

Let Me Badger You



## Are you all sure about Schanz?

By ANDREW BALKO  
The Commercial Review

Some people can really get down the rabbit hole when it comes to conspiracy theories.

Sometimes they are thinking too hard about something and finding things that aren't there. Other times, they are looking at a problem too simplistically, creating a conspiracy theory out of ignorance. Other times problems may have legitimate questions that we simply don't know the answers to, and the creation of a theory is a way to cope with not having those answers.

I'm not here to judge people who believe in conspiracy theories. Quite frankly, the only person crazier than the conspiracy theorist is the person who thinks nothing ever holds any water.

It is my turn to be the conspiracy theorist.

So here it goes: Chris Schanz isn't a real person. He does not exist.

I know what many of you who just read that may be thinking. "Andrew you silly goose, Chris is real. I've seen him cover plenty of games. I've talked to him plenty of times."

Have you?

Ray Cooney is heavily involved in Jay County Civic Theatre. Did you talk to Chris or Ray in character?

Ray successfully covered both sports and his managing editor responsibilities for 15 months and stayed afloat. He was clearly capable of handling both jobs. Maybe he played as the Chris character for those seven years and it just got stale so he quit the act for those final 15 months.

That has to be the answer.

Don't get me wrong, this isn't something Ray could have pulled off alone. Many people would be coming together to gaslight me into believing Chris existed. Nearly everyone has said great things about him. To make it even more believable, I've gotten a negative review or two.

These communities are really committed to trying to convince me he's real. It's insane. But it's definitely a plot to convince me ... it can't be that he actually was a person that people held different opinions on.

However, it is suspicious that I've never seen him or heard his voice before. I haven't even overheard him on the phone with my coworkers before.

"Andrew, you must have seen him before in a picture."

Sure I have. But it's weird how none of the pictures include someone from this community. It's always his wife. When you enter his name into The Commercial Review's search bar, it even brings up a photo of him and Chrissy.

A picture of him and someone from these communities simply doesn't exist ... or maybe I just haven't looked for one. Well either way, I haven't seen it so it obviously must not exist.

But Ray and Bailey Cline are just so determined to make me believe that he exists.

See **Badger** page 4B

# Basketball returns

## Elementary basketball program started up this year

By ANDREW BALKO  
The Commercial Review

Jay County used to have a strong fifth and sixth grade basketball program two score ago, before eventually fading out.

After an absence of basketball at the elementary school level for years, basketball has returned.

On Nov. 1, elementary students in Jay County are receiving the opportunity to learn about and play basketball through Jay School Corporation.

With the shuffling of grades and what buildings house them because of consolidation, there hasn't been a steady system for elementary school basketball in recent years.

See **Returns** page 5B



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Students and coaches come in for a breakdown at the end practice at East Jay Middle School on Nov. 16. This is the inaugural year for the Jay County Elementary Schools basketball program where students from East Jay and Bloomfield come together while Redkey and West Jay meet to develop skills.

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# Young blood



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Pictured is the 2023-24 Fort Recovery High School girls basketball team. Front row from left are managers Ellie Niekamp, Rielle Wendel, Rayla Staugler and Leah Willmann. Second row is Cameron Muhlenkamp, Emma Schmitz, Ivy Tobe, Madie Schoenlein and Makenna Huelskamp. Third row is Brynn Willmann, Sophia Guggenbiller, Cali Wendel, Kensey Gaerke and Cadence Eber. Back row are coach Tyler Deitsch, Saige Leuthold, Kennedy Muhlenkamp, Karlie Niekamp, Bridget Homan, assistant coach Mandy Gerlach and assistant coach Val Muhlenkamp.

## Indians return five players, as first-year coach and freshman imprint on program

By ANDREW BALKO  
The Commercial Review

The Indians struggled out of the gate last season, going 1-9 in their first 10 games including dropping the first seven contests.

They return just enough players for the starting lineup. After that, they will have to look to a new coach and a large freshman class to turn things around.

Tyler Deitsch will take over at the helm for the Fort Recovery High School girls basketball team for the 2023-24 season as it looks to improve upon its 7-14 record and ninth-place finish in the Midwest Athletic Conference.

"We're going to play a totally different way than what we played last year," Deitsch said. "So this is my first year here as well, so totally different offense and a different defense. And just being smart with the number of girls we have and being able to use tempo when we need to but also conserving energy."

While he plans to change up the system and the Indians' identity, he will be relying on the five returners to make up his starting lineup. Seniors Cali Wendel and Kenzie Gaerke will be joined by junior Kennedy Muhlenkamp in the backcourt while senior Saige Leuthold and junior Kar-

2023-24 schedule		
Date	Opponent	Time
Friday, Nov. 24	Crestview	6 p.m.
<b>Saturday, Nov. 25</b>	<b>Arcanum</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>
<b>Tuesday, Nov. 28</b>	<b>Mississinawa Valley</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>
Saturday, Dec. 2	Jay County	noon
<b>Thursday, Dec. 7</b>	<b>New Bremen</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>
Thursday, Dec. 14	Parkway	6 p.m.
<b>Tuesday, Dec. 19</b>	<b>St. Marys</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>
<b>Thursday, Dec. 28</b>	<b>Marion Local</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>
Friday, Dec. 29	St. Henry	6 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 4	Versailles	6 p.m.
<b>Tuesday, Jan. 9</b>	<b>Ansonia</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>
<b>Thursday, Jan. 11</b>	<b>St. John's</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>
Tuesday, Jan. 16	South Adams	7 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 18	Coldwater	6 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 22	Indian Lake	6 p.m.
<b>Thursday, Jan. 25</b>	<b>Marion Local</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>
<b>Saturday, Jan. 27</b>	<b>Franklin Monroe</b>	<b>11 a.m.</b>
Thursday, Feb. 1	St. Henry	6 p.m.
<b>Monday, Feb. 5</b>	<b>Celina</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>
Thursday, Feb. 8	Minster	6 p.m.
<b>Tuesday, Feb. 13</b>	<b>Wapakoneta</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>
<b>Thursday, Feb. 15</b>	<b>New Knoxville</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>
<b>Home games in bold</b>		

lie Niekamp will make up the frontcourt. (Gaerke missed the 2022-23 season with a knee injury.) Deitsch likes the group's versatility and wants them to play position-less and interchangeably out on the floor.

The most credentialed of the group is Wendel who was named to the second team All-MAC last year and had the fourth-most 3-point field goals in the MAC with 38.

"She's hungry," Deitsch said. "She's look-

ing forward to take advantage of that last year. Defensively, she is so quick and able to create steals and easy buckets for herself but then also been one of our best shooters from the outside. ... So definitely relying on her to be able to score but then also play off of her to be able to get some of our other girls some open shots."

Kennedy Muhlenkamp will often work as a point forward, allowing the Indians to run a larger

lineup to create mismatches with opponents. The junior led Fort Recovery in assists during 2023 with 45.

Also receiving recognition was Niekamp, who was named as an honorable mention MAC player last year. So far, her drive and effort have stood out to Deitsch.

"She's relentless, doesn't stop high motor all the time," Deitsch said. "She's on the floor constantly. Not afraid of contact, which is kind of where we're looking to go. She'll get down low and, and bang around. "(All five) are pretty well rounded."

Outside of the returners, the Indians will have to look to freshmen to fill in the rotation off the bench. Early on, guard Makenna Huelskamp and forwards Sophia Guggenbiller, Cameron Muhlenkamp and Bridget Homan have stood out.

Huelskamp got the team late in the fall after a state run on the cross country team, but Deitsch liked what he saw from her during summer workouts. For the other three freshmen, he likes the added height they bring to the team as Guggenbiller and Cameron Muhlenkamp are listed at 5 feet, 9 inches, while Homan is 5 feet, 11 inches.

See Young page 4B

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The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Pictured is the 2023-24 Jay County High School boys wrestling team. Front row from left are managers Chloe Ruiz, Alex Bravo, Lucie Henneaux, Trinity Glassford, Emmarie Barton and Taylee Nichols. Second row are Brayden Fox, Cole Carpenter, Griffin Byrum, Cody Rowles, Hayden Richman, Sylas Wenk, Gabe Ardizzone, Hayden Ison, Gaven Hambrook, Grant Linville, Garrett Bennett, Joaquin Johnson and Landon Mills-Blowers. Third row are assistant coach Bradley Rosman, Bryce Wenk, Brayden Romine, Mario Ardizzone, Jason Landers, Tony Wood, Jacob Robinson, Cooper Glassford, Trace Smith, AJ Heskett, Taye Curtis, coach Eric Myers, and assistant coach Tyler Leonhard. Back row are assistant coach Bruce Wood, assistant coach Nick Leonhard, Cameron Clark, Alan Ortiz, Conner Specht, Jaquin Flores, Cody Gibson, Reynaldo Ortega-Leos, Jason Linn, Leighton Brown and Brice Coy. Not pictured are Carson Busick and Alejandro Ruiz.

# Looking to enjoy the ride

By **ANDREW BALKO**  
The Commercial Review

The Patriots claimed the sectional and regional crowns.

They took third at the semi-state meet.

They sent a school-record four wrestlers to the state tournament, one of which earned a medal.

This year, they will try to repeat those results while giving the team a chance to have some fun.

The Jay County High School boys wrestling team returns three of its four state qualifiers, five of eight semi-state qualifiers and a strong senior class that will make up half of the Patriots' lineup.

"We've got a really exceptional group of seniors," coach

*Patriots want to focus on having fun this year while still straining for similar success*

Eric Myers said. "I've never had a group this large that stuck together and one grade that is this talented collectively. So, that's pretty exciting."

The group includes state qualifiers Cameron Clark, Cody Rowles and Tony Wood. Taye Curtis and Bryce Wenk both qualified for the semi-state meet. Jaquin Flores and

Connor Specht round out the class.

Wood was undefeated until the final day of the state tournament, and ended up with the seventh-place medal and a final record of 43-2 in the 138-pound weight class. The senior didn't put the sport down over the summer, but rather placed 13th in the 2023 US Marine

Corps Junior National freestyle tournament and 25th in the Greco-Roman tournament, two high-level tournaments for high school athletes in Fargo, North Dakota. The performances helped Wood with his confidence.

Myers was impressed with the work that his athletes put in during the offseason.

"All those guys work really hard," Myers said. "Some of them are multiple sport athletes, though. So some of them are working pretty hard on other sports too so they really don't have downtime."

"Tony and Cameron you can't say enough about them both of them being placers before but, all those guys want to make it to the semifinals and that means not only winning Friday night but winning right away Saturday morning. We've got to get in that mentality that we're ready to do that. We're confident enough regardless of the draw."

Wood is expected to reprise his spot at 138 while Clark will bump up to 150.

See **Enjoy** page 4B



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# Badger ...

Continued from 1B

So much so, that they went out of their way to create a fake email address to pose as "Chris" and send me a message. But I'm too smart for that. I saw right through their ruse. They made too many errors.

Firstly, they just simply regurgitated the same old story. They didn't even go through the effort of creating another layer of depth to the fabricated personality. "Chris" talked about how he had two different stints at the paper, the people who have covered sports for us over the past two decades, the difficulty to finally leave and about some of the teams and athletes from the past couple of years that would have had overlap between me and him.

All of these things can clearly be described by the fact that Ray covered all of these teams and players, as well as repeating the timeline that Ray set without adding anything new.

It gets deeper though. Ray and Bailey knew about the email. That can only be explained by the fact that they were the ones to craft it.

The nail in the coffin was the overall message. It was to not get too caught up and to get some sleep. Ray couldn't have made it more obvious.

All I've heard since arriving in Portland in March was that I need to get on an "adult sleep schedule." This email was clearly just Ray making a last ditch effort to get me to sleep as opposed to staying up all night watching college basketball. I know your game Cooney.

"But Andrew, what if the story correlated because it's accurate? What if Ray and Bailey knew about the email because Chris blind carbon copied them? What if he sent that message because he's a genuinely good guy who is looking out for your health because he's been there before?"

Well, to that, I have to say: Crap. Maybe Chris is real. It is inconsistent how Chris replied to my response to the "get some sleep" message.

My rebuttal was to send him a tweet from CBS college basketball analyst Jon Rothstien that read "We sleep in May."

Chris respected the rebuttal. That couldn't have been the case if Ray or Bailey sent the email. Ray's response would have been to tell me to put my head on straight. Bailey isn't sports literate enough to understand the reference.

Well "Chris" you sure do make a hard case of your existence. Too bad for you, you've run into the most stubborn, argumentative human to exist, maybe ever.

So "Chris" if you want to prove once and for all that you are in fact a real person that has lived in this corner of the border of Indiana and Ohio, I guess you'll just have to come down and prove it yourself.

The ball is in your court. Boy, will it be fun annoying Ray and Bailey with this stance for the next half a year until you make an appearance.

# Enjoy ...

Continued from 3B

During his state run at 145, Clark earned a 36-3 record.

Curtis will fill in the hole at 144. He hit a growth spurt during his junior year, causing him to struggle to make the 120 weight limit at times. Myers said he's excited to see what the senior can do without needing to worry about his weight as much.

Rowles will move from 126, where he went 37-4 to make it back to the state for the second time, to 132.

Bryce Wenk nearly qualified for state two years ago as a sophomore, but lost the match 9-8 to NorthWood's Trey Tobias in the ticket round of the 182 bracket. As he vies for his first bid, he will run into a new challenge with the changing weight classes.

"He was dealt a little bit of a tough hand because the weight class changes took an upper weight out," Myers said. "So those classes get a little bit more crowded with talent. But Bryce is a kid that really could win a semi-state. He's that talented."

Wenk will battle with Flores in the 175 and 190 weight classes. Specht will wrestle at 285 while sophomore Alan Ortiz will take the final upper weight class of 215. Myers thinks that the extra year of experience under Ortiz's belt will make a big difference and he could potentially have a breakout year.

Filling out the lower weight classes will be Griffin Byrum (113), Cooper Glassford (120) and A.J. Heskett (126) while Grant Linville and Sulas Wenk will compete for the 106 spot.

Jacob Robinson will step in at 157. Myers expects him to take advantage after waiting his turn behind other older wrestlers.

"(The Indiana Tech coach) saw Jacob Robinson and said, 'Oh my goodness, I can't believe he wasn't in your varsity lineup last year. He's a state level kid,'" Myers said. "We just had so many kids right in those weight classes. Normally,

2023-24 schedule		
Date	Opponent	Time
<b>Tuesday, Nov. 28</b>	<b>Centerville</b>	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>
Saturday, Dec. 2	Western Super Six	9 a.m.
<b>Tuesday, Dec. 6</b>	<b>Four-team meet</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>
<b>Friday, Dec. 8</b>	<b>ACAC Duals</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>
<b>Saturday, Dec. 9</b>	<b>ACAC Duals</b>	<b>9 a.m.</b>
Tuesday, Dec. 12	Norwell	6 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 16	Coldwater Invitational	9 a.m.
<b>Friday, Dec. 22</b>	<b>ECIC</b>	<b>9 a.m.</b>
Tuesday, Jan. 2	Coldwater	7 p.m.
<b>Saturday, Jan. 6</b>	<b>IHSWCA State</b>	<b>9 a.m.</b>
Thursday, Jan. 11	Homestead	6:30 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 19	ACAC Tournament	6 p.m.
<b>Home meets in bold</b>		

*'... we know that we have a good team, but what we really want to do is go out and enjoy every moment of these guys. We want to compete the best that we can, and we want to make these kids into the best people that we can.'*

—Eric Myers,  
JCHS wrestling coach

when you have a kid that's that talent that came in as a freshman you'd be in our lineup most years. We're excited to see what he can do in the varsity lineup."

The 165-pound spot will be a competition between freshman Leighton Brown and sophomore Garrett Bennett.

The Patriots lost four key wrestlers this season. Regional qualifiers Ethan Reiley and Daniel Moore graduated, state qualifier Christian Wittkamp moved back to Illinois and A.J. Myers will miss the season after a knee injury during football.

Despite the losses, Jay

County is still targeting big goals.

"We have the goals that we've had for a while, you know, to win a conference, sectional, regional, semi-state, and take as many states as we can," Myers said. "I think that sometimes we got so caught up in some of our goals ... we didn't enjoy the experience as much."

"So this year, we know that we have a good team, but what we really want to do is go out and enjoy every moment of these guys. We want to compete the best that we can, and we want to make these kids into the best people that we can."

# Young ...

Continued from 2B

The Indians will open their season Friday when they travel to Crestview. They will conclude their season on Feb. 15 against New Knoxville, the team they earned their sole MAC win against last season. A goal for Fort Recovery will be to win around 12 games between those dates to have an above .500 record. The team has also set the goal of progressing throughout the

season so come postseason time they will have the opportunity to break through the sectional and cut down a net.

"As for success, the girls just need to be able to take steps every day and continue to grow each and every day and not settle," said Deitsch. "Kind of living up to our standards, that we have inside the building more so than what other people might expect of us."



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Henry Teeter takes a jumpshot as Bentley Comer closes out to defend him during the Nov. 16 elementary basketball practice at East Jay Middle School. The kids were working on shooting on a side hoop while other teams scrimmaged each other.

## Returns ...

Continued from 1B

Now that those changes are complete with sixth graders moved back to elementary schools — Bloomfield, East Jay, Redkey and West Jay — Jay County athletics director Steve Boozier thought it would be a good idea to bring basketball back to the elementary school with the focus on teaching the fundamentals.

“It doesn’t matter where you are in the country or at what level, fundamentals have suffered,” Boozier said. “So now we have fifth and sixth graders back in that K-sixth model, I thought this is a great time to reinstitute (elementary basketball).”

“This year is going to be primarily practices with a few scrimmages involved. Down the road that may evolve to playing some games, but our focus needs to be on fundamentals.”

The program is free to fifth and sixth graders at the four elementary schools. Practices are held after school on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays at East Jay and West Jay, with students from Bloomfield traveling to East Jay and students from Redkey traveling to West Jay.

The collaboration between the schools was a big point that program leader and West Jay principal Jeff Davis wanted to emphasize to the athletes.

“We’re coming together and we’re scrimmaging and playing but we’re playing as the Patriots,” Davis said. “We’re not playing school versus school, but we’re coming together as one and as Patriots. We want them to get that mentality because next year they’ll all be together in middle school so we want to build that momentum now.”

The practice starts with coaches teaching players the fundamentals of the game and before they break out into teams that includes participants from each school

for scrimmages and other competitions.

There would be even more interaction between all four schools in the form of games, but the school corporation didn’t get the number of coaches it wanted to try and pull that off. For now, they kept it as the practices with scrimmages so players could be coached by the same people and receive a consistent message.

It was important to Davis to make the program accessible to students. He has noticed fewer and fewer children shooting in driveways or at parks over the years and wanted to provide an opportunity for kids to practice and develop their skills rather than just playing games.

“What we’re looking at are our children who typically don’t have opportunities to play,” Davis said. “We have the West Jay Community Center and Jay Community Center. And there’s AAU, but then you also have some children who don’t have that opportunity, and we just want to try to teach them some basic skills.”

Boozier and Davis both said that once the basketball season is over, those involved with the program will sit down with Jay County High School coaches Jerry Bomholt and Sherri McIntire to talk about what skills are important to be teaching and how the program should evolve in the future.

The program will conclude this year Dec. 19 with a showcase during which parents can come to East Jay and West Jay elementary schools to watch their children scrimmage. More information will be sent to parents closer to the date.

“It’s our intention to use this as a starting point, to build off of what we start and learn this year,” Davis said. “We just want to make sure that we provide a fostering program that will help our kids learn the love of the game, but also learn that we are all Patriots.”



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Fletcher Post (with the ball) looks to pass to Parker McCoy (foreground) as three defenders come to triple team him during a scrimmage at the end of the elementary basketball practice at East Jay Middle school on Nov. 16.

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# A year older



Pictured is the 2023-24 Jay County High School boys swimming and dive team. Front row from left are manager Maria Laux, Lincoln Clamme, Brasen Glassford, Peyton Yowell and Chadi El Yaagoubi. Back row are Kamdyn Carter, Joseph Nichols, David Keen, Joseph Dow, Oskar Alart Mateo and Hugo Gutierrez. Not pictured are Matthew Fisher, Alex Frazee, Max Klopfenstein and Grayson Swoveland.

## Group of sophomores headline Patriots in 2024

By **ANDREW BALKO**  
The Commercial Review

Last season, the goal for the Patriots was to build a familial culture.

This year, they look to expand on that and take a step forward.

The Jay County High School boys swim team returns a majority of its lineup from the 2022-23 season and will look for jumps from the young swimmers as it shoots to finish in the top half of its sectional.

"It's a great group of kids," coach Matt Slavik said. "Our freshmen brought a lot last year, now they've got a year of experience. We've got to lean heavy that big sophomore class."

"I think our improvements last year were tremendous, and I look forward to continuing the improvement and continuing on developing a boys culture of swimming."

The Patriots graduated Josh Monroe and Wyatt Kunkler, their only boys who made sectional finals heats for the team that finished eighth out of 11 teams in 2023.

Jay County returns four swimmers that made the consolation heat. They are Peyton Yowell (50-yard and 100 freestyle), Joseph Dow (500 freestyle), Matthew Fisher (100 backstroke) and David Keen (500 freestyle).

Dow is the lone returning upperclassman for the Patriots. (Exchange students Oskar Alart Mateo, Chadi El Yaagoubi and Hugo Gutierrez are all listed as seniors as well.) The senior switched to the 500 and 200 freestyle events last year and Slavik expects him to reprise that role while improving because of the strength he's gained during the offseason.

"He's shown a lot more strength, hitting the weight

room during the offseason," Slavik said. "I look forward to what that brings this season, in helping with his events. We're working on cleaning up some strokes and I think it will be a huge benefit to his efficiency in the water."

Keen will join Dow in the 500 while also swimming the butterfly and the 200 medley relay.

Yowell will be the Patriots' headliner for the sprint events. Slavik said a year of experience should help the sophomore as he has started to learn the language and intricacies of the sport.

Fisher is a versatile swimmer who could be slotted into nearly any event the Patriots need him to compete in.

"He's got a lot of diversity," Slavik said. "He works hard in the offseason too. I don't know where he'll be yet, but I know he's solid in whatever I ask him to do."

Last season, Fisher swam the butterfly and the backstroke, as well as the first leg of the medley relay.

Monroe was the only Patriot to make the sectional finals in multiple events, doing it in the individual medley and the breaststroke. Lincoln Clamme will be looked at to fill the roles that were left open by his graduation.

Brasen Glassford will be the team's diver. Last season, Glassford finished ninth at the sectional. The top four finishers advance to the diving regional.

"I think he's got a lot of potential to score high in the sectional," Slavik said. "He's got a lot of good board work. And he's off to a good start."

While Slavik will have a lot of experimenting to do with the relays and the lineup as a whole, he is hoping the team can take a step forward. The two goals he has

## 2023-24 schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
<b>Tuesday, Nov. 28</b>	<b>Bluffton</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>
Thursday, Nov. 30	Anderson	6 p.m.
<b>Saturday, Dec. 3</b>	<b>Celina Sprints</b>	<b>11 a.m.</b>
<b>Tuesday, Dec. 5</b>	<b>Oak Hill</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>
Thursday, Dec. 7	Norwell	6 p.m.
<b>Monday, Dec. 11</b>	<b>South Adams</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>
Tuesday, Dec. 12	Delta	6 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 18	Adams Central	6 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 27	Homestead (diving)	10 a.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 2	Bellmont	6 p.m.
<b>Thursday, Jan. 4</b>	<b>Celina/Coldwater</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>
<b>Friday, Jan. 5</b>	<b>Jay Co. Invitational</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>
<b>Saturday, Jan. 6</b>	<b>Jay Co. Invitational</b>	<b>10 a.m.</b>
<b>Tuesday, Jan. 9</b>	<b>Yorktown/Union City</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>
<b>Tuesday, Jan. 16</b>	<b>Muncie Central</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>
<b>Friday, Jan. 19</b>	<b>ACAC Meet</b>	<b>5:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Tuesday, Jan. 23</b>	<b>Blackford/Burris</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>
Thursday, Jan. 26	Marion	6 p.m.
<b>Home meets in bold</b>		

laid out for the team are to finish at least second in the Allen County Athletic Conference and in the top half of the 11-team sectional.

"All of these kids, I can't speak highly enough of," Slavik said. "They all work

hard. Some of them last year was the first year ever joining the swim team, so those kids were just trying to get up to speed and those who have been doing it a while continue to improve."

# Sports on tap

### Local schedule

**Friday**  
Jay County — Girls basketball at Woodlan — 6 p.m.  
Fort Recovery — Boys basketball scrimmage at Kalida — 10 a.m.; Girls basketball at Crestview — 6 p.m.

### TV sports

**Today**  
12 p.m. — College basketball: Northern Iowa vs. North Carolina (ESPN)  
2:30 p.m. — College basketball: Texas Tech vs. Villanova (ESPN)  
7 p.m. — College basketball: Baylor vs. Oregon State (ESPN2)  
7 p.m. — NHL: Boston Bruins at Florida Pan-

thers (TNT)  
7:30 p.m. — NBA: Milwaukee Bucks at Boston Celtics (ESPN); Toronto Raptors at Indiana Pacers (Bally Indiana)  
8 p.m. — College basketball: Duquesne at Nebraska (BTN)  
9:30 p.m. — College basketball: Florida vs. Pitt (ESPN2)  
9:30 p.m. — NHL: Vegas Golden Knights at Dallas Stars (TNT)  
10 p.m. — NBA: Golden State Warriors at Phoenix Suns (ESPN)

**Thursday**  
12 p.m. — College basketball: Penn State vs. Texas A&M (ESPN)  
12:30 p.m. — NFL: Green Bay Packers at Detroit Lions (FOX)  
2:30 p.m. — College basketball: Florida

Atlantic vs. Butler (ESPN2)  
3 p.m. — College basketball: Oklahoma vs. Iowa (FS1)  
4 p.m. — College basketball: Arizona vs. Michigan State (FOX)  
4:30 p.m. — NFL: Washington Commanders at Dallas Cowboys (CBS)  
5:30 p.m. — College basketball: Iowa State vs. VCU (ESPN2); Seton Hall vs. USC (FS1)  
6 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Tennessee vs. Indiana (FOX)  
7:30 p.m. — College football: Ole Miss at Mississippi State (ESPN)  
8 p.m. — College basketball: Boise State vs. Virginia Tech (ESPN2)  
8:20 p.m. — NFL: San Francisco 49ers at Seattle Seahawks (NBC)  
10 p.m. — College basketball: N.C. State vs. Vanderbilt (ESPN2)

**Friday**  
12 a.m. — College basketball: BYU vs. Arizona State (ESPN2)  
12 p.m. — College basketball: Bryant at Xavier (FS1)  
12 p.m. — College football: Iowa at Nebraska (CBS); Miami at Boston College (ABC); TCU at Oklahoma (FOX); Memphis at Temple (ESPN)  
2 p.m. — College basketball: Manhattan at UConn (FS1)  
3 p.m. — NFL: Miami Dolphins at New York Jets (CBS)  
3:30 p.m. — College football: UTSA at Tulane (ABC)  
4 p.m. — College football: Missouri at Arkansas (FS1)  
4 p.m. — College football: Nebraska at Wisconsin (BTN)  
6 p.m. — NHL: Pittsburgh Penguins at Buf-

falo Sabers (TNT)  
6:30 p.m. — College football: Purdue at Michigan (BTN)  
7:30 p.m. — College football: Penn State at Michigan State (NBC); Texas Tech at Texas (ABC)  
7:30 p.m. — NBA: Miami Heat at New York Knicks (ESPN)  
8 p.m. — NBA: Detroit Pistons at Indiana Pacers (Bally Indiana)  
8:30 p.m. — College football: Oregon State at Oregon (FOX)  
8:30 p.m. — NHL: Colorado Avalanche at Minnesota Wild (TNT)  
9 p.m. — College basketball: Western Illinois at Illinois (FOX)  
10 p.m. — NBA: San Antonio Spurs at Golden State Warriors (ESPN)

<p><b>00 CLASSIFIEDS</b></p> <p><b>CLASSIFIED ADS</b> 260-726-8141</p> <p><b>ADVERTISING RATES</b> 20 Word Minimum Effective 07/01/2018: Minimum charge.... \$12.40</p> <p>1 insertion.....62¢/word 2 insertions.....81¢/word 3 insertions.....96¢/word 6 insertions.... \$1.14/word 12 insertions. \$1.52/word 26 insertions. \$1.77/word</p> <p>Includes Online.....FREE Classified Display \$6.95/ per column inch No borders or logos allowed on Classified Page</p> <p>Card of Thanks Up to 100 words.... \$13.00 In Memory Up to 100 words.... \$13.00</p> <p>Advertising Deadline is 12:00 p.m. the day prior to publication. The deadline for Mondays paper is 12:00 p.m. Friday. Pre-Payment required for: Rummage sales, business opportunities, jobs wanted, boats and sporting equipment, wanted to rent, motorized vehicles, real estate and mobile homes.</p> <p><b>30 LOST, STRAYED OR FOUND</b></p> <p><b>ATTENTION! LOST A PET</b> Or found one? 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TERMS: CASH OR GOOD CHECK NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR NO SHOWS AUCTIONEERS NOTE: Indiana Sales Tax will be collected at this auction. AREA CONTRACTORS &amp; FARMERS OWNERS AUCTIONEERS Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168 260-729-2229 Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040 260-726-5587 www.auctionzip.com - Auctioneer ID #4243</p>	<p><b>90 SALE CALENDAR</b></p> <p><b>PUBLIC AUCTION</b> SATURDAY DECEMBER 2nd, 2023 TIME 10:00 A.M. LOCATED: 4 MILES WEST OF HWY 27 ON CR 200 N, Portland, IN TRACTORS - BACKHOE - CRAWLER - COMBINE 1954 Allis Chalmers WD 45 Wide front duals and weights. 1949 Farmall M Wide front clam shell fenders. Case 530 Loader backhoe with 18 and 36 inch buckets. 1930's Farmall T-20 Crawler with straight blade. FARM EQUIPMENT - FARM ITEMS 20' 10,000 lb Trailer. Int. 311 pull-type rotary mower. 1 bottom walking plov, EZ-GO golf cart, Platform scales. Cement mixer mounted on steel wheels. Brass grain tester. 24" and other steel wheels. Several items not mentioned. 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