Published Bi-Weekly for the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska

Winnebago Indian Sports Updates!

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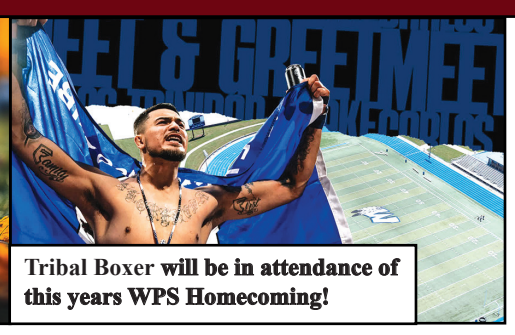

Tribal Boxer will be in attendance of this years WPS Homecoming!

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Volume 55, Number 19

Hūwą žuk wīra
Elk Calling Moon

Saturday, September 26, 2026

The masthead scene for this edition of the Winnebago Indian News features a beautiful overview sight from grand entry at the 2025 Harvest Celebration. Following our previous countdown to the annual homecoming celebration, we are continuing our countdown to the Wahaği Wōška, 2026 Harvest Celebration. SAVE THE DATE: Tuesday, September 29, 2026. *(Photography by Garan Coons)*

Building on a Promise: Little Priest Tribal College Breaks Ground on 10-Acre Annex

By Gayla Whitewater
Photography by Little Priest Tribal College

WINNEBAGO, Neb. — On September 22, 2026, Little Priest Tribal College gathered with Tribal leaders, college leadership, staff, families and supporters to break ground on Phase 1 of its 10-acre campus annex. It was a day to celebrate what will be built and to remember the words that brought the college into being: "Be strong and educate my children." Those words are attributed to Chief Little Priest, the Winnebago Tribe's last war chief and the college's namesake. When the Tribe chartered Little Priest Tribal College in May 1996, it made education part of how it would honor his wish. Thirty years later, the college continues to offer students a place to pursue their goals close to home, with Ho-Chunk language, culture and community at the heart of its mission. The new annex will give that mission more room to grow. Phase 1 is a $20.5 million project that includes infrastructure and two buildings. The north building will provide space for three career and technical education programs. The south building will include a student union, administrative offices and the Wolves Den. These will be places where students can learn a trade, find support, share a meal and build a future.

The groundbreaking was made possible through years of planning and the generosity of people who believe in the college's future. In 2020, the Winnebago Tribal Council donated the 10 acres for the expansion. A $5 million gift from MacKenzie Scott's Yield Giving in 2025, the largest single gift in LPTC's history, helped accelerate the plans. Additional grants and donations helped bring the college to this moment.

LPTC President Manoj Patil welcomed guests to the ceremony, followed by an invocation from Miskoo Petite. Winnebago Tribal Council Chairman Coly Brown and Vice-Chairman Eugene DeCora Sr. offered remarks, along with American Indian Higher Education Consortium President and CEO Ahniwake Rose, LPTC Board of

Con't. on page 2...

Nī šoc Nigešąną

By: Tyler Snake

Little Priest Tribal College celebrated Chief Little Priest Week, September 14–18, with a full schedule of events, including a groundbreaking ceremony, the 1st Annual Alumni Day, a community meal serving 500 people, a Lincoln Public Schools Preview Day, a walk/run, and a special presentation by Frank White. The week honored Chief Little Priest's legacy while helping students and community members learn more about his history and the importance of education.

On September 19th, Angel Levering won her boxing match against Taniyah Shera Price! The fight took place in Baltimore, MD for Sky Myles Promotion presenting THE SUPPER (live professional boxing). Congratulations to Angel for winning her second professional boxing match, going 2-0!

For those interested in media production, KWTN the Big Voice and the WIN are accepting bids for: Camera Operators, Commentary, Radio Announcers, DJ's, Sound/Audio Technicians, Desktop Publisher, and a News Reporter. Join our Productions Team and submit your bid by email to kwtn@winnebagotribe.com

A Home Run for Culture: 2026 HoChunk Language Baseball Tournament

By Bethani Redhorn
Photography courtesy of HoChunk Renaissance

[Winnebago, NE] The local community gathered at the downtown big screen on Saturday, September 12, 2026, for the highly anticipated Ho-Chunk Language Baseball Tournament. Hosted by the HoChunk Renaissance Language Preservation Program, the event paired competitive athletics with a shared commitment to cultural and language preservation.

The annual tournament tested the speaking skills and memory of local tribal members, using a specialized format where unique team requirements brought generations together. Each participating team was required to maintain a strategic lineup consisting of a minimum of five players, blending one adult (18+) and four youth players (5-17). Leading up to the big day, competitors spent weeks preparing by studying official language packets from the program and attended weekly open practice session at the Hoit'e ra hoci eja, (language learning center).

After an eventful day of testing their skills on the field, Wažōkį captured the championship title, taking home 1st place. The LaRose Wonağire delivered a strong performance to secure 2nd place, while the Ninja Turtles finished their impressive run for 3rd place. The tournament stood as a testament to community spirit, blending a formal dedication to language revitalization with the casual, high-energy atmosphere of a weekend ballgame. The event organizers expressed their gratitude to all the teams, fluent speakers, and spectators who stepped up to the plate to keep the language active and strong.

For those looking to learn more about upcoming community events or to explore language learning resources, you

Con't. on page 2...

"Hōcąk wōšgą hanįwina wakaracąk wiāje! - *Honor our traditions!*"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

...*Con't from front page:* Building on a Promise: Little Priest Tribal College Breaks Ground on 10-Acre Annex

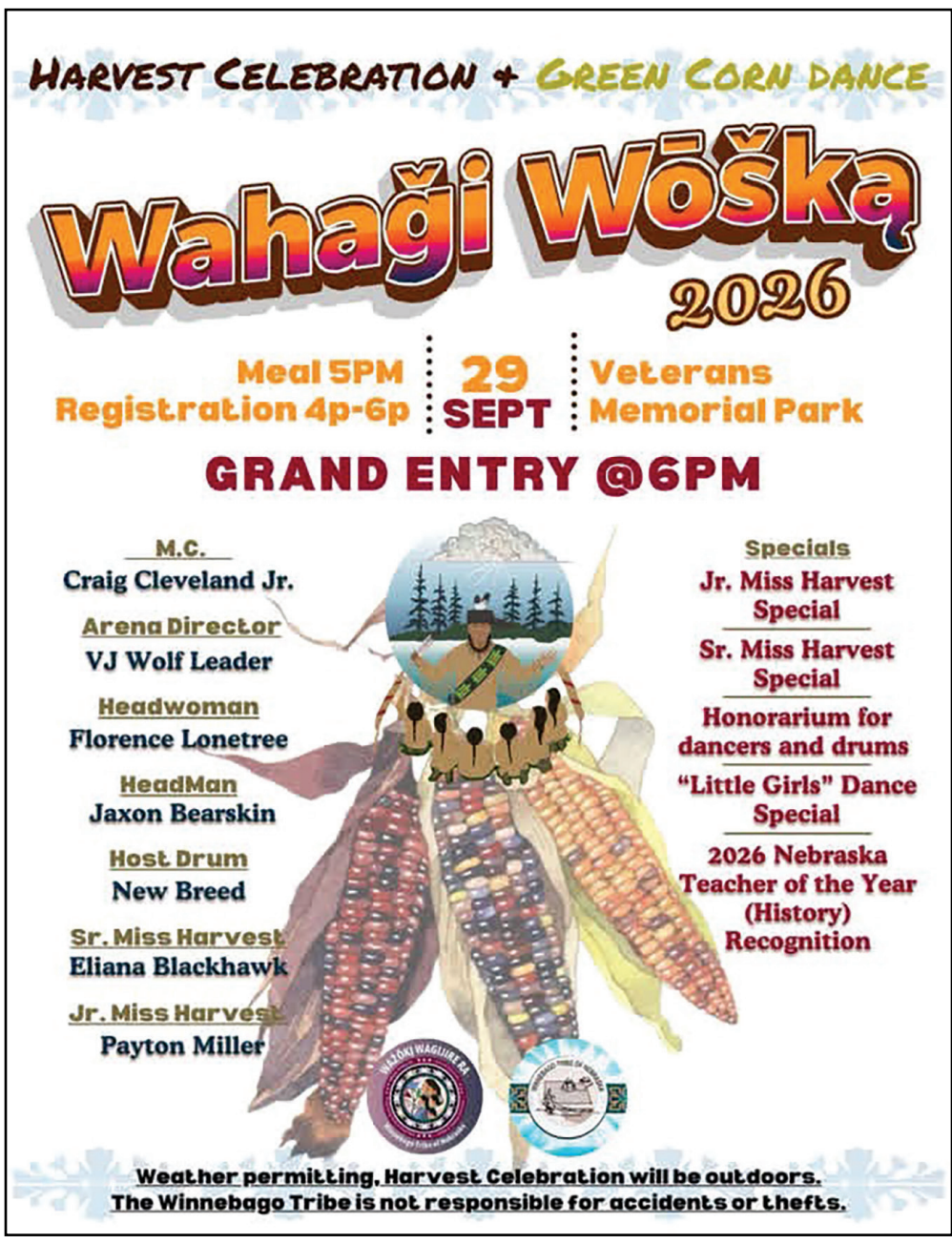
Trustees Treasurer Lynelle Blackhawk, and Board Chair Amy LaPointe-Houghton. Reflecting on how much the campus has changed in a short time, LaPointe-Houghton said, "In a lifetime, maybe you're able to participate in groundbreaking ceremony one, but this is the third one of many to come. You see a science building. We have carpentry." For her, the growth was about seeing the college's mission and Chief Little Priest's words "come to life."

The program included a time for felicitation and recognition before Patil delivered closing remarks. Afterward, guests gathered for a traditional meal of bison chili, frybread, berries and wild rice casserole.

For many students, the chance to study close to home can mean staying connected to family while taking the next step in their education. The annex will expand what LPTC can offer them, but its purpose has been there from the beginning. In every classroom, training space and gathering place, the college carries forward Chief Little Priest's wish: "Be strong and educate my children."

...*Con't from front page:* A Home Run for Culture: 2026 HoChunk Language Baseball Tournament

can connect with the HoChunk Renaissance Language Preservation Program online at hochunklanguage.com or via their official Facebook page. To contact the program by phone, you can call (402)878-4135 or email them at: language@winnebagotribe.com to access curriculum materials, download the official app, or join future community language sessions.



Wāgax hūk ra wāgax hokik'ụna

Letter to the Editor

Winnebago Indian News is owned and published by the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska".

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Hearing
Case No. JFJ26-025ABCD
The People of the Winnebago Tribe In the Interest of:
A.W.
R.H.
A.W.
A.W.

To: AUDREY WOLFE, Mother
& ROBERT HENRY, JERRY TINDALL, &
ALL POTENTIAL FATHERS

You are hereby notified that a hearing for an Initial Appearance concerning the above referred minor individual(s) in case no. JFJ26-025ABCD has been scheduled and will be heard in the Winnebago Tribal Court of Winnebago, Nebraska on the 30th day of Sept., 2026 at the hour of 1:00 P.M.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Hearing
Case No. JFJ26-019AB
The People of the Winnebago Tribe
In the Interest of:
E.M. (Born 3/2012)
D.M. (Born 8/2013)

To: ALISON DUMARCE, Mother
ALL POTENTIAL FATHERS

You are hereby notified that a hearing for an Initial Appearance concerning the above referred minor individual(s) in case no. JFJ25-019AB has been scheduled and will be heard in the Winnebago Tribal Court of Winnebago, Nebraska on the 14th day of October, 2025 at the hour of 11:30 A.M.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Hearing
Case No. CV26-146
In the Matter of the
Guardianship Petition of:
Kristina Yellowbank
In Re:
J.V.G. (Born 12/2017)

TO: MAYA WHITE, Mother
JERAMY VANDELL, Father

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed for Guardianship and a hearing concerning the above-referred Individual(s) in Case No. CV26-146 has been scheduled and will be heard in the Winnebago Tribal Court of Winnebago, Nebraska on the 21st day of SEPTEMBER 2026 at the hour of 11:00 A.M.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Hearing
Case No. JFJ26-023
The People of the Winnebago Tribe
In the Interest of:
Z.B.

To: VICTORIA POLENDO, Mother
& ALL POTENTIAL FATHERS

You are hereby notified that a hearing for an Initial Appearance concerning the above referred minor individual(s) in case no. JFJ26-023 has been scheduled and will be heard in the Winnebago Tribal Court of Winnebago, Nebraska on the 23rd day of Sept., 2026 at the hour of 10:30 A.M.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Hearing
Case No. JFJ26-026
The People of the Winnebago Tribe In the Interest of:
N.K.

To: AMEAH KITCHEYAN, Mother
& ALL POTENTIAL FATHERS

You are hereby notified that a hearing for an Initial Appearance concerning the above referred minor individual(s) in case no. JFJ26-026 has been scheduled and will be heard in the Winnebago Tribal Court of Winnebago, Nebraska on the 30th day of Sept., 2026 at the hour of 1:30 P.M.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Hearing
Case No. CV26-144
In the Matter of the
Name Change Petition of:
LADONNA LEGARDE
to LADONNA HOLSTEIN

To: ANY INTERESTED PARTIES

You are hereby notified that a petition for Name Change has been filed and a hearing concerning the above referred Individual in case no. CV25-056 has been scheduled and will be heard in the Winnebago Tribal Court of Winnebago, Nebraska on the 14TH day of September, 2025 at the hour of 10:00 A.M.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Hearing
Case No. CV23-018
In the Matter of the
Guardianship Petition of:
SIMONE ALDRICH In Re:
M.A. (Born 9/2017)

TO: SHAQUILLE MONIZ, Father

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed for Guardianship and a hearing concerning the above-referred Individual(s) in Case No. CV23-018 has been scheduled and will be heard in the Winnebago Tribal Court of Winnebago, Nebraska on the 21st day of SEPTEMBER 2026 at the hour of 10:30 A.M.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Hearing
Case No. JFJ26-022
The People of the Winnebago Tribe
In the Interest of:
A.C.

To: TANYA MCCULLY, Mother
& ALL POTENTIAL FATHERS

You are hereby notified that a hearing for an Initial Appearance concerning the above referred minor individual(s) in case no. JFJ26-022 has been scheduled and will be heard in the Winnebago Tribal Court of Winnebago, Nebraska on the 23rd day of Sept., 2026 at the hour of 11:00 A.M.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Hearing
Case No. JFJ26-024
The People of the Winnebago Tribe
In the Interest of:
X.C.

To: ANNA CLEVELAND, Mother
& RASHAAN POMANIO, Father

You are hereby notified that a hearing for an Initial Appearance concerning the above referred minor individual(s) in case no. JFJ26-024 has been scheduled and will be heard in the Winnebago Tribal Court of Winnebago, Nebraska on the 23rd day of Sept., 2026 at the hour of 11:30 A.M.

JESUS OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN OUTREACH

By: Pastor Ricky Jacob

'Live your life by faith'

The title of my article is 'Live your life by faith.' This is certainly good news. However, the writer of the book of Hebrews led to this point while starting with a WARNING. The warning was: 'For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth a sacrifice for sins is no longer left, 27 but rather a fearful prospect of judgment and a fiery zeal that is soon to devour the opponents [of God]' [Hebrews 10:26-27 Kleinig translation].

As I wind down my ministry at Jesus Our Savior Lutheran Church, I have chosen to prepare my members for a future without me as their pastor. I have been leading a Bible study on the book of Hebrews, as well as preaching my homilies, on the closing chapters of Hebrews. The reason for this is that the focus should always be on the Good Pastor and not on me. I will not always be with my flock leading them, however, Jesus the Good Shepherd - the Good Pastor will be with them always.

With this in mind it is good to warn the members of Jesus Our Savior Lutheran Church, as well as those who read this article, that willful sinning cancels out the benefit of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross.

We pick up the text in verse 28: 'Anyone who sets aside the Law of Moses dies without mercy on [the evidence of] two or three witnesses. By how much more, do you think, will he be held worthy of more severe judgment who tramples on the Son of God and regards the blood of the covenant by which he has been made holy as something profane and insults the Spirit of grace? [Hebrews 10:28-29 Kleinig translation].

The writer, inspired by the Spirit of God, sums this point up: 'For we know him who said, "Vengeance is mine; I myself will repay," and again, "The Lord will vindicate his people." It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God' [Hebrews 10:30-31 Kleinig translation].

Now for some good news: moving to verse 37: 'For, "yet in a very little while the Coming One will come, and he will not delay; however, my righteous one shall have life by faith, but if he shrinks back, my soul is not well-pleased with him." We, however, do not belong [to the people who] shrink back from destruction, but [to the people] of faith for the safekeeping of the soul' Hebrews 10:37-39 Kleinig translation].

The Coming One is none other than Jesus the Son of God. Through the blessed gift of faith in Jesus and his bloody sacrifice to fulfill the blood covenant, as well as his resurrection - Creator God is well-pleased. If one shrinks back - Creator God is not at all pleased.

The remembrance of God's just judgment keeps the Christian believer focused on his/her need for persistence in faith in Jesus as one's Lord and Savior - for as long as they live - with or without Pastor Jacob's presence. This is also the blessed work and gift of the Spirit of God!

For the faithful Christian this text assures and reassures him or her of their claim for God's mercy and grace both now in the Divine Service and when they stand before him on the Last Day. All this is theirs through faith in Jesus, the one who came to save them from the guilt and shame of sin and who will come again to save them from the penalty of sin, which is everlasting death. For the faithful believer in Jesus their salvation is assured! To God be all glory!

Legacy Learning Cohort #5 Progress

The Legacy Learning Program's fifth cohort officially began on September 8, 2026. This cohort is a collaborative effort between Ho-Chunk, Inc.'s Legacy Learning Program and the Winnebago Tribe's Human Services Department, providing employment opportunities for 12 individuals who are ready to enter the workforce and develop valuable trade skills.

The program is designed to promote hands-on learning and knowledge sharing while participants gain practical experience in construction and home renovation projects throughout the Winnebago community. Through mentorship and on-the-job training, participants are developing skills in carpentry, home repair, and general construction while contributing to the improvement of local housing.

Since the program's launch, participants have been actively involved in a variety of projects, learning and applying skills such as flooring installation, countertop installation, painting, demolition, site preparation, cabinet installation, and wall repair. These projects provide opportunities for participants to build confidence, develop technical skills, and gain real-world work experience.

As Cohort #5 progresses, participants will continue expanding their skill sets while making meaningful contributions to the Winnebago community through housing renovation and improvement projects. The Legacy Learning Program remains committed to developing a skilled workforce, creating pathways to employment, and strengthening the community through education, training, and service.

The next issue of the WINNEBAGO INDIAN NEWS will be published on Oct. 10, 2026. DEADLINE for this issue will be Oct. 6, 2026.

THE WIN Winnebago Indian News

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The Winnebago Indian News (WIN), founded in January 1972, is published bi-weekly for the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska.

The Mission of the WIN is to inform and to educate the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska of issues that affect them, and to be a vehicle in which stresses positive and beneficial concerns and points of view.
LETTER POLICY: Signed editorials, letters and articles appearing in the WIN are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or attitude of the Winnebago Indian News or the Winnebage Tribal Council.
The WIN encourages the submission of Letters to the Editor; however, letters must be signed and addressed. Letters may be edited for language and length.

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Teresa Littlegeorge ..... Secretary
Rona Stealer ..... Treasurer
Victoria Kitcheyan ..... Member
Ireta Frazier ..... Member
Trey Blackhawk ..... Member
Keely Purscell ..... Member
Margaret Scott ..... Member

NAJA
Native American Journalists Association

TRIBAL COUNCIL MINUTES

WINNEBAGO TRIBE OF NEBRASKA
CEO REPORT
September 17, 2026

TRIBAL COUNCIL PRESENT: Coly Brown
Eugene DeCora
Rona Stealer
Teresa Littlegeorge
Ireta Frazier
Victoria Kitcheyan (in at 9:08 a.m.)
Margaret Scott (in at 9:13 a.m.)
Keely Bassette (v)
OTHERS PRESENT:
Darla LaPointe
Brittany Thomas
Clint Free, Sr.
Christina Parker
Chad Smith (v)
Kiva Harden-Free (v)
Anna Bess Preston (v)
Tiffany Buchanan (v)
Tana Lawrence (v)
Ramona Sheridan (v)
Cherie Tebo (v)
Kiana Lewis (v)
Terri Lee Medina (v)
Miskoo Petite (v)
Kellen Kelsey
Jaralyn Bear (v)
Kristine Earth
John Jensen (v)
Maggie Miller (v)
Tara Hernandez
Kim Sulsburger
Wayne Carroll (v)
Erin Mockler (v)
Erin Mockler (v)
Peggy LaRose
Anna Berridge (v)
Tyresha Romero (v)
TRIBAL COUNCIL ABSENT:
Trey Blackhawk – on Travel

*(v) indicates virtual attendance

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Brown called to order at 9:03 a.m.

OPENING PRAYER: Vice-Chairman DeCora offered the opening prayer.

APPROVE AGENDA:

Eugene DeCora motioned to approve the agenda with two additions for Executive Session. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

[Victoria in at 9:08 a.m.]

ADMINISTRATION:

CEO August Report – Presented by Darla LaPointe, CEO

Teresa Littlegeorge motioned to approve the August CEO Report. Rona Stealer seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

CAO August Report – Presented by Darla LaPointe, CEO

[Margaret in at 9:13 a.m.]

Eugene DeCora motioned to approve the August CAO Report. Margaret Scott seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

In-House Legal August Report – Presented by Chad Smith

Eugene DeCora motioned to approve the In-House Legal August Report. Victoria Kitcheyan seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:

ENROLLMENT COMMITTEE – two vacancies (seven applicants)

Teresa Littlegeorge motioned to appoint Cherie Tebo to the Enrollment Committee, three-year term. Victoria Kitcheyan seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Ireta Frazier motioned to appoint Maggie Miller to the Enrollment Committee, three-year term. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

POWWOW COMMITTEE – two vacancies (four applicants)

Teresa Littlegeorge motioned to appoint Kylista Harden-Free to the Powwow Committee, three-year term. Victoria Kitcheyan seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Rona Stealer motioned to appoint Terri Lee Medina to the Powwow Committee, three-year term. Victoria Kitcheyan seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD – four vacancies (two applicants)

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to appoint Kellen Kelsey to the Institutional Review Board as the WTN Planning Department position, three-year term. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Eugene DeCora motioned to appoint Barbara Pretends Eagle to the Institutional Review Board General Member position, two-year term. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Eugene DeCora motioned to advertise the other two vacancies until filled. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

SAFETY COMMISSION – one vacancy

Eugene DeCora motioned to advertise one vacancy for the Safety Commission for 30 days. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

DEPARTMENT SPOTLIGHT: Ho-Chunk Renaissance, Presented by Kristine Earth.

[Eugene out at 10:07 a.m.]

ENROLLMENT DEPARTMENT:

Tribal Enrollment Applicants

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to adopt resolution #26-210: Tribal Enrollment Applicants (A4898, A4899, A4901, A4921, A4922, A4928, A4931, A4935, A4937]. Margaret Scott seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Tribal Enrollment Applicants

Teresa Littlegeorge motioned to adopt resolution #26-211: Tribal Enrollment Applicants [A4905, A4926, A4927, A4932, A4936, A4939, A4940, A4941, A4942, A4943, A4950, A4952, A4954, A4957, A4958, A4959, A4960]. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

*This was approved by the Enrollment Committee in September, so there was question regarding the recent Secretarial Election outcome and when that took effect.

[Eugene in at 10:13 a.m.]

Absolute Relinquishment

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to adopt resolution #26-212: Disenrollment (383-U06323). Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Blood Quantum Correction

Rona Stealer motioned to adopt resolution #26-213: Blood Quantum Correction 383-U05599. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (1) abstain, IF Motion carried.

Blood Quantum Correction

Keely Purscell-Bassette motioned to adopt resolution #26-214: Blood Quantum Correction 383-U07009. Eugene DeCora seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Blood Quantum Correction

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to adopt resolution #26-215: Blood Quantum Correction 383-U07307. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Blood Quantum Correction

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to adopt resolution #26-216: Blood Quantum Correction 383-U07742. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Blood Quantum Correction

Eugene DeCora motioned to adopt resolution #26-217: Blood Quantum Correction 383-U08618. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT:

Indigenous Growth in New & Innovative Trade Employment (IGNITE) Grant Pilot Program

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to adopt resolution #26-218: Indigenous Growth in New & Innovative Trade Employment (IGNITE) Grant Pilot Program with a correction of the amount to $278,677.16. Margaret Scott seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

CTAS P4: Law Enforcement/Fire Dept. Building Discussion, further discussion is needed.

[Victoria and Rona out at 11:15 a.m.]

[Eugene out at 11:20 a.m., in at 11:22 a.m.]

HUMAN SERVICES:

WTN Motor Vehicle Approval – presented by Wayne Carroll.

[Ireta out at 11:24 a.m., in at 11:26 a.m.]

Eugene DeCora motioned to approve the updated WTN Motor Vehicle Policy to take effect October 1, 2026. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

WTN Handbook – Education Section Discussion – Presented by Tara Hernandez and Kim Sulsburger.

[Rona in at 11:33 a.m.]

[Victoria in at 11:34 a.m.]

Educare Handbook Approval – Presented by Peggy LaRose.

Eugene DeCora motioned to approve the Educare Handbook. Victoria Kitcheyan seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

*Executive session items will be moved to the Regular meeting agenda for September 17, 2026, starting at 1:00 p.m. due to another event.

ADJOURN:

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:54 a.m. Eugene DeCora seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 11:54 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Teresa Littlegeorge, Secretary
Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska

WINNEBAGO TRIBE OF NEBRASKA
REGULAR TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING
September 17, 2026

TRIBAL COUNCIL PRESENT:
Coly Brown
Rona Stealer
Eugene DeCora
Teresa Littlegeorge
Ireta Frazier
Margaret Scott
Keely Bassette-Purscell
Victoria Kitcheyan (v)
OTHERS PRESENT:
Jennie DeCora (v)
Kellie Snow (v)
Cherie Tebo (v)
Anna Bess Preston (v)
Maggie Miller (v)
Kiana Lewis (v)
Ramona Sheridan (v)
John Jensen (v)
Tyresha Romero (v)
Kristine Earth (v)
Christina Parker
Darla LaPointe (v)
Tiffany Buchanan (v)
Danelle Smith (v)
Elizabeth Bayer
TRIBAL COUNCIL ABSENT:
Trey Blackhawk – Travel

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Brown called to order at 1:23 p.m.

OPENING PRAYER: Chairman announced we will go off this morning and lunch prayer.

APPROVE AGENDA:

Eugene DeCora motioned to approve the amended agenda. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

READING OF THE MINUTES:

August 17, 2026, Mid-Monthly Tribal Council meeting minutes

Ireta Frazier motioned to approve the August 17, 2026, Mid-Monthly Tribal Council meeting minutes. Keely Purscell-Bassette seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

August 19, 2026, General Counsel meeting minutes

Ireta Frazier to approve the August 19, 2026, General Counsel meeting minutes. Eugene DeCora seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

August 28, 2026, Treasurer's Report meeting minutes

Eugene DeCora motioned to approve the August 28, 2026, Treasurer's Report meeting minutes. Margaret Scott seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

RATIFY FIVE SIGNATURES:

Donation of $250.00: for 250 pieces of fried chicken prepared by WinnaVegas Casino for the funeral meal of former tribal council member, Cecelia Earth on Sunday, August 23, 2026, out of the Tribal Council Donations line item.

Keely Purscell-Bassette motioned to ratify the five-signature approval: Donation of $250.00: for 250 pieces of fried chicken prepared by WinnaVegas Casino for the funeral meal of former tribal council member, Cecelia Earth on Sunday, August 23, 2026, out of the Tribal Council Donations line item. Eugene DeCora seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Approval of the Enrollment Adoption Ballot request for October 2026.

Keely Purscell-Bassette motioned to table until a corrected ballot received from Enrollment. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Approval of Resolution #26-207: Emergency Enrollment for A.K.L.-L. DOB: 9-1-26.

Eugene DeCora motioned to ratify the five-signature approving resolution #26-207: Emergency Enrollment for A.K.L.-L. DOB: 9-1-26. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Approval of Resolution #26-208: FY26 Native American career and Technical Education Program (NACTEP) Supplemental Funding.

Rona Stealer motioned to ratify the five-signature Approval of Resolution #26-208: FY26 Native American career and Technical Education Program (NACTEP) Supplemental Funding. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

TRIBAL COUNCIL ITEMS:

RFR for educational assistance – Jennie DeCora

[RS out at 1:37 p.m., in at 1:48 p.m.]

Eugene DeCora motioned to table until we can get some further information from the Education Department. Margaret Scott seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

RFR Darian Rave – regarding teaching Ho-Chunk language

Travel 29th Annual National Transportation in Indian Country Conference Chandler, AZ

Nov 15-19

Eugene DeCora motioned to approve Travel for the Tribal Council to attend the 29th Annual National Transportation in Indian Country Conference Chandler, AZ -Nov 15-19. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

NCAI 83rd Annual Convention and Marketplace

Rona Stealer motioned to approve travel for the Tribal Council to attend NCAI 83rd Annual Convention and Marketplace. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

[Teresa out at 1:59 p.m.]

ORANGE SHIRT – Discussion, no further action.

Nomination HRSA Tribal Advisory Council (TAC)

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to nominate Ireta Frazier to HRSA Tribal Advisory Council (TAC). Keely Purscell-Bassette seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (1) abstain, IF Motion carried.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES:

Eugene DeCora motioned to suspend the rules for the Enrollment corrections. Keely Purscell-Bassette seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION #26-211A-TRIBAL MEMBER APPLICANTS:

Eugene DeCora motioned to adopt resolution #26-211A: TRIBAL MEMBER APPLICANTS [A4905, A4926, A4927, A4932, A4936, A4939, A4941, A4942, A4943, A4950, A4952, A4954, A4957, A4958, A4959, A4960]. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

RATIFICATION OF FIVE SIGNATURE: Approving the Tribal Election Adoption Ballot, Emailed on September 17, 2026.

[Rona out at 3:08 p.m.]

[Teresa in at 3:09 p.m.]

Eugene DeCora motioned to Approve the Tribal Election Adoption Ballot emailed on September 17, 2026. Ireta

Con't. in next issue....

COMMUNITY

HVAC Bids Needed

Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska-Facilities is seeking bids for the Fall Start-Up for 42 office buildings owned by the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska.
Bids will be accepted from Sept 17-30, 2026
If you would like to bid, please request work/equipment information by stopping at Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska-Facilities at 224 Industrial Drive, Winnebago, Nebraska, 68071, by emailing Natalie Sawyer Davis, natalie.davis@winnebagotribe.com or Jonna Price, jonna.price@winnebagotribe.com, or by calling 402-878-2203.
Your bid proposal to James Price Sr., Facilities Manager, should include:
Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska as the client
Your contractor information
HVAC Fall Start-Up contract for 42 tribal buildings, the contract budget, and the terms and conditions
Services must start immediately upon signature of a contract

WINNEBAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS NOW HIRING

Winnebago Public Schools is now accepting applications for:
Nutritional Services Staff
Paraprofessionals

REQUIREMENTS:
Applicants must be **21 years of age or older** and must pass a **pre-employment drug screen**
and criminal background check.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Visit us online at: www.winnebagopublicschools.org

TO APPLY:
Stop by the **Winnebago Public Schools District Office**
or email **hr@winnebagok12.org**

JOIN THE WINNEBAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS TEAM!

Bring your photo ID with you when you vote in person. Or provide your Nebraska driver's license/state ID or a photocopy of the ID when you vote by mail.

A variety of acceptable and readily attainable IDs* may be used for voting purposes, including:

- Nebraska driver's license/state ID
- U.S. Passport, military ID, tribal ID
- Hospital, assisted-living facility, nursing home record
- Nebraska political subdivision ID (state, county, city, school, etc.)
- Nebraska college or university ID

MY VOTE. MY ID. LET'S BRING IT PHOTO ID NOW REQUIRED

*ID must include name and photo

A message from the Nebraska Secretary of State.

For more information on Voter ID, visit

VoterID.Nebraska.gov

TRIBAL TRANSIT NOTICE:

September 22, 2026
In a Tribal Council meeting on September 21, 2026, the following policy changes were approved, along with Transit Ticket prices. This is effective October 1, 2026. All tickets purchased before this date will be honored.

Ticket Price EFFECTIVE October 1, 2026
Single one way $5.00
Round Trip or 2 rides $6.00
10 rides $30.00
And 20 rides $60.00.

Tickets can be purchased from the Tribal Finance office located at the Blackhawk Center, Winnebago NE from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Money orders or debit cards are accepted. From your transit driver-Money orders only for the exact amount of the ticket. No cash will be accepted.
The following policies have been updated. Effective September 22, 2026.

- **No open food or beverage containers. Keep food in a bag and lids on drinks.**
- **If you are sick, please do not ride**
- **Demand Response: If you are going to be late, please notify the driver asap, driver may wait if within reason for scheduled route arrival time**
- Personal hygiene that disrupts the comfort and safety of other riders
- **Clothing and shoes must be always worn**
- **Maintain clean clothing and bodies and avoid offensive odors**
- **Factory riders must not wear work floor attire (contaminated clothing and boots) on the transit vehicles**
- **Drivers and staff have the discretion to deny boarding or require a passenger to leave if hygiene standards are violated**

All policies must be followed. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sharon Chamberlain, Manager
Winnebago Tribal Transit
sharon.chamberlain@winnebagotribe.com

WINNEBAGO TRIBAL COUNCIL

PRIMARY & REGULAR ELECTION SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER 1, 2026 & OCTOBER 6, 2026

September 1, 2026	**Tuesday**	**PRIMARY ELECTION**
September 2, 2026	Wednesday	Post Top Candidates
September 2, 2026 *Special Tribal Council Meeting*	Wednesday	Approve Enrollment & Adoption Requests
September 4, 2026	Friday	Send Ballots to Automated Election Services- Regular
September 25, 2026	**Friday**	**Deadline for Absentee Ballot Requests**
September 28, 2026	Monday	Absentee Ballots Mailed Out- Regular
October 6, 2026	**Tuesday**	**GENERAL ELECTION**
October 7, 2026	Wednesday	Notification of Newly Elected Members Oath of Office Re-Organizational Meeting of New Tribal Council Members

Tribal Council approval date: May 20, 2026

LITTLE PRIEST TRIBAL COLLEGE

Our Mission: "Be Strong and Educate My Children"

Little Priest Tribal College is now taking applications for the following positions:

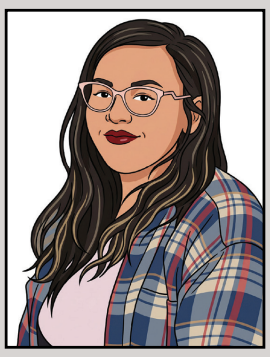
- **Academic Advisor**
- **Administrative Assistant-Academics**
- **Recruitment Specialist**
- **Student Equity Intern**
- **Student Extension Intern**
- **Wolves Den Assistant**

For more information, visit us on the web at:
https://www.littlepriest.edu/human-resources/
LPTC is an equal-opportunity employer.
LPTC 601 E. College Dr. Winnebago, NE

HAKEWE

Question of the Issue:

What are your overall thoughts on the rapid growth of data centers right now?

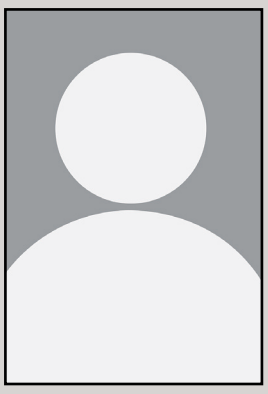


Bethani Redhorn
Winnebago Indian News Editor

I think that a data center is a threat to any environment or community that it is built on or around. It has harmful impacts on the water, land, air, and wildlife. It pollutes the ecosystem, and I was honestly surprised to learn about the current number of data centers in operation right now. There's already more than enough. Even daily use of a cellphone contributes heavily to these data centers, but the truth is that we need water more than the machines do.

Kevin Ebert
Multi-Media Coordinator

My view on data centers is that we need to be smarter about where we build them. They use a lot of power and water, and I don't think communities should have to absorb all of that without asking whether there's a better option. Why aren't we putting more data centers offshore or underwater, where ocean water could help cool them? We already run fiber-optic cables across oceans, so connecting them is possible. I know there are costs and maintenance challenges, but I think we should take that option seriously before building more facilities that strain local resources.



Tyler Snake
W.I.N. Office Manager

I agree with Gayla. In my eyes it's another form of pollution; oil spills, burning fossil fuels, etc.. It seems like there's constantly new ways people are contributing to ruining our natural resources.

Christina Parker
Web Master

The innovations with A.I. is becoming more and more inevitable. I personally am hesitant to use it but at the same time I want to learn how it works.
As a digital creator, I attended the 2025 Adobe Max design conference and the quote that was stated, "A.I. works for us, we don't work for A.I."
Money is not a cure all when it comes to our precious natural resources of future generations.

Gayla Whitewater
Comm. Office Manager

: I'm afraid of what data centers could mean for our water, our animal relatives, and the future our children will inherit. We need laws that protect our communities and natural resources, and seeing as it won't slow down anytime soon, we should at least require companies to use cooling systems that minimize or even replace water consumption. I'm also concerned about how people may misuse AI and AI itself becoming more self-aware. I've read recently that major AI labs including Google, Anthropic, OpenAI, and Meta have recently reported incidents where autonomous AI models and testing agents escaped secure environments or misconfigured parameters to hack into external third-party systems. It is all pretty crazy, but I appreciate our tribal leaders for taking a stance on these issues and organizing the teach-in this past month! Education is power.

Quince Bass
Radio Station Broadcast Manager

I do not like the idea of these data centers. I think about the sound and vibration it would make. The fish and wild life on our land would eventually die off. Our people are one with the land, so it bothers me. Also these data centers use fresh water from underground aquifers and that water does not come back. Villages will die once the water is gone.

Carlos Trinidad-Snake to Join Winnebago Public Schools Homecoming Festivities

Ho-Chunk, Inc. is helping bring excitement to the Winnebago Public Schools Homecoming celebration by welcoming Carlos Trinidad-Snake, an enrolled Winnebago Tribal member and professional Bare Knuckle Fighting Championship (BKFC) fighter.

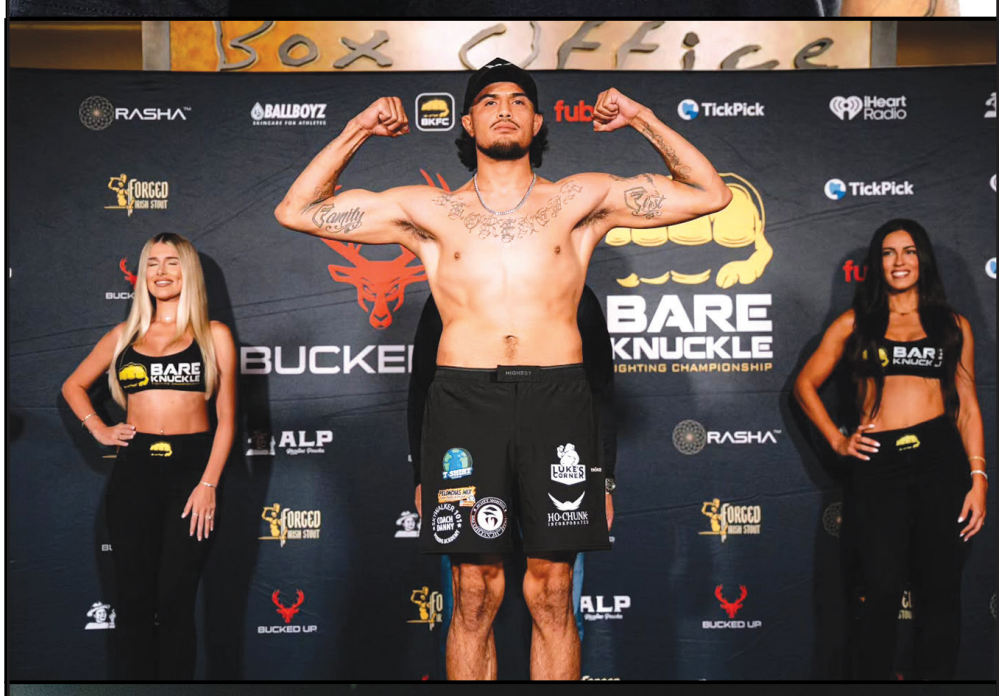
On Friday, October 2 at 10 a.m., Carlos will ride on the Ho-Chunk, Inc. float during the Homecoming Parade.

Following the parade, Carlos will participate in a community meet and greet in the WPS practice gym beginning at 11:45 a.m. and ending at 12:30 p.m.

Attendees will have the opportunity to meet him and take photos.

The first 75 guests will receive a free commemorative t-shirt.

We hope to see you there!



WPS SPORTS

Winnebago Cross Country Strides Forward: Stover Shatters Record Back-to-Back

By Big Voice Sports Team

WINNEBAGO, NE — The Winnebago High School cross country teams are turning heads this fall, showing remarkable improvement across the board as both individual runners and the team as a whole continue to drop their times on the course.

The standout moment of the season belongs to junior standout Kimi Stover, who accomplished a historic feat by breaking the girls' school record in the 5K cross country back-to-back weeks.

Stover first rewrote the record books on Monday, September 14, with a time of 23:01.68 at the Wayne Country Club invite. Refusing to slow down, she shattered her own newly minted record just days later on Thursday, September 17, with an impressive time of 22:11.71 at the Twin Creeks Golf Club in Pender, Nebraska. Her relentless pace and determination have set a high bar for the Indian squad this season.

Coaches and fans alike have also praised the collective growth of the entire varsity roster. Through hard work in practice, both the boys' and girls' squads have steadily shaved minutes off their personal and team times, building strong momentum heading into the final stretch of the fall schedule.

Looking Ahead

The Indians will use the upcoming weeks to fine-tune their stride before returning to competition on Thursday, October 1st. The team will travel to South Ridge Golf Course in South Sioux City, Nebraska, to test their mettle against a competitive field.

Congratulations once again to Kimi Stover on her record-breaking performance, and best of luck to the entire Winnebago high school cross country team as they race toward the finish line of the season!

WINNEBAGO PUBLIC SCHOOL: GIRLS GOLF

By Big Voice Sports Team

WINNEBAGO, NE — Though small in numbers, the Winnebago Lady Indians high school golf team is making a big impact on the links this fall. Consisting of a dedicated two-player roster, the squad has shown tremendous strides, demonstrating consistent improvement in their weekly scores as they navigate a competitive schedule.

The Lady Indians hit the links last week for a challenging meet at the Evergreen Hills Golf Course, gaining valuable experience and refining their short games. Action continued earlier this week with a trip to the Hartington Golf Course on Monday, where the golfers faced off against tough regional competition.

While a scheduled meet at the Wayne Country Club—originally set for Thursday, September 24th—was recently canceled, the team remains focused on the finish line of their regular season.

Looking Ahead to Postseason Play

The Lady Indians will wrap up their regular-season schedule on Saturday, October 3rd, traveling to the Oakland Golf Club in Oakland, Nebraska.

Following the tournament in Oakland, the team will transition directly into the postseason stretch, preparing for upcoming conference and district championships. The Winnebago Indian News will provide further updates and results as the postseason unfolds.

Good luck to the Lady Indians golf team as they tackle the final weeks of the season!

Lady Indians Show Grit and Growth Through Busy Stretch of Volleyball Season

By Big Voice Sports Team

WINNEBAGO, NE — The Winnebago Lady Indians high school volleyball team has been putting in fierce work on the court, showing tremendous heart and steady improvement through a demanding recent stretch of games.

Recent Match Highlights:

* vs. Ponca (Sept. 15): The Lady Indians hosted Ponca in a stellar home matchup, dropping three hard-fought, incredibly close sets. Despite the final score, the team played their best volleyball of the season, displaying remarkable resilience, teamwork, and fight to the very end. Fans showed their deep appreciation by rewarding the squad with a well-deserved standing ovation.

* at Bancroft-Rosalie (Sept. 17): Traveling on the road, Winnebago fell in three sets with scores of 25-5, 25-13, and 25-14.

* vs. Omaha Nation (Sept. 22): Back home, the Lady Indians pushed Omaha Nation to the limit in an exciting, nail-biting five-set thriller. Omaha Nation ultimately edged out the win in the final set, but the battle highlighted Winnebago's competitive spirit.

Season Progress and Look Ahead:

Spectators can easily see the growth in this year's squad. Both the players and coaching staff have dedicated significant practice hours to sharpening their serves, and that hard work is translating to the court.

The busy schedule continues tonight, Thursday, September 24, as the Lady Indians host a triangular against Tri County Northeast and Lyons-Decatur.

Looking ahead to next week:

* Sept. 28: Winnebago hosts Osmond at home starting at 5:00 p.m.

* Oct. 1: The team hits the road to play Winside.

Come out and support the Lady Indians as they continue to fight hard and grow stronger with every match!

CHAMPIONS ROLL: INDIANS DEFENSE IN TITLE RUN WITH 52-0 SHUTOUT AT LITTLE WOUND

By Big Voice Radio Sports Team

KYLE, SOUTH DAKOTA — The defending All Nations Football League Champion Winnebago Indians picked up right where they left off last season, traveling to Little Wound High School in Kyle, South Dakota, to open their title defense with a dominant 52-0 shutout against the Little Wound Mustangs.

Despite a dropped pass on the very first play from scrimmage, the Indians immediately bounced back when quarterback Raiden Decora burst through for a 53-yard touchdown run. Decora then connected with Rahkim Free-Bass for the extra points, putting Winnebago up 8-0 early.

From there, the defense locked down with a quick four-and-out, setting up another scoring march. Decora engineered a stellar drive, capped off by a 29-yard touchdown pass to Free-Bass and an extra-point conversion to Antonio Perez, stretching the lead to 16-0.

Midway through the half, when the Mustang crowd started chanting "Go Big Blue"—the same chant our fans use back home—it lit a fire under the Indians. Defensive back Sirvel Rave quickly responded by stripping a runner and recovering a fumble. Despite a brief turnover hiccup, the defense answered with a fourth-down stop anchored by Trayven Grant, Leidy Hunter, and Rave.

The offense kept rolling before the break:

Decora to Free-Bass: A 9-yard TD pass, followed by a 3-yard Decora rushing conversion, extended the lead to 24-0.

Ground Attack: Strong runs by Sirvel Rave (15 yards), Rahkim Free-Bass (13 yards), and Raiden Decora (24 yards) set up a 5-yard TD run and extra-point run by Decora, making it 32-0.

Turnover Magic: Braden Brownrigg snagged a brilliant interception, leading to another 21-yard TD strike from Decora to Free-Bass to push the score to 38-0.

Defensive Scores: E.J. Latray and Noah Solomon delivered huge tackles for losses, before Leidy Hunter stripped the quarterback and raced 31 yards for a defensive touchdown right before the half. A reception by Decora made it 46-0 at the break.

The second half was brief and sweet. On just the second play from scrimmage, Sirvel Rave snagged an interception and returned it for a pick-six, sealing the 52-0 mercy-rule victory.

The Winnebago Indians look world-class this year. Congratulations to Raiden Decora and Rahkim Free-Bass for being stat leaders for the All Nations Football League. It is an absolute honor to follow them, capture these moments, and report back to Big Voice Radio and the Winnebago Indian News. Go Big Blue!

2026 football team during practice.

2026 volleyball team takes the ship during the Winnebago Tournament.

Congratulations to Kimimila S.! She has recently broke not one but two Cross-Country school records!

CASINO♦RESORT

IT'S JUST MORE FUN

$100K MONSTER CASH BASH

Saturdays In October
6pm to 11pm

Get Ready To WINN Big...
IF YOU DARE!

Start earning entries **October 1 - 31.** 1 Entry for every 10 points earned.

COLLIN RAYE

Saturday, October 24th
Doors at 7pm * Show at 8pm

Tickets starting at $25!
Live at the WinnaVegas Event Center

Tickets can be purchased in person at the WinnaVegas Gift Shop, by calling 800-468-9466, ex. 7117 or online at winnavegas.com.

For more information: visit *WinnaVegas.com* or call us at *800-468-9466*