

Homecoming festivities underway in Pequot Lakes

Rysavy, Palmer crowned king, queen

Sam Rysavy and Sonja Palmer were crowned Pequot Lakes homecoming king and queen Monday, Oct. 4, in the school auditorium.

Other senior candidates were Nic Kotaska, Wade Loeffler, Hunter Johnson, Eli Jorgens, Ciera Wheeler, Julia Keiffer, Maya Orvis and Brionna Mykkanen.

Others participating in the coronation event included juniors Grant Loge and Janey Janousek; sophomores Cole Sposito and Taylor Hamilton-Bittner; and freshmen Brielle Jones and Jerrett Tietz, who stood in for Mason Lundgren, who couldn't attend.

After the homecoming coronation, a powderpuff volleyball game took place in the Patriot Athletic Center. Then the powderpuff football game was played on the football field.

Wednesday, Oct. 6, students will play bingo throughout the school day.

The Patriot football team will take on Pillager in the homecoming game Friday, Oct. 8. Kickoff is at 6 p.m. instead of the usual 7 p.m. Tailgating on the patio will begin at 3:30 p.m.

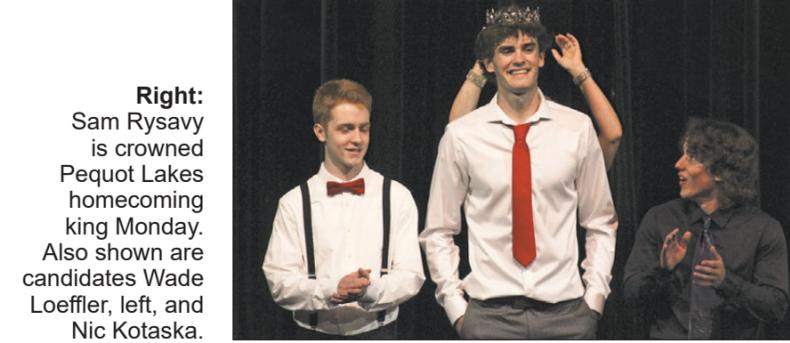
The homecoming dance will take place after the game until 11 p.m.



Above: The Pequot Lakes homecoming court includes, from left: juniors Grant Loge and Janey Janousek; senior candidates Wade Loeffler, Julia Keiffer, Hunter Johnson, Brionna Mykkanen, king Sam Rysavy, queen Sonja Palmer, Eli Jorgens, Ciera Wheeler, Nic Kotaska and Maya Orvis; freshmen Jerrett Tietz (standing in for Mason Lundgren, who couldn't attend) and Brielle Jones; and sophomores Cole Sposito and Taylor Hamilton-Bittner.



Above: Pequot Lakes seniors Sam Rysavy and Sonja Palmer were crowned homecoming king and queen Monday in the high school auditorium.



Right: Sam Rysavy is crowned Pequot Lakes homecoming king Monday. Also shown are candidates Wade Loeffler, left, and Nic Kotaska.



Left: Sonja Palmer is crowned Pequot Lakes homecoming queen Monday. Also shown are candidates Ciera Wheeler, left, and Maya Orvis.

Students are benefiting from fall activities

This has been what feels like more of a normal year for activities at Pequot Lakes Schools. All our teams are playing, fans are in the stands, concessions are selling and, most importantly, students are benefiting from our various fall activities.

The number of students in activities is booming. We have 30 students out for the fall play; they will perform "Mary Poppins" in November. Boys soccer is a co-op with Brainerd and we have two students on the team. There are 62 girls tennis players playing

this year with an undefeated varsity team participating in playoffs.

Cross country has 46 Patriots out this season, with conference on Oct. 14 and sections on Oct. 28. Volleyball has 90 girls out this year. The teams are doing very well and will start with playoffs in the last week of October. Football is 140 members strong. Our varsity is halfway through the schedule and will compete in section 7AAA this year for playoffs, which start Tuesday, Oct. 26.

Passes for home events have

changed this year. We did away with the family pass and instead moved to individual passes. We are offering free admission to our Pequot Lakes students, and senior citizens (65 and older) who live in our school district boundaries are admitted free as well.

Even though admittance is free, passes are still required. Senior citizens' passes can be obtained from the high school office. Robbi Berry is available from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. each day to issue these passes.

We are moving away from accepting cash at the door for admissions and will instead use the Vanco ticketing system for ticket purchases starting this winter season. This new system simplifies the process and provides a more efficient and safer means to admit people into an event/game.

A person can buy tickets prior to arriving at the site or once they are at the site, or they can use a QR code with a smartphone to purchase game tickets. Purchase your tickets by going to the Pequot Lakes School website and clicking on "Event Tickets" or by visiting the Vanco site at <https://www.vancoevents.com/us/eventlist/isd186>.

Come out and support our activities and athletics! Go Patriots!

Byron Westrich is the Pequot Lakes School District activities director and high school assistant principal.



BYRON WESTRICH
Patriot Perspective

CLC named 'Great College to Work For'

For the third consecutive year, Central Lakes College was named one of the best colleges in the nation to work for, according to a survey by The Great Colleges to Work For program.

The recently released results are based on a survey of 196 colleges and universities. CLC is the only college in Minnesota to appear on the list.

Central Lakes College is recognized in four categories:

- ▶ Compensation & Benefits.
- ▶ Confidence in Senior Leadership.
- ▶ Faculty Experience.
- ▶ Shared Governance.

"Central Lakes College is a great place to work because we are all about people - our employees, our students, and our communities," Hara Charlier, CLC president, said in a news release. "We nurture a culture of relationships, respect and voice. We know and care about each other. We value every individual and believe that everyone's voice matters."

The survey results are based on a two-part assessment process: an institution questionnaire that captured employment data and workplace policies from each institution, and a sur-

vey administered to faculty, administrators and professional support staff. The primary factor in deciding whether an institution received recognition was the employee feedback.

"CLC's culture of caring is the heart of who we are," said Kimberly Pilgrim, employee leader and program director of CLC's Meta 5 Family Resiliency Program. "Everything we do centers around love, care and service to our students and one another."

Mike Barnaby, CLC director of financial aid and fellow employee leader, added, "Central Lakes Colleges has excellent staff and faculty, who are firmly committed to both students and community, making this a premier place of employment."

The Great Colleges to Work For program is one of the largest and most respected workplace-recognition programs in the country. For more information and to view all current and previous recognized institutions, visit the Great Colleges program website at www.greatcollegesprogram.com.

ModernThink, a strategic human capital consulting firm, administered the survey and analyzed the results.

PINE AND LAKES

ECHO JOURNAL

Read your newspaper

EVERY DAY!

Get early morning delivery with easy-reading options!

- Adjustable text size
- Clip, print & share news
- Search current or past editions

Point your smartphone or tablet camera at the square to access your daily digital newspaper everyday.

Or go to epaper.pineandlakes.com
Need help? Call 800-432-3703