

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

Kelly sentenced to 30 years

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

A Portland man has been sentenced to three decades in prison.

Jeremy W. Kelly, 51, was given a 30-year sentence Friday in Jay Circuit Court for causing the death of his father, 72-year-old Gary Kelly.

Jeremy Kelly pleaded June 5 to voluntary manslaughter, a Level 2 felony. His charge was lessened from murder, which carries a penalty of 45 to 65 years with an advisory sentence of 55 years. The plea agreement also dismissed a Level 2 felony charge for

Portland man's request to withdraw plea was denied

robbery resulting in serious bodily injury, which has a sentence of between 10 and 30 years.

During his hearing Friday, Jeremy Kelly — he appeared by video — told Jay Circuit Court

Judge Brian Hutchison he would like to withdraw his guilty plea and wanted to be appointed different counsel than attorney Aaron Henderson. Henderson noted Jeremy Kelly refused to

meet with him prior to the sentencing hearing, and he also requested to be withdrawn from the case.

"The sentencing is going to happen today," said Hutchison.

He gave Jeremy Kelly the option to either be represented by Henderson or represent himself. Jeremy Kelly refused to make a choice, and Hutchison denied Henderson's motion to withdraw.



Kelly

According to the order on sentence filed in the online Indiana court system, Jeremy Kelly filed a pro se motion — it means he represents himself in court without the assistance of an attorney — to withdraw his guilty plea. Because he declined to represent himself, the order says, his motion was not in proper form and therefore denied.

Jeremy Kelly said he objected and left the proceedings as Landers presented his recommendations for sentencing, according to the order on sentence.

See **Sentenced** page 2

Murder trial begins Monday

Crossland accused of murdering her son

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

A Portland woman charged with the death of her son will go to trial next week.

Chelsea L. Crossland, 28, will begin her trial in Jay Circuit Court on Monday. She's charged

with murdering her 5-year-old son, Christian Crossland, as well as a Level 1 felony for neglect of a dependent resulting in death and a Level 1 felony for child molestation.

Chelsea was charged in March 2022 for the alleged crimes, which include molesting her 9-year-old daughter.

Emergency responders arrived for a 911 call to their home, 689 S. Western Ave., Portland, on March 24, 2022, and found Christian dead. Chelsea told police he fell and became unresponsive, court documents say.

Christian was "severely malnourished, had numerous bruises and contusions on his body and had abrasions and injuries to his face," according to a probable cause affidavit filed in connection to the case. Police described their home as "unkept and filthy."

The autopsy indicated Christian suffered blunt force trauma to the head and mouth, and it found evidence he "failed to thrive," meaning he was malnourished and dehydrated.

Chelsea's daughter told police her mother spanked, beat and choked Christian with her hands and other objects, the affidavit says. She also said Christian would be punished by withholding food from him for days at a time.

Nicholas Riddle, the boy's father, said during a police interview that Chelsea had told him before she wished Christian were dead.

See **Trial** page 2



Crossland

2023 Jay County Fair



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Scotty on stage

Country music artist Scotty McCreery performs in the haze Friday night in front of the grandstand at the Jay County Fair. McCreery brought a nearly-full crowd to the grandstand with a swarm of fans on the track as well. Gabby Barrett and Jonny James opened for McCreery. The fair continues today with FFA mud volleyball at 11 a.m., rides opening at noon and a demolition derby at the grandstand at 5 p.m. For more photos, see page 5 and visit thecr.com.

Dirksen wins one for the boys

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

There had been a pattern in the large animal supreme showmanship competition.

Girls won the trophy seven times in a row, starting with Kynal Miller in 2015 and continuing through Lindy Mercer last year.

Eli Dirksen broke the trend. Dirksen, an eight-year member, took the trophy Thursday evening as he beat out seven competitors for the Jay County 4-H large animal supreme showmanship title.

"I was genuinely surprised," said Dirksen. "I really didn't think I had much of a shot going up against a lot of 10-year members."

"I thought it was going to be pretty tough to win."

Girls had earned seven straight large animal titles

He said he was unaware of the run of girls who have held the traveling trophy.

But he was happy to learn he was the one who snapped the streak.

"Now I feel pretty honored about it," Dirksen said.

See **Dirksen** page 5



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Eli Dirksen shows during the dairy portion of the Jay County 4-H large animal supreme showmanship competition Thursday evening. He went on to win the championship, becoming the first boy to take home the trophy since 2014.

Deaths

Robert Schoenlein, 70, Portland
Jerry Keever, 81, rural Jay County
Sara Gaumer, 92, Portland
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 87 degrees Friday. Showers are expected today with thunderstorms possible and a high in the low 80s. The high will be in the mid 80s Sunday. Expect lows in the low to mid 60s through the weekend.
See page 2 for an extended outlook.

At the fair

Saturday
11 a.m. — FFA mud volleyball between the horse barns
Noon — Rides open on the midway
5 p.m. — Demolition Derby at the grandstand
6 p.m. — Pie eating contest in the Farmer's Building

Coming up

Tuesday — Photos from the opening marching band contest at Centerville.
Wednesday — Coverage of next week's Jay School Board meeting.



Retrospect

Reitz served as a White House intern

Twenty-five years ago this week, a Portland man came in contact, quite literally, with the president.

The July 18, 1998, edition of The Commercial Review featured a story about Andy Reitz of Portland serving an internship in the White House.

"I was leaning against the president," said Reitz, referencing Bill Clinton, upon his return from an eight-week stint as a White House intern. "I was just in this crowd and was just pushed up against him."

A Secret Service agent immediately told him to move.

"My first thoughts were, 'Don't shoot me,'" he recalled. Reitz was one of only 1,200

from across the nation to be selected for the first summer session. He served under Cabinet Secretary Thurgood Marshall Jr. in the Office of Cabinet Affairs.

He returned with a photo album that included pictures of the Clintons' cat, Socks, the presidential basketball court, Vice President Al Gore's office, the Rose Garden and the entrance to the Oval Office.

"I still can't believe it," said Reitz. "It's a dream come true."

"I was in the center of political life. Everything that happens there can affect people all over the world. That was my realization."

Reitz said he at one point found himself listening to a Gore speech about quality health care and what else the vice president felt he could be doing to improve it. He said it was that moment that he realized how honored he was to be there.

A junior at Wabash College majoring in speech and political science, he said he planned to pursue a career in law.

But, "I'm leaving the door open (to a career in politics)," he said. "My experience opened some new doors. I've always thought about politics. Now I can think about politics. I know I can make it happen."

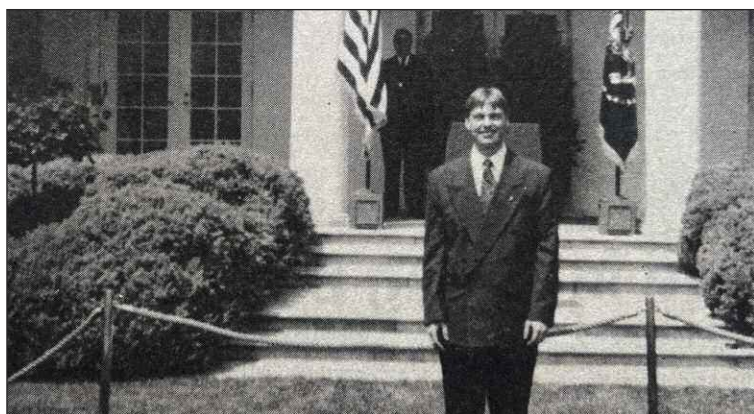


Photo provided

Portland resident Andy Reitz stands in the Rose Garden near the White House in Washington D.C. in 1998 following an announcement by President Bill Clinton. Reitz served an eight-month internship that summer as a White House intern.

CR almanac

Sunday 7/16	Monday 7/17	Tuesday 7/18	Wednesday 7/19	Thursday 7/20
83/66	79/60	80/62	83/66	83/65
There's a chance of rain Sunday. Otherwise, sunny, with a high near 83.	Monday has a 50% chance of thunderstorms. The high may be 79.	Tuesday's forecast shows mostly sunny skies and a high of 80. Chance of rain.	Another chance of showers Wednesday under mostly cloudy skies.	There's a 30% chance of showers and thunderstorms Thursday under mostly cloudy skies.

Lotteries

Hoosier Midday Daily Three: 9-7-4 Daily Four: 1-3-3-3 Quick Draw: 3-10-11-22-23-25-36-37-38-42-54-55-59-60-64-70-71-74-75-76	Pick 3: 3-6-2 Pick 4: 5-8-8-3 Pick 5: 9-6-4-1-5
Ohio Midday	Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$875 million
	Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$560 million

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....6.04 Oct. corn4.94 Wheat6.02	Aug. beans.....14.81 Wheat 6.25
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....6.01 Aug. corn5.66 Oct. corn4.99	Central States Montpelier Corn.....5.57 Late July corn5.52 Beans14.66 Late July beans.....14.66 Wheat6.20
The Andersons Richland Township Corn5.57 Aug. corn4.89 Beans14.81	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....5.41 Aug. corn5.36 Beans14.50 Aug. beans.....14.40 Wheat6.11

Today in history

In 1099, Christian forces captured the city of Jerusalem during the First Crusade.

In 1948, U.S. Army Gen. John J. Pershing died. He led the American Expeditionary Forces during World War I and became the first general to be named General of the Armies of the United States since George Washington. He was buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

In 2010, Addison Pijnappels and Tina Whiting were found guilty of murder and robbery in connection with the September 2008 death of Portland resident Shawn Buckner. They were the last of five defendants in the case, as Michael Heffern was also found guilty while Thomas Smith and Roderick Berry each pleaded guilty.

In 2021, Chloe Campbell and Rachel Heitkamp won the large animal and small animal supreme showmanship contests, respectively, at the Jay County Fair. Both had showmanship in their blood, as Chloe's sister Alli won the large animal trophy in 2017 and Heitkamp's sister Sarah, mom Linda and aunt Janet Davidson were all previous small animal champions. —The CR

Citizen's calendar

Monday 5 p.m. — Jay School Corporation, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland. 5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St. 6:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery School Board, community room, high school, 400 E. Butler St. 7:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 Main St.	Wednesday 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Aviation, airport, 661 W. 100 North. 6 p.m. — Jay County Council, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.
Thursday 6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council, park cabin, 200 S. Mooney St.	

Obituaries

Robert Schoenlein

Jan. 12, 1953-July 13, 2023
Robert Paul Schoenlein, age 70, of Portland passed away on Thursday, July 13, 2023, in Persimmon Ridge Healthcare in Portland.

He was born in Portland on Jan. 12, 1953, the son of William E. and M. Sue (O'Shaughnessy) Schoenlein. Bob was a 1971 Portland High School graduate and worked for Sheller-Globe in Union City and later was a truck driver.

Bob enjoyed his dogs, gardening and hanging out in his pool.

Surviving are one brother, William Schoenlein (wife: Ingrid) of Lafayette, Indiana; one sister, Chris Compton (husband: Curt) of Portland; and niece and nephew Colton and Sammi Compton.

Funeral services will be Wednesday, July 19, at 3 p.m. in the Baird-Freeman Funeral Home with Greg Rittenhouse presiding. Burial will follow in the Green Park Cemetery. Visitation will be Wednesday from 1 to 3 p.m.

Memorials can be made to the Jay County Humane Society.

Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.



Schoenlein

Jerry Keever

March 17, 1942-July 12, 2023
Jerry Keever, age 81, a resident of rural Jay County, passed away on Wednesday, July 12, 2023, at his home in rural Jay County.

Jerry was born on March 17, 1942,

in Winchester, Indiana, the son of Maurice Earl and Winifred Pauline (Hunt) Keever. Jerry graduated from Farmland High School in 1960, attended Purdue University for engineering and finished his degree at Ball State University.

Between his education, he enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1963 and trained as a field artillery operator and intelligence assistant. During his time in service, he spent 18 months stationed in Germany and attained the rank of sergeant. His last assignment was with Headquarters Battery, 5th Battalion, 83rd Artillery. Jerry left the Army in November of 1966 and was awarded the Good Conduct Medal and National Defense Service Medal and was a qualified expert with the M-1 Rifle.

After retirement, Jerry spent his time with farming and building a herd of Angus cattle and became a member of the Indiana Angus Association.

Jerry worked at Westinghouse, Sheller Globe, General Tire, Anchor Hocking and Stelrema. Jerry had a passion for airplanes, earning his private pilot's license in 1983. He also had an interest in trains.

Jerry was a member and past master of the Farmland Masonic Lodge 308 and was also a member of the Scottish Rite and York Rite. He was a 10-year 4-H member in Randolph County and continued to support the club throughout his life.



Keever

Jerry leaves behind his wife Katie (Sipe) of 55 years.

Other survivors include:

His children — Heather Simpson (husband: Matthew), Bartlett, Illinois, Tyson Keever, Farmland, Indiana, Nathan Keever (wife: Michelle), Bellevue, Nebraska, and Adam Keever, Newark, Delaware

Four grandchildren — E'Vaughna Shepherd (husband: Tyler), Logan Simpson, Hayden Simpson and Sadie Keever

Two great-grandchildren — Theodore and Callen Shepherd

Visitation will be held on Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland. Masonic services will be held at 2 p.m. on Wednesday at the funeral home. Pastor Darrel Borders will officiate the funeral service and burial will follow at Reitenour Cemetery, west of Deerfield. American Legion Post #211 will conduct military graveside rites.

Memorials may be directed towards Southern Care Hospice.

Condolences may be expressed at williamsonspencer.com.

Sara Jane Gaumer, Portland, March 27, 1931-July 13, 2023. Services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at Salomonia Cemetery.

The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connection to our coverage area free of charge. They include the name, city of residence, birth/death date and time/date/location of services.

There is a charge for obituaries, which are accepted only from funeral homes or mortuary services.

Capsule Reports

Drunk accident

A Fort Recovery man was arrested Thursday for drunk driving after he allegedly hit a farm trailer and left the scene about 5:10 p.m. Thursday.

Luke J. Bihn, 32, Fort Recovery, Ohio, was driving a 2012 Ford F-250 east on county road 400 South

when he struck the back of a trailer attached to the 2011 Agco Adam M. Osterhold, 32, was driving.

According to an accident report from Jay County Sheriff's Office, tire marks on the road showed Bihn's vehicle went left of center before

striking the trailer. Bihn attempted to talk with the trailer's owner before fleeing the scene, the report says.

He was found and given a blood alcohol test with results pending. Bihn was arrested for leaving the scene of an accident, a Class B misdemeanor,

and operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Class A misdemeanor. He's being held on a \$1,500 bond in Jay County Jail.

Damage is estimated between \$10,000 and \$25,000. The Ford — it's registered to Ryan E. Jacobs of Union City — was towed.

Trial ...

Continued from page 1
Chelsea's daughter also said she sexually abused her for two years, according to the affidavit.

Murder carries a sentence of 45

to 65 years with an advisory sentence of 55 years in Indiana.

A Level 1 felony for neglect of a dependent resulting in death and a Level 1 felony for child molesta-

tion when the person is at least 21 years old each carry a sentence that ranges between 20 and 40 years with an advisory sentence of 30 years.

Sentenced ...

Continued from page 1
Family gathered in the courtroom in support of the victim, Gary Kelly. Jay County deputy prosecutor Zechariah Landers noted the aggravating circumstances with Jeremy Kelly's background — he has been convicted of three felonies and six misdemeanors in the past — and referred to his actions as violent.

"Heinous crimes are the ones you put people in prison for," he said, requesting the maximum sentence of 30 years.

Henderson pointed out Jeremy Kelly also has other pending charges. (He pleaded in Wayne Circuit Court in May to unlawful possession of a firearm by a serious, violent felon, a Level 4 felony.

His sentence hearing for the case is Aug. 21.) He asked for an opportunity for Jeremy Kelly to seek rehabilitation treatment.

"I do agree with the state, this is a particularly heinous crime," said Hutchison.

He sentenced Jeremy Kelly to 30 years in prison to be served consecutively to his case from Wayne County. Jeremy Kelly was given credit for time served since March 3, 2022.

Police found Gary Kelly dead at his home, 912 S. Vine St., Portland, about 1:12 p.m. Feb. 25, 2022. An autopsy indicated he suffered blunt force trauma to the head, face and abdomen.

The same day Gary Kelly was found dead,

Jeremy Kelly arrived at a house in Milton, told the homeowner he was "the devil" and ordered her to get in the car he was driving, according to a Wayne County Sheriff's Office press release. The homeowner called 911, and Kelly left the property. He was later arrested on the west side of Richmond. A handgun and shotgun belonging to Gary Kelly were found inside the stolen car Jeremy Kelly was driving.

Jeremy Kelly's criminal history in Jay County dates back to 1995, having been charged in the past with domestic battery, strangulation, criminal confinement, operating a vehicle while intoxicated and resisting law enforcement.

SERVICES

Today

Ford, Roby: 11 a.m., Fellowship Baptist Church, 289 S. 200 West., Portland.

Monday

Wayman, Hubert: 11 a.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Wednesday

Keever, Jerry: 2 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.
Schoenlein, Robert: 3 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Service listings provided by

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Duct tape dress among contest finalists

By GRACE TOOHEY

Los Angeles Times
Tribune News Service

LOS ANGELES — Her Marie Antoinette-style dress is elegant and intricate, with detailed lace along the edges, an angular corset and different white, pink and gold layers filling out the hoop skirt.

Lifelike pink florals adorn her matching purse, fan and hairpiece, and detached sleeves cascade from her elbows, almost majestically. A complex, white lace choker completes the regal look.

And it's all made out of duct tape.

Karla Torres, a recent graduate of Francisco Bravo Medical Magnet High School in Boyle Heights, designed and created the 18th-century-inspired ensemble herself — with the support of her crafty mom — for the yearly "Stuck at Prom" scholarship contest, sponsored by Duck Tape, a trademarked brand of duct tape. The Los Angeles teen was named a finalist last week, and is now vying for votes to win the grand prize: a \$10,000 scholarship.

"We've never made a dress, much less out of duct tape," Torres, 18, said. "We didn't know how much

duct tape we needed. It's such a random thing ... we were just doing it by trial and error."

In the end, the college-bound teen estimated she and her mom spent at least 120 hours, over many days, working on the gown, and used 14 rolls of tape.

"Tape is so rigid and you can't move it like fabric," Torres said. "It was really challenging making it all come together."

But the fashion-forward teenager overcame that challenge. Of more than 200 entries to the contest, Torres' gown was selected among the top five designs for dresses, judged for color, quality, originality, accessories and the use of Duck brand tape, according to the company. Another top five tuxedo finalists were chosen. One from each category will win the top prize, while all finalists will receive \$500.

Torres said she's spent the last few days trying to spread the word about voting for her dress, even dressing up in the heavy gown one more time to show it off on TikTok. Her parents are helping spread the word too, telling their friends and extended family about the contest. "It's just like teamwork,



Gary Coronado/Los Angeles Times/Tribune News Service

Karla Torres, a recent graduate of Francisco Bravo Medical Magnet High School in Boyle Heights, designed and created the 18th century-inspired prom dress out of duct tape for a "Stuck at Prom" scholarship contest.

asking people to vote," Torres said. "You don't know if we're winning or we need more votes, but we're feeling confident and hopeful that we can win."

And while it's Torres' name officially in the contest, as the first in her family headed to college, she said this whole process is more of a collective effort for her family, and especial-

ly her parents, who immigrated to the U.S. from Mexico.

"It means a lot to me that I was able to make it this far with the support of my parents — graduating from high school is not just me graduating, it's my parents graduating, anyone who helped me," Torres said. "I'm a first-generation student ... it means a lot to me

that now we made it past high school and now we're entering college."

She said the \$10,000 prize would go a long way as she plans to attend a California State University school in August.

"I wouldn't want my parents to struggle trying to find a way to pay for it," Torres said. "It would really help my parents."

Torres plans to study business marketing in college, ideally focused in the fashion industry. In high school, she participated in Nordstrom's ambassador program, which gives young people a chance to explore the retail industry up close.

"I really love fashion, it's a really big passion of mine," she said. "I'm down and willing to try any style."

She said she often spends hours looking at outfit ideas or different styles, from the '70s to Gothic to Rococo, on Pinterest and TikTok — which is how she initially found the Duck Tape competition.

While scrolling on social media during the pandemic, she saw one of the 2021 finalists promoting a traditional Mexican-style duct tape dress, and made sure to vote for her fellow Latina.

"I was so interested and fascinated," Torres said.

But it wasn't until a recent visit to The Getty Museum — the only field trip she took in high school — that she found her inspiration from the 18th-century French paintings, featuring lavish, ornate dresses.

"I wanted light pastel colors because that just reminds me of that era," said Torres, who recognized it as a challenge because of the tape's neon focus. "I wanted something more subtle, more elegant."

She was able to find the perfect shade in a light pink tape, which she paired with white and gold.

"When you see the top 10 finalists' designs, you'll have to remind yourself that high school students created these out of Duck Tape," said Ashley Luke, senior product manager at Shurtape Technologies, LLC, the company that makes Duck tape. "The intricate design and personality put into each ensemble is unbelievable."

Voting for the finalists was open through July 12, and winners should be announced by July 19.

Friend becomes angry after learning truth

DEAR ABBY: A friend of many years, "Adam," no longer speaks to me. We met in high school and were involved in band, debate club and other activities together. He recently discovered through a genealogy site that he was adopted and neither of his parents were his birth parents. The site led him to clues about other biological relatives, and he eventually reached his birth mother, who rejected his efforts to talk to her.

I recently learned about this from another high school friend.

Dear Abby



When I contacted Adam, he responded with hostility, stating that I am no longer his friend because I didn't reach out when he was going through all this. But I didn't KNOW at the time. I

cannot locate any voice messages, emails, texts, etc. showing that he shared with me the details of what happened.

I live in a different part of the country now. I have offered to travel to visit him. I also offered to talk on the phone, but I've received only aggressive and bitter responses. How can I show Adam I do care about him, and that had I known about his situation at the time it happened, I would have been there for him? — TRUE BLUE IN WASHINGTON

DEAR TRUE BLUE: Your friend is going through a lot right now, and is rightfully angry that his birth mother rejected his effort to connect. He is hurt and looking for somewhere to transfer his anger. You shouldn't be blamed for not reacting to something you were in the dark about. But until Adam is ready to recognize that fact and patch things up, nothing you can do will fix this. My advice is to sit tight for now.

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend refuses to be intimate with me because he feels it would be unfaithful to his ex-wife. What can I do? — SAD IN OHIO

DEAR SAD: There is nothing you can do. Because you described him as having an "ex-wife," I will assume your boyfriend is legally divorced. If the reason he gave you for the lack of intimacy is true, then he's not only physically but emotionally unavailable, and you should move on.

Community Calendar

Notices will appear in Community Calendar as space is available. To submit an item, email news@thecr.com.

Saturday

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 10 a.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 251-3336 or (260) 729-7000.

Sunday

A BETTER LIFE - BRIANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Sunday at The Rock Church, 1605 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Come early for a meal. For more information, call (260) 766-2006.

Monday

PORTLAND BREAKFAST OPTIMISTS — Will meet at 7 a.m. for breakfast at Richards Restaurant.

PING PONG — Will be played from 9 a.m. to noon each Monday at Jay Community Center.

EUCHRE — Will be played starting at 1 p.m. each Monday at West Jay Community Center, 125 Hoover St., Dunkirk.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY (TOPS) — Will meet for weigh-in at 4:30 p.m., with the meeting at 5 p.m., at Trinity United Methodist Church, 323 S.

Meridian St., Portland. New members welcome. For more information, call (260) 726-5924.

PREGNANCY CARE CENTER — Free pregnancy testing with ongoing support during and after pregnancy. The center is located at 216 S. Meridian St., Portland. Hours are 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (260) 726-8636. Walk-ins accepted.

BREAD OF LIFE COMMUNITY FAMILY MEAL — Will be served from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Asbury United Methodist Church, 204 E. Arch St. in Portland. Everyone is welcome.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Monday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

Tuesday

BRYANT COMMUNITY CENTER EUCHRE — Will be played at 1 p.m. each Tuesday. The public is welcome.

ALZHEIMER'S CARE-GIVER SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 5:30 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at Jay County Public Library community room. For more information, call Deb Tipton at (260) 729-2806 or Elasha Lennartz at (765) 729-4567.

FRIENDS OF JAY COUNTY LIBRARY — Will meet at 6 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at the library.

A BETTER LIFE - BRIANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for substance abuse. Meal starts at 6 p.m. and the meeting is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. every Tuesday at the Nazarene Fellowship Building across from the Nazarene church, 249 E. Center St., Dunkirk.

Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

Friday's Solution

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

The objective is to fill a nine-by-nine grid so that each column, each row, and each of the nine three-by-three boxes (also called blocks or regions) contains the digits from 1 to 9 only one time each.

NEW Advertising Special

Blanketing Blackford, Jay and Randolph counties

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Rate does not apply to special sections

Call (260) 726-8141 or email ads@thecr.com

4th of July committee says thanks

To the editor:
The Jay County 4th of July Committee would like to thank the Jay County community for making the 2023 4th of July Celebration another successful event.

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the local businesses, organizations and individuals that contributed financially to the 2023 July 4th Celebration. Because of your generosity, we were able to offer activities free of charge to the community.

We also wish to extend a huge thank you to all who volunteered

Letters to the Editor

their time and services to make this annual event possible.

Thanks again to the following: Accelerated Curing, Alpha Delta Gamma Nu Sorority, Arm's Auto Body, Dunn Family Dental Care PC, FCC, First Bank of Berne, Fisher Packing Company, Fullenkamp Machine,

Hemmelgarn Masonry, IOM Grain, Jay County Beverage, Jay County Commissioners, Jay County REMC, Jay County Visitor & Tourism Bureau, Jay-Randolph Developmental Services, Kappa Kappa Kappa-Alpha associate chapter, Kappa Kappa Kappa Sorority / Beta Theta Chapter, May Financial Group, Moser Engineering, Portland Evening Optimists, Portland Morning Optimists, The Portland Foundation, Portland Insurance Agency, Portland Lions Club, Portland Motor Parts, Psi Iota Xi Sorority, Brian McCalliard/Pizza King, Williamson

Spencer and Penrod Funeral Homes, Rob and Mindy Weaver, Indiana Air National Guard 121nd Fighter Wing, Kyle Cook, Nathanael Clay, Mitch Waters, 5K run participants, Goodrich Brewery, Matt Glentzer / RE/MAX, Portland Police Department, Portland Fire Department, Portland Street Department, The Rock Church, Jay County Sheriff's Office, Museum of the Soldier, Tim Morris, Jay County Fair Board, Creative Awards and Gifts, T-Flyerz, Arch Bridge Kroozers, Jay Community Center, Jay County High School Marching Patriots, Jay

County Archery Club, The Commercial Review, WPGW Radio, Jorey Luse, Harold DeHoff and the fireworks crew, and all parade participants.

The Jay County 4th of July committee is seeking additional volunteers to join our committee to prepare for the 2024 celebration.

If you would like to volunteer for the 2024 July 4th Celebration, please contact George Patterson at (260) 729-1013 or any committee member.

Diana Swingley
For The Jay County 4th of July Committee

Stop feeding Meta monster

By **NOLAN FINLEY**
The Detroit News
Tribune News Service

Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg launched his latest social media platform, Threads, one day after a federal judge in Louisiana ruled the Biden administration likely colluded with Facebook and other such sites to censor unfavorable views during the pandemic.

The connection between the two events went largely unremarked upon. Progressives were just tickled that Zuckerberg was mounting a competitive challenge to Twitter and its dastardly owner Elon Musk, who dared to challenge their exclusive grip on social media, that they didn't want to be bothered with the danger of Facebook's information empire gaining even more dominance.

Meta, Facebook's parent company, reported 30 million sign-ups in the first hours after the launch of Threads, an app that looks remarkably similar to Twitter. That number is bound to keep soaring, since Threads is linked to another Zuckerberg company, Instagram, which has 2.35 billion active monthly users.

Zuckerberg has not proved to be a good steward of such enormous power.

Facebook itself has nearly 3 billion accounts, while yet another Meta enterprise, WhatsApp, boasts of 2.75 billion active monthly users.

Even assuming generous overlap among Meta's various user bases, it's a fair estimate that on any given day Zuckerberg's online products are reaching up to half the world's population.

Zuckerberg has not proved to be a good steward of such enormous power, as the Louisiana court ruling suggests.

District Judge Terry Doughty, issued a sweeping ruling banning a long list of federal officials, including White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre and all employees of the Justice Department and FBI, from having contact with Facebook and other social media sites for the purpose of infringing on First Amendment rights.

The judge declared the cooperation between the White House and social media companies to censor speech "Orwellian." Facebook was the key player.

Zuckerberg has acknowledged taking regular calls from administra-

Nolan Finley



Zuckerberg has not proved to be a good steward of such enormous power ...

tion officials during the pandemic, and that Facebook censored posts later proved to be true at the behest of federal health officials who wanted to control the COVID-19 narrative.

This came at a time when Americans needed and deserved the maximum amount of information about a virus that was threatening their lives and livelihoods.

And yet the most powerful government officials were conspiring with the world's most powerful information company to limit and distort that information. And for one purpose: To make the people more pliable and easier to control. Orwellian indeed.

Zuckerberg also has used his immense influence to put his thumb on the political scale. In 2020, he spent \$400 million to fund local election operations. One of the efforts he backed sent \$144 million to eight swing states, 90% of which went to counties that supported Joe Biden.

Conservatives have long complained of being censored by Facebook and other social media sites, a claim Zuckerberg and his counterparts deny. But he clearly has an interest in politics, and the ability to sway the electoral process by controlling the information his users see.

And now he has another tool to use, and too little competition. Twitter, with its 450 million active monthly users, is a poor counter to Meta's universe.

Follow the thread. The potential reach of Zuckerberg's new site and his propensity for censorship are not healthy for a nation that depends on the free flow of information.



Independence is more than a day

By **LINDA HANSON**
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Independence Day called forth our patriotic emotions. Fireworks, flags waving, and renditions of the Star-Spangled Banner marked community celebrations across the country.

But the workings of this democracy we cherish, from all corners of our complex and diverse nation, depend on more than a single day to recognize our origins and the values first articulated in the Declaration of Independence.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed."

The Indiana Constitution asserts that "all power is inherent in the people; and that all free governments are, and of right ought to be, founded on their authority, and instituted for their peace, safety, and well-being."

Ideally, power and authority reside with the people; we choose — and grant authority to — governing officials to deliberate and decide legislation. This consent is granted through our electoral process as we choose who will serve for us all — on councils and boards, and in state legislatures and in congress. Ours is a "representative democracy."

Functionally, we must recognize that our democracy cannot sustain itself. It demands knowledgeable, engaged citizens and elected officials who want to listen to all their constituents. That condition is not current reality.

Sending legislators off to Indianapolis or Washington D.C. and expecting them to function in a vacuum without constituent input is unreasonable. As human

beings, our legislators will fill that vacuum, whether behind closed doors or in full view of the public.

As James Madison said, "... you must first enable the government to control the governed; and in the next place oblige it to control itself." Madison envisioned the government controlling itself through checks and balances between the executive, judicial and legislative branches. But he also saw the people as the primary control able to hold government officials accountable.

So how are we to wrest authority back to the people, to hold our elected officials accountable? It will not be easy. Hindrances are significant:

•The Indiana redistricting process following the 2020 census yielded new electoral district maps that will perpetuate a supermajority in our legislature, despite election results in statewide races over the last two decades that accorded Republicans 53-57% of the vote and Democrats 43-47%.

•Recent Indiana legislation has restricted accessibility to the electoral process, House Enrolled Act 1334 most recently curbing access to absentee voting by mail.

•Indiana has no direct democracy provisions in our Constitution. Citizens cannot initiate ballot measures.

•The number of candidates agreeing to engage in public forums or to provide information to voters has progressively fallen, the most recent statewide example being the Indiana Secretary of State debate hosted by the League

Linda Hanson



of Women Voters of Indiana and broadcast by WFYI, local PBS and NPR stations. Only the Democratic and Libertarian candidates chose to participate.

We must renew our energy, within the restrictive framework drawn by our elected officials, and rededicate ourselves to becoming informed and engaged citizens. Here's what each of us must do:

1. Inform ourselves about candidates who will represent us. We are more likely to vote when we know who the candidates are and understand their positions.

2. Ask candidates, repeatedly if necessary, to participate in public forums and to respond to requests for information about their positions.

3. Focus on local candidates, those who will make decisions about zoning, street paving, parks, and schools in our neighborhoods.

Local Leagues will be inviting candidates to post their information and positions on VOTE411.org and to participate in public forums in advance of the general election in November. Public pressure can encourage candidates' participation.

Candidates who decline to share their positions and their views with voters in advance of an election reveal disdain for the very people who must choose to hire them. If elected, how likely are they to see their role as serving for the people?

Hanson retired from the faculty of Ball State University in 2011 and quickly began working with the League of Women Voters of Muncie Delaware County. Currently she is the Spokesperson for the LWVMDC and President of the League of Women Voters of Indiana.

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"Were it left for me to decide whether we should have government without newspapers or newspapers without government I should not hesitate to prefer the latter."
—Thomas Jefferson

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We welcome letters to the editor, which are accepted by email only to letters@thecr.com. They should be 700 words or fewer, signed, with city/town of residence and include a phone number for verification purposes. We reserve the right to edit for content and clarity.

2023 Jay County Fair



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Showing, singing, smiling

Jay County 4-H closed out its fair activities Thursday and Friday with the horse and pony show in the Show Arena throughout the day Thursday, the large animal supreme showmanship competition Thursday evening and the auction Friday. Grandstand events included a pair of concerts — We Are Messengers on Thursday evening and Scotty McCreery on Friday evening. Pictured at center, Mary Jane Valentine pulls up on the reins of her horse during the key hole event of the horse and pony show Thursday afternoon. At left, auctioneer Zane Shawver acknowledges a bid during the 4-H livestock auction in the Show Arena. At lower left, Izzy Sprunger and Nacie Hershey laugh during the We Are Messengers concert Thursday evening. And at lower right, 3-year-old Leila Rodriguez enjoys the dragon ride on the midway. For more photos from the fair, visit theCR.com.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Dirksen ...

Continued from page 1
In many of the last eight years, the girls had not only won the trophy but outnumbered the boys in making it to the supreme showmanship competition. (The advanced showmanship winner for each species moves on to represent their group.) That included 2015, when Eden Basford (meat goats), Taylor Campbell (sheep), Deanna Chenoweth (swine), Carissa Mercer (dairy), Lyla Muhlenkamp (dairy beef), Lizzy Schoenlein

(beef) and Sarah Schwieterman (horse) joined Miller (dairy goats) as the girls swept their way into supreme showmanship.

Schoenlein took the trophy in 2016, followed by Alli Campbell (2017), Eden Basford (2018), Skye Wimmer (2019), Chloe Campbell (2021) and Mercer (2022). (There was no competition in 2020 because of the coronavirus pandemic.)

The last boy to win the trophy was Hunter Prescott, who was on hand Thursday as the

judge for the dairy beef portion of the competition. (He was the only judge not to rank Dirksen, who was representing dairy beef.)

"I think that's cool that girls have been winning, but I'm glad a Dirksen could bring it back to the guys," said Prescott, who now works in sales for Fennig Equipment of Coldwater, Ohio.

Dirksen took the competition over Levi Homan (sheep), Cash Hollowell (horse), Bretton Basford (meat goat), Joseph Kunk

(dairy goat), Raven Dale (beef), Seth Degler (dairy) and Tyler Armstrong (swine).

He was typically stoic throughout the competition Thursday, keeping his focus on each animal.

His biggest challenge was with the meat goats.

"I don't think they've got a good attitude," he said. "A lot of people don't like sheep. I don't mind sheep."

"I don't like how (meat goats) cooperate. They're very stubborn."

His most confident area, outside of the dairy cattle he shows regularly, was with swine. He credited Max McClain with helping him learn how to show the species.

"I really liked doing the hogs," said Dirksen, who in addition to 4-H plays basketball and tennis for Jay County High School and is also involved in FFA. "I thought that was pretty easy. I liked hogs. I would like to show one sometime. Maybe. Two more years."

7-15 CRYPTOQUIP

GL WGNGMR NWX ZIHYXZ
HLNXM TJVXZ OHF MJFZXJNXE,
GN AHFIE GTYIO OHF'QX
YQHMX NH ZVG-ZGAVMXZZ.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: GUY FROM "THE FLINTSTONES" WHO OWNS A FARM GROWING A CERTAIN CEREAL GRASS: BARLEY RUBBLE.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: R equals G

Trivial Review
(Answers are printed below, upside down.)
Buttons and wheels
1) What pasta is sometimes referred to as "belly buttons" because of their navel-like shape?
2) The Ferris Wheel debuted at the 1893 World's Fair in what U.S. City?
(1) Tortellini! (2) Chicago

7-17 CRYPTOQUIP

GE UJGNLW QDKQHD LTUSGN
JDAN SKADV EKJ NWDGJ
YQYJNSDANL, G RTDLL
NWDV'JD QYVGAR EHYN EDDL.
Saturday's Cryptoquip: IF HITTING THE SLOPES OFTEN MAKES YOU NAUSEATED, IT COULD IMPLY YOU'RE PRONE TO SKI-SICKNESS.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals P

CRYPTO FUN
Solve the code to discover words related to lost pets.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 25 = C)
A. 21 10 6
Clue: Companion animal
B. 25 23 7 7 22 13
Clue: Pet neck accessory
C. 25 23 20 6 22 14 20
Clue: Restrict to one place
D. 25 4 14 21
Clue: Tracking device

WORD SCRAMBLE
Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to pets.
ODVEL
Answers: Loved

Guess Who?
I am a model born in Brazil on July 20, 1980. I was recruited as a model while shopping. I am an international superstar and have appeared on many magazine covers. I also was a former Victoria's Secret Angel.
Answer: Gisele Bündchen

kids' corner
Colorful illustration of school supplies and a laptop.

SPACE FACT!
THE PHRASE "THE DOG DAYS OF SUMMER" REFERS TO A STAR KNOWN AS "THE DOG STAR" THAT IS IN THE CONSTELLATION CANIS MAJOR.
ANSWER: SIRIUS

How they SAY that in...
ENGLISH: Summer
SPANISH: Verano
ITALIAN: Estate
FRENCH: Été
GERMAN: Sommer

Crossword Puzzle
Grid with clues:
ACROSS: 1. Happens irregularly, 4. More than one, 5. Type of fruit, 6. Things in a straight line, 8. Moving through water
DOWN: 1. Hot season, 2. Liquid used for fuel or lubricant, 3. Shouting for joy, 7. Total from adding two numbers
Answers: 1. Summer, 2. Oil, 3. Cheering, 4. Sum, 5. Sporeadic, 6. Multiple, 7. Pear, 8. Rows

THIS DAY IN... HISTORY
JUL 20
1903: THE FORD MOTOR COMPANY SHIPS ITS FIRST AUTOMOBILE.
1940: DENMARK LEAVES THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.
1997: TO CELEBRATE ITS 200TH BIRTHDAY, THE FULLY RESTORED USS CONSTITUTION SETS SAIL FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 116 YEARS.

New Word
HUMID
high levels of water vapor in the atmosphere

SAFE & SOUND PET WORD SEARCH

Grid of letters for word search.
Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

- WORDS: CARE, CAT, COLLARED, COMPANION, CONTAIN, DOG, FENCE, HEALTH, EMBEDDED, LATCHED, LEASH, LOCATE, LOST, MICROCHIP, OWNERSHIP, PRECAUTION, PROTECT, REGISTER, SECURITY, SHELTER, VETERINARIAN

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues:
ACROSS: 1 Faux pas, 5 Galileo's birthplace, 9 Crucial barrier, 12 Takeout request, 13 Pedestal occupant, 14 Celestial altar, 15 Pt. of U.S.A., 16 Anti-toxins, 17 Badge metal, 18 DEA agent, 19 Mao -tung, 20 Hunt for, 21 "Big Little Lies" airer, 23 Cutting tool, 25 Yacht or schooner, 28 Lakota-related, say, 32 "Noah" star, Russell, 33 Foolish, 34 Pine products
DOWN: 36 Smith of "Downton Abbey", 37 Mosquito, 38 Roker and Michaels, 39 Pizzazz, 42 Dumpster critter, 44 Sombros and bowlers, 48 "I love," in Latin, 49 Grime since 1998, 51 Not neg., 52 Garfield's pal, 53 Greek cheese, 54 Blue hue, 55 Get wind of, 56 Despot, DOWN: 1 Base-ball's Musial, 2 - Linda, Calif., 3 Disney exec, 4 Veranda seating, 5 Handgun, 6 Mid-month date, 7 Most achy, 8 In the style of, 9 Actress Winslet, 10 One of HOMES, 11 Tug, 20 Four-to-midnight assignment, 22 Designer Geoffrey, 24 Popular typeface, 25 TiVo precursor, 26 Before, 27 "Mayday!", 29 Satchel, 30 Blackbird, 31 Director Ang, 35 Long step, 36 Subject, 39 Micro-waves, 40 "No harm done", 41 Inquisitive, 43 La Scala melody, 45 Iowa city, 46 "Toodledo!", 47 Bar fight souvenir, 49 Homer's lament

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

A sure-fire proposition
South dealer. Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH: ♠K 9 5, ♥8 6, ♦8 7 5 3, ♣A K J 8
WEST: ♠7 3, ♥K Q 10 7, ♦Q 10 9 6, ♣10 6 3
EAST: ♠8 6, ♥J 9 5 4 3 2, ♦2, ♣Q 9 5 4
SOUTH: ♠A Q J 10 4 2, ♥A, ♦A K J 4, ♣7 2
The bidding: South 1♠, West Pass, North 2♣, East Pass, South 2♦, West Pass, North 2♠, East Pass, South 6♣
Opening lead - king of hearts.
The finesse is a wonderful device, but this does not mean declarer should utilize it just because the opportunity for its use exists. Because there is usually an element of luck inherent in the success or failure of a finesse, a competent declarer should always look for an alternative line of play to improve on his chances.
Consider this deal where South wins the heart lead with the ace and plays the A-K of trump, both defenders following suit. At this point, declarer is in a position to guarantee the contract regardless of how the missing cards are divided! But he must first take several preliminary steps to assure a favorable outcome.
Declarer starts by ruffing the eight of hearts high. He then cashes the A-K of diamonds. If the suit is divided 3-2, or if East holds four diamonds to the queen, the worst that can happen is that South loses a diamond trick.
But even if, as in the actual case, West turns out to have four (or five) diamonds to the queen, the slam is still ice-cold. Declarer next leads a club and, after West follows low, plays the eight from dummy!
East wins with the nine, but it doesn't matter what he does next. A club return into dummy's A-K-J allows South to discard his two remaining diamonds, while a heart return lets South discard a diamond as he ruffs with dummy's nine of spades. Declarer's other diamond then goes off on a high club.
Note that West cannot foil the endplay by playing the ten of clubs on the club lead toward dummy, as declarer can counter by covering the ten with the jack. East wins with the queen but then finds himself in the same predicament described above.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

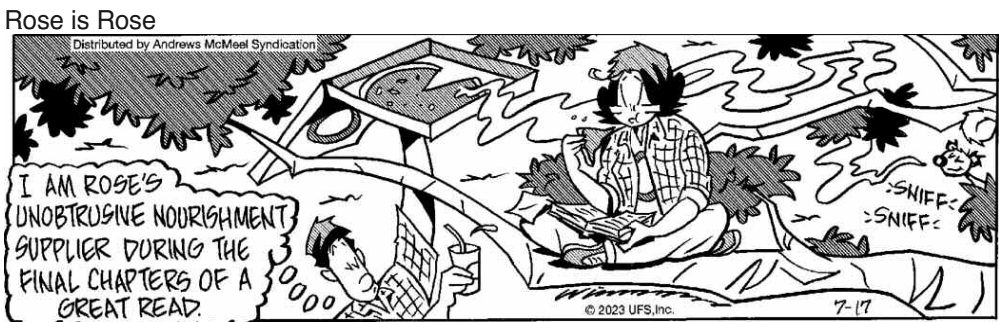
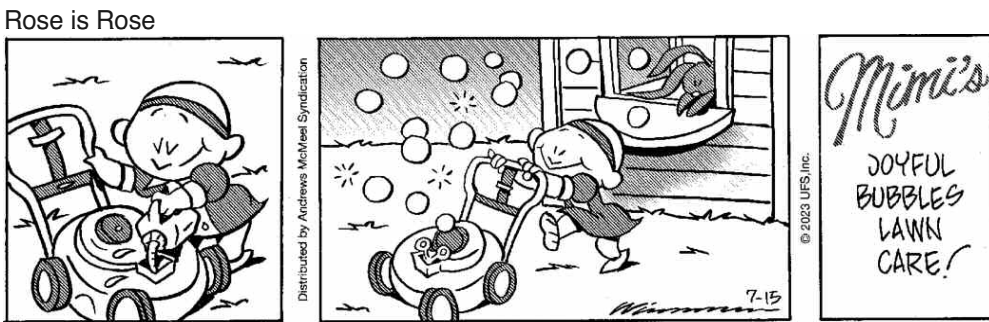
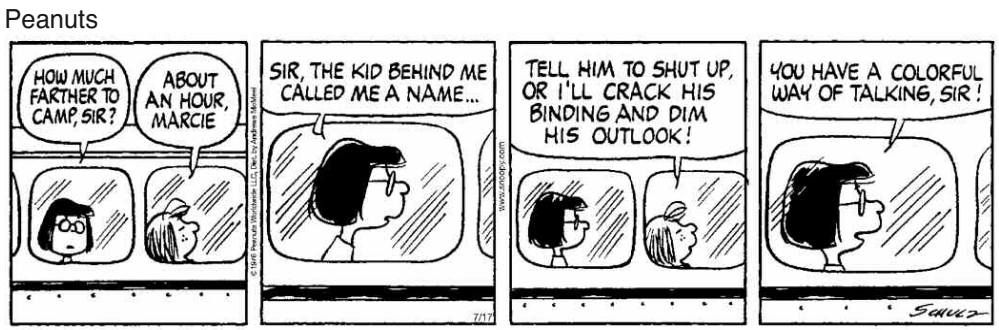
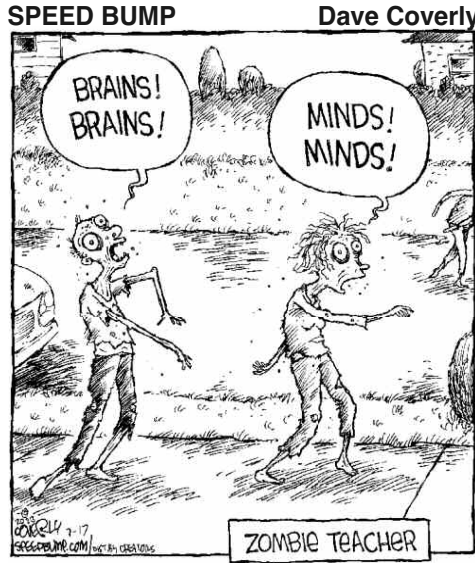
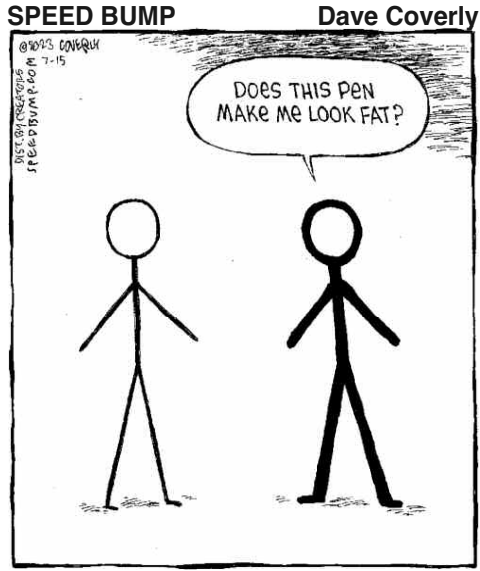
Crossword puzzle grid with clues:
ACROSS: 1 Outside (Pref.), 5 Boom times, 8 Office note, 12 Island of Italy, 14 Utah city, 15 More ghoulish, 16 Iwo - , 17 Pre-schooler, 18 Frost remover, 20 Boston team, in short, 23 Legal wrong, 24 A primary color, 25 Solarium, 28 Bando of baseball, 29 - Major (constellation), 30 "Empire" actress Long, 32 Having digits, 34 Hurry, 35 PTA and NEA, e.g., 36 Defeats
DOWN: 37 Sheep sounds, 40 "In what way?", 41 Branch not on the regular menu, 47 Actress Falco, 48 Susan of "Bull Durham", 49 City district, 50 Globe, 51 Toy store buy, DOWN: 1 Computer key, 2 Lincoln or Ford, 21 Flair, 3 Italian "three", 4 "Swan Lake" princess, 5 One dessert, 6 Diner, 7 Mocking, 8 Cuban rum cocktail, 9 Guitarist Clapton, 10 Viral video, e.g., 11 Actor Epps, 13 Wall St. debuts, 19 Messes up, 20 "CSI" airtel, 21 Flair, 22 Hum-dinger, 23 North African capital, 25 Sea of the North Atlantic, 26 Burden, 27 Fine spray, 29 Michael of "Superbad", 31 Spa sounds, 33 Super-crowded, 34 VCR button, 36 - Raton, 37 Erupted, 38 Opera set in Egypt, 39 "The Kite Runner" boy, 40 Basil or thyme, 43 Standard, 44 Big fuss, 45 Texter's chuckle, 46 NBC show since 1975

Grid for yesterday's crossword answer 7-15.

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Famous Hand
South dealer. Neither side vulnerable.
NORTH: ♠K 9 5, ♥A J 9, ♦8 3, ♣K 5 3
WEST: ♠A K 10 7 6, ♥A J 9, ♦8 3, ♣K 5 3
EAST: ♠J 8 4 3 2, ♥Q 7 6 5 4 2, ♦7 4, ♣-
SOUTH: ♠- , ♥- , ♦A K J 10 9 5, ♣A Q J 10 9 6 2
The bidding: South 1♠, West 1♠, North Dble, East 4♠, South 6♣
Opening lead - king of spades.
This spectacular deal occurred some years ago in a knockout team match in which this writer was a participant.
At both tables, South elected to open one club with his 7-6 powerhouse, and the bidding then followed the course shown. North's double was of the "negative" variety, promising at least four hearts and upward of six high-card points. Both Souths then leaped to six diamonds over East's pre-emptive raise to four spades.
South's unusual bidding would seem to warrant close consideration, but both Wests, apparently thinking South had temporarily taken leave of his senses, doubled without pause for thought. Both Wests then led the king of spades and a short time later entered minus 1,090 on their scorecards.
Both Wests should have given more credence to South's bids. Since West was looking at the king of clubs - a critical card South knew he was missing when he bid the small slam - it would have been reasonable to conclude that South was not concerned about the lack of either major suit ace. South thus had to be void in both major suits. This would be consistent with his one-club opening and subsequent six-diamond bid, marking him with 6-7 distribution.
But the story does not end there, for there was actually a way to defeat the slam! If West leads a low club at trick one, East ruffs, and West later scores the king of clubs for down one!
Finding the killing lead is not as far-fetched as it might seem. If West is more trusting of South's bidding and passes six diamonds, East might very well make a "Lightner" double, requesting an unusual lead. Given the bidding, the unusual lead would have to be a club, sinking the slam.

Grid for Saturday's crossword answer 7-17.



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.

Laughter

The Commercial Review We Deliver

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No borders or logos allowed on Classified Page
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Advertising Deadline is 12:00 p.m. the day prior to publication. The deadline for Mondays paper is 12:00 p.m. Friday.
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30 LOST, STRAYED OR FOUND

ATTENTION! LOST A PET Or found one? The jay county humane society can serve as an information center. 260-726-6339

40 NOTICES

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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Auto Sales & Service, Inc.
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Portland, Indiana
260-251-9735

90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION
Located: Farmers Building/Women's Building at the Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 E Votaw Street, Portland IN

Saturday Morning
JULY 22, 2023
9:30 A.M.

MODERN HOUSEHOLD GOODS - OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS
Leather sofa; leather chair; pub table with 4 bar chairs; Grandfather clock;
industrial style coffee table; industrial style hall table; wood pulleys; Indiana Glass elephants; birds; Ertl Farmall toy tractors; John Deere toy tractors; and many other items not listed.

TRACTOR-MOTORCYCLE - MOWERS-TOOLS
1951 Ferguson TO-20 wide 3 point tractor; grader blade; Ferguson 2 bottom 3 point plow; 2008 Honda Rebel Motorcycle with 4,366 miles, log splitter with gas motor on wheels; Craftsman table top hand planer; Craftsman 25cc gas blower; Craftsman sander; and many other items not listed.

AUCTIONEERS NOTE: Richard recently passed away and Mary is downsizing. This auction offers a wide variety of items. We will be running 2 auction rings so please plan accordingly.
RICHARD NEWTON, Deceased and MARY NEWTON
Loy Auction
AC#31600027
Auctioneers
Gary Loy AU01031608
Travis Theurer AU11200131
Aaron Loy AU11200112

PUBLIC AUCTION
SATURDAY, August 5, 2023

TIME 10:00 A.M.
LOCATED: 9660 W 300 S Dunkirk, IN

Open House Sunday, July 23rd from 1-3 pm or for private showing contact the auctioneers.

REAL ESTATE
40 acre farm located in section 35 Knox township, Jay County Indiana. Offered in two tracts and entirety. Tract 1- 2/3 bedroom home containing 1988 sq ft. 80*44ft pole barn, utility shed nicely situated on 2.1 acres. Tract 2- 38 acres with 27 acres tillable balance being wooded, frontage on county rd 300 S. **VEHICLES-FARM EQUIPMENT-SHOP TOOLS-MISC.**
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PUBLIC AUCTION
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JULY 22, 2023

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AUCTIONEERS NOTE: Richard recently passed away and Mary is downsizing. This auction offers a wide variety of items. We will be running 2 auction rings so please plan accordingly.

RICHARD NEWTON, Deceased and MARY NEWTON

LOY AUCTION AC#31600027
AUCTIONEERS
Gary Loy AU 01031608 Aaron Loy AU11200112
Travis Theurer AU 11200131

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The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Second baseman Ayden Lichtenstiger reaches to try and tag out Michael Ianveilli of the Fort Wayne Renegades during the Portland Rockets' 19-7 loss on Thursday. The Renegades had a field day on the basepaths, amounting seven stolen bases in the ballgame.

Box score

Portland Rockets vs. Fort Wayne Renegades					
Fort Wayne Renegades (4-11)					
	ab	r	h	bi	
Layson p	5	3	1	0	
Massing ss	5	4	0	1	
Berwick 3b	5	1	2	3	
Rothenberger lf	3	1	1	2	
Tucker 1b	4	2	0	1	
Ianveilli rf	3	1	0	1	
McGrath cf	6	3	3	1	
Francher c	4	2	0	0	
King 2b	3	2	2	1	
Totals	38	19	9	10	
Rockets (15-12)					
	ab	r	h	bi	
Durick lf	2	1	0	0	
Holley cf	5	0	0	0	
Kennedy 1b	5	2	3	1	
Caldwell 3b	5	0	0	0	
Lichtenstiger lf	5	1	2	1	
Heniser p	3	0	3	1	
Ridgeway cr	1	0	0	0	
Lee c	5	1	1	1	
Collins ss	4	2	1	0	
Dunlavy rf	4	0	0	0	
Totals	39	7	10	4	
Renegades	201	700	027	— 19	
Rockets	211	002	010	— 7	
LOB — Rockets 10, Renegades 12. 2B — Rockets 2 (Lichtenstiger, Lee), Renegades 1 (Berwick). 3B — Renegades 1 (McGrath). SB — Rockets 3 (Collins 2, Lichtenstiger), Renegades 7 (Berwick 2, Ianveilli 2, Massing, Rothenberger, McGrath).					
IP H R ER BB SO					
Renegades					
Layson W	7	8	6	3	2
Massing	2	2	1	0	2
Totals	9	10	7	3	4
Rockets					
Heniser L	3	5	7	5	3
Bailey	2	0	3	3	5
Dizard	2	2	2	0	5
Ridgeway	2	2	7	5	6

Walks ...

Continued from page 10
George Dizard followed Bailey, throwing two scoreless innings while giving up four walks. He started to unravel in the seventh inning, he began to fade. A hit batter, a single and a fifth walk loaded the bases for Dizard before Miller decided to give Vasin

Ridgeway his first opportunity on the mound this season. He made it out of the seventh inning without much damage. He struck out the first batter he faced before Blake Caldwell committed an error charging the ball to try and get the out at home allowing two runs to

score. He finished out the inning with a ground out and a pop up to Lee. "He seized the opportunity," Miller said. "It was his first opportunity on the hill, so good for him. It's something we can build upon." The ninth didn't go as smoothly for Ridgeway,

who gave up seven runs on six walks. Despite the poor defensive performance, the Rockets returned to form at the plate. Both Joel Kennedy and Heniser tallied three hits in the game while Noah Collins and Ayden Lichtenstiger added two hits. The offensive moment of

the game for the Rockets came in the bottom of the sixth. With two runners on base and no outs, Lee came to the plate. Having been 0-for-2 on the day at that point, one of his friends on the Renegades started chirping at him about his previous at bats. He then belted the first pitch over

the center fielder's head for an RBI-double. "The pitcher threw me six sliders in my first two at bats, so I was sitting slider; I got one first pitch and took it pretty far," Lee said. "It felt great. All of them are my friends that I grew up with so it just felt amazing."

Colts ...

Continued from page 10
If healthy — he did not practice this spring — Ogletree could provide another athletic mismatch in the middle of the field for an offense seeking more playmakers. Rookie Will Mallory has Indiana ties. His grandfather,

Bill, is the winningest head coach in Indiana University football history, and his uncle, Curt, is the current head football coach at Indiana State. A Florida native, Mallory set career highs with 42 catches and 538 yards while pulling in three touchdowns for the Uni-

versity of Miami last year. The Colts selected the 6-4, 239-pounder in the fifth round with the idea he can become another weapon in the passing attack. Mallory also missed the majority of the spring with an injury.

The seventh tight end on the roster is Kaden Smith, a 26-year-old out of Stanford who was a sixth-round draft pick for the San Francisco 49ers in 2019. The 6-5, 249-pounder has appeared in 33 games over three seasons with the New York Giants and has 52 catches

for 413 yards and three touchdowns. Indianapolis added a pair of offensive coaches from the Giants' staff this offseason — offensive line coach Tony Sparano Jr. and running backs coach DeAndre Smith — who know the new tight end well.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County Summer Swim Team hosts Wabash Valley Conference Championships — 9:15 a.m.
Portland Rockets vs. Fort Wayne Jackers — 1 p.m.

Tuesday, July 18
Portland Rockets at Fort Wayne Renegades — 7:15 p.m.

TV sports

Today
9 a.m. — Tennis: Wimbledon (ESPN)
1:30 p.m. — Global Jam: Africa vs. United State (CBSSN)
3 p.m. — NASCAR Xfinity Series: Ambetter Health 200 (USA)
7 p.m. — MLB: Milwaukee Brewers at Cincinnati Reds (Bally Indiana)
7 p.m. — MLB: San Diego Padres at Philadelphia Phillies (NBC)
7:30 p.m. — MLS: Orlando City at Atlanta United (FS1)
8 p.m. — WNBA All-Star Game (ABC)
11:45 p.m. — UFC: Holly Holm vs. Mayra Bueno Silva (ESPN)

Sunday
9 a.m. — Tennis: Wimbledon (ESPN)
9 a.m. — Formula E: Rome E-Prix (CBSSN)
12 p.m. — Golf: Scottish Open (CBS)
1:40 p.m. — MLB: Milwaukee Brewers at Cincinnati Reds (Bally Indiana)
2:30 p.m. — NASCAR: Crayon 301 (USA)
2:30 p.m. — Golf: American Century Championship (NBC)
3 p.m. — PGA Tour: Dana Open (CBS)
7 p.m. — MLB: Houston Astros at Los Angeles Angels (ESPN)
7:30 p.m. — CONCACAF: Panama vs. Mexico (Fox)
8 p.m. — Global Jam: Brazil vs. United State (CBSSN)

Monday
7 p.m. — MLB: San Francisco Giants at Cincinnati Reds (Bally Indiana)

Tuesday
6 a.m. — Soccer: West Ham United at Tottenham Hotspur (CBSSN)
7 p.m. — MLB: San Francisco Giants at Cincinnati Reds (Bally Indiana)
10 p.m. — WNBA: Connecticut Sun at Phoenix Mercury (CBSSN)

Local notes

Hunt applications open
The Indiana Department of Natural Resources is accepting applications for reserved hunts. Applications can be made for dove, deer, squirrel, teal and goose hunts. Hunters will be selected through a random drawing. To apply, visit on.IN.gov/reserved-hunt. The deadline is Aug. 6.

5K circuit continues July 22
The next race in the Jay County 5K Circuit is scheduled for July 22. The Bonus 5K is scheduled for 8 a.m. July 22. The race will be at the IU Health Jay trail. Registration is \$20. The circuit features eight races running from April through August. Awards are presented in nine divisions. For more information, visit runjay-county.com.

Chamber outing scheduled
Jay County Chamber of Commerce

will hold its golf outing July 21. The event will begin with registration at 9 a.m. followed by a shotgun start at 10 a.m. Registration is \$250 per team and is open now by emailing tabby@jay-countychamber.com or visiting the chamber office at 118 S. Meridian St., Portland. The event is limited to 20 teams and the deadline is July 10. For more information, call (260) 726-4481.

Swiss Days race set
Registration is open for the 50th annual Swiss Days Race. The event is scheduled for July 29 with a 5K at 8:15 a.m. and a 1-mile race for children 11 and younger at 9:15 a.m. Awards will be presented to the top 10 in each age group and there will be refreshments for all participants. To register, search for "Swiss Days Race" at runsignup.com.

Flag football registration open
Registration for Jay Community Center's Boomer Fall Flag Football is now open. The league is for children ages 3 through 12. Games will be played on Saturdays from Aug. 26 through Oct. 7 at Jay County Recreation Complex, 5363 W. 450 South, Portland. Registration is \$30 for those who sign up by July 31. For more information, visit jaycc.org.

Soccer sign-ups available now
Registration for Jay Community Center's Boomer Fall Soccer league is now open. The league is for children ages 3 through 14. Games will be played on Saturdays from Aug. 26 through Oct. 7 at Jay County Recreation Complex, 5363 W. 450 South, Portland. Registration is \$60 for those who sign up by July 31. For more information, visit jaycc.org.

JC season tickets
Jay County Junior-Senior High School will begin selling season tickets for the 2023-24 season on Monday, July 17. Tickets will be available for purchase Monday from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. until 7 p.m. After Monday, tickets may be purchased during the school's office hours from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Patriots Passes and Senior Patriot Passes that provide admission to all high school and junior high events will be available. They cost \$105 and \$60 respectively.

Also available are super tickets. High school adult super tickets cost \$80, junior high super tickets come out to \$60 and senior super tickets are \$45.

A pre-paid sports pass that is good for 12 regular season events may be purchased for \$50 as well. Boys basketball and football season passes will cost \$50 and \$25 respectively.

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Sports

Vitale battling cancer again

College hoops analyst is diagnosed for 3rd time

By **CHUCK SCHILKEN**

Los Angeles Times
Tribune News Service

Dick Vitale has twice defeated cancer.

And at age 84, the beloved ESPN college basketball analyst fully intends to do it again.

Vitale revealed Wednesday that he has vocal cord cancer and will need six weeks of radiation as treatment.

"Though I was disappointed with the pathology report, I plan on winning this battle like I did vs Melanoma & Lymphoma!" Vitale tweeted Wednesday.

Vitale called the first college basketball game broadcast on ESPN in 1979 (DePaul 90, Wisconsin 77) and has been with the network ever since, delivering one catch phrase after another and using his unmistakable voice to exude unbridled enthusiasm for the game.

Now that voice is ailing. But the man known to fans as Dickie V said his doctor gave him some excellent news, telling him that the cancer "has an extremely high cure rate."

And there was more. "I plan to fight like hell to be ready to call games when the college hoops season tips off in the Fall," Vitale wrote. "Dr. Z feels that scenario is entirely possible."

In November 2021, while Vitale was being treated for lymphoma and just months after overcoming melanoma, he returned to work to call ESPN's broadcast of No. 1 Gonzaga against No. 2 UCLA, a rematch of a Final Four thriller from April of that year.

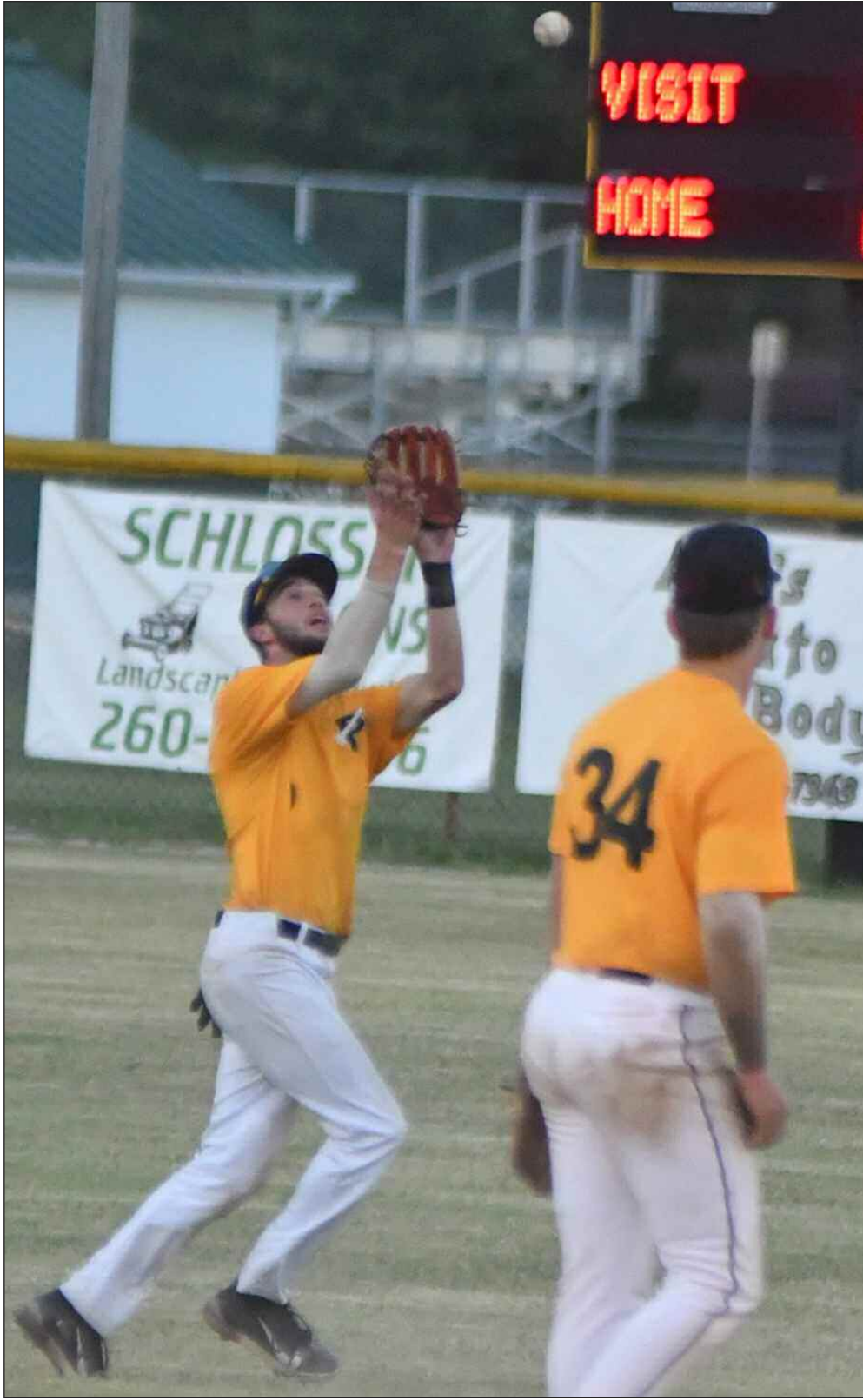
It was just what the doctor ordered, Vitale told The Los Angeles Times days before the game.

"It's great medicine, right? And that's how the doctors feel too," said Vitale, who announced he was cancer free in April 2022. "They told me, 'All the tests about how you are — your EKG, your heart, your organs, they're all great, so there's no reason why you cannot go on and live your life, be active and let us worry about chemo and let us worry about the cancer. You do what you normally do at 82 — enjoy yourself.'"

At the 1993 ESPYs, Vitale helped former North Carolina State coach Jim Valvano, who was weakened by cancer, to the stage to give his famous "Don't give up" speech. Valvano died less than two months later.

Last year, Vitale was honored at the ESPYs with the Jimmy V Award for Perseverance. A long-time fundraiser for cancer research, Vitale announced his current diagnosis Wednesday, the day of this year's ESPYs ceremony at Hollywood's Dolby Theatre.

"This time last year, I was on the ESPYs stage, asking everyone to help in the cancer fight," he wrote. "This terrible disease strikes so many of our loved ones, and it's now knocked on my door three different times. More research will continue to help in this fight."



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Portland Rockets' shortstop, Noah Collins, ranges back to catch a pop up in their 19-7 loss to the Fort Wayne Renegades on Thursday.

Walks spell Rockets' doom in loss

By **ANDREW BALKO**

The Commercial Review

The Rockets batters found their groove at the plate. The pitchers did not find theirs.

Some trouble on the mound led to the Portland Rockets dropping their second game in as many days on Thursday night as they fell to the Fort Wayne Renegades 19-7 at Runkle-Miller Field.

All four of the Rockets' pitchers struggled to find the strike zone consistently.

"We couldn't control the strike zone that's been a bugaboo," manager Randy Miller said. "Our reliever had trouble making the holes in the mound from last night fit his stride for tonight. Nick Bailey hit the first guy and we just compounded our mistakes with more forced pitches under duress. Just no groove at all. No flow ..."

"Two nights in a row our pitching got thin and they looked it. They were not skilled."

The Renegades were able to pull in three runs off of Crosby Heniser through the first three innings thanks to a pair of errors, a pair of walks, a pair of stolen bases, a passed ball and a double by Michael Berwick.

Fort Wayne really started to get to Heniser in the fourth inning. Jake McGrath led off with a triple that one-hopped

the fence followed by a walk and two singles by Sam King and Ty Layson. King's single drove McGrath in for the first run of the inning before Miller put in Nick Bailey to face Tristan Rothenberger with the bases loaded.

Bailey couldn't find the zone as he hit Rothenberger to score a run, then threw a four-pitch walk to allow a second. He finally recorded the first out of the inning when Bryce Tucker hit a sacrifice fly to score the fourth run of the inning.

Bailey's struggles would continue as walks, passed balls and a pair of throwing errors by catcher Magnuss Lee allowed three more runs to cross the plate.

"It was patience," Renegades manager Larry Hoffman said. "They struggled — they didn't have their top dawg and we were patient enough that we capitalized on that."

It was a complete team effort from Fort Wayne offensively, with every single player scoring at least one run, six of which scored multiple, seven players drove in 10 runs and three players had multiple hits.

After Bailey's struggles in the fourth, he didn't allow a run in the fifth while allowing two walks.

See Walks page 9

Colts TEs lack clarity

By **GEORGE BREMER**

The Herald Bulletin (Anderson)
Tribune News Service

INDIANAPOLIS — Perhaps no position on the Indianapolis Colts' roster has less clarity entering training camp than tight end.

It's a crowded group, with seven players battling for a maximum of four spots on the 53-man roster. But injuries obscured any true look at the potential pecking order this spring.

Mo Alie-Cox again figures to be near the top of the depth chart. The 29-year-old made a career-high 11 starts last season but caught just 19 passes for 189 yards and three touchdowns as the offense stumbled to a 27th-place ranking in total yards and averaged just 17 points to rank 30th in the 32-team league.

There were unconfirmed whispers the Colts might be open to dealing Alie-Cox during the offseason, but he's back for a seventh season in Indianapolis and is valued for his leadership on and off the field.

Meanwhile, second-year standout Jelani Woods appears poised to make a massive jump.

A third-round pick out of Virginia in 2022, Woods got off to a slow start as a rookie and made just two starts. He finished with 25 catches for 312 yards and three touchdowns, leading Indianapolis' tight ends in receiving yards and tying for the lead at the position group in scores.

At 6-foot-7 and 253 pounds, the athletic 24-year-old is a natural mismatch for most defenders, and he could provide a valuable security blanket for whomever earns the starting quarterback job as a third-down and red-zone target.

Woods is widely expected to fill a similar role in the Colts' offense as Dallas

Goedert plays for the Philadelphia Eagles. Goedert caught 111 passes for 1,532 yards and seven touchdowns in 27 games over the past two seasons with new Indianapolis head coach Shane Steichen as his offensive coordinator.

Injury rehab sidelined Woods throughout the spring, so he'll take his first snaps in the new offense at Westfield's Grand Park when training camp practice begins July 26.

Kylen Granson remains an intriguing option in the tight end mix.

The 25-year-old nearly tripled his production from his rookie season with 31 catches for 302 yards in 2022 while playing in four fewer games. At 6-3 and 242 pounds, he's the smallest player in the position group, and he's been used more similarly to a slot receiver at times than a traditional tight end.

Granson could be pushed for the third tight end role by a trio of newcomers.

Veteran Pharaoh Brown has been a hammer in the run game over five seasons with the Oakland Raiders, Cleveland Browns and Houston Texans. Since entering the league as an undrafted free agent in 2017, the 29-year-old has appeared in 55 games with 36 starts and has made 51 receptions for 478 yards and two touchdowns.

Drew Ogletree was impressive during the spring and early portions of training camp last year after being drafted in the sixth round out of Youngstown State. A converted wide receiver, the 6-5, 260-pounder showed flashes of his playmaking ability before a non-contact knee injury ended his rookie season in August.

See Colts page 9



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