

# The Kenmare News

HOME OF THE OLD DANISH MILL AND THE KENMARE HONKERS

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## Al Scherbenske honored . . .

For more than half a century, 51 years, retired KHS business teacher Al Scherbenske has been the announcer and score board operator for Kenmare Honkers basketball and volleyball games.

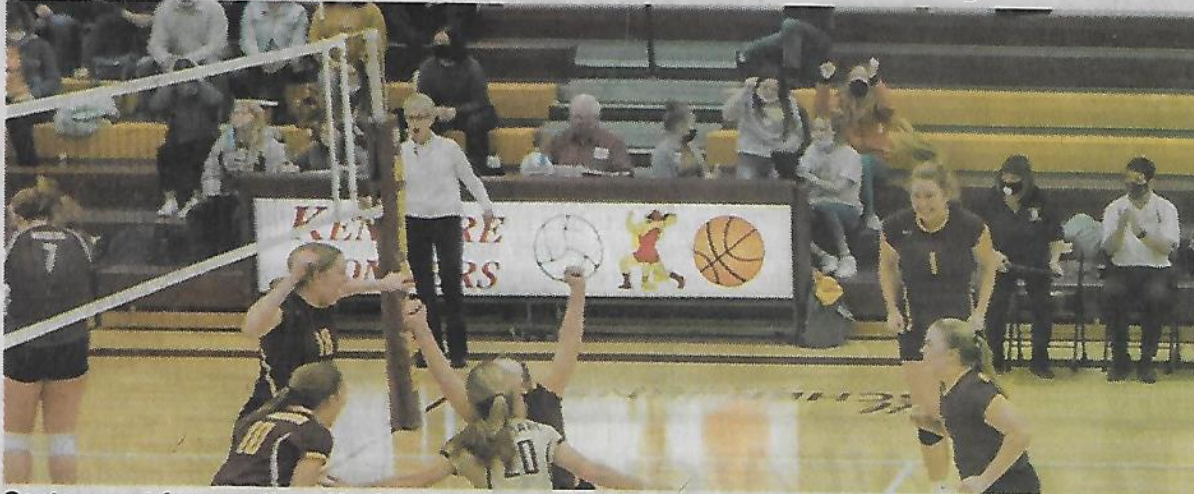
Scherbenske was honored last week at the KHS Activities Banquet with piece of the gym floor that bears his name, the Al Scherbenske Court. The hardwood floor of the gym was replaced last year. Athletic Director Kacy Keysor and Modern Woodworks owner Shane Harris salvaged a piece of the old gym floor to create the commemorative piece shown at right in the photo, as Scherbenske addresses the crowd.

**See more on Page 12**





# Al Scherbenske has been working courtside or sidelines for an estimated 1500 Honkers events over 51 years



**Center court for countless Honker victories . . .** Al Scherbenske is pictured at the center of the photo, at center court operating the score clock as the Kenmare Honkers scored the winning point in the Region 8 volleyball championship at Kenmare High School on November 14, 2020. Over a span of 51 years, Scherbenske has been a part of about 1500 varsity events, running the clock or keeping score for basketball and volleyball games, or serving on the chain gang for football games.

Former Kenmare High School business teacher, Al Scherbenske, was honored last week for his 51 years of dedicated service to the Honkers athletic events. At the Honkers Activities Banquet on May 5, Al Scherbenske spoke to the audience regarding many years at the Honkers events.

Scherbenske stated, "During the past winter sports season Coach Keysor found out that I have been sitting at the scorers table or helping at athletic events for KHS for 51 years and asked if I would write a short auto-biography of my time in the gymnasium floor or football field for varsity events at KHS.

"I did not work at the bench for varsity events during my first year at KHS, the fall of 1969, but did begin reffing that first season and was a part of the chain gang for football. My second year at

KHS was when I began helping keep the book for events or running the clock half of the time as Al Jaeger, our current secretary of state, and I alternated games. He left after that season so I either kept the book or ran the clock for most of the indoor events, although there was not volleyball or girls basketball back then, but there was gymnastics.

"Anyway, I did not keep track of how many events I worked at for the first nine years of my teaching career and bench career. I do have all of the school calendars dating back to 1984 seasons so if you want a score of an athletic event, I think I could help you out, including the 1987-88 season and the 2020-21 seasons when Mike Zimmer was a player and then a head coach of the only undefeated regular seasons in the years that I have been here.

"I did referee 1449 games but

that does not include the first 9 years of reffing at KHS and that is 4th, 5th, and 6th grade teams through JV games. Seldom did I referee varsity games and never when KHS had a varsity game scheduled.

"Again guessing a bit, KHS hosts about 6 gymnastics or volleyball games, 4 football games, 3 wrestling events, and about 15 varsity girls and boys games combined plus a few tourney throughout the years, so I have been a part of about 1500 varsity events throughout my 51 years of running the clock, keeping score, or being on the chain gang. I am also guessing I have missed about 25 events throughout the years for various reasons.

"I do hope to continue to be a part of the varsity events at KHS for a while yet as I do enjoy being a part of our young students lives.

And it should end with "and he's still going strong... and enjoying it all!" Linda