



April 2, 2019

Vol. 35 No. 15

## Nonpareil Sports Writer, Kevin White Speaks

Kevin White, SWI Sports Writer for the Nonpareil and World Herald, spoke to the Treynor Optimist Club on April 20, 2019 at the Treynor Community Building. White is a well-known figure in SW Iowa. He was a 1986 Tri-Center grad and his dad, T Gary White was AD there.



L-R: Kevin White, Kevin Underwood

Kevin got his start in writing from Mike Condon, sports writer for the Nonpareil, when he asked Kevin to write a diary of his experiences while at a state high school event which was published. He then worked at the Nonpareil while in college and upon graduation worked in the news room writing baby announcements and obituaries, knowing that a sports writer position would be available soon.

From 1991 to 2000, he was a sports writer for the Nonpareil and then became the Western Iowa sports writer for the World Herald until 2009. He then had the position he currently has, and at that time he was manager over 3 full-time employees and 3-4 part-time employees.

The World Herald was the largest independent newspaper in the country, but that is no longer true as it has merged with Lee Enterprises, Davenport. Cost cutting while trying to offer quality is the norm. Now his job has been cut to just him and one support person. The future of journalism is changing due to social media and online availability.

White's job is challenging to cover in the spring because of the large variety of sports - high school track, golf, soccer, tennis and college baseball and softball. He said it takes him 4-5 hours to compile the list of girls/boys track records, but technology has reduced that time greatly. He also stated that info now has to be submitted by 11:15, rather than 1 am, which can be challenging.

Because of the dismissal of the St. Albert basketball coach, Kevin enjoyed helping with coaching the freshmen this year at St. Alberts and assisting also with varsity. He keeps in shape by playing pick-up ball at the Y over the noon hour.

Additional discussion included Kevin's thoughts on Treynor's decision not to join the Hawkeye 10, changes in the size of the sports page, the time and decision to write on Twitter, and info on his family. He is hopeful to start a "Live Like Jill" Camp in honor of his wife who died 8 months ago. He also updated the group on his daughter, Bailey, a Senior and Carter, a Freshman, as well as his parents.

## Meeting Minutes

Dale Willenborg called the meeting to order. Fifteen members were present plus one guest, our speaker Kevin White. Jokes were shared by Dee Gutttau and Chad Gutttau, followed by the group saying the Pledge of Allegiance. Jordan Campbell gave the opening prayer.

Gary Gutttau won the 50/50 Drawing and Jeff Jorgensen won the Attendance Drawing but was not present to collect. There were no birthdays or anniversaries observed.

**Bragging Rights** contributions to the Youth Fund: 1) Jerry Hempel announced his daughter-in-law, Chaley Rath Hempel, was named to the KMA Hall of Fame at the recent track meet, 2) Jerry also announced the weddings of his children, Eric in June, and Katie in August. 3) Kevin Underwood and Marsha Underwood donated because Bailey White will be going to St. Mary College, 4) Dale Willenborg stated he had helped a PJ resident move due to the floods.

**Old Business:** The Scholarship Committee is now comprised of Dale Willenborg, Bill Vorthmann, and Gary Gutttau, and Dee Gutttau and will make their

decisions after the meeting today. Eleven \$500 scholarships will be given- 9 from Optimists and 2 from JOII.

Gary Funkhouser reminded the group that the Optimist Youth Appreciation Event is scheduled at 3 PM on April 28 at Zion Congregational Church. The following volunteered to bring cookies/bars: Kevin Underwood, Jim Clausen, Bill & Ann Vorthmann, Dee Gutttau, and Judy Gutttau.

**New Business:** Can Kennel sorting helpers were Gary Funkhouser, Gary Gutttau, and Chad Gutttau with a good group of JOII Club members. The next Can Kennel sorting will take place Wednesday, May 1. Jordan Campbell will arrange the time which will benefit the Zion Congregational Church Youth.

**Community News:** Gary Funkhouser announced that several Treynor students will receive SWI Educational Scholarships this year. A fun comparison of tuition costs “way back then” ensued.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by stating the Optimists Pledge.

#### Calendar

Apr. 25 Mulch Madness – volunteer to help 5<sup>th</sup> graders mulch trees 12:30-3:00 PM  
Apr. 28 Optimist Youth Appreciation Event- 3 PM  
May 1 Can Kennel – Zion Congregational Youth

#### Birthdays

Apr. 24 Linda Danker  
Apr. 25 Irvin Saar  
Apr. 28 Gene Seran

#### Anniversaries

#### Programs

April John Klein  
May Gary Funkhouser  
June Mick Gutttau (first 3 weeks)  
Open (last 2 weeks)

#### Speakers

April 27: East & West Pott. Conservation District's new Conservation Education leader: Paige Volkens



Judy Gutttau, Editor, 31107 Dogwood Rd, Treynor, IA 51575  
402-670-4330

Dues/Donations/Flag Money: Mail to Optimist Club of Treynor, PO Box 354, Treynor, IA 51575