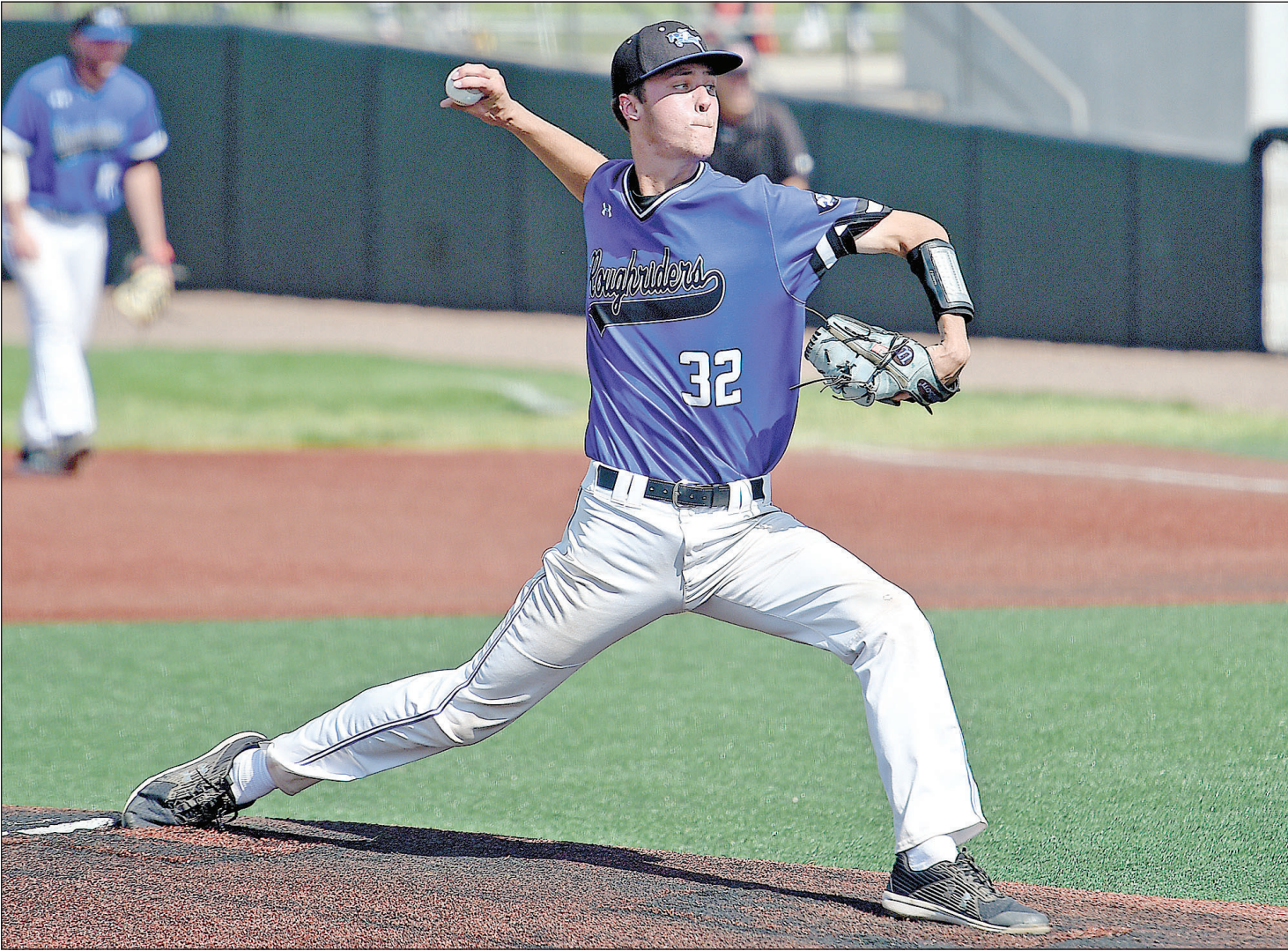
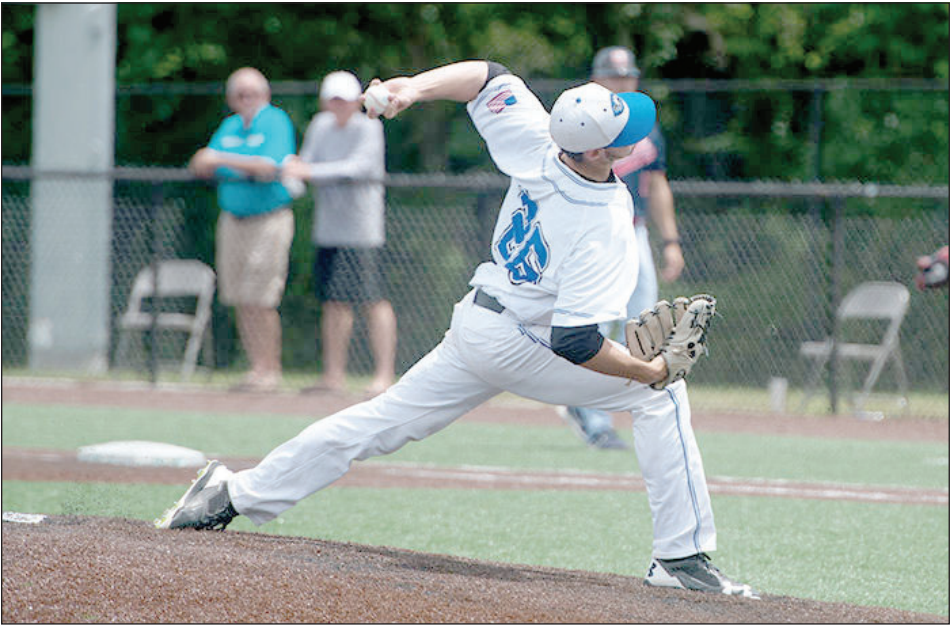


On the big stage



Globe file photos

Jacob Misorowski is shown here in 2022 pitching for the Crowder College Roughriders.



Aaron Ashby pitches a complete game against Seminole State College in 2017.

Two former Roughriders to pitch in MLB World Series

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Two World Series' bound Milwaukee Brewers — one a Cy Young candidate and the other a bullpen ace — played college baseball in Southwest Missouri under a head coach who headed to Milwaukee for Game 1 of the Fall Classic on Friday.

Jacob Misorowski, a starting pitcher who has earned accolades for his fastball, and Aaron Ashby, who collected the last nine outs to help send the Brewers to their first World Series in 44 years, are part of what Crowder College calls its ghostriders, an honorary term given to former Crowder Roughriders.

Ashby, a left-handed pitcher, and Misorowski,

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Heritage sign marks site of Shubert Theater

Sign installation was project of Leadership Joplin

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Installation of a new Joplin Heritage Trail sign was celebrated Thursday on property at the north entrance of the Harry M. Cornell Arts & Entertainment Complex. The sign marks the former site of the early day Shubert Theatre.

This marker was funded as a project of Leadership Joplin, which is a program of the Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce Foundation sponsored by community businesses to identify, cultivate and motivate future community leaders. The program is in its 44th year with more than 1,170

graduates, according to chamber information.

"This was a project many years in the making," said Emily Frankoski, executive director of the Connect-2Culture organization at the Cornell Complex, which also is home to the Spiva Center for the Arts. She and Jill Halbach, executive director of the Post Art Library, introduced the marker during Thursday morning's celebration. Sullivan said the heritage trail signs that provide information about local historic sites have been installed since 2022.

Frankoski said of the sign, "We were superexcited when Leadership Joplin approached us to talk about actually making it a reality because of course we can plan, we can write, but we also need dollars to make things happen. Leadership Joplin with their

See **SIGN** on A2



Debby Woodin | Globe

Jill Halbach, left, and Emily Frankoski pose with the historical sign marking the location of the Shubert Theatre in Joplin.

Spiva statue vandalized, removed from park

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Spiva Park in downtown Joplin is now without its vigilant benefactor.

The bronze statue of George A. Spiva has been removed by the Joplin Parks Department because of vandalism.

Joplin police reported that on Oct. 11, a Joplin city park ranger reported that the statue of Spiva had been removed from its bench where the likeness of the arts supporter had been. The statue was thrown into the park's fountain. The bench was broken.

Police said the incident likely happened during the night before the damage was found. A police report stated that efforts to determine how the heavy bronze statue had been removed had been exhausted.

The city's parks director, Paul Bloomberg, said that the statue could likely be repaired and the statue and bench are now being stored by the city.

A Spiva family member, Gay Cragin Currence, said on behalf of the family that, "We were obviously very upset about what happened to the statue. We were upset and disappointed that there was vandalism. I don't know why people would be so destructive."

George A. Spiva gave land for the park to the city of Joplin in August 1965 in memory of his father, George N. Spiva. Both were prominent in business and leaders of civic causes.

An art lover, George A. Spiva also was the inspiration for Spiva Center for the Arts located now in the Cornell Complex and a major founding donor of Spiva Library at Missouri Southern State University.

The bronze statue is a life-size sculpture by artist Mischell Riley depicting the park's benefactor as if he were sitting casually enjoying a day outside.

The Cragin family has been working along with the city and community volunteers for several years to maintain and improve the park.

More charges filed in Joplin Jail drug exchanges

Two more suspects charged

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Two more suspects have been charged with distributing drugs earlier this month in the Joplin City Jail, which allegedly caused some inmates to become ill from overdoses.

Charges were filed Oct. 21 in Jasper County Circuit Court against Kenneth Earl Carter, 47, who is listed as homeless; and Edward Turner, age unavailable, of Duenweg.

According to a probable cause statement filed by Joplin police Sgt. Jason Stump, Turner reported that on Oct. 12 methamphetamine was provided by Carter to him and to fellow inmates Kore Thomason, Daniel Rendon, James Johnny, and a fourth as-yet unidentified inmate.

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