

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

Redkey to try for more grant funding

By BAILEY CLINE

The Commercial Review

REDKEY — The town is applying for another grant to pave more streets.

Redkey Town Council approved a list of streets to apply for in a Community Crossings grant from Indiana Department of Transportation this year.

Hopes are to pave Union Street between Main and Lake streets as well as between High and Mitchell, Mitchell Street between Union Street and Meridian Avenue, Oak Street between Main and Railroad streets, Delaware Avenue between Meridian and Washington Streets and Washington Street between Delaware Street and Bell Avenue.

The total cost of the project would be \$218,249, with Redkey's match at \$54,562.25.

Council also learned Brooks Construction of Fort Wayne is expected to start paving streets Aug. 15. Streets on the schedule include Boyce Street between Sycamore and Meridian streets, Bell Avenue between Meridian and Washington streets, Sycamore Street between Indiana 67 and Main Street and all of Morgan Drive through Redkey Morgan Park.

The bulk of the cost is covered by a Community Crossings grant secured in 2022, and the cost to pave the park's drive was donated by Redkey Economic Development Corporation. The project came in at \$158,131, well under initial estimates.

"We're getting close to a million dollars in paving (over) the last five years," noted town employee Randy Young. "Redkey wouldn't do that in 55, 100 years without the grants."

Dottie Quakenbush, resident and former council member, voiced some concerns with Redkey Police Department. She asked when police officer Zach Moser — he started working for Redkey in June — would be switched to a later shift.

See Redkey page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney



Starting second

Sousaphone players Trenton Hamilton and Chance Sturgill lead a group of Jay County High School Marching Patriots across the track near the end of their performance Friday during the Jay County Lions Band Contest at the grandstand at Jay County Fairgrounds. The Marching Patriots were runners-up in their first contest of the season, scoring 67.175 points to trail only champion Muncie Central. Richmond was third with 67.075 with Centerville (64.525) fourth and Anderson (64.075) fifth. Hayden Richman of the Marching Patriots keeps his eyes on drum major Mackenzie Brown during Friday night's performance.

Council considers amending rule

By BAILEY CLINE

The Commercial Review

County officials may be amending legislation relating to its hiring freeze.

Jay County Council president Jeanne Houchins suggested council amend its ordinance that enacted a hiring freeze in December for all county offices.

The legislation required county department heads to alert the county's personnel committee — it's made up of the commissioners

Personnel committee has been meeting frequently to address open positions

president and council president and vice president — as soon as they are notified of a full-time employee's departure. The committee would review the position

within five business days, meet with the department head and alert council about the position. If council did not OK the department head to fill the posi-

tion, the money allocated for it would be removed from the budget 60 days after the date of termination.

Houchins explained the

process had been a frequent occurrence, specifically with positions at Jay County Jail.

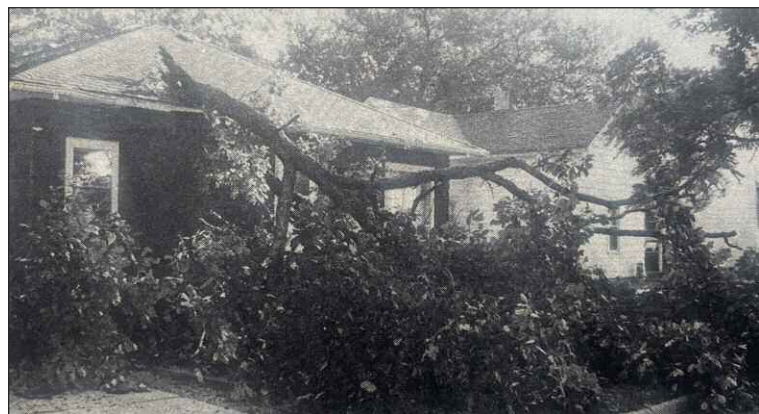
"With the jail being kind of like a revolving door, it's been quite a bit," she said. "They kind of have to have the people (immediately)."

Speaking on behalf of the personnel committee, she said they would like to only apply the procedure if department heads create a new position.

See Amending page 2

Retrospect

Storm resulted in damage across county



The Commercial Review/Laurie Chen

A series of severe thunderstorms swept through Jay County and the surrounding area on July 19, 1998, bringing heavy rain and damaging winds. This large tree limb fell on top of a home at 912 W. Arch St. in Portland.

Twenty-five years ago this week, a storm slammed Jay County

The July 20, 1998, edition of The Commercial Review featured coverage of a severe thunderstorm that left trees and power lines down.

The biggest impact from the storm came along county road 200 West between county roads 100 North and 200 North.

At the time of publication on July 20, that area of county road 200 West remained closed. It was expected to stay closed for another 24 hours or more as crews from Jay County REMC and American Electric Power worked to

repair nine downed utility poles.

Beyond that area, Jay County Sheriff's Department received more than 20 reports of storm damage that mostly came in the form of downed trees and power lines. Those included a tree limb that fell on a mobile home owned by April Garringer in Oakwood Mobile Home Park that caused heavy damage.

Downed trees had also forced road closures on county road 650 West south of county road 400 North, county road 200 East between county road 650 South and Boundary Pike, and county road 500 West between Indi-

ana 26 and county road 200 North.

In all, about 600 Jay County REMC customers and 200 American Electric Power customers lost power.

Portland Fire Department responded to three calls regarding fires from downed power lines. Two were out by the time firefighters arrived, and then extinguished a third at 12:25 a.m. July 20 in the alley between Arch and High Streets near Harrison Street.

The storm also knocked out Americable services.

It was just the first in a run of severe weather, as areas of Jay County experienced flooding later in the week.

Deaths

William Loper, 58, Winchester
 Emma Schwartz, 74, Adams County
 David Rogers, 83, Hartford City
 Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 75 degrees Friday. The forecast calls for mostly sunny skies today with a high in the low 80s. Skies will be mostly sunny and there is a chance of showers. Lows this weekend will be in the 60s.
 See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Jay County Solid Waste Management District is now offering a cardboard recycling program. Clean, dry cardboard can be brought to the district officer for recycling by appointment. Those interested in making an appointment can do so by calling (260) 729-5071.

Coming up

Tuesday — Photos from the Spirit of Sound band contest at Muncie Central.

Wednesday — Coverage of the week's Dunkirk City Council meeting.





Photo provided

Back a 4-Her

Portland Rotary Club donated \$250 to Youth Service Bureau for their Born to Learn Program. Pictured are Rotary member Tracy Carpenter and 4-H members Abbie Rowles, Ivy Alt, Evelyn Carter and Abby Fifer.

Romance for couple is gone

DEAR ABBY: I have been in a relationship with "Blake" for almost 10 years. Before we met, I was with "Kaden," the father of my kids. It was a loveless relationship. Kaden was mean and cold and often had angry outbursts.

Dear Abby



My relationship with Blake started off as everything I ever wanted. He made me feel loved and appreciated. Ten years later, he, too, is cold. He no longer touches me (he watches porn instead) and makes no effort to show me love or appreciation. He's a good provider financially, but he thinks he doesn't have to do anything more than that.

I feel lost and hurt. I feel like Blake deceived me in the beginning, and now that he thinks I'm not going anywhere, he doesn't have to try. My self-esteem has suffered greatly. I have suggested counseling, but he refuses. Any advice will be appreciated. — UNLOVED IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR UNLOVED: Because Blake refuses counseling doesn't mean that YOU couldn't benefit from it. If you go, your therapist can help you to understand why you have tolerated the treatment for 10 years and help you rebuild your sagging self-esteem. Counseling is the surest way to understand and break the pattern of your partner's behavior, learn what your strengths are and turn your unhappy life around. You deserve to be happy, so start working on it now.

DEAR ABBY: When I prepare for family to visit, I know I'll have to spend time with one relative who will repeat the same stories/facts/opinions ad nauseam. In the past, I have tried saying, "Oh yes, I remember you telling me that," but he just continues. He acknowledges me when I say that I've heard this one before, and then he keeps right on with the story. He does this with just about everyone, not only with me.

conversations? It seems odd pretending I haven't heard the story, and telling him I've heard it doesn't stop him. He's been the same for the 30 years I've known him, so I don't think there are any cognitive issues. I'm not sure why he does this, or how important that is. My gut is telling me that he's awkward socially, inflexible and not interested in what others have to say. Any advice? — TALK, TALK, TALK IN MICHIGAN

DEAR TALK, TALK, TALK: When your egotistical relative starts one of his talking jags, wait for him to take a breath, remind him you have heard the story many times and leave the room. If it's something you haven't heard before, be grateful.

DEAR ABBY: I recently met this guy at a private event. We got to talking, and he gave me his social media information. We have been messaging each other ever since. He has been acting increasingly obsessed, and it's making me uncomfortable. He acts like we've known each other for years. I don't know how to tell him I don't want to talk to him anymore. What are your thoughts? — RESERVED GUY IN MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR RESERVED GUY: My thought is that because his messages are making you uncomfortable, you should respond to them slowly, briefly and then not at all. It would be kinder than ghosting him.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Gray whales showing hope

BY AMANDA ZHOU
The Seattle Times
Tribune News Service

The gray whale population along the West Coast showed another year of declines, according to the latest estimates, but scientists say there are some positive signs for the formerly endangered whales.

The population of the eastern north Pacific Gray whale has been sliding downward since reaching a peak in 2016 with an estimated 26,960 whales. This year, scientists put the estimate at 14,526 whales. The estimate is based on counts of migrating whales off the Central California coast and statistical analyses.

In 2019, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration declared a population die-off as an "unusual mortality event." While the cause isn't clear, researchers theorized the decline is partially related to changes to food sources in the Arctic, where the whales spend the summer.

Three dead gray whales found along Washington shores last month showed

signs of malnutrition, according to the Cascadia Research Collective.

There are signs of hope for the intrepid species, which migrates nearly 10,000 miles between the Arctic and Mexico. In winter, when the whales spend their time in lagoons, scientists counted more mothers with calves in 2023 than any of the past five years.

Researchers also observed that the conditions of their bodies have improved and that fewer dead gray whales have washed ashore in Mexico and along the West Coast since 2019.

All these signs lead researchers to believe "the gray whale mortality event may be slowing," said Autonomous University of Baja California Sur professor Jorge Urbán Ramirez, who studies the species.

NOAA's Marine Mammal and Turtle Division director David Weller said the administration will continue to keep a close eye on the whales. "We want to pick up on any signs or

signals of a positive change in the concerning trend the population has undergone recently."

The eastern north Pacific gray whale is considered a conservation success story because their population has grown consistently after they were protected under the Marine Mammal Protection Act in 1972. They neared extinction in the 1950s due to commercial hunting. In 1964, the species numbered 13,426.

Researchers say a small group of gray whales that stops in Puget Sound on their annual migration, known as "the Sounders," have been known to teach themselves how to feed on ghost shrimp burrowed in mud flats, often in shallow near-shore waters.

The eastern north Pacific gray whale was removed from the endangered species list in 1994. Since then, similarly large fluctuations in this whale population has occurred before and the species has recovered from a similarly small numbers.

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 - BRI-

ANNA'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.

PORTLAND EVENING OPTIMIST CLUB — Will meet at 6 p.m. the first and third Monday of each month at Richards Restaurant.

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
JAY COUNTY PASTORS AND CHAPLAINS — Meet at 8 a.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month at Richard's Restaurant.

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

Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

Friday's Solution

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

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FWC

FAMILY FUN-DAY

JULY 23, 2023 11:00AM - 3:00PM

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ERETRICK SOAKER

WATER GAMES

PRIZES

WORSHIP

ICE CREAM

CARNIVAL GAMES

Privacy shouldn't be handed away

The Free Press (Mankato, Minn.)

Tribune News Service

Once again Big Tech appears to have made big gains of the backs off American consumers by grabbing their sensitive tax return information to develop marketing algorithms.

Facebook and Google got access to customer information through online tax services including H&R Block, TaxSlayer and TaxAct as taxpayers used those services to do their taxes. All manner of information was available including amount of taxes owed, marriage and

Guest Editorial

dependent information, income and even what keys taxpayers used filling out their forms.

A group of congressional Democratic lawmakers revealed the breaches in a letter to the justice department, the IRS and Federal Trade Commission last week and asked for

an immediate investigation. H&R Block and TaxAct said they were working to stop the breach from happening again while TaxSlayer called the report false and misleading.

For its part, Meta said it tells its business customers not to include sensitive information on its customers using its business tools, basically blaming the tax companies for the breach. The incident is another example of the pervasive reach of Big Tech and its ability to invade privacy through purpose or mistake.

In a 2018 case, Cambridge

Analytica, a group that raised money for ex-President Donald Trump, had worked with a Facebook app developer to access private information of some 87 million Facebook users. The company ended up paying a \$5 billion federal fine.

We all know we've agreed to the tiny print we never read in Facebook user agreements and for other sites. So some blame lies with consumers. But in a digital world overwhelming consumers with necessary tools of the web required for life and employment, there

should be more protection from the crimes of not reading tiny print.

Big Tech should readily disclosed in prominent notices the risk of using any of its platforms. Companies using the web for commerce should do the same. And the government agencies urged to start an investigation into this case should do so immediately.

Consumers bargain a lot when they sign up to use the high tech tools necessary in today's world, but they shouldn't have to bargain away their privacy.

Finance records can tell us a lot

By NIKI KELLY

Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

When campaign finance deadlines hit, journalists dig into the reports for the key numbers: who raised the most and how much do they have left in their coffers? But there are tons of smaller interesting details to be found as well.

Did you know the Hoosier PAC affiliated with — and giving hundreds of thousands to U.S. Sen. Mike Braun's gubernatorial campaign — is located in Wisconsin? Or that Secretary of State Diego Morales has spent more than \$2,800 at the J.W. Marriott downtown?

The governor's race has raised more than \$5.3 million this year — and \$12.6 million overall. That includes totals for 2021 and 2022, as candidates have entered the race at different times.

And we have more than a year to go.

The vast majority of that money is coming on the Republican side as at least five candidates are vying for the nomination.

Could it be the most expensive Indiana governor's race ever? When counting the primary, possibly. But I'm not sure it will eclipse the \$33 million that Republican Mitch Daniels and Democrat Joe Kernan spent in 2004.

Here are a few other key takeaways from the reports:

•Eric Holcomb raised only a few dollars. After all, he is term-limited and isn't running for anything else. But he definitely spent some money: about \$321,000, with \$1 million left in the bank. Interestingly, he did some polling in June. Yep, just last month he paid nearly \$40,000 to survey Hoosiers about something. And he also paid \$42,000 to Colbert Consulting for some consulting work. Perhaps he is trying to figure out who to endorse in the race to replace him?

•Attorney General Todd Rokita raised \$374,000 for his 2024 re-election bid. But if you look close, the majority of that — at least \$250,000 — comes from out-of-state donors. For instance, Jerald Block and Robert Salim, two attorneys in Louisiana, each gave \$25,000. He is also spending a lot of money: \$173,000 so far this year. Included in that spending was almost \$20,000 for "event expenses" in Utah with Adventure Collective. The company's website says it provides luxury adventure

Niki Kelly



Hoosiers have to look past just the total dollars raised and spent.

travel packages: "Epic Adventures. Luxury Accommodations. Unforgettable Experiences." Think skiing, hiking and flyfishing.

•Morales spent about \$1,000 in registration fees and insurance on a campaign vehicle that has caused controversy. Importantville's Adam Wren noted the expenditures on Twitter, recalling that Morales had promised to sell the \$43,000 Toyota RAV4 that he bought during his 2022 campaign.

•The three GOP governor frontrunners are spending a lot on consulting. Braun gave Daniels Spaulding Consulting LLC \$194,000 so far this year. The company is a "full-service fundraising, consulting and event planning firm," according to LinkedIn. Braun also paid Mark It Red about \$65,000 for polling and consulting. Similarly, Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch has spent around \$240,000 on consulting this year and Fort Wayne businessman Eric Doden about \$194,000 — spread across various companies.

Campaign finance filings are based on the promise of transparency.

But to truly be transparent, Hoosiers have to look past just the total dollars raised and spent. You can learn a lot about candidates and their fiscal responsibility, for instance. Will they spend your tax dollars the same way they spend campaign donations?

So take a few minutes, or hours, and comb through reports for state races that interest you the most. And shoot me a tip if you find something good.

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Give Pence another look

By LYNN SCHMIDT

The Fulcrum
Tribune News Service

If you care about liberal democracy here and abroad, while maintaining civility, it might be time to give Vice President Mike Pence a second look in the Republican primary election. Pence may be ideologically more conservative than many in the electorate, but he is a good and honorable man and the White House, the country, and the world's stage would be in capable hands with him behind the Resolute desk.

Americans should already know that the former vice president upheld his oath to the Constitution on Jan. 6, 2021, despite immense pressure and threats to his life. What many may not know is that Pence continues to call out former President Trump, telling an Iowa voter recently "President Trump was wrong about my authority that day. And he's still wrong."

During a recent campaign event in Sioux City, Iowa, Pence was confronted by a voter who was unhappy with his actions on Jan. 6. "If it wasn't for your vote, we wouldn't have Joe Biden in the White House. Joe Biden shouldn't be there." She went on to ask, "Do you ever second guess yourself?" adding "That was a Constitutional right that you had to send those votes back to the states."

Pence responded with "I know by God's grace I did exactly what the Constitution of the United States required me to do that day. He went on to explain to her in a very respectful manner "The Constitution says you open and count the votes: no more, no less. The Constitution affords no authority for the vice president or anyone

Lynn Schmidt



else to reject votes or return votes to the states." The woman remained disgruntled by Pence's answer, and he told her "I'm sorry, ma'am, but that's actually what the Constitution says."

Not only is he committed to the rule of law here in the U.S., but Pence is also dedicated to advancing freedom abroad. He has been vocal of his support of Ukraine and has pushed back on those in the Republican Party who want to abandon Ukraine and the West saying, "The war in Ukraine is not our war but freedom is our fight." He called America the arsenal of democracy and espoused believing in the Reagan doctrine. He has expressed that the war in Ukraine "is not America's war, but if Putin is not stopped and the sovereign nation of Ukraine is not restored quickly, he will continue to move toward our NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) allies, and America would then be called upon to send our own."

Mike Pence became the first Republican presidential candidate to visit Ukraine. On June 29, he and Franklin Graham, who heads the international relief organization Samaritan's Purse, traveled to Kyiv and met with Ukrainian president Volodymyr Zelenskyy during the visit.

Pence has also broken from his fellow GOP primary candidates in bringing with him a refreshing

dose of decorum. During his CNN town hall meeting, moderator Dana Bash asked Pence, "What would you say to a transgender kid and their family who say this is how I feel comfortable, and I don't feel comfortable another way and they feel that you are targeting them." Pence answered without skipping a beat. "I would tell them that I love everybody. I would put my arm around them and their parents. But before they had a chemical or surgical procedure, I would say wait. Just wait. I mean there's some people, maybe there's exceptions but most people before you are 18 years of age. There's a reason we got that cut off for all kinds of categories in our society. You just don't know what you want in life. You don't know who you really are. It takes time to become an adult and figure that out. And I would just put my arm around them and tell them I love them but just wait. Just wait. And that's how we put the interests of our kids first."

Much of the focus of the town hall was on Pence's reaction to Trump's indictments or on January 6 but this exchange showed Pence's humanity and love for all Americans.

If America is going to again be a beacon of hope atop "the shining city on a hill," we will need to relight the flame of our democratic values. Whether you vote for a Democrat or Republican, we all should vote for someone of character and integrity. On the Republican side, I think that person is Mike Pence.

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Schmidt is a syndicated columnist and editorial board member with the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

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—Thomas Jefferson

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Crooner Bennett dies at age 96

By CLAUDIA LUTHER

Los Angeles Times
Tribune News Service

Tony Bennett, the enduring New York City crooner who famously left his heart in San Francisco and melted hearts all over the world during his more than seven decades on the music scene, died Friday. He was 96, just two weeks short of his birthday.

Publicist Sylvia Weiner confirmed Bennett's death to The Associated Press, saying he died in his hometown of New York. There was no specific cause, but Bennett had been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease in 2016.

Adored by fans and held in the highest regard by musicians from Frank Sinatra to Lady Gaga, Bennett was a consummate performer who had a remarkable ability to endear himself to new generations of listeners, even as his contemporaries faded away. Sinatra once called him, "for my money the best singer in the business, the best exponent of a song."

In all, Bennett made dozens of albums and sold millions of records in a career that seemed to stretch seamlessly through the decades and changing musical landscape. For much of his career he was perpetually on the road, sometimes performing 200 shows a year. And though he had occasional periods when his career ebbed as his repertoire went out of style, he repeatedly found new fans who flocked to his concerts and snapped up his records.

In 2014, Bennett became the oldest living artist to reach No. 1 on the Billboard charts when he teamed up with Lady Gaga on the standards-only recording "Cheek to Cheek." It broke the record he had set only three years earlier when he reached No. 1 with his album "Duets II," featuring pairings with Amy Winehouse, Mariah Carey, Carrie Underwood, Faith Hill and other far-younger singers. In 2022, he became the second-oldest Grammy winner with "Love for Sale," a collection of Cole Porter standards recorded with Gaga.

Starting in the clubs of Manhattan in the 1940s, Bennett rose



Tribune News Service/Getty Images for NARAS/Larry Busacca

Recording Artists Tony Bennett and Lady Gaga perform onstage during The 57th Annual GRAMMY Awards at the STAPLES Center on Feb. 8, 2015, in Los Angeles.

to popularity before the advent of rock 'n' roll and, though pressured by his record label to become a rocker, he took the advice of his friend, Count Basie, who said, "Why change an apple?"

With the help of "I Left My Heart in San Francisco" — the song that won him his first Grammy and became his signature song from the time it was released in 1962 — Bennett kept performing, doing it his way.

In the 1990s, in a miracle of savvy marketing masterminded by his son and manager, Danny, Bennett became the elder darling of the MTV set. He appeared as an animated special guest on "The Simpsons" and — though

he never actually had been "plugged" in the first place — he made a much-heralded appearance on "MTV Unplugged." The resulting album earned him a Grammy for album of the year in 1994.

Two decades later, his career reached full boil again when he hit the road with Lady Gaga and sailed off with a Grammy for "Cheek to Cheek." He won his 19th the following year with "The Silver Lining: The Songs of Jerome Kern."

"There's nothing hipper than being talented at something you love, in having passion, and that is classic, and that is timeless," Lady Gaga said in 2015.

Bennett touched on winning

over younger audiences in "The Good Life," the 1998 autobiography he wrote with Will Friedwald. "You can't imagine how rewarding this is, and how much it affirms what I fought so long and hard for."

Bennett enjoyed immense popularity through his 70s, 80s and into his 90s. And he had the deep respect of his peers, from Bob Hope, who helped discover him and gave him his stage name of Tony Bennett, to Basie, Judy Garland, Pearl Bailey — and, especially his idol, Sinatra.

"He excites me when I watch him — he moves me," Sinatra said in a 1965 Life magazine article. "He's the singer who gets across what the composer has in

mind, and probably a little more. There's a feeling in back of it."

"That quote changed my whole life," Bennett wrote in "The Good Life." "It was probably the most generous act that one artist has ever done for another."

In 1992, Bennett paid a special tribute to his idol with his 55th album for Columbia Records, "Perfectly Frank," which included such Sinatra hits as "One for My Baby" and "Night and Day." Except for a 14-year period from the mid-1970s to the mid-1980s, when Bennett recorded for other labels, the singer spent his entire career at Columbia. On his own label, Improv, he recorded with jazz pianist Bill Evans.

Authors rebuke AI

By EMILY ST. MARTIN

Los Angeles Times
Tribune News Service

More than 9,000 authors are calling out the tech companies behind generative AI in an open letter that states there is an inherent injustice in exploiting copyright-protected works to train chatbots without consent, credit or compensation.

If users prompt GPT-4 to summarize works by Roxane Gay or Margaret Atwood, it can do so in detail, chapter by chapter. If users want ChatGPT to write a story in the style of an acclaimed author such as Maya Angelou, they can ask it to "write a personal essay in the style of Maya Angelou, exploring the theme of self-discovery and personal growth." And voila.

The generative AI is powered by two software programs known as large language models, which forgo a traditional programming method and instead extract massive amounts of text in order to produce natural and lifelike responses to user prompts.

In Tuesday's open letter, the Authors Guild writes that "Generative AI technologies built on large language models owe their existence to our writings. These technologies mimic and regurgitate our language, stories, style, and ideas. Millions of copyrighted books, articles, essays, and poetry provide the 'food' for AI systems, endless meals for which there has been no bill."

The letter further states that tech companies including OpenAI, Alphabet, Meta, Stability AI, IBM and Microsoft have spent billions to develop AI technology and that compensating the authors for using their works would be the fair move, because without those books, "AI would be banal and extremely limited."

Novelist and essayist Jonathan Franzen commended the effort, stating,

They say companies exploited books as 'food' for chatbots

"The Authors Guild is taking an important step to advance the rights of all Americans whose data and words and images are being exploited, for immense profit, without their consent — in other words, pretty much all Americans over the age of six."

Dan Brown, James Patterson, Margaret Atwood, Roxane Gay, Celeste Ng, Viet Thanh Nguyen, George Saunders and Rebecca Makkai are among the thousands of authors who are taking AI industry leaders to task, asking that their concerns be addressed and specific actions taken:

—Obtain permission for the use of copyrighted material in generative AI programs.

—Fairly compensate writers for both past and ongoing use of their works in generative AI programs.

—Fairly compensate writers for the use of their works in AI output, regardless of whether the outputs infringe upon current laws.

"We understand that many of the books used to develop AI systems originated from notorious piracy websites," the letter continues. "Not only does the recent Supreme Court decision in Warhol v. Goldsmith make clear that the high commerciality of your use argues against fair use, but no court would excuse copying illegally sourced works as fair use."

The Authors Guild says generative AI threatens writers' professions by "flooding the market

with mediocre, machine-written books, stories, and journalism based on our work." And that for at least the last decade, authors have experienced a 40% decline in income, with many full-time writers in 2022 barely surpassing the federal poverty level.

The letter comes just weeks after bestselling novelists Mona Awad and Paul Tremblay filed a suit against OpenAI in a San Francisco federal court, claiming that ChatGPT was trained in part by "ingesting" their novels without their consent.

When prompted, ChatGPT emitted extremely detailed summaries of Tremblay's "The Cabin at the End of the World" and Awad's "Bunny" and "13 Ways of Looking at a Fat Girl." Both authors claim this is proof that their novels were used to train the chatbot, and the filing includes ChatGPT's responses to prompts regarding their novels.

In June 2018, OpenAI revealed that it trained GPT-1 using BookCorpus, which the suit described as a "controversial dataset" assembled by artificial intelligence researchers in 2015, with a collection of "over 7,000 unique unpublished books from a variety of genres including Adventure, Fantasy, and Romance."

"They copied the books from a website called Smashwords.com that hosts unpublished novels that are available to readers at no cost. Those novels, however, are largely under copyright."

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7-22 CRYPTOQUIP

JZ CXY IYAUOW LOAEPUOUIKC
HIYGGXAU HIPAIJUQ AJQRI
UXV, VRPI PAO CXY? ZAXE
IRJH LXJUI "ZAXVPAW."

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: HOW MIGHT YOU DESCRIBE HARRY S. TRUMAN WHEN HE WAS AT HIS WEDDING CEREMONY? THE BESS MAN.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals G

Trivial Review
(Answers are printed below, upside down.)
Getting musical
1) What instrument was the first that John Philip Sousa learned to play?
2) When was the United States Marine Band formed?
Answers: 1) The violin 2) 1798

7-24 CRYPTOQUIP

HA JVXJKV JVQAXQE YCXQM
RCXQBK ULESVQY HU B RKLS,
EHTCM ZXL YBZ MCVZ'QV
YHUTHUT TKVV-ALKKZ?

Saturday's Cryptoquip: IF YOU TURNED PERMANENTLY STUBBORN STARTING RIGHT NOW, WHAT ARE YOU? FROM THIS POINT "FROWARD."
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: J equals P

CRYPTO FUN
Solve the code to discover words related to lost pets.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(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: Giselle Bündchen

kids' corner
Illustration of a child's desk with a laptop, calculator, and books.

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. Pear, 7. Rows, 8. Swimming

THIS DAY IN... HISTORY
• 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 pet 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 Bio stat number, 4 Canadian flag emblem, 8 Indian flat-bread, 12 Pooch, 13 Norwegian seaport, 14 God of war, 15 Lawyers' org., 16 Manual reader, 17 Consider, 18 Quick getaways, 21 Attempt, 22 Sticky stuff, 23 Lauder of cosmetics, 26 Kitten's cry, 27 Witch, 30 Leeway, 31 Scarlet, 32 Year-end celebration, 33 Chopper, 34 Skillet, 35 Haunting, 36 Maui memento.
DOWN: 1 Comic, 2 Asian desert, 3 Novelist, 4 Paris art museum, 5 School, 6 Actor, 7 Searched for food, 8 Ham's device, 9 Black-and-white cookie, 10 Adolescent, 11 Doctrines, 19 Detail, 20 AAA job, 21 Uses finger paint, say, 22 Isaac's eldest, 23 Misplaced optimism, 27 Floor cover, 29 Flying toy, 30 Biblical garden, 32 Baby's father, 34 Citizen soldiers, 37 Like skim milk, 39 Chipmunk's kin, 42 Stiller's partner, 44 "La-la" lead-in, 45 Sailor's saint, 46 Grassland croaker, 50 Addams cousin, 51 Wall climber, 52 Lucy of "Kill Bill", 53 Felon's flight.

Grid for crossword puzzle solution.
Yesterday's answer 7-22
Solution time: 26 mins.

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Famous Hand
East dealer. East-West vulnerable.
NORTH: ♠Q 5 4, ♥Q, ♦Q J 5 4, ♣Q J 8 7 6
WEST: ♠10 8 2, ♥A K 10 9 4, ♦K 10 2, ♣5 2
EAST: ♠A J 9 7 6, ♥7 5 2, ♦7 3, ♣10 9 3
SOUTH: ♠K 3, ♥J 8 6 3, ♦A 9 8 6, ♣A K 4
The bidding: East 1 NT, South Pass, West 2♥, North Pass, East 3 NT, South Pass, West 3 NT, North Pass. Opening lead: ten of hearts.
This deal was played in the Italy-Taiwan match during the 1972 World Bridge Olympiad. The final contract — three notrump by South — was the same at both tables, but the outcome was altogether different.
At the first table, where Giorgio Belladonna was declarer for Italy, West led the ten of hearts. Declarer won with dummy's queen, led the queen of diamonds, which held, then the jack of diamonds, losing to West's king.
Tomorrow: Declarer avoids a booby trap. ©2023 King Features Syndicate Inc.

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

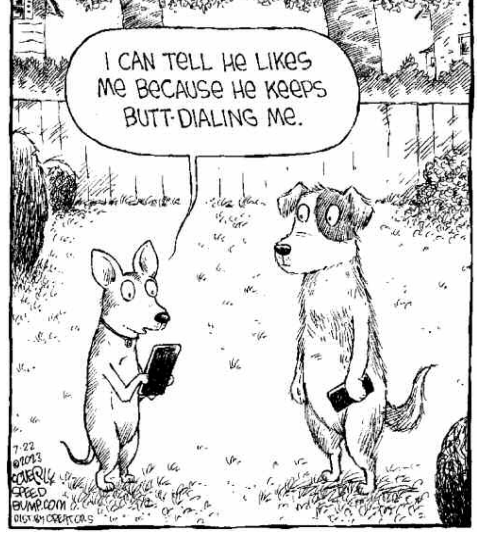
East lets the cat out of the bag
West dealer. Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH: ♠A Q 9 8, ♥K J 4, ♦K Q 9 8 3, ♣9
WEST: ♠9 8 6, ♥6 4 2, ♦A K Q 10 7 6 3, ♣7 6 5 4 2
EAST: ♠K J 10 3, ♥Q 7 3 2, ♦10 7 5, ♣4 2
SOUTH: ♠7 6 5 4 2, ♥A 10 5, ♦A J, ♣J 8 5
The bidding: West 3♣, North Dble, East Pass, South 4♣. Opening lead — king of clubs.
How a player fares in bridge over the long haul depends primarily on how many mistakes he or she makes. The luck factor is certainly important in the short term, but in the long run, it is the mistake factor that determines how well or how poorly a player does.
Part of attempting to play error-free bridge is to know how to take advantage of an opponent's mistake. For example, take this hand where East doubles four spades on the bidding shown. It is a dreadful double for two reasons. First, East has no good reason to think he can beat the contract on the basis of the bidding he has heard. Second, the double warns declarer that the trumps are stacked against him and gives him a chance to shape his play accordingly.
West led a club and continued the suit. Declarer ruffed with dummy's eight, led a low heart and successfully finessed the ten. He next cashed the A-J of diamonds and A-K of hearts, scrupulously avoiding any trump leads because he knew East had all the trumps.
South then cashed dummy's king of diamonds, discarding a club, and continued with the queen. East, now down to four trumps and the queen of hearts, ruffed with the ten and exited with the queen of hearts, ruffed by declarer with dummy's nine.
The nine-of-diamonds lead then compelled East to ruff with the jack and return a spade from the K-3 into dummy's A-Q. As a result, South made four spades doubled.
Without the double, declarer would almost surely have led a trump early in the play and gone down one. The outcome thus exemplifies the importance of the mistake factor in bridge. Here, East made a critical one when he doubled, and South, with a flawless performance, made him pay for it.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

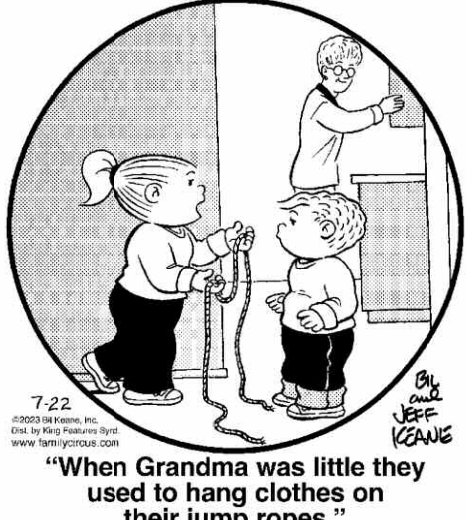
Crossword puzzle grid with clues:
ACROSS: 1 Shred, 4 Surgery reminders, 9 Watch chain, 12 Green prefix, 13 Trig ratio, 14 Commo-tion, 15 Good poker hand, 17 Roulette bet, 18 Moray, for one, 19 Crosses a thresh-old, 21 Malign, 24 TV/radio host John, 25 Simile part, 26 Goof up, 28 Volleyball putaway, 31 Hardly hirsute, 33 Bottom line, 35 Lose traction, 36 Writer Sontag, 38 Showbiz job.
DOWN: 40 Paris, 41 Ancient Dead Sea land, 43 Untie, 45 Odorless gas, 47 Wall St. debut, 48 Piccadilly privy, 49 "This Kiss" singer, 54 Tourist's aid, 55 "Glee" guitarist, 56 Itinerary word, 57 Praise in verse, 58 Turkic language, 59 "Delicious!"
21 Uses finger paint, say, 22 Isaac's eldest, 23 Misplaced optimism, 27 Floor cover, 29 Flying toy, 30 Biblical garden, 32 Baby's father, 34 Citizen soldiers, 37 Like skim milk, 39 Chipmunk's kin, 42 Stiller's partner, 44 "La-la" lead-in, 45 Sailor's saint, 46 Grassland croaker, 50 Addams cousin, 51 Wall climber, 52 Lucy of "Kill Bill", 53 Felon's flight.

Grid for crossword puzzle solution.
Saturday's answer 7-24
Solution time: 21 mins.

SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



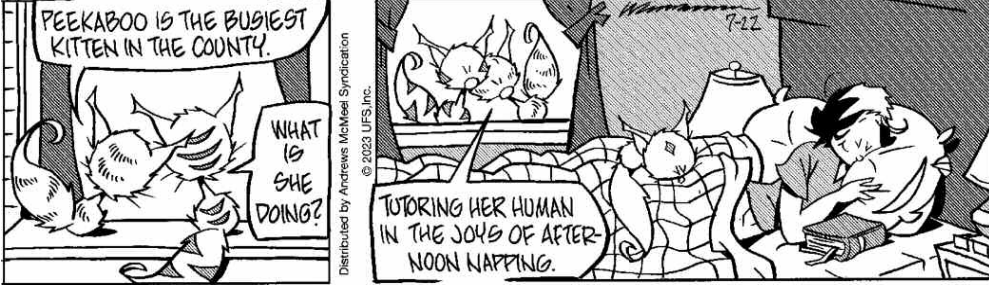
Peanuts



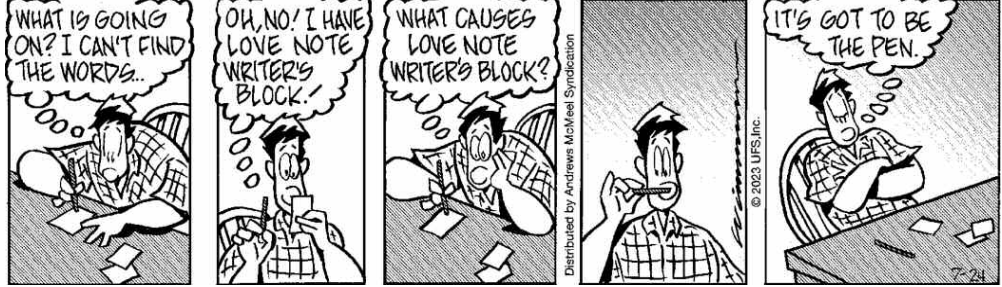
Peanuts



Rose is Rose



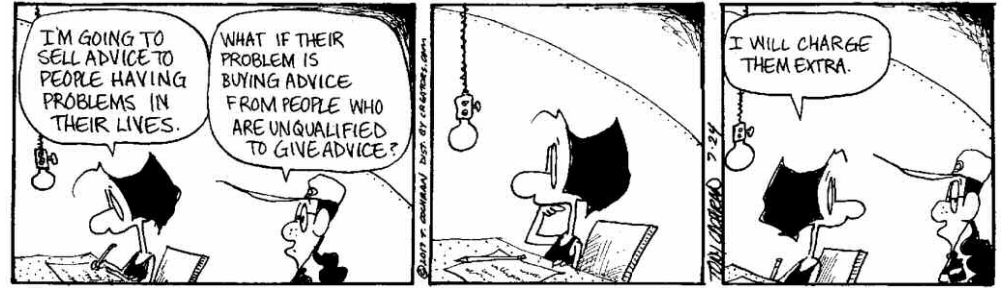
Rose is Rose



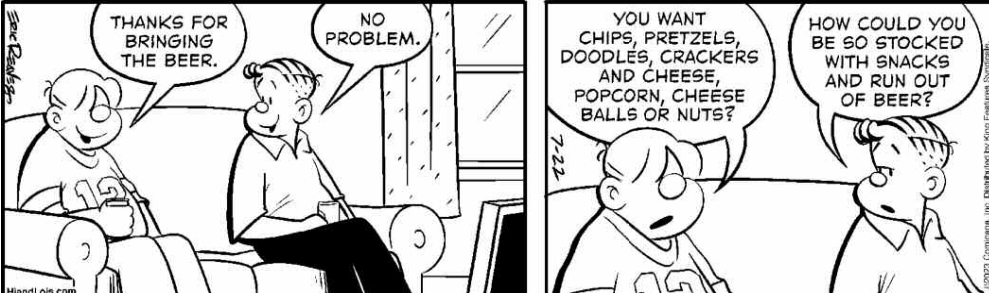
Agnes



Agnes



Hi and Lois



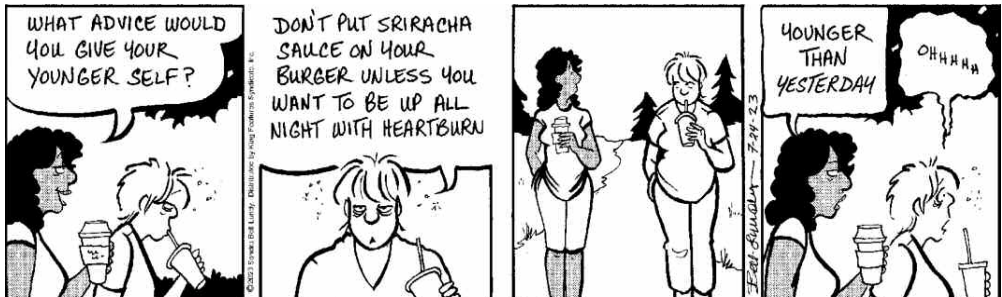
Hi and Lois



Between Friends



Between Friends



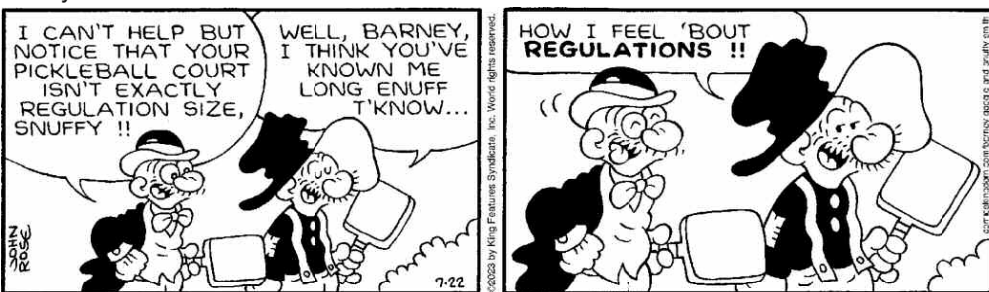
Blondie



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



Beetle Bailey



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*

Battle ...

Continued from page 10
The 26-year-old Chicago native got one late-season start a year ago and played a total of 174 defensive snaps. That almost qualifies him as a veteran in this extremely young group.

At 6-1, Flowers posted strong testing numbers including a 4.4-second 40-yard dash during the run-up to last year's draft. He also boasts a bold confidence that could help him stand out in a tight race.

Fifth-round rookie Darius Rush is another wildcard.

He missed the majority of spring workouts with a hamstring injury, but —

like Brents and Flowers — he has the size and athleticism to fit the scheme. At 6-2, Rush was clocked at 4.36 seconds in the 40-yard dash at the Combine.

In four seasons at South Carolina — the last two as a starter — the 23-year-old racked up 75 tackles, three interceptions and 15 pass break-ups.

A third rookie, seventh-round pick Jaylon Jones, also could enter the conversation.

A highly touted high school prospect, the 6-2 Jones had three productive seasons at Texas A&M — finishing with 98 tackles, three interceptions and 12 pass break-ups. But

he didn't have a pick last year as a junior, and just two pass break-ups came in his final college season.

Jones ran a 4.57-second 40-yard dash and posted an impressive 38-inch vertical leap at the Combine.

Darrell Baker Jr. also made a push to join the conversation this spring.

The 25-year-old made three appearances for the Colts as an undrafted rookie out of Georgia Southern last year, though all 31 of his snaps came on special teams.

At 6-1, he received some reps with the first team defense this spring and could be one to watch in Westfield.

With four career starts and 49 regular-season appearances — including 16 last season for Indianapolis — Brown is among the most experienced players in this group. But he appears best suited as Moore's primary back-up in the slot, and 303 of his 312 snaps last year came on special teams.

Kevin Toliver II has two starts and 29 appearances over the last three seasons with the Chicago Bears and Denver Broncos. He has 327 career snaps on defense and 210 on special teams.

The remaining player in the competition is Cole Coleman, a 5-9 undrafted rookie out of Elon.

Media ...

Continued from page 10
The East will be a three-team race among Michigan, Ohio State and Penn State, but the West is arguably as wide open as it has been since the conference scrapped Legends and Leaders and went the geographic route starting in 2014.

Illinois and Nebraska currently have the fourth-best odds to emerge out of the West for a return trip to Indianapolis for the Big Ten title game on Dec. 2.

If it happens, it would be the first division title for the Illini in program history.

Can't have the new rivalry, spurred on by former Illini defensive coordinator Ryan Walters leaving Bret Bielema's staff to lead the Boiler-makers, overwhelming the rest of the league before the two teams meet Sept. 30 in West Lafayette, Indiana.

Expansion inevitable
New Big Ten commissioner Tony Petitti will pick up right where Kevin Warren left off in 2022.

That's when the Big Ten announced it was embracing its own version of manifest destiny, going west and cherry picking the two highest profile Pac-12 programs. It would be silly to think the Big Ten will stop at 16 teams once USC and UCLA join in 2024.

Conference expansion isn't finished, and after the Los Angeles answer to the SEC poaching the Red River Rivalry from the Big 12, the Big Ten will probably pluck more programs from the Pac-12.

Count on Petitti fielding questions on who and when.

Split ...

Continued from page 10
Catcher Patrick Bailey caught two runners stealing, including rookie phenom Elly De La Cruz for the second time this series, while Wilmer Flores made a diving stop in the first inning and a heads-up play to erase the lead runner attempting to score in the fourth. Bailey's second victim, Joey Votto, helped Jakob Junis strand both the runners he inherited from Cobb in the fifth, thrown out attempting to advance on Junis' second straight pitch in the dirt.

Playing their second game on this trip that started before 10 a.m. PT, the Giants' bats never woke up.

Despite Abbott walking two and being forced to throw 106 pitches to complete eight innings, Matos' double was the only ball that found grass. After Maile's 423-foot home run, the next seven longest-hit balls of the game were off Giants' bats, but all except two landed in leather.

A hobbled Flores was thrown out at home trying to score from first on Matos' double after reaching on a

walk, ending the Giants' best scoring chance of the game. Shaken up after hurrying back to the bag on a lineout to right, Flores got the green light from third base coach Mark Hallberg but was thrown out by multiple strides on a relay throw from De La Cruz that was clocked at 99.8 mph.

Flores' home run averted the Giant's ninth shutout of the season, though it will nonetheless go down as one of their most meager offensive efforts.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Sunday
Portland Rockets vs. Battle Creek Merchants — 1 p.m.
Portland Rockets vs. Battle Creek Merchants — 3:30 p.m.

TV sports

Today
3 a.m. — Women's World Cup: Japan vs. Zambia (FS1)
5:30 a.m. — Women's World Cup: Haiti vs. England (FOX)
7 a.m. — Golf: The Open Championship (NBC)
8 a.m. — Women's World Cup: China PR vs. Denmark (FOX)
10 a.m. — Formula 1: Hungarian Grand Prix (ESPN)
1 p.m. — WNBA: Connecticut Sun at Atlanta Dream (ESPN)
3 p.m. — WNBA: Las Vegas Aces at Minnesota Lynx (ESPN)
3 p.m. — Motorsports: Hy-Vee Home-

front 250 (NBC)
3 p.m. — NASCAR: HighPoint.com 400 (USA)
4 p.m. — MLB: Arizona Diamondbacks at Cincinnati Reds (Bally Indiana)
4 p.m. — PGA Tour: Dow Great Lakes Bay Invitational (CBS)
5:30 p.m. — NASCAR Xfinity Series: Pocono 225 (USA)

Homefront 250 (NBC)
2:30 p.m. — NASCAR: HighPoint.com 400 (USA)
4 p.m. — Flav-R-Pac Northwest Nationals (FOX)
7 p.m. — MLB: New York Mets at Boston Red Sox (ESPN)

Monday
2 a.m. — Women's World Cup: Argentina vs. Italy (FS1)
4:30 a.m. — Women's World Cup: Morocco vs. Germany (FS1)
7 a.m. — Women's World Cup: Panama vs. Brazil (FS1)
8 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds at Milwaukee Brewers (Bally Indiana)
10 p.m. — Women's World Cup: Korea Republic vs. Colombia (FS1)

Tuesday
1:30 a.m. — Women's World Cup: Philippines vs. New Zealand (FS1)
4 a.m. — Women's World Cup: Norway vs. Switzerland (FS1)
7 p.m. — WNBA: Phoenix Mercury at

Atlanta Dream (ESPN)
7 p.m. — WNBA: Las Vegas Aces at Chicago Sky (FOX)
8 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds at Milwaukee Brewers (Bally Indiana)

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.

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

Season tickets are available for the 2023-24 Jay County high school season. 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

Reds split with Giants

By EVAN WEBECK
Bay Area News Group
Tribune News Service

CINCINNATI, Ohio — One out was all Cincinnati needed. A Giant's double and a solo home run prevented Reds from earning the third no-hitter this season on Tuesday.

Luis Matos' line-drive double, skirting inches over the glove of Reds left fielder Will Benson, amounted to the Giant's only hit before Wilmer Flores went deep in the ninth, hardly saving face in a 5-1 loss to the Reds. After exploding for 19 runs to win the first two games of this series, San Francisco managed only three over the final two games and had to settle for a split in Cincinnati.

The Giants (54-43) had hoped to make Wednesday's loss that snapped their seven-game winning streak a blip with Alex Cobb on the mound in the series finale, but they lost for only the second time in the last 12 games the 35-year-old All-Star has started. The 12th-year veteran was opposed by a left-hander making his ninth career start, Andrew Abbott, who held San Francisco scoreless for eight innings.

The game so happened to be a confluence of Cobb's worst splits. He has been much better at Oracle Park (1.24 ERA) than away from it (4.63 after Thursday) and so despises early work that he has adjusted his throwing routine to avoid it. His ERA in day games rose to 5.04,

Reds narrowly dominate series finale against San Francisco

compared to 1.83 in evening starts. Cobb navigated traffic on the base paths in all but one of his 4 1/3 innings while issuing four walks, allowing nine hits and not recording a single strike-out. The 13 runners allowed to reach base were a season-high, while the five who came around to score marked his second-most runs allowed in a start this year.

The Reds got a home run from their No. 9 hitter for the second straight game as Luke Maile started the scoring with a two-run shot in the third inning, the damage doubled by walking the previous batter, Will Benson (who provided Wednesday's decisive homer). Christian Encarnacion-Strand drove in one of the Reds' three runs in a fourth-inning rally that opened a 5-0 advantage.

It could have been worse if not for some stellar defensive play.

See Split page 9



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Getting set

Paisley Fugiett sets a ball during the Jay County High School volleyball team's scrimmage against Winchester on Thursday. The Patriots have a home scrimmage on Aug. 10 before opening their season Aug. 14 at Madison-Grant.

Colts CBs will battle for time

By GEORGE BREMER
The Herald Bulletin (Anderson)
Tribune News Service

INDIANAPOLIS — No position group holds as much intrigue for the Indianapolis Colts this summer as the cornerbacks.

Yes, the quarterback competition will dominate the headlines throughout training camp and potentially for the entire season. But — as critical as that role is — there are only two viable answers to the question of who will start under center: rookie Anthony Richardson and veteran Gardner Minshew.

The possibilities at cornerback appear endless.

Several factors brought the Colts to this point.

The position lost its leader in March when Stephon Gilmore requested a trade and was dealt to the Dallas Cowboys for a fifth-round pick.

Though it had far from the same seismic impact, Brandon Facyson left a short time later to re-sign as a free agent with the Las Vegas Raiders.

Those two moves opened up the competition for the two outside spots significantly. Then Isaiah Rodgers Sr. was busted for violations of the NFL's gambling policy in June, received an indefinite suspension of at least one year and was subsequently released.

Gilmore, Facyson and Rodgers combined for 168 career starts and 265 regular-season appearances.

The nine corners remaining on Indianapolis' roster have combined for 78 starts and 154 appearances. Remove nickelback Kenny Moore II — the one sure-fire starter in the bunch — from the equation, and the other eight players have five career starts and 67 regular-season appearances.

That's a recipe for severe growing pains in a league dominated by the passing game. But it's also an opportunity for several young players to make a name for themselves.

The latter should lead to some intense competition on the fields at Westfield's Grand Park Sports Campus starting next week.

With Moore playing inside when the defense is in sub packages — regularly about 70% of the time — the two outside roles should be up for grabs.

JuJu Brents, a former Warren Central star who shot up draft boards during his two seasons at Kansas State after transferring from Iowa, appears to be a favorite for one starting spot despite the fact he's yet to practice with the team.

Brents underwent wrist surgery shortly after the NFL Scouting Combine and sat out all of spring workouts while recovering.

At 6-foot-3, the 23-year-old has the length preferred in defensive coordinator Gus Bradley's scheme. He also ran a 4.53-second 40-yard dash at the Combine and has routinely shown the physicality to excel in press coverage.

Brents finished with 94 tackles and five interceptions at Kansas State, including four picks as a senior defensive leader for a team that finished 10-4 and won the Big 12 championship game last year.

Dallis Flowers, who burst onto the scene last year as a kickoff returner after signing as an undrafted free agent out of Pittsburg State, made a push this spring to be considered the other starting favorite.

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Conversation drivers for B1G media day

By SCOTT RICHEY
The News-Gazette, Champaign-Urbana, Ill.
Tribune News Service

Big Ten football media days run July 26-27 in Indianapolis, and there will be plenty to discuss with coaches, players and media from across the 14-team league at Lucas Oil Stadium. Illini beat writer Scott Richey spotlights five likely topics of conversation:

(Not so) happy to be here

Count on any Northwestern representative having the worst time in Indianapolis. The confirmed allegations of hazing within the program and long-time coach Pat Fitzgerald's subsequent firing are still pretty fresh. There's not much else about the Wildcats, who are coming off a 1-11 season in 2022 with zero wins in the United States, that's worth discussing. Count on other coaches getting questions about how they've broached hazing within their own programs, too, in the aftermath of what has

happened in Evanston this summer.

Any questions?

All 14 coaches will spend time at the main podium during the course of the two-day event with their roughly 10-minute session broadcast live on Big Ten Network. Some coaches don't see the need for an opening statement — or only a brief one — and get right to questions. Don't be surprised if interim Northwestern coach David Braun filibusters his way through his entire allotted time. Maybe runs through every player on his roster in numerical order. Anything to limit as many "car wash," "running" and "Shrek clap" mentions as possible on live TV.

End of an era

It's fitting the Big Ten will dissolve divisions after the 2023 season before it expands its footprint to the West Coast and adds Southern California and UCLA.

See Media page 9

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