

The Fontanelle Observer
SPORTS

Top performers return for another golf season

By Caleb Nelson
 Fontanelle Observer

With top performers returning and another year of experience behind them, Nodaway Valley head golf coach Julie Hartman has reason to be optimistic about what her Wolverines can accomplish this season.

Senior Mallory Russell leads the girls team after posting a nine-hole low of 44 and an 18-hole low of 96 last season. On the boys side, senior Ty Rardin advanced to the second round of district play as a junior and returns as a key contributor.

There are six girls and 18 boys out this season, and Hartman said competition — particularly among the boys — is strong.



“Mal’s a Russell strong player,” Hartman said. “She needs to slow down a little bit on her putting. If she can do that, she’ll do really well.”

Seniors Brailynn Coffman and Chloe Rardin also return for the girls. Coffman ranked

just behind Russell statistically last season, recording a nine-hole low of 56.

“Braily’s been out there practicing a lot on her own, chipping and putting. That’s always been her strong suit,” Hartman said. “We’re working a lot with her from tee to green, and that’s coming along pretty well this year.”

The boys roster features a competitive core that includes Rardin, Jack Berg, Sam Miller, Ty Strode, Derek Raasch and Keyin Steeve.

“I can tell you, this year it’s going to be so close,” Hartman said. “These boys are so dedicated. They’re out there playing 54 holes, out there in the wind, the cold. It’s going to be fun to watch them. My husband, Jeremy, got his coaching license and is helping me, and we’re really working on chipping and putting. Those boys can hit it 10 miles, but if you can’t chip it close and 1- or 2-putt, you’re not going to score well.”

Weather has limited early-season opportunities, and Hartman said the boys were scheduled to qualify Monday

to determine their top six.

Most of Nodaway Valley’s meets are co-ed. The Wolverines open the season with a dual at nonconference opponent Griswold on Tuesday, April 7. Two days later, they host CAM, Creston and Adair-Casey/Guthrie Center in Greenfield — their lone home meet of the season.

The boys Pride of Iowa Conference Tournament is scheduled for May 5 at Deer Run Golf Club in Ackworth, with the girls tournament set for the following day in Afton.

Around the conference, Mount Ayr’s Jaylee Schaefer returns after winning last year’s state title. Wayne’s Ruger Berndt posted the lowest nine-hole score in the conference last season with a 33, while East Union’s Zayne Eslinger recorded the lowest 18-hole score at 70.

“I focus more on what our kids can do,” Hartman said. “I’m really looking forward to it. I have help this year, and it’s been nice to be able to have someone else go and help other kids while I’m helping different kids.”



FOB file photo

Nodaway Valley’s Ty Rardin returns to the golf course having been his squad’s top golfer a year ago. That said, head coach Julie Hartman said competition is tight at the top of a boys team with 18 on its roster. Mallory Russell led the girls team last year statistically. The Wolverines’ first meet is Tuesday, April 7, at Griswold.

Hoops teams celebrate recent seasons



FOB photo by DAN DICKINSON

Nodaway Valley girls basketball seniors were from left, Emma Boswell, Kacie Ford, Lea Stonebraker, Kynnady Van Eaton and Abbi Zenor. Their banquet was held last Tuesday night. Receiving specific awards were Boswell (Toughness Award), Britten (Wolverine Award), Eisbach (MVP Award) and Stonebraker (Charge-Taking Queen Award).



Contributed photo courtesy of NV GIRLS BASKETBALL

All-Stars: Nodaway Valley senior girls basketball players Izzy Eisbach and Emma Boswell had one last chance to play together in high school as part of the Southwestern All-Star Game in Creston over the weekend. The teams were coached by Mount Ayr coach Thad Streit and NV coach Brian Eisbach. Izzy also played in an all-star game Saturday at Dallas Center-Grimes where she received her Class 2A IBCA Player of the Year trophy.



Contributed photo courtesy of NV BOYS BASKETBALL

Nodaway Valley boys basketball gathered to celebrate its season Sunday night with a banquet. Team members picking up specific awards included from left, Ty Rardin (MVP), Jack Berg (Mr. Offense), Titus Hamer (Mr. Defense), Evan Meisenheimer (Most Improved), Parker Schneider (Mr. Team), Jaxson Stringer (Mr. Team) and Titan Foster (Mr. Defense).

APRIL 2026 SPECIALTY CALENDAR



ADAIR COUNTY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL		641-743-7263
UROLOGY April 22 Jacob A. Jipp, MD	CARDIOLOGY April 2, 9, 23 Mark Bissing, DO (April 2) Sandy Hall, ARNP (April 9, 23)	NAIL CARE Fridays Molly Hennigar, ARNP
Iowa Allergy April 16 515-452-0600 Nick Rains, PA-C	PAIN April 6, 7, 13, 20, 21, 28 Robert Rossi, MD (April 6, 13, 20) Molly Horton, ARNP (April 7, 21, 28)	WOUND CARE CLINIC 641-814-1912 Mondays Molly Hennigar, ARNP
ENT April 14 Matthew Brown, MD	WOMEN'S HEALTH April 8 Amy Bingham, MD, FACOG	COUMADIN CLINIC Tuesdays Jorand Feazell, BSN, RN
PODIATRY April 1, 15 Tim Holcomb, DPM	DERMATOLOGY April 14, 28 515-225-8180 Amanda VanWyk, PA-C	
AUDIOLOGY April 23 Jackie Abram, AuD	PULMONOLOGY April 9	
MEDICAL CLINIC - GREENFIELD		641-743-6189
GENERAL SURGERY Thursdays Paul Grossmann, MD	ORTHOPEDICS Tuesdays Teri Formanek, MD	MENTAL HEALTH/PSYCH April 3, 6, 10, 17 Johanna Hesseltine, ARNP, PMHNP-BC Linsey Miller, ARNP, PMHNP-BC, NP-C

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PUBLIC NOTICE

City of Fontanelle
 March 23, 2026, 6:15 pm
 The Fontanelle City Council met in special session at the Community Center, with Mayor Brown calling the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. Present Council members were Connors, Goetz, Herr, Young and Martin. All motions are carried out unanimously, unless otherwise noted. City employee, Dodson, was present. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Brown. Public hearing for budget amendment fiscal year July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026, was opened. Public hearing closes at 6:19 pm. Goetz moved to adjourn at 6:19 pm, Young 2nd. Attest: City Clerk, Mary Dodson

City of Fontanelle
 March 23, 2026, 6 pm
 The Fontanelle City Council met in special session at the Community Center, with Mayor Brown calling the meeting to order at 6 p.m. Present Council members were Connors, Goetz, Herr, Young and Martin. All motions are carried out unanimously, unless otherwise noted. City employee, Dodson, was present. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Brown. Public hearing for the proposed property taxation for fiscal year July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027, opened at 6:01 pm. Public hearing closed at 6:06 pm. Goetz motioned to adjourn at 6:06 pm, Herr 2nd. Attest: City Clerk, Mary Dodson

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