

THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 2021

SERVING TILTON, NORTHFIELD, BELMONT & SANBORNTON, N.H.

### Hall pitches Raiders into Division III Final Four

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING Sports Editor

BELMONT — The spring sports season took a summer turn on Saturday, as the Belmont softball team played host to White Mountains Regional in the Division III quarterfinals on Saturday, June 5.

With plenty of heat and sun, the two teams took the field and the Raiders were able to come away with a 6-2 win, advancing to the Final Four for the third time in the last three seasons (four years).

"There's a lot of maturity on our team," said Belmont coach Bill Clary, noting his girls do not let a mistake get them down. "I'm fine with physical mistakes, but we want to keep ourselves from making mental mistakes."

Belmont pitcher Morgan Hall got the day off to a solid start, as she struck out the side in the top of the first inning and it didn't take long for the offense to respond, as Lena Rodrigues led off the bottom of the first with a homer for the 1-0 lead. One out later, Becca Fleming reached on an error and after White Mountains hurler Lexus McIntosh got a strikeout, Hall had a base hit to put two runners on. However, a pop fly to third ended the inning.

Hall struck out two more in the top of the second inning, then Kara Stephens made a nice play on a bunt attempt to get out of the inning. With two outs

SEE FINAL FOUR, PAGE A6



JOSHUA SPAULDING Madison Crane of White Mountains dives back into first as Belmont's Madi Lima puts on a tag in action Saturday.

### Franklin Savings Bank purchases \$116,500 in tax credits to support Mill City Park at Franklin Falls

FRANKLIN — Franklin Savings Bank announced that it has purchased \$116,500 in CDFA tax credits to close the funding gap on the development of Mill City Park at Franklin Falls. Located in the heart of downtown Franklin, the Park will be the first of its kind in New England and will be situated on 13 acres, featuring several whitewater features, a bike pump track, climbing walls, walking trails, an amphitheater, camping sites, and more.

Bank stepped forward early on in the fundraising phase with a \$250,000 donation to the project in an effort to attract other donors to support this major initiative, which will transform the Winnipesaukee River into a popular destination for individuals with a passion for paddling whitewater rapids, hiking and biking. There is so much activity occurring with the revitalization of downtown Franklin, and Mill City Park will complement all the wonderful things taking shape in the city."

resents 23.3% of the allocation. CDFA tax credits enable businesses to partner with nonprofits to support worthy projects in their communities. Mill City Park at Franklin Falls is a 501(c)3 organization whose mission is to let the Winnipesaukee River repower the Franklin community. Visit millcitypark.com for additional information on the development of the whitewater rafting park.

### Tilton to host Plan NH charrette

TILTON — The Selectmen are pleased to announce they have been selected for a Plan NH Charrette for the Town of Tilton. The charrette will take place over a four-day period and the Board is actively seeking residents to participate in this process.

The charrette will focus on enhancing the historic character of the downtown, improving the pedestrian experience (safety and walkability) and consider traffic calming techniques.

On June 14 at 3:30 p.m., and again on June 16 at

"We are honored to assist Mill City Park with the final stage of funding needed to move forward with the development of Mill City Park in downtown Franklin," commented Ronald Magoon, President & CEO. "The

Mill City Park received a total of \$500,000 in tax credits awarded by the Community Development Finance Authority (CDFA). The bank's purchase of \$116,500 rep-

"We are grateful for the generosity of Franklin Savings Bank and all the support it has given Mill City Park over the past few years," stated Marty Parichand, Founder & Executive Director, Mill City Park. "In addition, their Board of Directors and executive management team have been very supportive of our project; we truly appreciate their assistance with seeing this project become a reality for Franklin."

About Mill City Park at Franklin Falls About Community Development Finance Authority (CDFA)

The CDFA is a statewide nonprofit public authority focused on maximizing the value and impact of community development, economic development, and clean energy initiatives throughout New Hampshire. Visit nhcdfa. org for further information.

SEE FRANKLIN, PAGE A6

6:30 p.m. (both via Zoom), the team will listen to community members (that's you!) in small group discussions to find out what you like about Tilton, what you would like to see, what is important to you.

On June 19, based on what the charrette team sees and what they learn from conversations, coupled with their own field expertise, the Team will develop recommendations (not mandates) for the Town. The Team will share via Zoom what they saw and heard, and what they recommend to start a revitalization plan.

lan NH wants to hear from you. This will be a conversation about what is important to you about downtown Tilton - what do you love, what are the Town's assets and more. And you are invited to attend the Zoom "reveal" on June 19.

To learn more, please visit the Tilton website at tiltonnh.org or call Town Administrator Jeanie Forrester at 286-4521, ext. 101.

### Locals star at Meet of Champions



COURTESY

Winnisquam athletes competed at the Meet of Champions on Saturday. Left to right, coach Patti Malone, Evan Griffin (senior, alternate runner on the 4x800 squad), Jacob Seavey (senior, 4x800 runner), Aidan Donahue (sophomore, 200m sprinter), Joey Damato (junior, 4x800m runner), Riley Mann (senior, 4x800m runner), Dylan Robert (senior, 4x800m runner), coach Warren Bartlett, and coach Luke Morrison.

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING Sports Editor

KINGSTON — The top local athletes traveled to Sanborn Regional High School on Saturday for the annual track Meet of Champions, and there were a number of solid finishes on the day.

A pair of second place finishes led the way for the locals. Kennett freshman Aida Wheat finished second in the 200 meters with a time of 25.37 seconds, with Plymouth senior Tara Smoker in fourth place in 25.99 seconds and Plymouth's Katherine Luehrs in sixth place in 26.38 seconds.

The other second place came in the javelin, where Plymouth senior Sam Meier finished second at 111 feet, six inches, with Bailey Fairbank of Newfound in seventh place at 102 feet, eight inches.

Smoker added a fourth place in the 100 meters with a time of 12.73 seconds after finishing fifth in the preliminaries in 12.77 seconds. Alissa McCarthy of Inter-Lakes finished in 11th place in the preliminaries in a time of 13.25 seconds.

Luehrs added a fourth place in the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 15.78 seconds after finishing fifth in the preliminaries in a time of 15.92 seconds, with MollyLu McKellar of Newfound placing ninth in a time of 17.25 seconds.

The Plymouth 4X100-meter relay team of Luehrs, Meier, Smok-

SEE **CHAMPIONS**, PAGE A6

#### LOCAL NEWS

### Girl Scouts make Blessing Bags for those in need

FRANKLIN — Girl Scouts take action to make the world a better place. Troop 10639 did that by gathering items needed by those experiencing homelessness and creating Blessing Bags, which were given to those picking up meal kits at Bread and Roses Soup Kitchen in Franklin on May 20.

The troop, encompassing girls in grades 7-12, got assistance from the community by hosting a drive-through supply collection on April 24 at Hall Memorial Library in Northfield. A few days later they met at a local park to assemble four large game bags



This project was the result of the girls' participation in the council's Community Service Club, which provides opportunities for members to take action in their communities.

Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains, the council serving girls throughout New Hampshire and Vermont, invites girls of all ages to find friends and become their best selves through Girl Scouting. See more at www.girlscoutsgwm. org.

for children and 30 adult Girl Scout Cadette in bags.

eighth grade, said, "We Emma Davidson, a have already received ner and a request for a

Bags to donate to the Bread & Roses Soup Kitchen in Franklin.

feedback wonderful from our outreach partfew more to distribute to displaced and homeless students in that area."

### ACE Academies prepare for take-off

Girl Scouts Emma, Kinzie, Jaylin, Lizzy and the rest of Troop 10639 made four large game bags for children and 30 adult Blessing

GILFORD — WinnAero's summer day camp program, the Aerospace Career Education "ACE Academies," conducted in association with the Federal Aviation Administration, are preparing for take-off with the first session scheduled at Laconia Airport running July 5-9. Subsequent sessions will run July 12-16 and July 19-23.

WinnAero Educational Programming Director, Dan Caron of Gilford, is excited about getting his team of certified instructors back following a one-year COVID-driven hiatus.

"We're very conscious of the safety issues for our students," Caron stated.

This the year, non-profit group staff are 100 percent vaccinated, class sizes have been reduced from 10 to eight, instead of classrooms being used for sessions, a large hangar at the Airport will be used with more than adequate spacing between students, open hangar doors weather permitting and masks required in the flight simulator lab, on orientation flights and on field trips.

"As school teachers ourselves, our summer teaching staff felt the measures we've put in place for ACE will protect everyone while allowing our students to

enjoy the unique ACE aviation/aerospace experience," Caron added.

There are a few open seats still remaining for this summer's sessions for those interested. There's room in the July 5-9 session which is divided into three components; one half-day session for elementary-aged students, a full day high school session and a specific Drone -- themed session. Week two, July 12-16 is still accepting students in both the elementary half-day session, the Space Academy and the middle school-aged full day Air Traffic Control session. Week three, July 19-23 has just a cou-



Jillian Mitchell is all smiles as she prepares for her 2019 ACE Academy orientation flight over Lake Winnipesaukee. Ms. Mitchell, of New Hampton, has attended ACE academy for the past five years.

ple of seats left open as well. Families can register their students for the ACE Academies and

pay the tuition on-line at www.WinnAero.org. For more information or to

tact Dan Caron at dan. caron@winnaero.org.

### Local students named to Dean's List at Plymouth State University

PLYMOUTH — A total and must have attempted of 376 students have been at least 12 credit hours Sanbornton named to the Plymouth during the semester. State University Dean's List for the Spring 2021 Sanbornton Nishit Jani of Tilton semester. To be named to the Dean's List, a student must achieve a grade point average between 3.5 and 3.69 during the Spring 2021 semester

Jordan Camerato of Belmont

Hannah Shirley of

Shannon Goodwin of produces well-educated undergraduates and by providing graduate education that deepens and advances knowledge and

enhances professional

development. With dis-

tinction, we connect with

community and business

partners for economic

development, technolog-

ical advances, healthier

living, and cultural en-

richment with a special

commitment of service

to the North Country and

Lakes Region of New

reserve a spot now, con-

#### BELMONT POLICE LOG

BELMONT — The Belmont Police Department reported the following arrests during the week of May 24-31.

Bianca Berryman, age 28, of Concord was arrested on May 25 in connection with multiple bench warrants. Aaron Robert Casey Laflower, age 18, of Belmont was arrested on May 27 for Possession of Drugs, being in Control of a Premises Where Drugs were Kept, and Acts Prohibited. Vincent Anthony Scott, age 37, of Belmont was arrested on May 27 in connection with a warrant. Shawn C. Ingham, age 32, of Pittsfield was arrested on May 27 for Driving After Revocation or Suspension, Suspension of Vehicle Registration, Carrying or Selling Weapons, Possession of Drugs, and being in Control of a Premises Where Drugs Were Kept. John T. Polo, age 44, of Sandwich was arrested on May 27 for Suspension of Vehicle Registration. Edward L. Bryans, age 59, of Marlborough was arrested on May 28 for Reckless Conduct with a Deadly Weapon and Interference With Custody-in-state. Ian Keith Bastraw, age 27, of Laconia was arrested on May 28 for Operating After Certification as a Habitual Offender and Disobeying an Officer. Ryan William Streitenberger, age 40, of Plymouth was arrested on May 29 for Driving After Revocation or Susspension-DUI. Brianna Marie Fielding, age 19, of Brookline was arrested on May 29 for Driving After Revocation or Suspension. Joanne M. Benwell, age 33, of Laconia was arrested on May 29 for Possession of Controlled/Narcotic Drugs.

Taylor Nute of Sanbornton

Sabrina Robinson of Belmont

Joshua Emond of Belmont

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About Plymouth State University

Established in 1871, Plymouth State University serves the state of New Hampshire and the world beyond by transforming our students through advanced practices where engaged learning



Hampshire

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### Canterbury Shaker Village announces summer concert series

Chapman, The Compa-

ny, and continues every

Sunday through Sept.

19. Each concert is from

4 - 5 p.m. All concerts

will be held on the icon-

ic Meeting House Green,

where there is always a

beautiful view and a cool

summer breeze. Suggest-

ed donation of \$10 per

person for each perfor-

mance. Bring a picnic,

bring a chair, and enjoy

#### CANTERBURY

This summer, Canterbury Shaker Village brings back its Sunday outdoor concert series with an exciting new lineup of performances. With the support of New England Foundation for the Arts, the Village is pleased to present new performances by The Spark: River Sister and Lorraine Chapman, The Company on opening day, June 20, Bee Parks and The Hornets on July 18, and Lara Herscovitch on Aug. 22. In addition, many performers from last year's series will re- er Sister and Lorraine turn, including cellists Jan Fuller and Harel Gietheim on August 8th and The Wholly Rollers on Aug. 1 & Sept. 19. From folk to classical. Music on the Meeting House Green offers something for everyone. The Village is hosting 13 summer concerts in a varied lineup, also featuring dance and poetry, culminating in a celebration of the arts for all to enjoy.

The series begins on Father's Day, June 20 with The Spark: Riv-

a series of concerts on the green. All concerts are sub-

ject to cancelation due to inclement weather. Con-

### **Olivia L Robillard of Sanbornton** named to Clarkson University's **Dean's List**

POTSDAM, N.Y. — Olivia L Robillard of Sanbornton, a senior majoring in mechanical engineering, was named to the Dean's List for the spring 2021 semester at Clarkson University.

Dean's List students must achieve a minimum 3.25 grade-point average and also carry at least 14 credit hours.

As a private, national research university, Clarkson is a leader in technological education and sustainable economic development through teaching, scholarship, research and innovation. We ignite personal connections across academic fields and industries to create the entrepreneurial mindset, knowledge and intellectual curiosity needed to innovate world-relevant solutions and cultivate the leaders of tomorrow. With its main campus located in Potsdam, N.Y., and additional graduate program and research facilities in the New York Capital Region, Beacon, N.Y., and New York City, Clarkson educates 4,300 students across 95 rigorous programs of study in engineering, business, the arts, education, sciences and health professions. Our alumni earn salaries that are among the top 2.5 percent in the nation and realize accelerated career growth. One in five already leads as a CEO, senior executive or owner of a company.

### Belknap EDC awarded micro-enterprise grant

LACONIA — Belknap Economic Development Council (Belknap EDC) and three partner regional development corporations will be allocating more than \$240,000 to support small business development in the region. Working with the New Hampshire Small Business Development Center (SBDC), the organization will be able to directly support businesses with accessing technical assistance, business plan development, and other resources.

ment Finance Authori- or in start-up mode, be tv (CDFA) is for low- to moderate-income (LMI) microenterprises (those with fewer than five employees) and start-ups to provide a full range of entrepreneurial training and technical assistance Come In Small Packages... services. "We are pleased to partner with the CDFA, Old Ma SBDC, and our strategic partners to provide this much needed one on one support to our small business community," said Justin Slattery, Belknap EDC's Executive Director. A qualifying business must be classified as a for-profit entity with five or fewer employees, be in current operation

located within Belknap County and meet specific income requirements.

More details can be found at belknapedc.org.

Wonderful Things

updated on www.shakers.org the morning of each performance date. Sunday, July 25 will be reserved as a rain date.

Please visit www. shakers.org for more in-

cert cancelations will be about more upcoming events. Please email info@shakers.org for any questions, or call 783-9511, ext. 205.

Thank you to the New England Foundation for the Arts, CCA Global formation, and to learn Partners, New Hampshire Dance Collaborative, and Kathleen Belko for generously sponsoring the Music on the Meeting House Green concert series.

<del>June 10. 202</del>

### Local students named to President's List at Plymouth State University

PLYMOUTH — A total of 911 students have been named to the Plymouth State University President's List for the Spring 2021 semester. To be named to the President's List, a student must achieve a grade point average of 3.7 or better for the Spring 2021 semester and must have attempted at least 12 credit hours during the semester.

Caitlyn Button of Northfield Callie Dawson of Northfield **Emily Elliott-Lucas of Belmont** Hannah McCain of Tilton Asia Merrill of Belmont Jia Chiu of Belmont Krystal Groz of Northfield Marissa LoGrasso of Belmont Amanda O'Leary of Northfield Lindsay Blier of Tilton Jessica Holt of Sanbornton Casey Lang of Tilton Kyle Patten of Belmont Brett Auclair of Belmont John Beaulieu of Northfield Jackson Cozzens-Forgione of Bel-

mont

Corbin Gentile of Belmont Madison Langan of Tilton Mark Magoon of Tilton Katy Porter of Tilton Lilli Keegan of Northfield Sheena Duncan of Tilton Carley Latorre of Sanbornton About Plymouth State University

Established in 1871, Plymouth State University serves the state of New Hampshire and the world beyond by transforming our students through advanced practices where engaged learning produces well-educated undergraduates and by providing graduate education that deepens and advances knowledge and enhances professional development. With distinction, we connect with community and business partners for economic development, technological advances, healthier living, and cultural enrichment with a special commitment of service to the North Country and Lakes Region of New Hampshire.



The Community Development Block Grant, administered by the New Hampshire Community Develop-

Lakes Region Art Association announces 'Summer Art Camp'

TILTON — The Lakes Region Art Association, a non-profit 501-C-3 organization is hosting three separate Summer Art Camps beginning in June for students in grades six to 12. Professional artist, and President

of the LRAA, Tom Hitchcock, will teach all three courses beginning with the first camp on June 7. Summer Art Camp 2 begins in July, and camp 3 in August. Each camp session is made up of six classes over 3 weeks, two classes per week, Monday and Wednesday, 9 to 11 a.m. at the LRAA Fine Art Gallery, Tanger Outlets, 120 Laconia Rd., Tilton, suite 300. To register, call: 496-6768.

Hitchcock will focus on teaching many art disciplines to include drawing, composition, perspective, design, color and light and how to paint with acrylics. His teaching will also include Art History and instruction to build an appreciation of fine art. Tom's background in art, and his curriculum for teaching, was developed over the years from first graduating from Syracuse University Fine Art School to then his professional experiences in the real world of art and design, photography, illustration, offset printing, marketing and advertising.

"I want to pass on what I can do to help young adults willing and eager to learn how to become and accomplished artist, and perhaps make it their career like I have," he said.

Hitchcock's classes will focus on a student's ability to learn and grow as an artist. Class sizes are limited and it's recommended early registration to insure a 'place at the easel.'



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#### LACONIA ADULT EDUCATION is OPEN for Business this Summer! Located in Laconia High School

English as a Second Language (ESL) classes- Tuesday and Thursday nights 5:30-8:00pm. Classes start Tuesday, July 6th. Join anytime. NO COST!

Adult Basic Education (ABE) and High School Equivalency Test Prep (HiSET) - Tuesday and Thursday nights 5:30-8:00pm. Classes start Tuesday, July 6th. Join anytime. NO COST!

Laconia Academy Diploma Classes- High School credit classes. (English, Science, Social Studies, and Math) Each class meets twice a week for 7 ½ weeks. \$100 for the summer session. Classes start the week of July 6th.

HiSET testing available all summer.

#### **Enrichment Classes**

**Digital Photography II** Welding Yoga Ukulele **Dog Obedience-Agility** Intermediate Woodworking Skills

Enrichment classes are pay per course. All start in July. Course Descriptions, details, registrations, and payment should all be done online. Additional classes not listed may be offered. Check us out online: Adultedlaconia.weebly.com

Questions about any of our offerings? Call 524-5712

# Opinion

#### WINNISQUAM ECHO

### United we stand, divided we fall

In the 6th century B.C., Aesop shared a fable about the Lion and The Four Oxen. The story, if you have not heard it, goes like this:

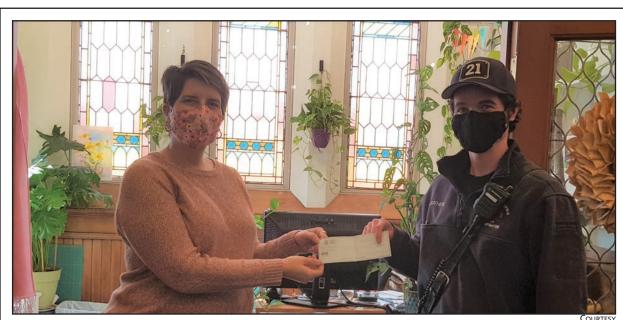
A lion used to prowl around a field where four oxen dwelled. Several times he would try to eat them but whenever he approached the four oxen would back their tales up to each other with their bodies pointed outward in different directions. No matter what direction the lion approached, he was met by the horns of one of them and could do nothing. Finally, the oxen began quarreling amongst themselves and so each went off to a pasture of their own in a separate corner of the field. Then the lion attacked them one by one and soon made an end to all four.

The moral to Aesop's tale has become one of the most well known sayings of our time — United we stand, divided we fall. President Abraham Lincoln parroted the sentiment in his acceptance speech, during this same month in the year 1858: "A house divided against itself cannot stand."

As of late, it seems the division amongst the country and even in our small communities has grown deeper. What this Editor noticed, however, is that most well minded, kind, compassionate, intelligent people all want the same things. To be happy and successful. The arguments ensue, when people have different ideas on how to reach such a state of success in our government, and even in our own lives. When one person thinks we should reach A by doing x and y, and another thinks we should reach A by doing z, tempers flare. We want to remind you, that there is no reason to get heated when talking to a friend or colleague. Getting heated at a stranger is even more inappropriate. It's ok if someone disagrees with you. Remain calm.

What needs to unfold, is the ability to hear each other out with a listening ear. Where one person's experience ends, another's begins. Solutions always appear in that middle area, where compromises are made.

To be steadfast in your beliefs is important, but it's even more important to exercise some flexibility. that is where growth takes place. This is where we can learn from someone who doesn't think the same way we do. It does not make a person weak, when there is a mind shift. It makes them smart. We're seeing a lot of arguing on social media, people publicly going back and forth, and the thread never ends with any real change being made. If you want to have a meaningful, productive conversation with someone online, take it to a private message, where the world isn't watching. In the public eye, we all can be defensive. Now, there are extremists on both sides of any argument, in those cases, there's not much you can do. There are people who want to see things through one lens and one lens only. Fine, let them. You will also see ignorance and evil come flying out of the mouths of those you never thought capable, fine let them. Remember that the majority of the people in this country want to unify. It comes down to common sense. United we stand, divided we fall. That statement could not ring truer.



#### **Tilton-Northfield Professional Firefighters donate to Blaisdell Foundation**

The Raven Gael Blaisdell Foundation at Hall Memorial Library is grateful to the Tilton-Northfield Professional Firefighters Association for their generous donation to provide books and materials to the children in the communities they represent. Firefighter Association president Dan Leathers is shown here presenting a check to Hall Memorial Library Director Jenna Davis.

### **STRATEGIES FOR LIVING Religious liberty** and the American Dream

#### BY LARRY SCOTT

America was founded by men and women in search of religious freedom, the opportunity to practice their faith without government intervention. Indeed, the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech" was not designed to prevent the influence of our faith on government, but to prevent the government from interfering in Church affairs. Given what is happening in Washington at this hour, that is no longer true. The Biden Administration has, as a current case in point, demanded that such religious schools as the College of the Ozarks open residence halls and bathrooms to members of the opposite sex, a requirement that goes against the Christian principles on which the college was founded. As it stands, the Supreme Court will have to settle the issue.

The point is made. Conservative Christians are no longer able to make a living, serve the public, and practice their faith without running into severe opposition from those with a liberal, progressive agenda. Tolerance has become a given in America, no matter how deviant the practice. Except for Christians. They have now become the object of hatred, vilification, and open opposition. Ask Jack Phillips. Although he won a case before the U.S. Supreme Court for refusing to make a wedding cake for a same-sex couple, he is now back in court for refusing to make a cake celebrating gender transition. And the cake is not the issue. The request was a trap, an effort to destroy another

Christian businessman For one, as this writer for defending the principles of his faith.

And then there is Barronelle Stutzman, the Washington florist in trouble for refusing to provide flowers for a gay wedding even though the suit was brought by a long-time friend and customer. A Washington judge ruled against her in February, allowing the plaintiffs to collect damages and attorneys' fees. If this is not reversed, Barronelle Stutz- to the wind, and you are man stands to lose her business, her home, and her savings ... all in the name of justice! And that is just the point. Christians can and do allow for social diversity. But don't ask us to support and in some way encourage actions that run counter to our faith. To us, God's Word is God's Word, and we follow it accordingly. If there is an argument, it is not with us; it is with the Word of God. So what can we do?

is doing, Christians can stand for truth, highlight the problems, and oppose the drive to liberal progressives that have overwhelmed every segment of American society. And, in the coming election cycle, we can replace progressive legislators with conservatives who will help stem the tide away from godly principles of conduct.

I will say it again, America. You are sowing

Be strong enough in character, where you are a leader, whether that be in your own community, at work or in your own family. Unity should always be the end goal. Therefore, if you see someone that disagrees with you, and you want to unify, have a conversation that will do just that.

Sometimes, try simply saying, "Hey the country is really divided right now, how can we start to unify on a small scale?" That question puts both people in a position to come up with a solution that works for everyone. Then the domino effect takes hold. Then unity happens, then change, then success.

"None of us is as smart, as all of us." Ken Blanchard



Winnisquam Echo P.O. Box 729 Meredith, NH, 03253

Our fax number is 279-3331. Or, you can e-mail us at echo@salmonpress.news Please include your name, address and phone number.

going to reap the whirlwind. What has been happening across our land is only a foretaste of where we are headed. A godless society is also an intolerant society, and intolerance leads to lawlessness and anarchy. Turn away from God and there will be hell to pay. There is only one solution to the fix we are in, and His name is Jesus!

For more thoughts like these, follow me at indefenseoftruth.net.

#### A report from the "Faux State House"

To the Editor:

This last week was two long legislative sessions at our not undisclosed remote location in Bedford. Half of the legislature is still hiding from the boogie man in the State House, so instead, we met at an athletic complex in Bedford, not in the People's House. There we could spread out ten feet apart, and those who wanted to wear face recognition inhibitors (aka masks) could cower in the corner of a football field size venue. Despite this, we reviewed and voted on several hundred Senate Bills.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I still don't understand the Senate's thinking. In many cases, they chose to combine up to 72 separate issues into a single omnibus bill regardless of subject matter content. Rumor was that this allowed the Senate to pass a bill that had at least one part of Senate agreement. I know in the Criminal Law Committee, we deleted many of the extraneous parts to focus on one or two issues that actually pertained to the committee's purview.

I want to focus on one of the rare single-issue bills, Senate Bill 141 (SB141) or the abolition of the State gun line for the purchase of handguns. Today all approvals for a handgun purchase are first routed through the State before going for the Federal approval. The federal approval is required of all firearms, not just handguns. There is some overlap but this process requires a fairly large staff of officers that could be more effectively on the highways and byways keeping you and me safe. As can be ex-

pected there were a number of supporters on both sides. The Republican side was split and the bill was heading towards being "retained," meaning it would not be sent to the full House for a up or down vote and we would just "work" on it over the summer. The only way to assure getting a full vote on the House floor was to make a motion for Inexpedient to Legislate (ITL). Then as expected all the Democrats would vote to ITL and some Republicans. The sponsor for the bill was sure he could flip that decision to an Ought to Pass (OTP) on the floor. Since the sponsor did not want to be on record voting against a gun bill and thus could not make the ITL motion, I took one for the team and made the motion. In the House it passed 197 to 180. I supported this vote.

Next week, we meet again in Bedford to decide whether to accept changes made by the Senate to House bills or to refer bills to Committees of Conference to work out the differences. This is critical. The Senate significantly modified the Critical Race Theory (CRT) language in the Budget (HB2). This is unacceptable. If it remains as modified, I will vote against the budget. I am not alone.

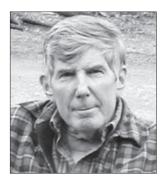
Email me at dave@sanbornhall.net or call at 320-9524 of you want to talk or just have a cup of coffee. Cheers!

> Rep. Dave Testerman Franklin

A5

North Country Notebook

We raise it on our trash, and then kill it in the road



**By JOHN HARRIGAN COLUMNIST** 

The raccoon is the bane of people who love ground-nesting birds. It relishes eggs, as any chicken-cooper knows. So do skunks.

Staff members and volunteers at the Loon Center Preservation have made great strides in protecting and restoring New Hampshire's loons. They put signs out to warn boaters about sensitive areas. They build rafts for defensible nests.

Raccoons were always among the major problems the LPC faced. Loons are awkward on land, but are ground-nesters nonetheless. They try to select places they can protect.

People sharing the shoreline generate garbage and trash. Raccoons are supreme

opportunists, and are omnivorous to boot. Thus, people can be tied directly to the attraction and proliferation of raccoons, just as people behind the wheel are among the leading causes of raccoon deaths.

+++++

Raccoons, while not quite having opposable thumbs, come the closest to it save for the newcomer opossum, a close runner-up in the dexterity department. Either one of them seems to consider a box, bottle, or can an insult to intelligence and ability.

Raccoons and skunks have always led the "problem animal" list for conservation officers. Bats and snakes are right up there, too. Let's not forget the errant swarm of bees.

Whatever it is, someone is supposed to "do something." And if it's anything even remotely to do with the word "wild," it's Fish and Game. +++++

Raccoons resume full activity in early spring, after something---the sun, or the magnetic field, or a sale on sunglasses---wakes them up from a light on-and-off sleep that is something shy of hibernation.

Mating season is January to March, a long time until you consider the three-week disparity between the Seacoast and the high country of Pittsburg. Newborns arrive in April and May.

From mating season on, raccoons become one of the more, if not the most, common mammals to get killed in the road. This is not counting the innumerable moles and voles. Why their little feet don't burn off from the friction is beyond me (the moles and voles, not the raccoons). I mean, just watch how fast they g0.

+++++

If there is one creature you don't want loose in your house or kitchen, it's (pick one) a bear, a squirrel, or a raccoon. I've had experience with all three in one way or another, several times over, and don't wish them on anyone. Far better to be careful.

Food is always the issue. All three animals are omnivorous. Their

every waking moment is spent looking for food. This is why we're so careful about never leaving food at camp, and why I'm cautious at home.

Just once, I let my guard down, and hurried downtown on some errand and neglected to close an overhead door. A bear got in during the half-hour I was gone and trashed shed, shop, and barn.

One of the neat things during my years at Clarksville Pond was the fly-tying vise. It was always set up and ready to go, right there near the porch door in the main room, various sizes of tying-thread on the table, and hackles and body and wing material in drawers just below.

One early summer day when we were all out of the house, doing outside work, a red squirrel got into the camp. When we returned, the fly-tying bench was an unholy mess---a tangle of thread, feathers, hackles, and multiple shades of chenille. It was, as Shatney called any ball of short branches in a spruce tree, "a hoorah's nest."



Not so fast: It might look cute and cuddly, but the raccoon exploits our bad habits, is a major carrier of rabies, and is most likely to get hit in the road. (Courtesy freeimages.com)

+++++

This last goes into the "Just when you think you know it all" category.

Some of my supposed expertise on things wild is gleaned from youthful experience, and like anything based on memory, it bears checking. Ergo, I visited New Hampshire Fish and Game's website, which (as always) I found informative and easy to use.

Among things I didn't know about raccoons were that the name is from the Algonquin "aroughcoune," which translates to "he scratches with his hands;" that

the "a" was dropped in the 1700s, giving us the word-sound as we know it today; that the species name translates to "washer"; and that a raccoon can rotate its hind feet 180 degrees.

For this and who knows how much more. I have to thank Public Affairs intern Kat Bagley, and the untold souls who make the Department's site a breath of fresh air.

(Please address mail, with phone numbers in case of questions, to campguyhooligan@ gmail.com or 386 South Hill Rd., Colebrook, NH 03576.)

### Sanbornton's own "Lem" Cross promoted to Cincinatti Reds

#### BY MIKE GREY

Sanbornton

SANBORNTON — Before you get real excited, this was the news for Aug. 6, 1893. It is true that George Lewis Cross, or "Lem," is the only person I found from Sanbornton who is listed in the baseball register or other baseball reference books to play major league baseball. We know that "Lem" was born on Jan. 9, 1872 in Sanbornton. I know very little about his life in Sanbornton. Prior to being promoted to the majors, Lem played for the Manchester Amoskoegs from 1891 to 1892. The Amoskoegs

played in the New England baseball league, and were sponsored by the Amoskeag textile mill, the largest textile factory in the world at the time, employing

league baseball on Aug. 6, 1894. One year exactly. Did Lem celebrate or mourn Aug. 6 for the rest of his life?

Before nicknames became unpopular, Lem 17,000 people. At that had many colorful teammates with the Reds. "Ice Box" Chamberlain was a fellow pitcher. Named "Ice Box" because for one of two reasons, eh was cool under pressure, or so "lazy" he never broke a sweat. Depends on which historical version you like.

game in the majors. Ca- for a century. He was a reer went straight downhill from there, and he was soon out of baseball. The catcher was "Farmer" Vaughn. You can This record has been tied Baseball Hall of Famer Charlie Comiskey was a player on this team. He went on to be the owner of the Chicago White Sox. Comiskey Park in Chicago was named after Charlie. My favorite of Lem's teammates was "Dummy" Hoy, an outfielder on the 1894 Reds. William "Dummy" Hoy was considered the greatest "deal" baseball player

great defensive outfielder who once threw out three runners at home base in the same game. probably guess how that by several players, but nickname developed. never broken. In 1894, the word "dummy" was associated with someone who was nonverbal, unable to speak. It was not yet associated with intelligence. William and his teammates used their own sign language to communicate on the field. There are several good books written about William "Dummy" Hoy, including a children's book. He lived into his 90s, was a successful

businessman and an important advocate for services for people who are hearing impaired.

Lem eventually played 11 seasons of minor league baseball in Tacoma. Charleston. India-

time, many factories had their own teams.

Five-foot-nine, 155-pound Lem Cross was promoted to the Reds on Aug. 6, 1893 at the age of 21. During his time in the major leagues, Lem was the winning pitcher in three games and losing pitcher in six games. He also batted 32 times and had eight hits for a .225 batting average. He was released from major

"Bumpus" Jones was another pitcher for the Reds. "Bumpus" is famous for throwing a no-hitter in his first napolis, Grand Rapids, St. Paul, Chatham, Montreal, and three years in Lowell. It appears that this is where he retired from baseball at the age of 31. Lem Cross obviously had some stories to tell from his colorful life and career. Wish we could hear those stories. Lem died on Oct. 9, 1930, and is buried in Manchester.

### Belmont baseball drops playoff opener

#### BY JOSHUA SPAULDING

#### Sports Editor

BELMONT — The White Mountains baseball team scored five runs in the first two innings and Belmont was never able to catch up, as the Spartans took an 8-2 win in the opening round of the Division III tournament on Tuesday, June 1.

The game was postponed a day due to

weather concerns and White Mountains came out strong, with three runs in the first inning and two more in the second inning. They added one each in the fourth, fifth and sixth before Belmont scored their two runs in the bottom of the sixth inning.

Liam Waldron took the hill for the Belmont, as he went the distance, striking out three.

Waldron. Jason Gaudette, Jason Roberts and Nate Sottak each had hits for the Raiders to help pace the offense.

The loss brought the season to a close for the Raiders, while White Mountains went on to beat Winnisquam in extra innings, then Berlin in the quarterfinals to advance to the Division III semifinals.

Sports Editor Joshua Spaulding can be reached at 279-4516, ext. 155 or josh@salmonpress.news



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• Your spouse - You and your spouse may have different thoughts about a range of financial topics - how much to save, how much to spend, the level of debt with which you're comfortable and so on. Try to reach some type of consensus on these issues. However, in regard to investing, you don't necessarily have to act in unison all the time. You each may have different investment styles - one of you may be more aggressive, willing to take on more risk in exchange

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you should know in advance what

to expect. This may not be the easi-

est conversation to have, but it's an

important one. So, for example, ask

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Before investing in bonds, you should understand the risks involved, including credit risk and market risk. Bond investments are also subject to interest rate risk such that when interest rates rise, the prices of bonds can decrease, and the investor can lose principal value if the investment is sold prior to maturity.

for potentially higher returns, while to designate someone to manage the other would rather invest with their financial affairs if they become an eye toward mitigating risk, even physically or mentally incapacitated. it means accepting a lower return. You might also inquire if they have Of course, there's nothing stopping protected themselves against the potentially enormous costs of long-term each of you from pursuing your individual investment strategies in your care, such as an extended nursing own accounts - IRA, 401(k) and home stay. If not, you might suggest so on. Still, if you are going to work that they contact a financial advisor, toward common goals - especially who can offer solutions. Once you toward a shared vision of your retirebegin communicating about these ment lifestyle - you each may want issues, you may well want to go furto compromise in your investment ther into your parents' estate plans to determine what other arrangements, choices. And this accommodation is even more necessary in your joint if any, they have made. If it seems that their plans are not fully developed, Your parents – If you may someday you may want to encourage them to be involved with your parents' financontact an attorney specializing in estate planning. cial plans - which is highly likely

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plans, you'll want to discuss the same topic with your own grown children Let them know who you have named as a durable power of attorney, what's in your last will and testament and whether you've established a living trust. If you're already working with a financial advisor and an estate planning professional, make sure your children know how to contact these individuals. Of course, you don't have to confine your communications to estate plans - if you want to help your children finan cially, such as loaning them money for a down payment on a home, let them know.

By talking with your loved ones about key financial matters, everyone benefits. So, keep those lines of communication open

**Jacqueline Taylor** Financial Advisor 3 Mill Street PO Box 176 Meredith NH 03253 603-279-3161 Fax 866-532-8685 iacqueline.taylor@edwardjones.com



#### FINAL FOUR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1 in the bottom of the second, Darci Stone had an infield hit and moved up on a passed ball, but a grounder to second ended the inning.

Hall struck out the side again in the top of the third inning, giving her eight strikeouts through three.

Belmont added another run in the bottom of

the third inning. Spartan catcher Nicole Gross made a nice play on a dribbler in front of the plate to start the inning, but Fleming followed with a base hit and moved up on a sacrifice groundout by Stephens. Hall then delivered a base hit to right field to plate Fleming with the second run of the game before McIntosh induced a groundout to end the

inning.

Madison Crane was hit by a pitch to open the top of the fourth inning, but Fleming made a nice throw to cut her down stealing second base. After another Hall strikeout, Gross and McIntosh worked walks, but Stone tracked down a fly ball to right to end the inning.

Kelley Allen and Stone reached with one out in the bottom of the fourth inning and one out later, Savannah Perkins reached on an error to load the bases. Allen was able to race home on a pickoff attempt at first, upping the lead to 3-0.

The Spartans got a bunt hit from Ciera Challinor to start the top of the second, and after Hall got a strikeout, Delaney Robinson put down a sacrifice bunt to move her up. However, another bunt attempt resulted in Hall making the play to end the inning.

Belmont opened things up a bit in the bottom of the fifth inning. Stephens led off with a base hit and Hall beat out an infield hit. A Madi Lima groundout moved both runners up and a squeeze bunt by Courtney Burke pushed across another run. Al-

#### CHAMPIONS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1 er and Sophia Sweet finished in fourth place in 51.05 seconds while the Kingswood 4X400-meter team of Brooke Tasker, Lauren MacPhee, Anabelle Nelson and Carolyn Day finished fourth with a time of 4:13.03. The Kennett 4X800-meter team of Grace Perley, Shannon Abrams, Autumn Verran and Molly Dellavella finished seventh in a time of 10:50.43.

Newfound's Paulina Huckins finished third



Lena Rodrigues (head down) is mobbed by teammates after her leadoff homer on Saturday.

len followed with a double to straight-away centerfield to drive home both runners and push the lead to 6-0. Carissa Challinor made a nice play in right field to close out the inning.

The Spartans got on the board in the top of the sixth. Crane walked to open the inning and after Alyssa Fryman reached on an error, a Gross base hit plated the first run. One out later, a sacrifice fly by Carissa Challinor cut the lead to 6-2, but Stephens made a nice play on a bunt attempt to get out of the inning.

McIntosh set the

Raiders down in order in the bottom of the sixth, but Hall did the same to the Spartans in the top of the seventh, with Hall striking out two more, finishing off the game with 13 strikeouts as the Raiders advanced with the 6-2 win.

"That leadoff homer set the stage, it was nice for Lena," Clary said. "We have a lot of confidence in her in that leadoff spot.

"We thought that if we could keep them under four runs, we should win the game," the Belmont coach added.

Clary also noted that his team spent some time prior to the previous game with Berlin working on bunt defense, and it also paid off against the Spartans.

"We practice bunting defense a lot and we bunt ourselves," Clary said.

The win sent the Raiders into the Division III semifinals, where they faced off against Campbell after deadline on Wednesday. The Division III title game is set for Saturday, June 12, at 2 p.m. at Memorial Field in Concord.

Sports Editor Joshua Spaulding can be reached at 279-4516, ext. 155 or josh@salmonpress.news.

Morgan Hall had 13 strikeouts in her team's quarterfinal win over White Mountains.

#### FRANKLIN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

#### Established

in 1869, Franklin Savings Bank is an independent, mutually-owned community bank, offering a full array of commercial lending, personal banking and investment services. Headquartered in Franklin, the Bank has offices in Bristol, Boscawen, Tilton, Gilford, Merrimack and Goffstown. Through its wholly-owned subsidiary, Independence Financial Advisors, Franklin Savings Bankalso offers investment, insurance and financial planning services. A recognized leader in providing the

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101 feet, two inches. Adah Chapman of

Moultonborough finished in sixth place in the 3,200 meters, crossing with a time of 11:53.07.

Amy Burton of Kennett finished in eighth place in the 800 meters with a time of 2:26.36, while in the 1,600 meters, Catherine Stow of Gilford finished in 11th place in 5:36.41.

Autumn Braley of Newfound finished ninth in the 300-meter hurdles with a time of 51.12 seconds and Gwen Pelchat of Berlin finished in 10th place with a time of 51.14 seconds. In the long jump, Malina Bohlmann of Newfound was eighth at 15 feet, 10 inches and Luehrs finished 10th at 15 feet, 7.75

Est. 1989

#### inches.

For the boys, Owen Carney of Inter-Lakes came through with a third place finish in the 400 meters with a time of 51.03 seconds.

Patrick Gandini of Gilford ran to third place in the 3,200 meters with a time of 9:22.97, with William Riley of Belmont placing 10th in a time of 10:23.18.

The Winnisquam 4X800-meter relay team of Riley Mann, Joseph Damato, Dylan Robert and Jacob Seavey finished in sixth place with a time of 8:37.46.

tance of 131 feet, four inches.

Forrest Pribbernow of White Mountains placed ninth in the 110-meter hurdles in 16.07 seconds and was also eighth in the javelin with a toss of 142 feet, seven inches.

Bryce Hall of Belmont finished 11th in the high jump at five feet, eight inches and Jacob Blouin of Newfound was ninth in the shot put at 41 feet, eight inches. Aidan Donahue of Winnisquam was 11th in the 200 meters with a time of 23.8 seconds.

with a distance of 31 feet, 1.25 inches.

Sierra Parsons of Kennett finished fifth in the discus with a toss of

Kingswood's David Hartley finished third in the discus with a toss of 137 feet, one inch and Belmont's Brian Miles was right behind in fourth place with a dis-

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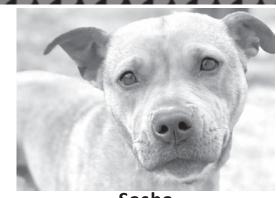
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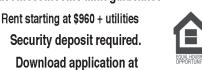
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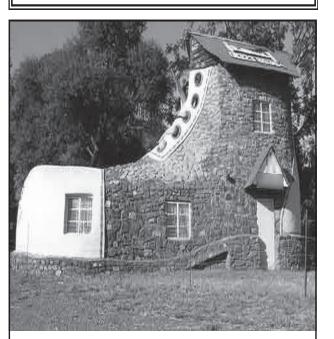
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### Lakes Region Rotary Club supports nonprofits that support the community

#### ACONIA

— The Lakes Region Rotary club recently reached out with gifts of support to four area nonprofits that have supported families who have been impacted by the pandemic over the past year. Belknap House, the Isaiah 61 Cafe, the Santa Fund, and Got Lunch Laconia each received donations of \$500 to support their ongoing work.

Rotary member, Bob

Ewell, said, "This has nual car show are donatbeen a difficult year for everyone and these four organizations have done outstanding work helping the most vulnerable members of our community - children, homeless individuals and homeless families, and families in crisis.' The Lakes Region Ro-

tary Club follows the Rotary motto of "Service above Self." Each year funds raised through the Lakes Region Rotary An-

ed to support the work of area nonprofit organizations that work to make life in the Lakes Region better for children and families. This year's car show will be held on Saturday, July 24 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Endicott Street North in the Weirs (insert rain date info here if we're having a rain date). More information about the car show is available on the Lakes Region Rotary

Club Facebook page. The Lakes Region Rotary was formed in 1991 and meets weekly on Tuesdays from 7-8 a.m. In addition to fundraising, club members contribute to service activities throughout the Lakes Region throughout the year. Anybody interested in learning more or becoming a member may contact the club through its email at lakesregionrotary@gmail.com.



Members of the Lakes Region Rotary Club present checks to four area nonprofits.

Front row from left to right: Chris McCarthy of The Santa Fund; Linda Tunnicliffe of Got Lunch Laconia; Dawn Longval of Isaiah 61 Café; and Paula Ferenc of Belknap House. Back Row from left to right: Larry Greeley, Jude Hamel, and Bob Ewell of the Lakes Region Rotary Club.



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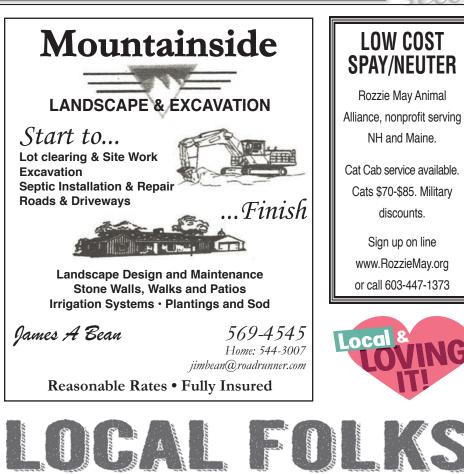






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### Belmont softball squeaks past Berlin

#### BY JOSHUA SPAULDING Sports Editor

BELMONT — The Belmont and Berlin soft-

ball teams kicked off the Division III tournament on Wednesday, June 2, as the Raiders welcomed the Mountaineers to the Lakes Region.

Berlin tied the game in the top of the seventh inning, but the hosts were able to score one in the bottom of the inning to earn the 6-5 win.

The two teams exchanged runs in the first inning and after Berlin took a 2-1 lead in the top of the third, Belmont sored four in the bottom of the third for the 5-2 lead. Berlin chipped away, soring one in the

fourth and another in the sixth to pull within one at 5-4. The Mountaineers then scored one in the seventh to tie things at five before Belmont plated the winning run in the bottom of the seventh on a base hit by Morgan Hall.

Julia Coulombe got the start for Berlin in the circle and went the distance, allowing six runs on nine hits and striking out four. Hall went the distance in the circle for the Raiders, allowing six hits and four runs while striking out five.

The Belmont offense was highlighted by a two-run homer from Kara Stephens in the third inning, while Sa-

vannah Perkins, Hall, Fleming and Stephens each had two hits to lead the Raiders. Stephens drove in three runs and Fleming drove in a pair.

Makenna Balderrama and Grace Bradley each had a pair of hits to lead the way for the Berlin girls.

The win propelled the Raiders into the next round of the tournament, where they beat White Mountains Regional to advance to the semifinals.

Sports Editor Joshua Spaulding can be reached at 279-4516, ext. 155 or josh@salmonpress. news.

HELP WANTED



RC GREENWOOD Kara Stephens gets a hand from assistant coach Trish Geoffrey after her homer in action last week against Berli

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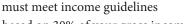
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### **Baseball Bears edged in extra-innings thriller**

BY BOB MARTIN

Contributing Writer

TILTON — – It doesn't get much better than the preliminary round baseball playoff matchup between the Winnisquam Bears and the White Mountains Spartans, with the game ending with Winnisquam threatening with the bases loaded in the eighth inning before falling to the Spartans 2-1.

Winnisquam and White Mountains both had their aces on the hill in Phil Nichols and Tyler Hicks, and both lived up to the hype right out of the gate. In the opening frame, Nichols retired the side in order including two strikeouts and a pop up near the plate that he handled himself. Hicks then responded by striking out the side, with a lone blemish being an infield single by Nichols, but he was stranded on second base after a steal.

The next inning was more dominance by the two star pitchers. After a leadoff single by Karter Deming, Nichols retired the side in order with a pair of bunt outs and a strikeout looking. Hicks followed up by forcing a

couple of pop ups to the catcher and a strikeout, only allowing a walk to Noah Pearson.

The third inning started with Ian St. Cyr drawing a walk off Nichols, and he advanced on a sacrifice bunt by Logan Ames. Nichols then handled a dribbler by Brody Labounty and made a nice off-balance throw to third where third baseman Nolen Perrino laid down a tag for a second out. Labounty was then picked off at first by Nichols for the final out of the inning.

Burton Swanson led off the bottom half of the third inning for Winnisquam with a single to left, but then Hicks struck out the side in order.

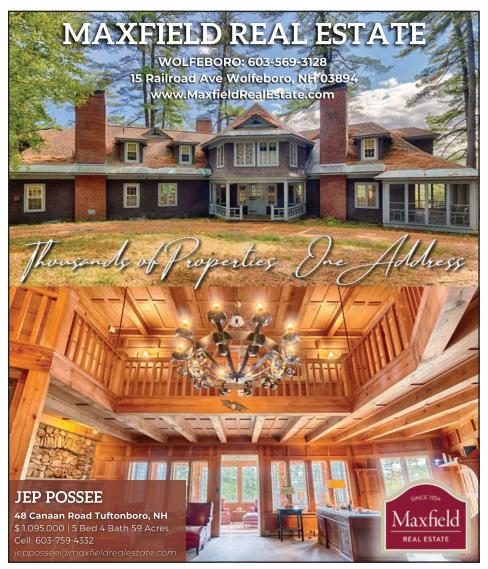
Nichols retired the side in order in the fourth inning, including a strikeout and it was clear that this duel was going to continue. Hicks came into the bottom half of the inning and while he walked two batters and hit a batter, he struck out the side including the final out of the inning that thwarted a bases loaded chance for the Bears, which would prove to be one of the

most meaningful outs of the game.

Nichols was cruising into the fifth inning where he struck out the side, and Hicks also showed no signs of letting up as he started the inning with a strikeout. Winnisquam's Kaden Burns then reached on an error and a wild pitch moved him to second. Nichols, who batted .526 this season and was the team's leading hitter, was intentionally walked. Spartan coach Ben Hicks then called time to speak with his pitcher. It turned out that he had some discomfort in his throwing arm and a change needed to be made.

Coming into the game was Labounty, who is normally the team's starting catcher. With power hitter Chaz Hibbert up with a runner on first and second with only one out, it seemed that this could be a big chance for the Bears to take advantage. Labounty needed only two pitches to force Hibbert into a 1-5-3 double play to end the inning and keep the game locked at 0-0.

The sixth inning started off with a single





Phil Nichols had nine strikeouts against White Mountains in the opening round playoff game.

ripped to left by Ames, but Nichols then forced Labounty into a double play and finished off the inning with a strikeout.

Labounty returned for his second inning of work and forced a pair of ground outs and a strikeout in a great onetwo-three inning for the reliever.

Nichols came out for the top of the seventh inning and after retiring the first batter with a long fly out to centerfield, he allowed a walk and a hit batter to put a pair of runners on base with one out. Brayden Shallow put the Spartans on the board first with a critical RBI single to center field to go up 1-0. Nichols calmed down and finished off the inning with a strikeout, leaving two Spartans on base.

In the bottom of the seventh, Labounty starttom of the eighth the ed with a strikeout but Bears threatened to conthen also showed a wild tinue the game. After a streak with back-to-back single by Pearson and a couple batters reaching walks. Later a wild pitch moved the runners to on walks and being hit second and third and by a pitch, Burns came Nichols was once again up with the bases loadintentionally walked to ed and two outs. Burns load the bases. Hibbert sent a shot deep in the stepped up to the plate outfield, but it was easily handled to secure the looking for redemption from his last at bat and gritty 2-1 victory for the he was hit in the back Spartans. "I couldn't be more with a fastball that sent him to first, and a runproud of this team," said ner home to tie the game Winnisquam coach Fred 1-1 and send the contest Caruso. "We tried every-

to extra innings.

Nichols' pitch count was at more than 100 pitches entering the eighth inning but the Winnisquam starter was still throwing gas. However, Ames smashed a single to right and Labounty followed with a walk to put runners on first and second with no outs. Brayden White laid down a bunt that was perfect, and while Nichols was able to snag it and toss to third, it was not in time and everybody was safe. Stepping up to the plate with the bases loaded was Hicks, who hit a deep fly ball to centerfield for a sacrifice fly that drove in a run to go up 2-1.

Nichols reached the 120-pitch limit and Marcus Korenkiewicz came in for a couple outs. The intensity went right to the end, and in the bot-

thing and really left it all out on the field. They got their bunts down and we had trouble doing it. We have to move runners along in games like this because opportunities are rare. But this was a great game between two great teams. They are two-time state champs for a reason."

In the first six innings, Nichols allowed no runs, two hits and had eight strikeouts. He ended with nine strikeouts, four hits and two earned runs. Hicks had 11 strikeouts in 4 and a third shutout innings before being pulled for the arm stiffness. Labounty, who is not normally a pitcher for the Spartans, impressed Hicks by picking up the win in the tight game.

Hicks and Caruso both agreed that this was a matchup of two of the top teams in the division and it could have gone either way.

"It was a phenomenal game and you hate to see either team lose," said Hicks. "This was a final four matchup played in the first round of the playoffs. Phil was incredible for them and they are a great, well-coached team. But we battled and a couple breaks went our way. Great win."

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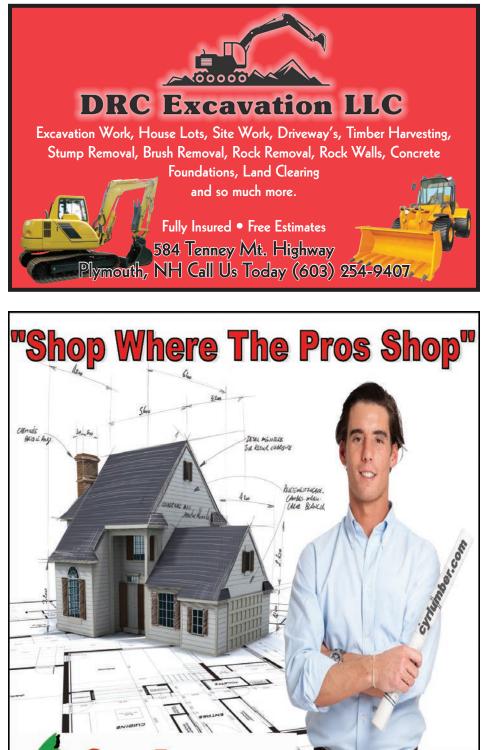
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