

Junior high boys hoopers rout Red Devils

Only five players scored for the Patriots, but that was all they needed to walk away with a double-digit win.

Strong performances from Abram Lee and Job Dirksen lifted the Jay County Junior High School eighth grade boys basketball team past the Richmond Red Devils 47-29 on Tuesday, while the seventh graders picked up a 41-28 victory.

Lee led the way for the Patriots with 22 points. He scored nine in the first quarter on three buckets inside the arc and one from deep. He went back inside to start the second quarter before hitting one more triple.

In the second half, Lee put in four more baskets, all in the third period.

Dirksen followed the effort from Lee with 15 points of his own. He hit a 3-pointer and two 2-pointers in the first quarter and had four more hoops in the third.

Bentley Comer, Finn Hemmelgarn and Dillon Dunnington combined for the remaining 10 points.

Carson Pfeifer and Sawyer Smitley led the seventh graders with 11 points apiece. Pfeifer did his damage in the first half, while Smitley spread his scoring out.

Also putting the ball into the basket was Parker Wasson (six points), Carter May (five), Calvin Jessup (five) and Beckham Hough (four).

The eighth grade team remains undefeated at 3-0, while the seventh graders moved to 2-1.



The Commercial Review/Ethan Oskroba

Jay County Junior High School seventh grader Benson Collins splits a pair of defenders to put up a shot during the Patriots' 41-28 win on Monday. The victory pushed Jay County's seventh grade team to 2-1 on the season, while the eighth graders' 47-29 beating kept them undefeated at 3-0.

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Pistons defeat Pacers to tie record

By JACOB RICHMAN
mlive.com
Tribune News Service

Two years ago to the date, the Detroit Pistons lost their 13th straight game of the 2023-24 season to the Indiana Pacers at Gainbridge Fieldhouse.

The Pistons were on the way to losing 28 straight games in a true low point for the franchise.

On Monday night, the Pistons were back at Gainbridge Fieldhouse playing the Pacers with a streak of 13 on the line.

But this time it was the Pistons coming out victorious and winning their 13th straight game this season.

A 122-117 win over the Pacers — led by Cade Cunningham's 24 points, 11 rebounds and six assists — ties the franchise record of 13 consecutive victories as the Pistons also hold on to their Eastern Conference-leading 15-2 record.

The Pistons previously had win streaks of 13 in 1990 and again during the 2003-04 season. Detroit eventually won the championship in both of those seasons.

Tobias Harris and Ausar Thompson started knocking down early shots as part of a varied attack throughout the opening half.

Thompson was the only player on the team to score in double digits during the first half — with 11 points — while eight other Pistons scored five or more points.

The diverse output saw the Pistons go up 20-10, but the Pacers (2-15) stuck around with a 22-10 run to take a late first-quarter lead on their home court.

Indiana looked to have all the momentum before the first buzzer, however Jaden Ivey turned in a three followed by a strong finish in transition to give the Pistons a 35-32 lead at the end of the opening quarter.

See Pistons page 3B

2025-26 Jay County boys swim preview



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Pictured is the 2025-26 Jay County High School boys swim team. Front row from left are Bryden Carter, Carson Westgerdes, Arman Solis, Grady Warvel, Grant Glentzer, Cooper Glentzer and Benjamin Fisher. Back row are Lincoln Clamme, Peyton Yowell, David Keen, Max Klopfenstein, Grayson Swoveland, Matthew Fisher, Kamden Carter, Mouadh Nhaili and Elias Mueller.

Games to watch

Tuesday, Dec. 2, vs. Bluffton

The Tigers have run the ACAC from the boys side. If the Patriots want to make a serious push this year for the conference title, that job will start early when they open the season by hosting Bluffton.

Friday-Saturday, Jan. 9-10, vs. JCHS Invitational

The Jay County Invitational is a key midseason meet when the team starts to figure out the roles of the individual athletes. It also comes quickly after the winter break and helps whip the Patriots back into shape.

Saturday, Jan. 24, vs. ACAC Invitational

The Allen County Athletic Conference meet holds importance for bragging rights of the ACAC title and is an opportunity to get an idea of a lineup before heading into the sectional.

Coach Matt Slavik says

"We have a strong underclassmen group coming in as freshmen this year. We have four boys that are coming in who already had times at the end of their eighth grade year that were middle or upper as far as times for our team last year. We lost a couple of guys but we've got an extremely large senior class this year. With that addition that we have coming in, team wise, we should legitimately have a run at Bluffton in the conference. I know about where they're at and we're at and we can make it close if their hard work keeps up. I feel like it's a good group of kids as far as the work they put in. They're excited about coming back because this is the largest boys team that we've had in a long time. In the past, we've been discounted just because of numbers. It didn't matter where we placed, we just didn't have enough numbers to win dual meets. This year we have the numbers, we have divers, we have everything spread across the board to be pretty solid in dual meets, as well as our conference. Again, the goal at sectional is to do better than we did last year. We lost about eight seniors this year, so we're going to basically go from a one-year opportunity for this team to come together. There's no trial runs. It's gotta be all foot on the gas, all season long. It's a great group of kids. I'm super stoked for the entire season and the way they are working so far, I think it should all come together nicely."

2024-25 season

The Patriots put together a solid season, finishing with a 10-4 record, but fell short in conference with losses to South Adams in the regular season and at the Allen County Athletic Conference meet. They were able to get some revenge on the Starfires, finishing fourth at the sectional, while SAHS placed fifth with a 57-point difference. The highest sectional finish for the Patriots came from the 400-yard freestyle relay team of Brooklynn Byrum, Aubrey Millspaugh, Lauren Fisher and Sophia Hoevel. The group placed third in the event with a time of 4 minutes, 0.24 seconds. Maddy Snow made it to the diving regional for a third year in a row, but didn't advance to state.

Projected lineup

Seniors	Sophomores
Kamdyn Carter – Breaststroke	Cooper Glentzer – Distance free, Butterfly
Lincoln Clamme – Breaststroke/Freestyle	Carson Westgerdes – Breaststroke, IM
Matthew Fisher – Backstroke, IM, Free	
Max Klopfenstein – Freestyle	
Grayson Swoveland – Freestyle	
Peyton Yowell – Sprint freestyle	
Juniors	Freshmen
Bryden Carter – Diving	Benjamin Fisher – Freestyle
Elias Mueller – Freestyle	Grant Glentzer – Utility
	Arman Solis – Freestyle
	Grady Warvel – Butterfly, IM

Fast facts

- The Patriots' sole sectional title came in the 2001-02 season. Since then, JCHS has finished as the runner-up three times and third three times as well.
- Jay County's roster grew by 66.7% after adding four freshman and two foreign exchange students.
- Jay County has not won the ACAC in 12 years of membership.

Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Tuesday, Dec. 2	Bluffton	6 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 4	Anderson	6 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 6	Celina Sprints	10 a.m.
Thursday, Dec. 11	Norwell	6 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 15	South Adams	6 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 16	Delta	6 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 22	Adams Central	6 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 30	Battle of the Border	8 a.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 6	Bellmont	6 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 8	Celina/Coldwater	6 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 9	JCHS Invite	6 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 10	JCHS Invite	10 a.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 13	Yorktown	6 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 20	Muncie Central	6 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 24	ACAC Invite	9 a.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 27	Blackford/Burris	6 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 29	Marion	6 p.m.
Thursday, Feb. 19	Sectional prelims	5:30 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 21	Sectional finals	9 a.m.
Home meets in bold		



We wish you a safe, warm, and happy Thanksgiving filled with good food, great company, and lots of cozy cuddles with your furry family members! *(Just remember, keep those turkey bones and rich gravies away from curious noses!)*

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2025-26 Fort Recovery swim preview



Pictured are the 2025-26 Fort Recovery High School swim teams. Front row from left are Jenna Bertke, Claire Wenning, Emily Boeckman, Livy Timmerman, Autumn Leuthold, Aubrey Shuttleworth, Scarlet Hiser and Liza Knapke. Back row are assistant coach Mindy Bubp, assistant coach Kylee Sutter, Mason Laux, Caleb Smith, Carson Fullenkamp, Theresa Hipple, Aubree Heitkamp and coach Abby Timmerman. Not pictured is Matt Marchal.

Projected lineup		
Boys	Seniors	Sophomores
Carson Fullenkamp– IM/Fly	Autumn Leuthold – Free	Emily Boeckman – Breast
		Scarlet Hiser – Free/Fly
		Liza Knapke – Fly/Dist.
Mason Laux – Free/Back	Juniors	Livy Timmerman – IM/Sprint
	Aubree Heitkamp – Dive/Back	
Matt Marchal – Free	Theresa Hipple – Dive	Freshmen
	Aubrey Shuttleworth – Free/Back	Jenna Bertke – Breast
Caleb Smith – Breast		Claire Wenning – Back

Meets to watch

Tuesday, Dec. 2, vs. Greenville, Versailles and St. Henry

Fort Recovery opens right away against a pair of conference opponents. It will provide a measuring stick with how the individuals match up against the Tigers and St. Henry.

Friday-Saturday, Jan. 9-10, vs. JCHS Invitational

The Jay County Invitational is a key midseason meet when the team starts to figure out the roles of the individual athletes.

Saturday, Jan. 17, vs. MAC Invite

The Allen County Athletic Conference meet holds importance for bragging rights of the ACAC title and is an opportunity to get an idea of a lineup before heading into the sectional.

Fast facts

- The Tribe has sent swimmers to the state meet in three of the past five seasons. Teigan Fortkamp made it as an individual in 2023 and 2024, while relay teams got through in 2021 and 2023.
- This will be Abby Timmerman's first season at the helm of the Indian tankers. Mindy Bubp will remain on staff to help out as much as possible as well while taking a step back.
- With four boys this year, Fort Recovery will be able to put together relays again, something they couldn't do with only three swimmers last season.
- Caleb Smith holds the school record in the 100 breaststroke with a time of 1 minute, 9.54 seconds at the Midwest Athletic Conference meet.

2024-25 season

The Indians had some strong individual swimmers, but a lack of numbers kept them from too much team success throughout the season. Joelle Kaup led the girls team, finishing 10th at district in the 50-yard freestyle and 18th in the 100 backstroke. She also claimed the only Midwest Athletic Conference title in the 100 backstroke with a time of 1 minute, 5.22 seconds. Carson Fullenkamp and Caleb Smith both made the district tournament for the boys. Fullenkamp placed 25th in the 100 butterfly and 31st in the 200 individual medley. Smith placed 30th in the 100 breaststroke.

Schedule			
Date	Opponent	Location	Time
Tuesday, Dec. 2	Quad meet	Greenville YMCA	6 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 6	Celina Sprint	Jay County	10 a.m.
Thursday, Dec. 11	Wayne Warrior Invite	Trotwood	5:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 16	Quad meet	South Adams	6 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 30	Holiday swim meet	Lima YMCA	10 a.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 6	South Adams/Minster	South Adams	5:30 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 10	Jay County Invite	Jay County	9 a.m.
Saturday, Jan. 17	Cav Invite "MAC"	Jay County	1 p.m.
Sunday, Jan. 18	Southwest Classic	Trotwood	TBA
Tuesday, Jan. 20	Delta/Burris	Delta	5:30 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 26	Coldwater/Marion Loc.	South Adams	6 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 31	St. Henry Invite	Celina YMCA	11 a.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 3	Celina/Greenville	South Adams	6 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 7	Quad meet	Celina YMCA	11 a.m.
Friday, Feb. 13	Sectional (boys)	Trotwood	6:30 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 14	Sectional (girls)	Trotwood	11 a.m.
Friday, Feb. 21	District	Miami (OH)	10:45 a.m.
Thur-Fri, Feb 26-27	State	Canton	TBA

Coach Mindy Bubp says

"Boys-wise, we're excited that we're going to have four. So that'll give us the opportunity to compete more as a team, let them do relays ... And then with Carson and Caleb both going to districts last year, we're hoping that they can return again and finish their senior year of strong."

"We've got a lot of new (girls) swimmers, so it's going to be a lot of just figuring out where they go and what their best events are. And for some of our returning swim swimmers, we've had some relays going to districts, so we're hoping to do that again this year."

"And then we're really trying to focus both the boys and girls this year on fun and continuing to grow our program and making sure that we stay strong in our numbers. ... We definitely just want this season to be fun and successful at the same time."

Pistons ...

Continued from page 1B

Isaiah Stewart set off the major run of the game for the Pistons with a hook-shot finish that the Pistons turned into a 20-5 run in the second quarter.

The Pistons weren't even doing many of the typical hallmarks of a Detroit win, only forcing six turnovers and leading paint scoring by eight points — a modest margin for the Pistons.

Nevertheless, Detroit earned itself a 71-55 advantage at half-time, while shooting 50% (7-of-14) from beyond the arc.

It was, unsurprisingly, Cunn-

Detroit can break the franchise record today against the Celtics

ningham to take over in the third quarter by scoring 12 of Detroit's 30 points in the period. The Pistons' star went into Monday night averaging 9.5 points in the first half this season and 17.6 in the second half.

Jalen Duren added five points and four rebounds in the quarter

to secure his ninth double-double of the season. He finished with 17 points and 12 rebounds and guard Caris LeVert provided fire off the bench with a season-high 19 points.

The Pacers made a run at closing their double-digit deficit, going on a 9-1 run to get as close

as five points from the Pistons. However, Detroit turned right around and ended the quarter on a 10-2 run with five points from Ivey, continuing a 12-point night for the recently-returned guard.

There was one more run to quell for the Pistons as Indiana's Jarace Walker found his stride

with back-to-back makes from deep in the final five minutes as part of his career-best 21-point performance.

Pascal Siakam and Isaiah Jackson also finished in the paint to bring Detroit's lead down to 117-112 with just over two minutes remaining.

Fouls shots got the Pacers within two points, before Cunningham locked in to deliver the victory. He backed down Indiana's Benedict Mathurin into the paint in the final 30 seconds and rose for a hook shot over his head that would clinch the victory.

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Post rolls

Troy Post of the Fort Recovery High School boys bowling team releases his ball during warm ups prior to Saturday's 2,261-2,172 victory over Van Wert at Plaza Lanes. Post rolled games of 183 and 151 pins for the second-best series of 334 pins. The Indians have gotten off to a hot start to the season, winning all three of their opening matches.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Friday
Fort Recovery — Girls basketball vs. Mississinawa Valley — 6 p.m.

Saturday
Jay County — Girls basketball at Woodlan — 12 p.m.; Boys basketball vs. Richmond — 6 p.m.; Freshman boys basketball vs. Richmond — 6 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Boys bowling vs. Mississinawa Valley at Union City — 10 a.m.; Girls bowling vs. Mississinawa Valley at Union City — 10 a.m.; Boys basketball at Jefferson — 5 p.m.; Middle school boys basketball vs. Mississinawa Valley — 9 a.m.

TV schedule
Today
12 p.m. — College basketball: Vanderbilt vs. Western Kentucky (ESPN)
2:30 p.m. — College basketball: VCU vs.

South Florida (ESPN2)
5 p.m. — NBA In-Season Tournament: Detroit Pistons at Boston Celtics (ESPN)
7:30 p.m. — NBA In-Season Tournament: Minnesota Timberwolves at Oklahoma City Thunder (ESPN)
7:30 p.m. — College basketball: St. Mary's vs. Wichita State (ESPN2)
8 p.m. — NBA In-Season Tournament: Memphis Grizzlies at New Orleans Pelicans (NBC)
10 p.m. — NBA In-Season Tournament: Houston Rockets at Golden State Warriors (ESPN)
10 p.m. — NHL: Dallas Stars at Seattle Kraken (NBC)

Thursday
11 a.m. — College basketball: Richmond vs. Furman (ESPN2)
12 p.m. — College basketball: St. Bonaventure vs. East Carolina (FS1)
1 p.m. — NFL: Green Bay Packers at Detroit Lions (FOX)

1:30 p.m. — College basketball: Charlotte vs. Illinois State (ESPN2)
3 p.m. — College basketball: TCU vs. Florida (FS1)
4:30 p.m. — NFL: Kansas City Chiefs at Dallas Cowboys (CBS)
4:30 p.m. — College basketball: North Carolina vs. Michigan State (FOX)
5 p.m. — College basketball: BYU vs. Miami (ESPN)
5:30 p.m. — College basketball: Wisconsin vs. Providence (FS1)
7:30 p.m. — College football: Navy at Memphis (ESPN)
7:30 p.m. — College basketball: Georgetown vs. Dayton (ESPN2)
8 p.m. — College basketball: Duke vs. Arkansas (CBS)
8:20 p.m. — NFL: Cincinnati Bengals at Baltimore Ravens (NBC)
10:30 p.m. — College basketball: Oklahoma City vs. Northwestern (BTN)

Friday
12 p.m. — College basketball: Eastern Illinois vs. Purdue (BTN)
12 p.m. — College football: Iowa at Nebraska (CBS); Utah at Kansas (ESPN); Ole Miss at Mississippi State (ABC)
12 p.m. — Horse racing: America's Day at the Races (FS1)
12:30 p.m. — College basketball: UConn vs. Illinois (FOX)
1 p.m. — NHL: New York Rangers at Boston Bruins (TNT)
2 p.m. — College basketball: Oklahoma vs. Marquette (NBC)
3 p.m. — NFL: Chicago Bears at Philadelphia Eagles (FOX)
3 p.m. — College football: Air Force at Colorado State (FS1)
3:30 p.m. — College football: Georgia at Georgia Tech (ABC); Temple at North Texas (ESPN)
4 p.m. — College football: Boise State at

Utah State (CBS)
4 p.m. — NHL: Philadelphia Flyers at New York Islanders (NBC); Los Angeles Kings at Anaheim Ducks (FOX)
5 p.m. — College basketball: Texas A&M vs. Florida State (ESPN2)
6:30 p.m. — College volleyball: Penn State at Nebraska (BTN)
7 p.m. — College basketball: Ohio State vs. Pitt (ESPN)
7:30 p.m. — College football: Texas A&M at Texas (ABC); Indiana at Purdue (NBC)
7:30 p.m. — NBA In-Season Tournament: Washington Wizards at Indiana Pacers (FDSN Indiana)
9 p.m. — College football: Arizona at Arizona State (FOX)
9 p.m. — College volleyball: Wisconsin at Nebraska (BTN)

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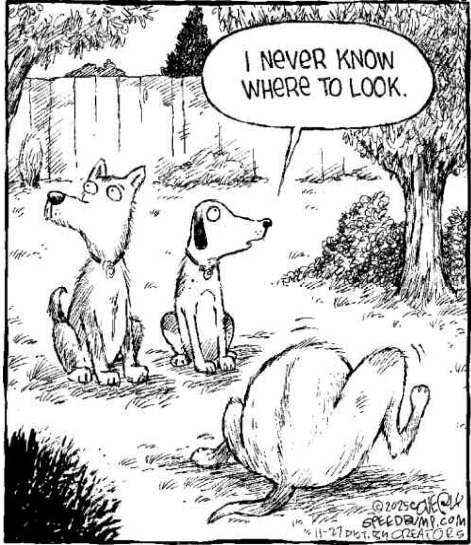
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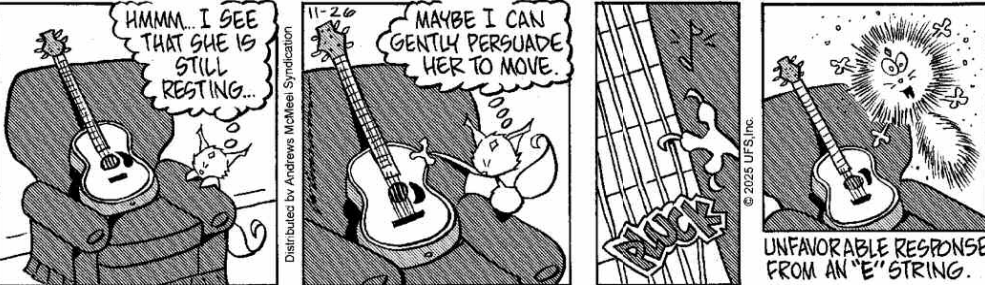
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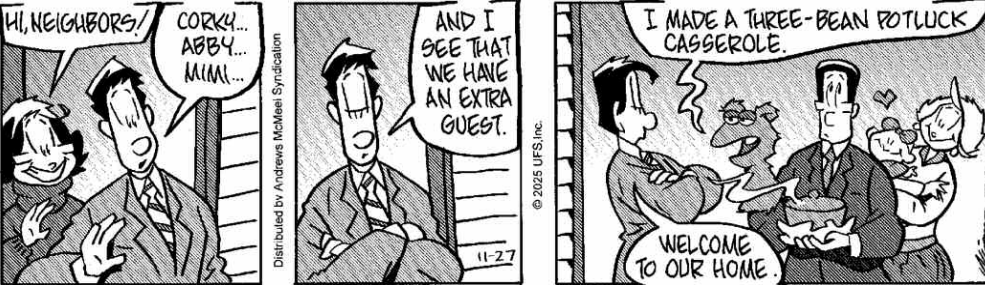
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Rose is Rose



Rose is Rose



Agnes



Agnes



Hi and Lois



Hi and Lois



Between Friends



Between Friends



Blondie



Blondie



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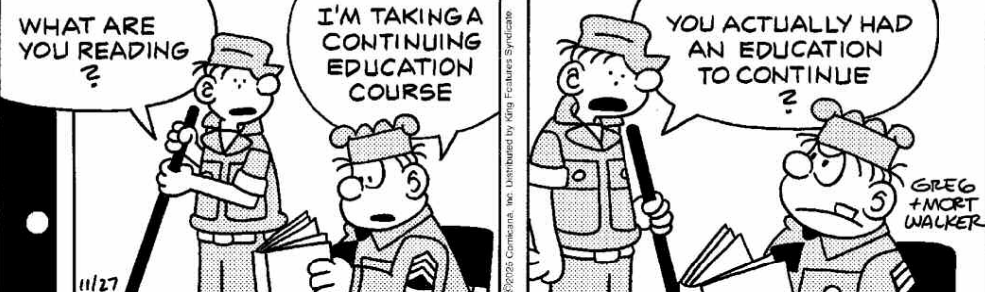
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Beetle Bailey



Beetle Bailey



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Laughter

The Commercial Review We Deliver

Maybe it's a chuckle from reading a vintage Peanuts cartoon. Maybe it's a column by a member of The CR staff. But we try to keep our sense of humor.

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

When to violate a sacred rule

East dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 10 8 5 2
♥ Q 3
♦ A K Q 10
♣ 10 7

WEST
♠ 3
♥ A K J 9 7 6 2
♦ 9 5 4
♣ A Q

EAST
♠ 9 6
♥ 4
♦ 8 7 6 3 2
♣ 9 8 5 4 2

SOUTH
♠ A K Q 7 4
♥ 10 8 5
♦ J
♣ K J 6 3

The bidding:
East 1♠ South 4♥ West 4♣ North Pass

Opening lead — king of hearts.

A popular way of describing how badly a person plays bridge is to say that he sometimes trumps his partner's ace. While it's not our purpose to encourage players to trump their partner's trick, the fact is that doing so may not always be a cardinal sin.

Take this deal where West led the heart king against four spades and continued with the ace. At this point, East, our hero, trumped his partner's ace and returned a club. As a result, West was able to score his A-Q of clubs, and declarer went

down one. If East had not ruffed, South would have made four spades.

East's play might not have been deserving of a Distinguished Service medal, even though it did violate the injunction against trumping partner's trick. But to his credit, East knew that this basic principle should not be followed blindly. He knew that when the situation demands it, a player is allowed to deviate from the norm as his judgment dictates.

In this case, East's action was clearly correct. He could see from looking at dummy that the defense could not realistically hope to win four tricks if West was allowed to remain on lead with the ace of hearts. Dummy's diamonds were much too powerful to rely on passive defense to produce a favorable outcome. No harm could come from ruffing partner's trick, and much good might accrue if West had the requisite club strength.

The situation would have been far different if East had held the Q-6 of trump instead of the 9-6, in which case a third round of hearts from West might prove very beneficial. But lacking the ability to overruff dummy, East was well-advised to take matters into his own hands by trumping his partner's ace.

Tomorrow: Test your play.
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11-27 CRYPTOQUIP

JRME BXARE GVF YMSS M IMYF
GU MSXFBVH JRGHF RFMIXVA
GIAMVH MIF GV ERFXI UMYFH?
UIGVE-FMIH-BFV.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF SOME NEANDERTHAL HUMANS WERE UPROARIOUSLY FUNNY, WOULD YOU CALL THEM PRE-HYSTERICAL?
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Y equals C

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	36 Smid-gens	DOWN	21 Heat source
1 Brief moments	37 Thanks-giving	1 — Club	23 Olympus rival
5 Patient's need, briefly	40 Links hazard	3 Lake of Lombardy	24 Concept
8 Dad	41 Car safety	4 Lettering aid	25 Agrees silently
12 Oodles	45 Grand Angle (Abbr.)	5 Spud	26 Dickens' Uriah
13 Motorist's org.	47 Angle	6 Language akin to Thai	27 Rights advocacy org.
14 Nest egg choices	49 Deal (with)	7 New Jersey resort	28 Place of prosperity
15 Viral phenomenon	50 Columnist Maureen	8 Rice recipe	32 Brief passage
16 Pinnacle	51 Before	9 Discovery at a dig	33 Forcefully per-suades
17 Classic Fords	52 Gaelic	10 Cushion	35 Alias abbr.
18 Candle holder	53 Trig function	11 Utter fool	36 Three, on a sundial
20 Actor Morales	54 Media mogul	19 Corn throw-away	38 Stuffy sort
22 Breakfast bread	55 Hunt for		39 Macadamized
26 Mideast envoy Philip			42 Drill
29 Actor McShane			43 Church area
30 Ruckus			44 Nerd's kin
31 Earth sci.			45 QB stats
32 Blue hue			46 — polloi
33 Sent a dupe to			48 Mined-over matter
34 "Evil Woman" band			
35 Year in Acapulco			

Solution time: 24 mins.

Yesterday's answer 11-27

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15					16				17			
18				19				20	21			
			22				23				24	25
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Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

A critical choice of plays

East dealer. East-West vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 8
♥ Q 10 8 5
♦ A Q J 10 3
♣ A Q 10

WEST
♠ A J 10 7 5 3
♥ K 9 4 2
♦ 6
♣ 9 5

EAST
♠ K 6 4
♥ J 7 3
♦ 5 2
♣ 8 7 6 4 2

SOUTH
♠ Q 9 2
♥ A 6
♦ K 9 8 7 4
♣ K J 3

The bidding:
East 1♠ South 1♠ West 1♠ North Pass

Opening lead — two of hearts.

The principle of not looking a gift horse in the mouth can easily be extended to contract bridge. Essentially, if the opponents give you a chance to make a contract you're not entitled to make, you grab it with open arms.

First, a word about the bidding. North was obviously not a product of the scientific school of bidding. He certainly had good support for diamonds, but the leap to six enormously overstated his values. He would have done better to suggest a slam by jump-shifting in clubs and supporting diamonds later, or, for

those who play it, via a splinter bid in spades, but neither of these would have engendered much interest from South.

North's optimism was rewarded, however, when West chose a heart as his opening lead. With any other lead, the slam would have failed.

Declarer had a critical problem to solve at trick one. The question was whether to play the ten or the queen from dummy. He chose the queen and made the contract, but the reasoning behind the play of the queen is worthy of study.

Obviously, the card played is immaterial if either defender holds the K-J. If West has both honors, either play is successful; if East has both honors, either play fails.

South's choice matters only when West has the king and East, the jack, in which case the queen is the winning play, or when West has the jack and East the king, in which case playing the ten wins. The only tangible clues to guide declarer are the bidding and the opening lead.

South can reasonably assume that if West held the A-K of spades, he would have led one of them. Declarer should therefore conclude that West has only one of the top spades and so is a strong favorite to have the king of hearts for his overcall. So, South plays the queen and makes the slam.

Tomorrow: When to violate a sacred rule.
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11-26 CRYPTOQUIP

KM GYEP RPTRIPVQXTH XFETR
NPVP FAVYTVKYFGHU MFRRU,
NYFHI UYF BTHH QXPE
AVP-XUGQPVKBTH?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN SOMETHING GRADUALLY BECOMES A BROWNISH-CRIMSON COLOR, WOULD YOU SAY IT'S BEEN MAROONED?
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: N equals W

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	33 Rural lifestyle	3 Kitchen tool	14 Fist bumps
1 French vineyard	36 Italian cheese	4 Over-indulge	15 "Goshi!"
4 "Adios!"	37 Test tubes	5 Bigfoot's kin	19 Vegas lead-in
7 Shoe insert	38 "The Apostles" composer	6 Mountain ht.	20 Crunchy sandwich
8 Meadow	39 With skill	7 Nixon	21 Winter quaff
10 Apple, in Paris	40 Poetic dusk	8 Big	22 Dense
11 Goes into	41 Guitar master	9 Fairway shots	23 Sense
13 Holiday meal with pals	42 Guitars	10 Cpl.'s	24 The "A" of ETA
16 Govt. health org.	43 Guitars	11 Humor-ous	25 Pouch
17 Fills up	44 Guitars	12 Disparag-ing	26 Funny-man
18 Compete	45 Guitars	13 Disparag-ing	28 Play place
19 Kissers	46 Guitars	14 Disparag-ing	29 Church key-board
20 Eliot's "Adam —"	47 Guitars	15 Disparag-ing	30 Uses an old phone
21 BBQ fuel	48 Guitars	16 Disparag-ing	31 Unique
23 Bogus	49 Guitars	17 Disparag-ing	32 Brit. sports cars
25 Weeps	50 Guitars	18 Disparag-ing	34 Cleopatra's river
26 Impudent	51 Guitars	19 Disparag-ing	35 Unspoken feeling
27 Revue segment	52 Guitars	20 Disparag-ing	
28 More achy	53 Guitars	21 Disparag-ing	
30 — Pérignon (French bubbly)	54 Guitars	22 Disparag-ing	

Solution time: 23 mins.

Yesterday's answer 11-26

		1	2	3		4	5	6				
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		38							39			
				40					41			

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40 NOTICES

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER. Plan now to attend November

27, 2025, 1:00 pm. Asbury UM Church. All Jay County welcome. No charge for the meal.

PLEASE NOTE: Be sure to check your ad the first day it appears. We cannot be responsible for more than one days incorrect copy. We try hard not to make mistakes, but they do happen, and we may not know unless you call to tell us. Call before 12:00 pm for corrections. The Commercial Review, 309 W Main, Portland, Indiana 260-726-8141.

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90 SALE CALENDAR

LAND AUCTION
MONDAY
DECEMBER 1st, 2025
5:00 P.M.
LOCATED: CR 100 N,
6.5 MILES E OF HWY
27. PORTLAND, IN
REAL ESTATE
96.6 Acres in Section
16, Noble Twp. Jay
County, Indiana.
Tract 1: 76 +/- Acres
with 68 Acres Tillable
with frontage on County
Road 100 N.
Tract 2: 20 +/- Acres
Wooded with Access via
a 25' Lane from County
Road 100 N. Wooded
Acreage in Classified
Forest.
Tract 3: Combination of
Tracts
1 and 2.

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250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

Summons – Service By Publication/Unknown Heirs and Devises of Marjorie E. Harris
State Of Indiana County Of Jay In The Jay Superior Court Cause No: 38D01-2507-MF-000016 U.S. Bank Trust National Association, Not In Its Individual Capacity But Solely As Owner Trustee For RCAF Acquisition Trust Plaintiff -vs- Unknown Heirs And Devises Of Marjorie E. Harris, Rhonda R Harris, Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC, IMC Credit Services LLC Defendant(s) Notice Of Suit To the defendants above named, and any other person who may be concerned. You are notified that you have been sued in the Court above named. The nature of the suit against you is the foreclosure of a mortgage upon the property legally described as follows: Fifty-Five (55) feet off of and along the entire east side of the following: Beginning at a point on the north line of Floral Avenue in the city of Portland that is 350 feet east of the southwest corner of Lot 29 in Jackson's subdivision of the part of Out Lot 22 in Jackson and Reed's South Side Addition to the City of Portland, Indiana, and running thence north on a line parallel with the west line of said Lot 29, a distance of 173 feet more or less to the lands conveyed by corrected deed to Henry P. Garber (see deed record 38 page 17 of records in the Recorder's Office of Jay County, Indiana, for a description of same) thence east on and along the south line of same 100 feet; thence south on a line parallel with the west line of said Lot 29 a distance of 173 feet more or less to the north line of Floral Avenue; thence west to the place of beginning. Commonly known as: 538 East Floral Avenue, Portland, IN 47371 This summons by publication is specifically directed to the following defendant(s) whose whereabouts are unknown: Unknown Heirs and Devises of Marjorie E. Harris In addition, to the above-named defendants being served by this summons, there may be other defendants who have an interest in this lawsuit. An answer or other appropriate response in writing to the Complaint must be filed either by you or your attorney with the Clerk of the Court for Jay County at: Jay County Clerk 120 North Court Street #2 Portland, IN 47371 on or before the 9th day of January, 2026, (the same being thirty (30) days after the Third Notice of Suit), and if you fail to do so, a judgment may be entered against you for what the plaintiff has demanded. Phillip A. Norman, P.C. /s/ Benjamin Pliskie #30407-45 Attorney for Plaintiff Phillip A. Norman, P.C. 2110 Calumet Avenue Valparaiso, IN 46383 Telephone: 219-462-5104 25-00677 Attest: November 17, 2025 /s/ Melissa Elliott Clerk, Jay Superior Court CR 12-26,12-3,10-2025-HSPAXLP

Public Notice

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

By virtue of a certified copy of a Decree to me directed by the Clerk of the Superior Court of Jay County, Indiana, in cause no. 38D01-2507-MF-000017, wherein ZACHARY P. MILLER, Trustee of the Zachary P. Miller Revocable Trust is Plaintiff and BLAKE M. ALIG is Defendant, rendering a Judgment in favor of Plaintiff in the sum of \$142,640.53, together with interest and costs thereon, ordering me to sell the real estate hereinafter described to make assets for the payment of said Judgment, and having served notice of this sale upon each owner claiming interest in the real estate hereinafter described, pursuant to the provisions of I.C. 32-29-73, including publication upon any owner whose I whereabouts are unknown. I will expose for sale at public auction to the highest bidder on the 18th day of December, 2025 at 10:00 A.M. at the Office of the Sheriff of Jay County, Indiana, 120 North Court Street, in the City of Portland, Indiana 47371, the real estate described as follows:
A PART OF THE EAST HALF OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION THIRTY-FOUR (34) TOWNSHIP TWENTY-FOUR (24) NORTH, RANGE TWELVE (12) EAST IN JAY COUNTY, INDIANA, CONTAINING . 75 ACRE, MORE OR LESS, AND BEING DESIGNATED A LETTER "G" ON THE PLAT BOOK FOR THE TOWN OF PENNVILLE, JAY COUNTY, INDIANA.
ALSO, BEGINNING EIGHT AND TWENTY-FIVE HUNDREDTHS (8.25) RODS EAST OF THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF A PARCEL OF LAND CONVEYED BY WILLIAM S. ROYE TO JOHN MOORE AND STEPHEN E. SCOTT FOR A SAWMILL IN THE MIDDLE OF SECTION THIRTY-FOUR (34) TOWNSHIP TWENTY-FOUR (24) NORTH, RANGE TWELVE (12) EAST, IN THE CENTER OF ROAD LEADING FROM CAMDEN, NOW PENNVILLE, JAY COUNTY, INDIANA, TO HARTFORD CITY, BLACKFORD COUNTY, INDIANA, RUNNING THENCE EAST EIGHT AND TWENTY-FIVE HUNDREDTHS (8.25) RODS; THENCE SOUTH FIFTEEN AND THIRTY-TWO HUNDREDTHS (15.32) RODS; THENCE WEST EIGHT AND TWENTY-FIVE HUNDREDTHS (8.25) RODS; THENCE NORTH FIFTEEN AND THIRTY-TWO HUNDREDTHS (15.32) RODS TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING.
(Parcel No. 38-01-34-300-006.000-010).
Together with rents, issues, income, and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal laws, and the purchaser at such sale will receive a Sheriff's Deed to said real estate as by law provided.
Larry Ray Newton, Sheriff
Blake M. Alig
9047 W 350N Pennville, Indiana 47369
Rick L. Sprunger Attorney at Law
1540 Shady Oak Drive Berne, Indiana 46711
CR 11-12,19,26-2025-HSPAXLP

90 SALE CALENDAR

Note: Tillable Acreage does have some tile but not systematically drained. More acreage can be made tillable. Very desirable Farm in a great location!
OWNERS:
Jeffrey V & Agnes M Smith.
Note: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.
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AC31800004
AUCTIONEERS
Zane Shawver
Lic. #AU10500168
260-729-2229
Pete D. Shawver
Lic. #AU19700040
260-726-5587

PUBLIC AUCTION
Located: Women's Building at the Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 E Votaw St., Portland, IN
Thursday Evening
DECEMBER 4, 2025
6:00 P.M.
REAL ESTATE - PIKE TOWNSHIP, JAY COUNTY INDIANA
TRACT 1 - 31.48 acres of land located in Section 30 of Pike Township. 28.92 acres of tillable land and the balance in non tillable land and roadway. This parcel of land has road frontage on CR 175W and CR 800 S.

90 SALE CALENDAR

TRACT 2 - 43 +/- acres of land with approximately 42 acres of tillable land and the balance in roadway and utility transmission towers.
This parcel of land has road frontage on CR 175W.
TRACT 3 - 74.48 +/- acres of land, which is the combination of Tract 1 and Tract 2.
For more information contact Gary Loy, Auctioneer at (260) 726-5160 or Kim Loy, Real Estate Broker at (260) 726-2700.
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260 PUBLIC AUCTION

REAL ESTATE
PUBLIC AUCTION

Located at the Women's Building at the Jay County Fairgrounds, Portland Indiana
Thursday Evening
DECEMBER 4, 2025
6:00 P.M.
REAL ESTATE – PIKE TOWNSHIP, JAY COUNTY INDIANA
Tract 1 – 31.48 acres of land located in Section 30 of Pike Township. 28.92 acres of tillable land and the balance in non tillable land and roadway. Soils consist of Blount/Glynwood, Glynwood Clay Loam and Pewamo. This parcel of land has road frontage on CR 175W and CR 800 S.
Tract 2 – 43 +/- acres of land with approximately 42 acres of tillable land and the balance in roadway and utility transmission towers. Soils consist of Blount/Glynwood, Glynwood Clay Loam and Pewamo. This parcel of land has road frontage on CR 175W.
Tract 3 – 74.48 +/- acres of land, which is the combination of Tract 1 and Tract 2.
Terms of Sale: 10% nonrefundable deposit day of auction and balance due at closing. Closing to be held within 45 days from auction date. Sellers will furnish Title Insurance and Warranty Deed. Buyer will assume taxes due and payable in May 2026 and thereafter. Possession at closing. Owner confirmation day of auction and any statements made day of sale will take precedence over printed matter.
For more information contact Gary Loy, Auctioneer at (260) 726-5160 or Kim Loy, Real Estate Broker at (260) 726-2700.
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250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

LEGAL NOTICE OF ANNUAL BIDS
Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received in the office of the Jay County Auditor, at the Courthouse in Portland, Indiana, 47371, Friday, December 19, 2025 until the hour of 4:00 PM local time for Item 1 to be delivered to the county in the amounts and at such time as ordered by the head of the department. Bids are to be from January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025 with option escalator clause as an alternate. Specifications are available in the Jay County Auditor's Office, Portland, Indiana, 47371 for the following items:
Item #1 Crushed Stone 150,000 tons or less of crushed stone conforming to the 1995 Indiana Department of Highways Standard Specifications. All stone is to be loaded on County trucks. The Board of Commissioners reserve the right to reject any and/or all bids, or to accept the one(s) which, in their judgement will be in the best interest of Jay County, being the best and/or lowest response and responsible bidder for each line or class of materials by the order of the Board of Commissioners of Jay County, Indiana.
Emily Franks
Jay County Auditor
CR 11-26,12-3-2025-HSPAXLP

250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
Notice is hereby given that Jay County, by and through its Board of County Commissioners, will receive sealed bids for the construction of:

JAY COUNTY CCMG FY 26 PROJECT
CR 400 S from SR 1 to SR 67
JAY COUNTY, INDIANA

Sealed proposals will be received at the Jay County Auditor's Office, 120 North Court Street #2, Portland, Indiana 47371 by 9:00 A.M. (local time) on December 22, 2025. If CCMG Funds have been awarded to Jay County, then all proposals will be opened and read aloud during the County Commissioner's meeting, which begins at 9:00 A.M. (local time). Bids will then be taken under advisement for review by the owner and engineer. Any proposals received after the above-designated time will be returned unopened. Bids will not be opened, reviewed, or awarded prior to award of CCMG funds. If funds are NOT awarded to Jay County for this project, bids may be returned. The proposed construction will include the installation of 1.5" of HMA Surface with minor wedge and level, and all incidental work required, as specified in the Contract Documents and Provisions.

All proposals must be submitted on State Board of Accounts Form No. 96 together with the proper forms included in the Contract Documents, the entire set of which shall be filed intact as a bid. The bid envelope must be sealed and have the words "JAY COUNTY CCMG FY 26 PROJECT" legibly written on the front. Bidders must be INDOT pre-qualified per Indiana Code (IC) 5-16-13-10
The contract documents are available at www.questcdn.com. This contract is QuestCDN project number 9936772. A contractor may view the contract documents at no cost prior to deciding to be a planholder. To be considered a planholder for bids, a contractor must register with QuestCDN.com and purchase the contract documents in digital form at a cost of \$22.00. Registering for all prime contractors and subcontractors is recommended as planholders will receive automatic notice of addendums and other contract document updates via QuestCDN. Contact QuestCDN Customer Support at 952-233-1632 or info@questcdn.com for assistance in membership registration or downloading digital project information. Bidders shall assure that they have obtained complete sets of drawings and Contract Documents and shall assume the risk of any errors or omissions in bids prepared in reliance on incomplete sets of drawings and Contract Documents.
SECURITY: Any person, firm or corporation who submits a proposal MUST file with their bid a CERTIFIED CHECK, BANK DRAFT, CASHIER'S CHECK OR MONEY ORDER issued by a financial institution insured by an agency of the United States in the amount of five percent (5%), made payable to the Treasurer of Jay County. In lieu of the above, any person, firm or corporation who submits a proposal and has a principal place of business in the State of Indiana MAY file with their proposal a BID BOND in the amount of five percent (5%), made payable to the Board of Commissioners of Jay County. Proposals may be held by the Board of Commissioners for a period not to exceed sixty (60) calendar days from the public opening. The successful Contractor will be required to furnish a Performance Bond and Payment Bond in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract price, each, within ten (10) days after award of the contract and a two (2) year Maintenance Bond in the amount of thirty percent (30%) of the contract price prior to completion and final payment of the contract.

Jay County in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C 2000d to 2000d-4 and Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office the Secretary, Part 21, Nondiscrimination in Federally assisted programs of the Department of Transportation and Title 23 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 200, Title VI Program and Related Statutes, issued pursuant to such Acts, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contact entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of religion, race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability/handicap and low income in consideration for an award. No Contractor may withdraw his proposal within sixty (60) days after the actual date of the opening thereof. The Jay County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to ask for clarification for any bid submitted. In comparing bids, consideration will not be confined to price only. The successful bid will be the lowest responsible and responsive bidder; however the Board of Commissioners reserves the right to reject any proposal, to waive technicalities or irregularities therein, to delete any bid item or items and to award a contract on the proposal that in their judgment is most advantageous to Jay County.

Jay County Board of Commissioners
Chad Aker
Duane Monroe
Doug Horn

CR 11-26,12-3-2025-HSPAXLP

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