

And
many
more
Business
celebrates
25 years

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Who wears
short shorts?
UPS driver raises
money for hunger

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FALLS SCHOOL BOARD

Wrestling returns to Falls High

Program makes comeback after 21-year hiatus

BY EMILY GEDDE
Staff Writer

For the first time in 21 years, purple and gold will return to the wrestling mat.

The Falls School Board agreed Monday to add wrestling to its extra curricular lineup with the Minnesota State High School League. The decision prompted a round of applause, a few cheers and a standing ovation from wrestlers and their supporters.

"We won't let you down," Pete Benedix, who coaches the local Mighty Mustang wrestling team, told board members.

Having wrestling as a registered sport will allow any participants at the varsity level to compete in matches. Right now, however, a majority of interested wrestlers are elementary age with "maybe one" eligible varsity wrestler, said Superintendent Kevin Grover. If that student is interested in competing, Grover said the school will help him or her participate in invitational matches.

While Monday's decision will only cost the district \$100 to have the sport registered with the Minnesota State High School League, Grover said a higher price tag

associated with the decision will surface in the future.

"There will be a cost down the road," he said, listing the need to hire a head coach and transportation expenses, among others.

But board member Mike Holden was confident the decision will be worthwhile. He said a growing concern among the local Mighty Mustang wrestling athletes and their parents is that the children are competing from 4 years old into eighth grade and must stop their involvement in the sport without continuation of a wrestling program at the high school level.

Wrestling to A7 ➤



STAFF PHOTO BY EMILY GEDDE

At left, Mighty Mustang wrestling coach Pete Benedix and several wrestling supporters sit in the audience of Monday's Falls School Board meeting. The board agreed to include wrestling as an official sport at Falls High School.

Smiles abound as Falls Elementary first-graders pick out pumpkins for pumpkin math Monday. To see more photos turn to page A12.

Do you know the Pumpkin Man?

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

Cold weather and cloudy skies couldn't dampen the excitement of Falls Elementary School first-graders as they selected their pumpkins for the annual pumpkin math activity.

Pumpkin math allows family members to join their children in carving a pumpkin and counting its seeds, while also taking its measurements and learning more about numbers.

Harvey Kennedy, also known as "The Pumpkin Man," said

next year will be his 25th delivering pumpkins for the students. He said seeing the students' reactions to receiving their pumpkins makes the growing and harvesting all worth it.

Helping out Kennedy was his wife, Jean, and friend John Pariseau, who was visiting from Naples, Fla. Originally from the Falls, Pariseau said the only thing that could lure him this far north into the cold was the upcoming hunting season.

STAFF PHOTOS BY SPENSER BICKETT

Some first-graders can't wait for Harvey Kennedy's help to pick up their pumpkin.



STAFF PHOTOS BY LAUREL BEAGER

Logan Phillips shoots a copper bullet into water jugs after shooting a lead bullet of the same caliber into the white barrel containing water jugs. The barrel contains the lead fragments so they may be filtered out.

Demo designed to draw attention

Copper versus lead bullets is the target

BY LAUREL BEAGER
Editor

LITTLEFORK — Logan Phillips squeezed the trigger of his .243 caliber rifle Sunday shooting a lead-core bullet into an opening in a white barrel filled with jugs.

Then he shot the same caliber copper bullet into six milk jugs, causing what many would call a pretty cool explosion of water.

He carefully clicked the safety, set the rifle down and walked with friend Cole Fish and members of The Wilderness Society to the table holding the jugs and barrel.

He and Fish were with family using other stations at the Littlefork Gun Club to sight rifles prior to the Minnesota deer hunting opener in November. They were drawn to the demonstration when they saw the explosion of milk jugs. They didn't know much about copper other than it is stronger than lead, they said.

A non-toxic bullet demonstration offered some insight into



John Burke holds a filter as Steve Windels pours water and lead from a bullet trap.

how the bullets performed in comparison.

"Look at the difference there" Brian J. Hiller said, holding the intact copper bullet shot by Phillips as John Burke held a filter containing the copper

Demo to A7 ➤

Council considers annexation papers

City attorney expects no controversy in annexation of multimodal district

BY LAUREL BEAGER
Editor

The International Falls City Council Monday got a look at a "working document" calling for the orderly annexation by the city of the multimodal district.

City Attorney Steve Shermoen told the council he considered the draft resolution and annexation agreement a working document, which is being reviewed by Koochiching County Attorney Jeff Naglosky.

Shermoen said the document

will be brought to the county board and council upon approval by each government's attorney. In addition, he said Mayor Bob Anderson has asked the document be reviewed by a committee of



Steve Shermoen

Council to A7 ➤

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