Saturday, finishing 16th out of 19 schools with 397. Junior Griffin Ohlinger led Rochelle with 85 to place 23rd overall in the 18-hole tournament.

Mendota-

Amboy

The Rochelle Hub varsity golf team battled against

Mendota and Amboy this past Thursday, shooting 206 to take third place while Amboy fired 180 and Mendota won with 176. Junior Griffin Ohlinger recorded 41 to earn medalist honors in the meet.

Rock Falls

The Rochelle Hub varsity golf team took 13th out of 15 schools in the Rock Falls Rocket Invitational on Saturday, Sept. 4. Junior Griffin Ohlinger led Rochelle with 88, while junior Damen Harrington carded 90.

Oregon-

North Boone

The Rochelle Hub varsity golf team faced Oregon and North Boone on the road Wednesday, Sept. 1. Rochelle took third with 205 while Oregon shot 195 and North Boone won with 186. Junior Griffin Ohlinger scored 43 for the Hubs.



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Junior Wade Smith hits an iron shot for the Rochelle Hub varsity golf team.

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No. 0911 (Sept. 15, 22,
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SPORTS

RTHS Volleyball

Lady Hub rally falls short against Sycamore

Rochelle spikers overcome slow first set in 18-25, 23-25 loss

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE — The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity volleyball team overcame a slow start to nearly extend its conference match against Sycamore on Tuesday to a third-set tiebreaker.

Despite dropping the first set and falling behind midway through the second set, Rochelle rallied for an 8-2 run that put the Lady Hubs ahead of the Spartans and forced Sycamore to call a timeout. The Spartans immediately turned the match against the Lady Hubs, however, breaking off a 6-2 run of their own and ultimately handing Rochelle an 18-25, 23-25 loss. Senior Sylvia Hasz scored a team-high six kills for the Lady Hubs, who fell to 8-8 on the season.

“We put ourselves in a situation where we had to fight back,” head coach Molly Sly said. “We had a lot of unforced errors with our serves tonight and when we can’t get our serves in play, we’re not able to fight back and score points. I thought we had the momentum during the second set and I don’t see any reason why we couldn’t have won this match tonight.”

Sycamore emerged with a 13-8 lead early in the first set, taking advantage of untimely



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity volleyball team celebrates a point during its home match against Sycamore on Tuesday. The Lady Hubs nearly came back in the second set of a two-set loss.

serve-receive errors from the Lady Hubs to score easy points. The Spartans soon stretched their lead to as many as nine points, with Rochelle unable to find its offensive rhythm. Trailing 18-9, the Lady Hubs fought back to within

five points behind three kills from junior Addie Friestad and strong serves from freshman Dempsey Atkinson, who tied for a team-high six digs with Hasz.

“We need to keep picking each other up,” Sly

said. “There was one play during the match where we touch the ball with one arm, another girl flew to the ball, we barely get the ball over the net and we score the point. We need to see more of that scrappiness from the girls.”

Serve-receive errors continued hurting the Lady Hubs in the second set, with Sycamore taking a 13-9 lead before Rochelle bounced back, surging ahead 17-15 with junior Payton Hale on the serve and Hasz scoring multiple

kills from the outside. The Spartans ended the match with an 8-4 run after their only timeout of the evening to secure the victory. Junior Isela Vasquez totaled 11 assists for the Lady Hubs, while junior Cassandra Garcia compiled five digs.

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