

KENOSHA NEWS

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Dancing at Country Thunder



Eric Betty enjoys a dance with his wife, Naomi, during Craig Morgan's set Saturday at the Country Thunder music festival near Twin Lakes. Betty is a big Morgan fan, but also looked forward to seeing Kevin Costner & Modern West after seeing them a year ago while stationed in Iraq. The Bettys came from Henryville, Ind., for the festival.

Craig Morgan slaps hands with his fans toward the end of his performance early Saturday evening at Country Thunder. He was well-received by a loud and boisterous crowd and went to the end of the long stage runway to greet his fans.



KENOSHA NEWS PHOTOS BY BILL SIEL

Craig Morgan, Kevin Costner croon for Country Thunder fans

BY JESSICA FRYMAN
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TWIN LAKES — Kevin Costner at Country Thunder? You mean the real one? The actor?

The questions were endless before the famous movie star took the stage with Modern West, his country band that most in the audience didn't know existed. Some even preemptively compared Costner's presence at the festival to Jessica Simpson, who performed two years ago to many disappointed patrons who said she didn't "fit" with the rest of the lineup.

While he wasn't booed as the pop-turned-country singer was in 2008, Costner's spot in the lineup didn't sit well with many people.

But the actor — known

for his roles in such films as "Dances with Wolves" and "Field of Dreams" — played up his lesser-known singing talents well, asking the crowd if it was ready to break up the "curiosity party" before he kicked off an hour and a half of slow-moving tunes.

Costner took it back to more traditional country sounds, crooning and strumming his guitar while leaving the pop influences of more popular country music behind. The band, although it had a quality tone, didn't keep the audience jumping on its feet like it was for Craig Morgan's high-energy set.

Most of the crowd didn't seem to mind Costner's music, though. They applauded for Modern West throughout

its act, despite watching the show from their seats.

"He's funny. He's talking and telling stories and he's not a bad singer," Bob Rice, a 43-year-old from Chicago, said. "I think he should have been lower though."

Costner led up to headliner Miranda Lambert, getting a higher bill than country music veterans Collin Raye and Craig Morgan, who has five singles that made the Top 10 of the Billboard country charts.

"You need to pay your dues and move up just like everyone else," Tom Balentine, a 61-year-old from Naperville, Ill., said. "But we listened to Jessica Simpson with open ears, so why not?"

See **THUNDER**, Back page

Watery world

Fox River area residents warned of flooding

BY JOHN KREROWICZ
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County officials suggest residents near flood-prone areas of the Fox River should consider leaving their homes as water levels continue rising.

A Kenosha County Sheriff's representative said Saturday morning that notices — sent to residents from Kenosha County Emergency Management — indicate the river was expected to crest during the day at 13.5 feet, which is 3½ feet above flood stage. Such a crest would cause moderate flooding in low-lying areas near the river in Wheatland, Salem and Silver Lake.

However, no one had evacuated as of Saturday morning. With the crest expected to pass Saturday afternoon or evening, it was uncertain whether any residents moved out of the way of the rising water as of press time.

The National Weather Service continued its flood warning Saturday for the Fox River near New Munster.

By Saturday afternoon, the weather service revised its peak daily water level forecasts to 13 feet at 1 a.m. Monday. Predictions were 12.79 feet at 7 a.m. today, rising to 12.98 feet by 7 p.m.

The rain that fell at the Kenosha Airport between 7 a.m. Thursday and 1 p.m. Saturday exceeded the average for all of July, online weather service records show. A total of 3.91 inches of rain fell during that 54-hour period, versus 3.68 inches that is the norm based on 1971-2000 information.

Besides the immediate Fox River area, no other significant sites of flooding had been reported to Sheriff's Department or Kenosha Police officials.

The weather service predicts Kenosha County will remain dry through Tuesday night, when there is a 30 percent chance of showers.

Today's and Monday's high temperatures are expected to be near 81. Tuesday should be warmer, with an 85-degree high temperature predicted.

Wednesday could have showers and thunderstorms, accompanied by a high temperature near 88. The chance of rain continues into Thursday and Friday. Both days' high temperatures could be in the low 80s.

Midwest rains close roads, put hole in dam

CHICAGO (AP) — Standing water on Chicago-area expressways turned what should have been an easy Saturday morning drive into a soggy, snarled mess after heavy rains across the Midwest closed roads, stranded residents and punched a hole through an Iowa dam.

In Chicago, officials say more than 7 inches of rain fell early Saturday, inundating the sewer system and overwhelming waterways. Water covered portions of several Chicago interstates and the commuter train tracks that run along them, leading crews to divert traffic and call in bus shuttles. Portions of Interstate 290 west of downtown were closed for several hours.

Chicago Mayor Richard Daley and other officials urged residents to call for help if they need it.

West of Chicago in suburban Westchester, crews in boats were searching for people who were stranded in their flooded homes or trapped in cars under viaducts.

In eastern Iowa, the Lake Delhi dam failed as rising floodwater from the Maquoketa River ate a 30-foot-wide hole in the earthen dam, causing water to drop 45 feet to the river below and threatening the small town of Hopkinton.

Lake Delhi was created in the 1920s by damming the Maquoketa River. The resort area now has about 700 cabins and homes.

Areas below and above the dam had been evacuated after heavy rain has pushed the river to 23.92 feet — more than 2 feet above its previous record of 21.66 feet in 2004.

Jack Klaus, a spokesman with the Delaware County emergency management office, said warning sirens sounded in Hopkinton as water began to surround homes Saturday afternoon.

"There's going to be significant losses of property there," Klaus said.

Donna Dubberke, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Davenport, said areas below the dam will see an initial crest in the river caused by the dam's failure followed by a secondary crest as the high water above the dam made its way downstream.

"There will be initial wave from the sudden shot of water and a secondary shot behind it from the rainfall," she said.



Maquoketa River water gushes out of the damaged Lake Delhi Dam on Saturday as areas surrounding the river in Delhi, Iowa, were evacuated.

AP PHOTO

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DEATHS

Dorothy A. "Dotsie" Sundstrom, 91, of Kenosha, died Saturday at Regent Manor of Kenosha. *Piasecki-Althaus* **A4**

Mollie Esther Bertana, 87, of Kenosha, died Friday at her home. *Casey Family Options* **A4**

John K. Shannon Sr., 89, of Racine, died Friday at Lincoln Village Convalescent Center. *Maresh-Meredith & Acklam, Racine* **A4**

Robert J. "Bob" Benning, 82, of Kenosha, died Wednesday at Golden Living Center. *Bruch* **A4**

BIRTHDAYS



Sydney Arneson

Sydney Arneson turns 7 today. She enjoys ballet, diving, art and playing with dolls.

Other local birthdays:
Kari D'Amore, 10
Nick Gregory, 24
Janet Kuczynski, 90

Check out more birthday photos in the Weekday Report at www.kenoshanews.com.

OPINIONS

Kathleen Parker believes that thoughts count, and "Sunday Morning With ..." columnist **Basil Willis** explains how dogs get involved in cancer treatment. We've also got plenty of **Darts & Laurels** and **Voice of the People** letters. **Pages B6, 7**

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Above, Kevin Costner & Modern West take the stage at Country Thunder Saturday. At right, Shannon Biesenthal holds a sign high while singing along with Costner.

KENOSHA NEWS PHOTOS BY BILL SIEL



THUNDER: Costner slows pace at music festival

From Page A1

Actually Jessica has a pretty good voice, I just don't like where they put her in the order. That's the same with Kevin Costner."

Most of the concert-goers agreed, saying his music isn't well-known enough for his band to play ahead of a headliner. Plus, his set slowed the pace down too much between crowd favorites Craig Morgan and Miranda Lambert, some said.

"I kind of got bored, so we left," said Amy Talamantes, a 30-year-old from Albert Lea, Minn. "At 7 p.m. on a Saturday you have to play to the crowd more. I think Morgan's awesome. He should have been bumped up."

Even people who were looking forward to Costner's set thought the order wasn't appropriate for a festival focused on music.

"I was all excited when I saw he was going to be here," said Eric Betty, a 43-year-old Navy chief who saw Costner perform in Iraq last year.

Betty and his wife tapped their toes to Modern West from their seats, but the couple enthusiastically danced in the aisles for most of Craig Morgan's set.

"We're here to see Craig Morgan. I think he's one of the greatest country music stars," Betty, of Henryville, Ind., said. "As far as having Kevin Costner music in front of Craig Morgan, I

'AT 7 P.M.
on a Saturday you have to play to the crowd more. I think Morgan's awesome. He should have been bumped up.'

Amy Talamantes
Albert Lea, Minn.

think it's weird. But I guess it's Kevin Costner — and he's in some of the greatest movies of all time."

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Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

	4	2			9			
9					3		5	
		8				1		
3	6			8				
			7					
		9		8	4			
	3			9				
1	8							2
	5			4	7			

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 7/25

How to play Sudoku: Use numbers 1 through 9 once in each row and each column. Also, numbers 1 through 9 can only be used once in each 3x3 quadrant (upper left, upper center, upper right, etc.).

See today's answer on Page A2.

LOTTERY

For tickets dated Saturday, July 24, 2010

Wisconsin	Multi-state	Illinois
Daily Pick 3: 2-8-9. Double Draw: No Daily Pick 4: 6-0-7-7 SuperCash: 3-8-16-21-29-30. Doubler: No. Badger 5: 3-11-14-21-26. Megabucks: 2-6-15-26-40-49. Jackpot: \$1 million.	Mega Millions: Tuesday's estimated jackpot: \$24 million. Powerball: 20-30-38-46-59. Powerball: 27. Power Play: 2. Jackpot: \$53.9 million.	Pick3-Midday: 9-7-6 Pick 3-Evening: 7-5-9 Pick 4-Midday: 8-1-4-4 Pick 4-Evening: 0-4-1-9 Little Lotto: 26-27-30-37-38 Lotto: 1-3-4-13-37-40. Jackpot: \$3 million

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