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First stop on the 138th Annual Western Manitoba Milk Run Oak River Ag Society two-day fair endures a scorcher



PHOTOS BY ANNE DAVISON

At least eight lawn tractors entered the competition to pull the sled branded September Commodities G5 Farm Ltd. Most were better behaved than this fancy tractor. There were four power classes from 5 HP to 20 HP.



For the Youth Special class, this beautiful black calf is an entry of Ramsey Land & Cattle. Her name is Dip (her dam is Chip) and she's being groomed for Hallie Ramsey to show in the Youth Special 12 - 17-year-old class. Brother Heston was also scheduled to show his calf in the 11 & U class.

By Anne Davison
RIVERS BANNER

Despite searing temperatures over 30 degrees, Oak River Agricultural Society's two-day fair drew competitors to all events.

Horse showing began Sunday, July 12 with a Fun Show followed by a late afternoon Manitoba Gymkhana Rodeo Association competition that was well attended.

Monday, July 13 was, if anything, even hotter for the light horse, miniature horse, and cattle classes. Huge industrial fans were cooling the livestock, although the commercial cattle were panting in the sun.



Confidence is written all over this young man competing in the Western Pleasure for riders 12 & U.



11M and her calf 'Patches' are comfortable in their stall at Oak River Fair as they await their moment in the sun. The Speckle Park breed originated in Saskatchewan and was officially recognized as a distinct breed in 2006.

The Oak River Fire Department sprayed down the sand ring ahead of equine classes. Competitors wore show attire despite the heat. Sandy Donald of Brandon judged the light and miniature horses.

The Lawn Tractor Pull, now in its ninth year, was a hit. A pet show included a strange assortment of critters including a salamander and a large stuffie, and a search for coins in the grain pile entertained kids.

Within the comfortable sports complex the classes with plants, fruits and veggies were on show drawing local entries and contestants from the area including Brandon, Rivers and Kenton. Arts and crafts tables showed off baking, preserves, art and more - the work of children, teens and adults.

Inside...



BIKE DONATIONS
P5



ANNIKA SCHMIDT RECEIVES EXCELLENCE AWARD P11

Second Annual Westman PC Golf Tournament is a Hole in One



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY WAYNE BALCAEN

Colleen Robbins is all smiles with some of the participants of the golf tournament . From left to right: Jeremy Foidart, Myran Hamm, Jordan Barbeau, Quin Hercina, Paul McBeth, Wayne Balcaen MLA Brandon West, Colleen Robbins MLA Spruce Woods, Guy Roberts, Riley Balcaen.

By Beth McConnell
RIVERS BANNER

The Manitoba PC Party hosted its second annual Westman PC Golf Tournament at Oak Island Resort on Wednesday, July 8, bringing together party members, supporters, sponsors and elected officials for a full day of golf, conversation and fundraising. Registration for golf and dinner was \$250, with proceeds supporting the party. Dinner only tickets were available, and youth golfers 18 and under received a reduced rate.

The tournament returned to Oak Island Resort after what organizers described as a very successful first year. Brandon West MLA Wayne Balcaen, co-chair of the event, said the location was chosen again because it is a “premier golf course, and the people are great to work with.” The resort, known for its 18 hole championship course, regularly hosts tournaments and community events. General Manager Des Koop said, “We enjoy being chosen to host all events.”

The idea for a Westman PC golf tournament came from Balcaen and MLA Doyle Piwniuk, inspired by the Tory Cup in eastern Manitoba. They wanted to create a similar event for southwestern Manitoba, giving supporters in the region a chance to participate without travelling across the province. The first tournament came together in just four to five weeks, and its success encouraged organizers to bring it back.

This year’s event drew more than 25 sponsors and 116 golfers. Registration began at 10:30 a.m., followed by a noon shotgun start. After the round, participants gathered for a roast beef buffet, awards and remarks from Manitoba PC Party Leader Obby Khan and other MLAs.

Balcaen said the combination of golf, supper and informal conversation makes the tournament an effective way to connect with people from across the region. Unlike formal meetings, he said the relaxed setting allows supporters to spend meaningful time with elected officials while strengthening the party’s presence in Westman.

All six Westman MLAs attended: Wayne Balcaen, Jodie Byram, Rick Wowchuk, Doyle Piwniuk, Colleen Robbins and Greg Nesbitt. Organizers said the tournament served not only as a fundraiser, but also as a social gathering and networking opportunity for people involved in local politics, business and community life.

Balcaen said the event gives supporters a chance to connect directly with MLAs. “It is all about the camaraderie and positive interactions,” he said. MLA Colleen Robbins echoed the sentiment, calling it “wonderful, couldn’t have been better.” MLA Greg Nesbitt was at the fifth hole trying to give away a free quad to anyone that got a hole-in-one, but unfortunately, no one was successful. He said, “They had a lot of fun trying though.” He also added his thanks for his colleagues, Wayne, Colleen, Doyle, and Jodie for putting in the work. He said, “I can’t thank them enough.” Khan added, “The 2nd annual PC Westman Golf Tournament was a huge success. In just its second year it showed an increase of 30 golfers, with more sponsorships and money raised for the party. Grass roots members and supporters like you are what make this party and events like this so special. I want to thank everyone who came out and supported a great day of golf and the PC party. Thank you to the amazing staff at Oak Island Resort & Golf for hosting us. Events like this would not be possible with the amazing work of the committee and volunteers. Thank you. I can’t wait to see everyone again next year. Thank you, Westman region.”

As the final scores were tallied and the last carts returned to the clubhouse, one thing was clear: the tournament continues to grow in excitement and impact.

ROAST BEEF HORSE RADISH ROLL-UPS

Ingredients

- 2 (8 oz) packages fat-free cream cheese, softened
- 3 1/2 tbsps prepared horseradish
- 3 tbsps Dijon mustard
- 12 (12 inch) flour tortillas
- 30 spinach leaves, washed with stems removed
- 1 1/2 pounds thinly sliced cooked deli roast beef
- 8 oz shredded Cheddar cheese

Directions

1. Gather all ingredients.
2. Beat cream cheese, horseradish, and Dijon mustard together in a bowl until combined.
3. Spread a thin layer of cream cheese mixture over each tortilla; evenly arrange spinach leaves on top.
4. Top with 2 slices roast beef, then divide and sprinkle Cheddar cheese on top.
5. Gently roll up tortillas, starting at one end, into tight tubes. Wrap rolls with aluminum foil or plastic wrap to keep them tight. Refrigerate at least 4 hours.
6. Unwrap rolls as needed; slice into 2 or 3 pieces (or diagonally into 1-inch sections for appetizer portions).
7. Enjoy!



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Heritage Co-op celebrates returning \$3.77 million to members



SUBMITTED PHOTO

This annual return is more than just a cheque; it’s a celebration of what can be achieved when communities come together to support a business they own.

By Leanne DeVliegere
HERITAGE CO-OP CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Minnedosa, MB – July 16, 2026 — It’s one of the

most anticipated moments of the year for Heritage Co-op members: patronage cheques have begun arriving in mailboxes across the region, returning \$3.77 million in cash and equity to the people who

help make the co-operative strong: its members. This annual return is more than just a cheque; it’s a celebration of what can be achieved when communities come together to support a business they own.

“Sharing our success with members is at the heart of what it means to be a co-operative,” said Leanne DeVliegere, CEO of Heritage Co-op. “Every purchase, every visit, and every interaction helps build something bigger, and patronage is how we say thank you.”

The return follows another strong year for Heritage Co-op, with \$280 million in sales and \$8.1 million reinvested into local facilities, equipment, and digital systems. These investments help ensure the co-op continues to grow while staying rooted in the communities it serves.

“Patronage does not happen by chance,” DeVliegere added. “It comes from people doing the right things every day and creating a place that members choose because they know they’ll find real value. It’s something we can all take pride in.”

For members, the benefit is both immediate and long-term. The cash portion provides a welcome boost this summer, while the equity portion remains invested in the co-operative, growing relative to the member’s annual spend. Eligible members can apply for equity to be paid out in a lump sum at age 65, providing meaningful value later in life.

For Heritage Co-op, it’s also a moment to reflect on what makes the co-operative unique.

“We’re a different kind of business,” said Brad Ross, Board President. “We’re owned by the people we serve, and the profits stay local, reinvested in our communities and returned to our members. That’s what makes patronage so meaningful.”

As cheques begin to arrive over the coming days, Heritage Co-op extends its sincere thanks to its members, team members, and communities for their continued support — because this success truly belongs to all of you.

Wordsearch from last weeks cover

Z I M P N M V A Q I Q F Z S W
T R A I N J C K O E C H Y C S
R F A C J W C O B N I M A F M
Q T V C A S K Q I G P U Y L K
F S M X S R W I E I N S B O E
N E T Y C U C B Y N S Z L A J
G S S A V M Y H P E E B N T Y
A F B T M B P N E E A X K S Y
M I O S I P B I K R D G L E Q
E S U T W V E X Z S Y X I Q Y
Z H N A P D A D L R T G T Z E
S V C T B M T L E U G M T A Z
H C E I P X K R O E L J L H S
R D X O I G Y O K Y F N E L P
V Z B N L Z W T V G Z W B P W

1. Little
2. Obie
3. Festival
4. Stampede
5. Engineers
6. Train
7. Station
8. Game
9. Fish
10. Floats
11. Archery
12. Bounce

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JESUS IS LORD

Tundra

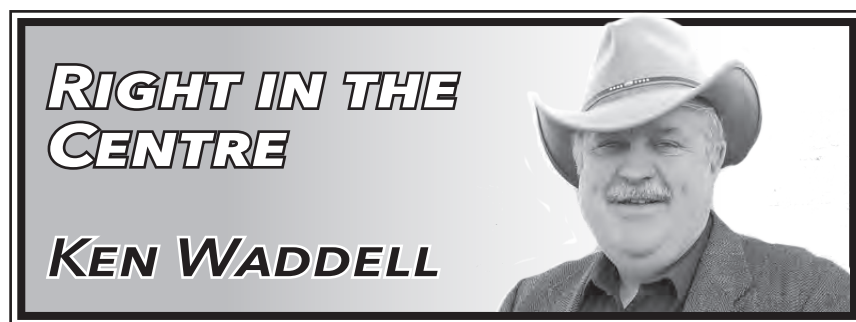
By Chad Carpenter



Sitting in a memory chair

Sunday evening, my wife Christine was in the living room watching TV. I realized it would be unfair to ask her to not watch a TV show while I have a quiet spot to write so I moved my laptop to the back room of our house. I had to clear a bit of path as, yes, we do have a lot of stuff in our home.

At the farthest back point of the room sits an antique oak desk with a fold down front. It has been with our family for more years than I have been alive. It belonged to my Grandfather McFadyen, my mum's father. My Grandfather McFadyen died in 1932 and that was 16 years before I was born. I am not sure how long before that he owned the drop leaf desk. It used to have many story books on the bottom shelf. Ones I remember included the early 1940s Dave Dawson and Freddy Farmer World War II adventure books. I am also sitting in grandfather's chair where I am told he sat and listened to Gaelic music records as he longed to return to the Isle of Tiree. His daughter, my Aunt Jean went to Tiree long after grandpa's death and thought Tiree was a bit sparse and said she couldn't understand why he would want to go back. My grandparents were also from Edinburgh and they came to Ontario, and later to Wapella, Saskatchewan. They farmed there for a short while and that is where my mother was born in 1911. A few years later, they moved to Winnipeg and grandpa worked as the caretaker at the Somerset block on Portage Avenue. That building is still in use and is immediately east of the Canada Life Centre, home of the Winnipeg Jets. I have in my possession, a reference document for Grandpa McFadyen, signed by many of the Somerset block tenants from the early 1900s to 1920's.



The old desk I am sitting at has some memorabilia in it, but not from grandpa but a bit more recent past. There are some of our grandchildren's pictures and there's a faded cushion cover from the Royal Winnipeg Rifles Regiment where my dad served in World War II. There's a hospital ID tab from my brother's birth in 1938. A Town of Neepawa hat pin from the centennial in 1983. There's a Royal Winnipeg Rifles hat badge or at least I think that's what it is.

All this leads me up to some poignant moments in our family history. My mother died at age 75 in 1986. Some months later, my dad was in a contemplative mood and I said, "You miss mum don't you? He said he did and that they had been together 54 years. And then he said something that struck me as strange. "She has a baby brother buried out on the farm at Wapella." I stored that memory up and after dad died, and I was visiting Aunt Jean, I told her the baby brother story. She had no idea and was taken aback. People in those days didn't always talk about such things. Shortly after the baby's death it seems, they left the farm and came to Winnipeg. On Dad's side, he too lost a brother, an eight year old, and very shortly after that, the family left Christieville, Quebec and moved to Emo, Ontario and then to Winnipeg. It's an interesting

similarity of events that brought both families to Winnipeg after the death of a child.

What does all this mean? Not a lot I guess, except to say that life goes on until it stops. I am sure the families both grieved in their own way. A lot of time has passed since my grandparents from both sides came to Winnipeg, both very much working class men and stay at home wives, as most people were in those days and the intervening years. I have written a lot of this information into a family history booklet. The 1900s, especially prior to 1960 brought some hard times. Breaking land, harsh road conditions, especially in winter. Two world wars and the Korean war served up huge doses of grief and hardship. We all need to honour our parents and grandparents and I admire those who have written up the many community history books, we have a dozen or more on our shelves and refer to them every week. We stand on the shoulders of giants even if some of our ancestors were slight in stature. They were great men and women who, for the most part served their families, their communities and their countries very well. May they rest in peace and be well remembered.

Disclaimer: The views expressed in this column are the writer's personal views and are not to be taken as being the view of the Banner & Press staff.

Homebodies

RITA FRIESEN



Summer days...

It's been a while since the weather has been quite so warm, or is my memory lapsing? These two warm days had me recalling the hot summer days of my youth. Remember when we didn't wear hats and sunscreen and never carried water bottles everywhere/ anywhere we went? Remember when we didn't have an air conditioned cab on the tractor or any farm implement? Remember when there was the farm dugout to cool off in after square baling clover? The same dugout the cattle drank and defecated in? And now you know that I was a farm girl way back in the fifties and sixties!

I truly would not change the education and determination that those early years instilled in me. Looking back I am also grateful that I didn't have a brother. If there had been a male heir I would never have had the privilege of being the 'outside' girl. My older sister excelled in cooking and baking — homemaking. My younger than me sister excelled in being the princess — dad said it was a sad home that didn't have one child that was 'to the manor born! And my youngest sister, eleven years my junior, was all the youngest should be! Working in the farm yard and the fields allowed me opportunities that I still appreciate.

Those summer days...fencing through the slough, mosquitoes big enough to carry one off and I don't remember bug spray. It was collar up, cuffs down and pants tucked into the socks. It was staples bouncing when I tried to hammer them into an oak fence post. It was digging post holes and tamping the earth solid to ensure stability. Some of the posts were treated poplar from trees that had been cut down, cut into lengths that were stripped of their bark and soaked in a bluestone solution in a tank. Usually the fam dog accompanied dad and I on those forays.

Those summer days...I know the square baler was a giant step forward from loose hay and straw. For a few years dad and I custom baled. Sometimes he drove the 8N and I managed the sled, and sometimes we switched off. Two planks joined at the front by a cross bar, capable of carrying eight or twelve bales - eight for alfalfa or clover, and twelve for straw- and the one one the sled used a solid crow bar to impale the soil in front of the pile of bales, and the bales slid off as the unit advanced. And then you did that over, and over and over again! Hauling them home and stacking them was all a part of haying, all hot and heavy work!

Those summer days...they weren't all tough slugging. There was the Carman Fair. And as a member of the Graysville 4-H Sheep Club, achievement day was a highlight. There was competition for judging the quality of a fleece and the beauty of the beast. One learned what the judges wanted and you worked to win. Both in show and judging. There was a massive community 4-H parade, and while gathered in the infield we were treated to hot dogs, pop, and dixie cups. High adventure for the time!

Yep, staying inside and staying cool offers time for reflection!

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Canada

Bikes sent to bless kids



PHOTO BY ANNE DAVISON

Members of Hamiota's Cornerstone youth group unload bicycles and lined them up at the church to be donated.

By Anne Davison
RIVERS BANNER

Thursday, July 2, Hamiota pastor, Orland Usick drew up to Cornerstone Family Worship Centre towing a flat deck load of bicycles.

When the shipment of 40 used and reconditioned bicycles was made available, Usick knew they'd find a welcome. And they did. Usick said, "These are free, good used higher quality bikes like Norco and Kuwahara."

The bikes arrived on a truck at Oak River and Pastor Usick unpacked the 40, re-attached pedals and tightened up parts before hauling them into town.

Upon the arrival in town, members of the youth group that he works with converged on the bicycles, doing the heavy lifting, to unload the bikes. Almost every bike found a home within the day.

"I was really surprised how many ordinary hard-working parents' kids' don't have bikes," said the pastor.

A charity from Victoria, B.C. - Compassion Resources in Warehouse (CRW) - sent the container of bicycles to Manitoba to be used as a blessing in communities where pastors would take on the distribution.

CRW is a registered Canadian charity based in Victoria, B.C. Since 1999, volunteers have collected, processed, packaged and shipped a variety of donated goods and equipment to responsible charities and other groups around the world. The goods are distributed free of charge to provide opportunity and hope.

Bodacious

REF TO
WRITER

GERRY
NOLAN



We have been watching the Calgary Stampede events on television this past week and we are enjoying all the events. There are a lot of amazing cowgirls and cowboys taking part in this year's Stampede. Anything from calf roping to barrel racing, steer wrestling, calf roping, bull riding, bronc riding and, of course, wild pony riding featuring the youth and the chuckwagon races. It got me thinking about a bull from the past, a hard ass bull that just did not like to be ridden, Bodacious.

Bodacious was an American bucking bull. He was known throughout the rodeo world as the most dangerous bull to ride. He was also known as the

greatest bull ever to buck.

In 1994 and 1995 he won the bucking bull of the year award. Bodacious was born in 1988 on the Merrick Ranch in Oklahoma. He was a unique yellow colour which really distinguished him from other bulls. Bodacious was attempted to be ridden 135 times. Few were able to stay on for the 8 seconds required to get a time recorded.

What made him so difficult to ride was that when Bodacious came out of the chute he would buck forward with all his might and then throw his head back thus smashing it back into the rider's face. Of course, when he bucked the rider would be forced to come forward.

Tuff Hedeman who rode him four times experienced Bodacious bucking and throwing his head back to the point one evening he suffered a gruesome injury. He hit his face on the head of the bull and every major bone in his face was broken. Hedeman went through 2 surgeries having titanium plates installed into his face. His face was so swollen that his own son did not recognize him.

On another night Scott Breeding drew Bodacious and Scott wore a hockey face mask. In less than 4 seconds Bodacious bucked and threw his head back and fractured Scott's left eye socket and cheekbone, broke his nose and knocked him unconscious. They literally had to pick the mask out of his face!

Bodacious was one of the toughest bulls ever to be ridden and only few succeeded.

Bubba Dunn was the first to ride him for 8 seconds. Clint Branger, Terry Don West, Greg Schlosser, Legs Stevenson and Tuff Hedeman were the only others to ride successfully. Remember 135 other riders tried to



Bodacious the Bull.

FILE PHOTO

ride him.

Tuff Hedeman who rode him in Long Beach had a

near perfect score of 95.

Bodacious died in 2000 from a foot disease, but the

legacy of this bull will last forever. Bodacious was that good of a bucking bull!



4-H FAT STOCK SHOW & SALE

THANK YOU



The members, leaders and families of the Erickson, Neepawa and Rapid City 4-H Beef Clubs wish to extend sincere appreciation to all of the buyers and bidders for their outstanding support of our 2026 4-H Beef Inter-Club Sale, held in Neepawa on Wednesday, July 1.

4-H MEMBER	BUYER
Quinn Sawchuk	Mazergroup Neepawa
Ryler van Meijl	Integra Tire
Swayzie Bootsman	Minnedosa Insurance
Kendra Hinsburg	Minnedosa Veterinary Clinic
Benson Bootsman (P)	TIC Parts & Service Ltd.
Tristan Rea	Mark Keller
Breelee Bootsman	Penno's Machining & Mfg.Ltd
Jessica Robins	Valleyview Ag Services
Kate Hinsburg	Minnagro
Braxtyn Usunier	Bray Farms
Chet Woychyshyn	Enns Brothers
Brant Woychyshyn	Ken Beatty Farms Ltd.
Colter Kostenchuk	Kulbacki Seeds Ltd.
Caden Kostenchuk	Rob Smith & Son
Thomas Baraniuk	Craig Pearson/Jonco Farms
Rebecca Baraniuk	Rocky Mountain Equipment
Easton Paterson (M)	DAM Cattle Buyers Ltd
Easton Paterson (P)	DAM Cattle Buyers Ltd
Averi Jury	Heather Todoruk
Kooper Jury	Gill & Schmall Agencies
Summer Sawchuk	Stride Credit Union
Aspen Emerson	Joey & Kendra Bootsman

4-H MEMBER	BUYER
Sveinna Bjarnarson	Wheatcity Cowtown
Keegan Dyke	Harris Pharmacy
Ava Raddysh	Ag West
Rachelle Madill	Kulbacki AG Supply
Hailey Klassen	Neepawa Veterinary Clinic
Sadie Sawchuk (P)	MNP LLP
Hannah Tibbett	Spring Hill Colony Farms Ltd.
Morgan Dyke	TIC Parts & Service Ltd.
Zane Finlay (M)	Adam Mowat
Zane Finlay (P)	DAM Cattle Buyers Ltd

Special Thank You to Supporters of the Neepawa 4-H Fat Stock Association Scholarship & Cow Paddy Bingo Buyers:
Mitch Hutton; John's Electric/Kerrie Butler; Buy the Beef Bull Sale; Nugent Family; Erickson Beef Club; Foggy Mountain Farms; Raymond Bazinet; Bootsman Family; Shane Saler Trucking; Jury Farms; Sunrise Credit Union; Lisa Andrews, BDO; John Gillan; Neepawa Vet Clinic; Neepawa Beef Club; Ryan Smith; Northstar Insurance

Cow Paddy Bingo winners Keith & Debbie Jury, longtime supporters of our program, graciously donated their \$2,900 in winnings back to the scholarship fund.



Grand Champion Steer & Best Homegrown Steer
Quinn Sawchuk - Neepawa



Reserve Grand Champion Steer & High Gaining Steer
Ryler van Meijl - Rapid City

Cattle Show Judge: Andrew Kopeechuk; **Show Marshalls:** Tim Baker, Cora Baker & Shayla Woychyshyn; **Show Ringpeople:** Carson Baker, Madisyn Robertson and Rachel Chemerika; **Announcer:** Blaine Huston; **Photographer:** Laura Horner, Prairie Pistol Designs; **Show Clerk:** Dalyse Robertson; **Caterer:** Cut-Rite Meats (Ed & Heather Lavich), Carberry; **Stall Judge:** Bob Durston; **Facility:** Ken Dalglish & Justin Cicholski, Stride Exhibition Grounds

Assisting with the sale of steers:
Auctioneer: Tyler Slawinski; Ringmen: Blaine Huston & Brad Delgaty; Cut-Rite Meats, Carberry; Gladstone Auction Mart; DAM Cattle Buyers, Doug Mowat; Southside Meats

Platinum Sponsors
CAMO Cattle Co.; Cut-Rite Meats (Carberry); Dairy Queen Neepawa; E&K Kostenchuk Ltd.; Greenbush Angus; Hardrock Land & Cattle Co. Ltd.; Heritage Co-op; JMJ Performance Diesel; Joey & Kendra Bootsman & Family; Maple Lake Stock Farms; Neepawa-Gladstone Co-op; Neepawa Banner & Press; Penno's Machining & Manufacturing Ltd.; Prairie Tractor Inc.; Rempel Backhoe & Gravel Ltd.; Richardson Pioneer (Minnedosa); Ritchie Bros.; Royal Canadian Legion Ladies – Neepawa; Stride Credit Union (Neepawa); Westward Ford Neepawa, Wheat City Cowtown

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AgChieve; Horner Cattle Co.; Kinley Thomspson Chartered Accountants Inc.; Mar-Dee Enterprises (Neepawa); KCH Cattle Co.; Rainkie's Sewage; Raymond Bazinet; Redferns (Neepawa/Minnedosa)

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Celtic Power & Machining; Clare Larson Memorial (Erickson 4-H Club); Gladstone Veterinary Clinic; JAS Red Angus (Jason & Leslie McLaren); Hedley Livestock; Kulbacki Ag Supply; Little Valley Livestock; McManus Simmentals (Minnedosa); Midnight Metalworks (Minnedosa); Minnagro; P. Baker Backhoe; Porrock Repair Service; Municipality of North Cypress-Langford; Rob Smith & Son Backhoe & Trucking

Bronze Sponsors
Archie McNair Memorial; Beautiful Plains Ag Society; CCWG (Brandon); D & G Enterprises (Franklin); Lois Thompson-Hudon Memorial – FCC Neepawa; Keystone Simmental Association

The winner of \$2608 in our Progressive 50/50 Draw was Tara Fulton, Gladstone.

Erickson, Neepawa & Rapid City Clubs 4-H Fat Stock Show Results

The interclub show and sale is comprised of forty-two members from Erickson, Neepawa & Rapid City 4-H Beef Clubs.

Stall Competition: 1. Erickson; 2. Neepawa; 3. Rapid City

Adult Grooming: 1. Hailey Klassen (N)

Senior Grooming Split 1: 1. Kate Hinsburg (R); 2. Sveinna Bjarnarson (N); 3. Quinn Sawchuk (N); 4. Morgan Dyke (N); 5. Zane Finlay (N)

Senior Grooming Split 2: 1. Kendra Hinsburg (R); 2. Averı Jury (N); 3. Tristin Rea (R); 4. Keegan Dyke (N); 5. Easton Paterson (E)

Neepaw Grooming Champion (Sponsored by Neepawa Vet Clinic & Beautiful Plains Ag Society): Kendra Hinsburg

Intermediate Grooming (Sponsored by JMJ Performance Diesel Ltd.): 1. Summer Sawchuk (N); 2. Kaleb Brown (R); 3. Sadie Sawchuk (N); 4. Ava Raddysh (N); 5. Kooper Jury (N); 6. Rachelle Madill (N); 7. Thomas Baraniuk (E)

Intermediate Grooming Champion: Summer Sawchuk

Junior Grooming Split 1: 1. Swayzie Bootsman (R); 2. Benson Bootsman (R); 3. Aspen Emerson (N); 4. Hannah Tibbett (N); 5. Raelynn Gemby (E); 6. Zoey Sytnyk (E); 7. Caden Kostenchuk (E); 8. Thomas Baraniuk (E)

Junior Grooming Split 2: 1. Lakelyn Brown (R); 2. Breelee Bootsman (R); 3. Chet Woychyshyn (E); 4. Colter Kostenchuk (E); 5. Ryler van Meijl (E); 6. Jessica Robins (R)

Junior Grooming Champion (Sponsored by Lois Thompson-Hudon Memorial FCC Neepawa): Swayzie Bootsman (R)

Cloverbud Grooming Split 1: 1. Jessa Switzer (R); 2. Brant Woychyshyn (E); 3. Tate Woychyshyn (E); 4. Leo Kostenchuk (E)

Cloverbud Grooming Split 2: 1. Ensley Bootsman (R); 2. Kashton van Meijl (R); 3. Braxtyn Usunier (R)

Cloverbud Grooming Split 3: 1. Elijah Ginter (E); 2. Oaklyn Jury (N); 3. Taci Gilchrist (R)

Cloverbud Grooming Champion (Sponsored by Erickson 4-H Beef Club): Ensley Bootsman (R)

Adult Showmanship: 1. Hailey Klassen (N)

Senior Showmanship Split 1: 1. Quinn Sawchuk (N); 2. Kate Hinsburg (R); 3. Zane Finlay (N); 4. Sveinna Bjarnarson (N); 5. Morgan Dyke (N)

Senior Showmanship Split 2: 1. Kendra Hinsburg (R); 2. Averı Jury (N); 3. Tristin Rea (R); 4. Keegan Dyke (N); 5. Easton Paterson (E)

Senior Showmanship Champion (Sponsored by Rapid City 4-H Beef Club): Kendra Hinsburg

Intermediate Showmanship (Sponsored by Petro-Canada Farm Center, operated by Mar-Dee Enterprises, Neepawa): 1. Summer Sawchuk (N); 2. Kooper Jury (N); 3. Ava Raddysh (N); 4. Rachelle Madill (N); 5. Kaleb Brown (R); 6. Sadie Sawchuk (N); 7. Rebecca Baraniuk (E)

Junior Showmanship Split 1: 1. Aspen Emerson (N); 2. Hannah Tibbett (N); 3. Benson Bootsman (R); 4. Swayzie Bootsman (R); 5. Caden Kostenchuk (E); 6. Zoey Sytnuk (E); 7. Thomas Baraniuk (E); 8. Raelynn Gemby (E)

Junior Showmanship Split 2: 1. Ryler van Meijl (R); 2. Breelee Bootsman (R); 3. Lakelyn Brown (R); 4. Jessica Robins (R); 5. Chet Woychyshyn (E); 6. Colter Kostenchuk (E)

Junior Showmanship Champion (Archie McNair Memorial Trophy – Beautiful Plains Ag Society): Ryler van Meijl (R)

Cloverbud Showmanship Split 1: 1. Brant Woychyshyn (E); 2. Leo Kostenchuk (E); 3. Jessa Switzer (R); 4. Tate Woychyshyn (E)

Cloverbud Showmanship Split 2: 1. Ensley Bootsman (R); 2. Kashton van Meijl (R)

Cloverbud Showmanship Split 3: 1. Oaklyn Jury (N); 2. Elijah Ginter (R); 3. Taci Gilchrist (R)

Cloverbud Showmanship (Penno's Machining & Manufacturing Ltd): Ensley Bootsman (R)

Overall Champion Showperson (Sponsored by Beautiful Plains Ag Society): Kendra Hinsburg (R)

Group of Three Competition

Steers: 1. Rapid City; 2. Neepawa; 3. Erickson

Heifers: 1. Neepawa; 2. Rapid City; 3. Erickson

Team Grooming Competition (Sponsored by Greenbush Angus & Hardrock Land & Cattle Co. Ltd.) Judged by Carson Baker, Cora Baker & Madisyn Robertson: 1. Quinn Sawchuk; Thomas Baraniuk; Tate Woychyshyn; 2. Averı Jury, Raelynn Gemby, Brant Woychyshyn; 3. Kendra Hinsburg,

Hannah Tibbett, Braxtyn Usunier; 4. Sveinna Bjarnarson, Swayzie Bootsman, Colter Kostenchuk; 5. Keegan Dyke, Lakelyn Bootsman, Zoey Sytnyk; 6. Kate Hinsburg, Aspen Emerson, Oaklyn Jury; 7. Hailey Klassen, Kaleb Brown, Caden Kostenchuk; 8. Kooper Jury, Benson Bootsman, Taci Gilchrist; 9. Morgan Dyke, Jessica Robbins, Chet Woychyshyn; 10. Rachelle Madill, Tristin Rea, Elijah Ginter; 11. Summer Sawchuk, Breelee Bootsman, Jessa Switzer; 12. Zen Finlay, Ryler van Meijl, Leo Kostenchuk; 13. Ava Raddysh, Rebecca Baraniuk, Kashton van Meijl; 14. Easton Paterson, Sadie Sawchuk, Ensley Bootsman.

Beginning Beef Project (Sponsored by D & G Enterprises, Franklin, Joey & Kendra Bootsman & Family and Stride Credit Union)

Champion: Jessa Switzer (R);

Reserve Champion: Tate Woychyshyn (E)

3. Brant Woychyshyn (E); 4. Leo Kostenchuk (E)

Angus Yearling Heifers (Sponsored by Brookside Angus – Derrick Pilatic, Brookdale & Stride Credit Union)

Split 1: 1. Ensley Bootsman (R); 2. Aspen Emerson (N); 3. Benson Bootsman (R); 4. Elijah Ginter (R); 5. Morgan Dyke (N)

Split 2: 1. Averı Jury (N); 2. Keegan Dyke (N); 3. Jessa Switzer (R); 4. Hannah Tibbett (N)

Champion: Ensley Bootsman (R); **Reserve Champion:** Averı Jury (N)

Simmental Yearling Heifers (Sponsored by Neepawa Veterinary Clinic Ltd. & Stride Credit Union)

Split 1: 1. Kooper Jury (N); 2. Swayzie Bootsman (R); 3. Kaleb Bootsman (R); 4. Taci Gilchrist (R); 5. Rebecca Baraniuk (E)

Split 2: 1. Kate Hinsburg (R); 2. Sveinna Bjarnarson (N); 3. Tristin Rea (R); 4. Chet Woychyshyn (E); 5. Summer Sawchuk (N); 6. Thomas Baraniuk (E)

Split 3: 1. Kendra Hinsburg (R); 2. Kashton van Meijl (R); 3. Ryler van Meijl (R); 4. Quinn Sawchuk (N); 5. Sadie Sawchuk (N); 6. Rachelle Madill (N)

Champion: Kendra Hinsburg (R);

Reserve Champion: Kate Hinsburg (R)

All Other Breeds Yearling Heifers (Sponsored by Midnight Metalworks, Minnedosa & Stride Credit Union)

Champion: Hailey Klassen (N);

Reserve Champion: Raelynn Gemby (E)

3. Braxtyn Usunier (R); 4. Zoey Sytnyk (E)

4-H Progeny Female Class (Sponsored by McManus Simmentals & Stride Credit Union)

Champion: Kendra Hinsburg (R);

Reserve Champion: Kate Hinsburg (R)

3. Quinn Sawchuk (N); 4. Leo Kostenchuk (E); 5. Summer Sawchuk (N); 6. Sadie Sawchuk (N); 7. Colter Kostenchuk (E); 8. Breelee Bootsman (R)

Best Homegrown Yearling Heifer (Sponsored by Chicken Chef, Neepawa & KCH Cattle Co.): Kendra Hinsburg (R)

Grand Champion Yearling Heifer (Sponsored by Clare Larson Memorial, donated by Erickson 4-H Club; Neepawa Banner & Press; Stride Credit Union Neepawa): Kendra Hinsburg (R)

Reserve Grand Champion Yearling Heifer

(Gladstone Veterinary Clinic & Stride Credit Union – Neepawa): Ensley Bootsman (R)

Two-Year Old Females with own calf at foot (Hedley Livestock & Stride Credit Union – Neepawa; Minnagro)

Split 1: 1. Elijah Ginter (R); 2. Keegan Dyke (N); 3. Sveinna Bjarnarson (N); 4. Sadie Sawchuk (N)

Split 2: 1. Kate Hinsburg (R); 2. Summer Sawchuk (N); 3. Chet Woychyshyn (E); 4. Rachelle Madill (N)

Champion: Kate Hinsburg (R);

Reserve Champion: Elijah Ginter (R)

Supreme Champion Female Class: Champion (JAS Red Angus – Neepawa & Stride Credit Union – Neepawa): Kate Hinsburg (R)

Reserve Champion (Horner Cattle Company & Stride Credit Union – Neepawa): Elijah Ginter (R)

Keystone Simmental Association Award

(presented to the highest gaining Simmental influence steer): Ryler van Meijl at 3.36 lbs per day

Market Steer Classes (Stride Credit Union)

Split 1 (974 lbs to 1268 lbs): 1. Chet Woychyshyn (E); 2. Braxyn Usunier (R); 3. Morgan Dyke (N); 4. Caden Kostenchuk (E); 5. Hannah Tibbett (N); 6. Zane Finlay (N); 7. Easton Paterson (E)

Split 2 (1273 lbs to 1376 lbs): 1. Keegan Dyke (N);

2. Brant Woychyshyn (E); 3. Jessica Robins (R); 4. Kate Hinsburg (R); 5. Aspen Emerson (N); 6. Thomas Baraniuk (E); 7. Colter Kostenchuk (E)

Split 3 (1377 lbs to 1470 lbs): 1. Ryler van Meijl (R); 2. Swayzie Bootsman (R); 3. Tristin Rea (R); 4. Rebecca Baraniuk (E); 5. Kooper Jury (N); 6. Hailey Klassen (N); 7. Ava Raddysh (N)

Split 4 (1487 lbs to 1631 lbs): 1. Quinn Sawchuk (N); 2. Averı Jury (N); 3. Kendra Hinsburg (R); 4. Summer Sawchuk (N); 5. Sveinna Bjarnarson (N); 6. Breelee Bootsman (R); 7. Rachelle Madill (N)

Progeny Steer (steers born to a former 4-H heifer project 1040 lbs to 1440 lbs): 1. Sadie Sawchuk (N); 2. Benson Bootsman (R); 3. Easton Paterson (E); 4. Zane Finlay (R)

Best Homegrown Steer Class (Hardrock Land & Cattle Co. Ltd.): Quinn Sawchuk (N)

Grand Champion Market Steer (Neepawa-Gladstone Co-op Ltd., Neepawa Banner & Press, & Stride Credit Union – Neepawa):

Quinn Sawchuk (N)

Reserve Grand Champion Market Steer (Heartland Livestock Services Virden & Stride Credit Union – Neepawa): Ryler van Meijl (R)



Supreme Champion Female & Champion Two-Year Old Female - Kate Hinsburg



Reserve Champion Female & Reserve Champion Two-Year Old - Elijah Ginter



**Team Grooming Champions
Quinn Sawchuk, Neepawa; Thomas Baraniuk & Tate Woychyshyn, Erickson**



Grand Champion Yearling Heifer & Best Homegrown Heifer - Kendra Hinsburg

Music in the park - Kenton Bandstand



PHOTO BY GERRY NOLAN

Rollin and Tumblin perform on the Kenton Bandstand stage. Members John Finnie, Elaine Rawlings, Penny Dixon, Ross Mathison and Vaughn Wilson

By Gerry Nolan
RIVERS BANNER

On Thursday, July 9 the Kenton Band Stand was once again the place to be on a beautiful sunshiny evening. I was a little late in getting to the stage that evening for the beginning of the evening, so I missed out on the earlier entertainment. I was however entertained by the music group Rollin and

Tumblin. Rollin and Tumblin are a local band from Kenton and area who play some good old rock and roll music. They played and sang songs that brought back some great memories! Thank you, guys and dolls, for doing such a great job! Word had it that around 70 people showed up so thank you to all that came out to support the band stand evening. The band stand will be silent this Thursday as the Harding State Fair takes place on Friday. Be

sure to follow the updates on social media as there is more great entertainment coming soon. I had a quick visit with Tricia Turner. Between Tricia and Danny Turner and Henry Wilson who keep doing the leg work etc. thank you for putting in the time and effort from getting it started and running throughout the summer. Mark it on your calendar, Thursday evening in Kenton at the band stand for some music for your enjoyment!

Royal Canadian Legion Celebrates 100 Years

By Catherine Bewski
VP OAK LAKE BRANCH #79 LEGION

This July marks the 100th anniversary of the Royal Canadian Legion in Canada and for our Oak Lake Branch #79. Our task is to ensure that veterans are not forgotten, and to that end we hope to share with you a picture of the veteran of today. When we think veterans, we often envision grey haired old men with canes and medals pinned to their suits. The Great Wars were fought long ago and the soldiers of those wars are hard to find in this millennia. Our country has not been at war for many decades; instead our role is as peacekeepers that protect people of the world during crisis. Our veterans have a different experience today which we would like to share through an interview with Oak Lake resident, Legion member, and veteran, Brent Ferris.

Q: Good morning, Brent. Could you tell us how long you served with the Canadian military?

A: I served 37 years in total; 27 with the Navy and 10 in the Air Force.

Q: Tell us about your military background and where you served.

A: I joined the Navy in 1980 in Toronto. I ended up in Nova Scotia where I trained as a marine engineer. I spent two years in Halifax training on the ship HMCS Algonquin. My first deployment was to the Falkland Islands for observation and support. I've been all around the eastern seaboard of North America, in Europe, and in Africa. During the Gulf war I was on HMCS Huron in the Sea of Aden doing escort for cargo ships, as well as tours in Gaza, Egypt, and the Mediterranean. I spent time on the Ojibwa submarine, and served on HMCS Assiniboine, an old steamer class ship in the Panama Canal and around North America east coast to west coast. I started diving in 1983 as a ship's diver. We handled port security, ship maintenance, and rescues. I became a dive master, training other divers and other foreign navies in Shearwater, NS. I spent time instructing marine engineers. After 9/11 we implemented a security force called Force Protection. We organized extra security for land and marine divisions, developing

protocols for safety.

In 2008 I transferred to the Air Force. I retrained as an Aircraft Structures technician. I was stationed in Cold Lake, AB at Four-Wing Base working on F-18 fighter jets. I retired from there in 2017.

Q: What has military service given to you; how has it enriched your life?

A: It's taught me how to be appreciative of what we have here in Canada. It taught me to believe in myself, my abilities, and my training. It taught me respect for other people as well as my brothers in service. I learned the motto "If you think you can, then you can".

Q: What is one thing about military life that surprised you?

A: The family that you build. I lived with 232 guys on one boat. You have to learn to live together and deal with situations you have never dealt with before. You get through it together and lean on each other.

Q: What do you wish more people understood about veterans and military life?

A: I wish that the Canadian government and the people of Canada could do even a small portion of what other countries do for their veterans. Its sometimes a fight to get help from Veteran Affairs. We need to do a better job with our resources, treatments, and assistance for all veterans.

Q: Is there any way people can show their support for veterans in Canada that would make a difference in your view?

A: Awareness. People can get involved with the Legion, support legion activities, and be involved in their communities.

Q: Your best memory of service and fellow veterans?

A: In places like Haiti and Gaza, Canadian

troops were recognized. As Canadians, we are different. People were happy to see us arrive. In places like Somalia, where they survived in grass huts and lived in danger and turmoil, we came in with blue hats on and took the pressure of problems away from them. They saw us and the smiles appeared. They knew they were going to be okay.

Q: Do you have any thoughts you'd like to share with us?

A: For me, I wish young people would join, or at the very least be informed of what the military can do for them. A purpose, a trade, a secure future. You'll have no regrets in a military life. Give young people the opportunity to be aware of what is out there and pursue a career in the armed forces. What we are doing in recruitment now is not enough.

We thank you for your long service to this country and what you have given us. Hopefully people can take the time to remember what service men and women have done for Canada and the world, not just on Remembrance Day but anytime they meet a veteran or walk by a Legion. Our doors are open to people who want to make a difference.



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OLD SAYINGS

**REF TO
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something that has already happened and cannot be changed.

"Curiosity killed the cat" means being overly inquisitive can lead you into a dangerous or unpleasant situation. Could also mean being nosey!

"Rome wasn't built in a day" is how great and meaningful achievements take time and continuous effort. Like a lot of tasks, they do not always get completed in a day.

"More hands make light work" is a timeless proverb meaning that tasks become much easier and quicker when people work together.

"Absence makes the heart grow fonder", is a well-known proverb meaning that being physically separated from someone you love intensifies your affection and longing for them. Distance often brings deeper appreciation for the relationship.

The opposite of this is, "Familiarity breeds contempt". This suggests that being around someone too often can cause you to grow tired of them or focus on their flaws.

Until next time, keep cool!

I started a little volume just recently on old sayings and what they mean. I have had positive comments so I will continue for a bit longer. At the Virden Empire Advance office the other day, Lauren asked me what does "Dollars to donuts" mean? Well just for you Lauren, Dollars to donuts means that something is almost completely certain to happen. It implies a figurative bet where the speaker is so confident in their predication that they would gladly wager something of high value like (hard cash) against something of little value, (donuts). This phrase originated in the United States in the mid 1800s. At that time a dollar was a significant amount of money, and a donut was very cheap making it a sure bet in the speaker's favour.

"Don't cry over spilled milk" means there is no use getting upset over

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SCHMIDT'S ALL-AROUND EXCELLENCE REWARDED



Rivers' Annika Schmidt won the Manitoba Building Trades High School "A" Female Athlete of the Year.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

sports, she played club soccer and volleyball.

"Balancing sports and academics was tough at times, but I tried to make sure that when I was at school, I used my time efficiently and got as much done as possible," Schmidt said. "There were a lot of late nights where I would be doing homework and then waking up at my normal time for school."

At Rivers Collegiate's graduation ceremony, she shared co-vaedictorian honours with Jillian Hamm. The multi-talented Schmidt received several awards at the ceremony, including for the highest mark in applied math 40, highest achievement in band, and achievement in physical education 40.

The latter award is fitting, as Schmidt will begin studies in physical education this fall.

"This program interests me because I would love to learn more about sports, fitness, nutrition, and everything about the human body," she said. "I was also inspired by my own coaches and teachers, and I hope to become a mentor to others just as they were mentors to me. I also plan to coach for Big Bear Volleyball Club, run by Jeff Maxwell who was my main coach throughout high school and my main mentor."

While Schmidt does not plan to play for a Bobcats school squad in her first year, she said, "I plan to always play sports, just not always competitively." Schmidt will be focusing on school and "my own fitness journey, improving my eating habits, and seeing how far fitness can take me."

By Robin Wark
RIVERS BANNER

From one season to the next, Rivers Collegiate's Annika Schmidt made her mark in four sports, a remarkable run that culminated in one of the Manitoba High Schools Athletic Association's highest individual honours.

The daughter of Jacquie and Rob Schmidt was recently named the Manitoba Building Trades High School "A" Female Athlete of the Year. Online records of the award date back to 1989, and Schmidt is the only Rivers Collegiate athlete to win it during that time.

"It meant a lot to me, and I am very grateful," Schmidt said of the award. "Coming from such a small school and community, it's really awesome to have my hard work and dedication recognized. I had the opportunity to have some of the best coaches throughout all of my sports seasons, which inspired me to take sports even more seriously."

She competed for Rivers in volleyball, basketball, badminton and track and field. Jeff Maxwell coached her for four years in volleyball and, at times during her school career, in basketball and badminton.

"Her greatest strengths are her competitiveness and work ethic," Maxwell said. "I don't believe she missed a practice in four years on the volleyball team."

"Annika thought about and worked on her sports outside of practices and games. This extra time spent was evident when she excelled at everything she did."

Schmidt captained both the volleyball and basketball teams last season. She led the Rivers hoops squad in scoring. On the volleyball court, the libero was a provincial All-Star, a Graduating All-Star, and the Players' Choice Award winner at the "A" volleyball provincials. Schmidt and Jillian Hamm won the zone girls doubles badminton championship and finished seventh at the provincial championship.

"I enjoyed every aspect of playing high school sports," Schmidt said. "Friends were a big part of

it. Not only did I become very close with people at my own school, but I also became best friends with people from other schools too. My coaches meant a lot to me as well. As I mentioned before, they inspired me to show my hard work and determination."

She praised her parents for encouraging and backing her in all of her high school sports.

"They supported me in so many ways, whether that was driving me to practices, coming to watch my games, or just giving me advice. My mom was very supportive with sports, and I can confidently say that throughout all of my high school sports, she maybe missed only three games. My dad was very supportive by giving me advice on how to keep pushing, helping me balance everything, and making sure I knew I should be very proud of myself."

In high school, Schmidt successfully balanced sports, academics, and other commitments, such as working as a dog sitter for weeks at a time. In addition to school

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COMETS, DODGERS SET FOR SWBL NORTH DIVISION FINAL REMATCH

By Robin Wark
RIVERS BANNER

The South West Baseball League division finals might seem like a bit of

déjà vu. Just like in 2025, in the North Division, the Rivers Comets and Oak River Dodgers will meet with a SWBL finals berth on the line. Similarly, in the South, the defending champion Boissevain Centennials will clash with the Brandon Cardinals once again. The Comets and Dodgers split their season series 1-1.

“We’re excited to be moving on to the next round and continuing our season,” Comets player-organizer Scott Beever said. “Oak River is a good team and we’ve had good games with them in the past so we’re expecting a good, hard-fought series.”

The best-of-five series between the Comets and Dodgers began on July 16 at Oak River, after the Banner’s publication deadline. Game 2 is scheduled for Sunday, July 19, at Rivers, followed by Game 3 on Tuesday, July 21, at Oak River. If necessary, Game 4 will be played on Thursday, July 23, at Rivers, and Game 5 will take place on Friday, July 24, at Oak River.

Division Semifinals

No. 2 Comets 2, No. 3 Rockets 1

The Comets closed out their best-of-three first round series with a 10-3 victory at home on July 10. Beever struck out 12 while allowing two earned runs on six hits. Nathan Espenell and Braden Clarke each drove in two runs.

In Game 2 on July 8, the Rockets held on for an 8-7 win to force a third game. Reston led 8-5 going into the seventh and final inning. Rivers pushed two across, but were unable to tie things up. For the Comets, Michael McFadden drove in two runs while Owen Wareham pushed two across. Fred Hrycak threw all six innings for the Comets, allowing eight runs on 14 hits.

Rivers won Game 1 9-6 at home. Beever drove in three runs. Pitcher Hayden Mackedenski earned the win while

striking out seven and allowing three runs on seven hits in six innings. Beever pitched the final inning and allowed three runs, two earned, on three hits.

No. 1 Oak River 2, No. 4 Hamiota 0

The Dodgers swept Hamiota 2-0 to advance to the division finals.

“Our first game we got a slow start, but we got going with some timely hits,” Dodgers player Brayden Heapy said. “In our second game, Kaden (Rozdeba) pitched a shutout and our bats were going. Overall, we are a tight team and can keep each other going, especially during playoffs when it matters most.”

In the clinching Game 2 8-1 win on the road, Rozdeba struck out 15 batters. He held the Red Sox to one run, none earned, and three hits. Heapy paced Oak River with three RBIs, while Duncan Paddock had two. Ty Paddock hit a home run.

Jeff Knight drove in Hamiota’s run. Carter Loewen started on the mound for the Red Sox and struck out six over five innings.

In Game 1, Oak River prevailed 11-6. The Dodgers scored nine runs in the fifth inning to take control of the game. Ty Paddock drove in three runs for Oak River, while Justin Knight did the same for Hamiota. For the Dodgers, Anthony Friesen struck out seven. He allowed three earned runs on six hits in a complete game performance.

Hamiota Red Sox

The loss in the division semifinals brought the Red Sox’s season to an end. While battling injuries, the team posted a 6-0-0 regular season record. It beat the Brandon Young Guns on the last day of the regular season to move into a tie with that squad for the division’s



PHOTO BY DALE DAVISON

Hamiota Red Sox back catcher #10 Hayden Crampain tags Oak River Dodgers #24 Mitch Battersby for an out.

fourth and final playoff spot. Hamiota triumphed in a one-game playoff.

In the regular season, Justin Knight led the Red Sox with 10 runs batted in and a home run. Nolan Drake batted .538. Jordan Edwards had a team-high four steals.

Carter Loewen led the pitching staff with almost 37 innings pitched. His 4.35 earned run average was the best of the Hamiota players who threw at least six innings. Loewen and Tyler Wood each had two wins.

Matt Rhiel led the Red Sox with four RBIs in the playoffs. Justin Knight batted .500 in the postseason and hit a home run. Loewen pitched Hamiota to the playoff win over Brandon.

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Jul 1718

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MILK RUN Harding, Oak Lake

Oak River BBQ Cook-Off 4:30 pm - 1 am at the Rink in Oak River

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Rivers Legion Bingo 11:30am

50 + Card Games 1pm

RIVERDALE Municipality Council Meeting

50 + Club Pool 1pm

50 + Club Cribbage 1pm

Darts Rivers Legion 7pm

Rivers Legion Cribbage 7pm

50+ Floor Games 1pm

Chase the Ace Rivers Legion 7pm

Rivers Food Bank 9:30 - 11:30am

Rivers Legion Cribbage 7pm

50+ Floor Games 1pm

Chase the Ace Rivers Legion 7pm