

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Consoling Katie

Jay County High School assistant wrestling coach Troy Jacks chats with Katie Rowles after the seventh-ranked Patriot suffered a tough 4-3 loss to No. 6 Angelica Clay of Lakeland during the ticket round of the semi-state tournament Friday at Rochester. A win in the match would have sent Rowles to the state finals. Three Patriots — semi-state champion Mallory Winner, Emily Manor and Lina Lingo — went on to earn berths in the state finals, which will be contested Friday at Kokomo. For more on the semi-state, see page 10.

Sale to finally become finalized

Closing to be set for former Sheller-Globe south building

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

A former industrial site is expected to be off the city's books in the coming weeks.

During Thursday's Portland Board of Works meeting, city attorney Wes Schemenaur reported that he plans to work next week on scheduling a closing date with Chad Fifer for the purchase of the former Sheller-Globe south site.

The discussion of the Sheller-Globe property, 510 S. Bridge St., came as board of works members Jerry Leonhard, Steve McIntosh and Mayor Jeff Westlake approved a contract with IWM Consulting Group of Fort Wayne for quarterly monitoring over the next two years. The process is required by Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) in order to assure there are not hazardous substances in the area. The contract is not to exceed \$22,313.

Schemenaur said the hope is that once the two years of monitoring is complete and if no issues are found, IDEM will clear the property.

He also noted that the Phase I Environmental Study that was one of the last steps needed to finalize the sale of the property to Fifer has been completed. He added that Fifer's attorney has indicated readiness to move forward.

The board of works agreed in September 2022 to sell the property to Fifer, the owner of Fifer Services, for \$50,000. The process of dealing with environmental issues and contract negotiations followed, with the board approving the final purchase agreement last month. Fifer plans to install a sawmill and in the future expand to include furniture production. (He has been allowed some access to the property through a limited use agreement prior to completion of the sale.)

See Sale page 2

Court agrees to rule on Trump case

By DAVID G. SAVAGE
Los Angeles Times
Tribune News Service

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court announced Friday it will decide on a fast-track basis whether former President Donald Trump can be barred from the ballot because he "engaged in insurrection" after losing his reelection bid in November 2020.

The justices granted an appeal from Trump and his lawyers that seeks overturn a Colorado Supreme Court deci-

sion that would remove Trump from that state's ballot.

The court said it will hear arguments on the case Feb. 8.

The announcement sets the stage for what could be momentous and unprecedented decision on whether the front-runner for this year's Republican presidential nomination could be disqualified by a high court with six Republican appointees.

In their appeal, Trump's lawyers argued the political parties and their voters should

decide who is on the ballot, not judges.

The justices did not say what questions that would decide. Trump's lawyers cited several procedural reasons for tossing out the state court ruling.

In a 4-3 decision, the Colorado state judges said Trump was disqualified from holding office again because he violated a provision of the 14th Amendment adopted after the Civil War. It bars from office any federal and state officials who took an oath to support the Constitution and

then "engaged in insurrection or rebellion" against the United States.

Trump's lawyers argue this provision cannot be enforced nationwide because Congress has not passed a law to set rules for the 50 states.

States are divided on Trump's eligibility for the ballot. While Minnesota and Michigan refused to disqualify Trump, Maine's secretary of state joined Colorado in saying he should be removed from the ballot.

Retrospect

Kunkler was Jay's first baby of 1999

Twenty-five years ago this week, the race to be the first baby of the year born at Jay County Hospital came down to mere minutes.

The Jan. 6, 1999, edition of The Commercial Review featured a story about the first two babies — Erika Ann Kunkler and Adam Christopher Haffner — who were born at Jay County Hospital that year.

Erika, the daughter of Brian and Rebecca Kunkler of rural Portland, won the race, as she was born at 10:53 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 5, 1999. Adam, the son of James and Leta Haffner of rural Bryant, followed at 11:04 a.m.

"The nurses were kind of hinting around that we were close, but we

didn't care," said Rebecca that evening. "It didn't make any difference (whether I was first or not)."

Leta expressed a similar lack of concern about who came first.

Both families were more worried about being able to get to the hospital.

"I kept thinking, 'Oh, we're going to get snowed in and have to call a snow plow,'" said Leta.

The Kunklers took precautions, with Brian fetching teenage nephew Matt Westgerdes to babysit their other children — 2-year-old Mitchell and 1-year-old Ava — just in case the delivery came during the snowstorm.

The hospital staff,

however, was up for the excitement.

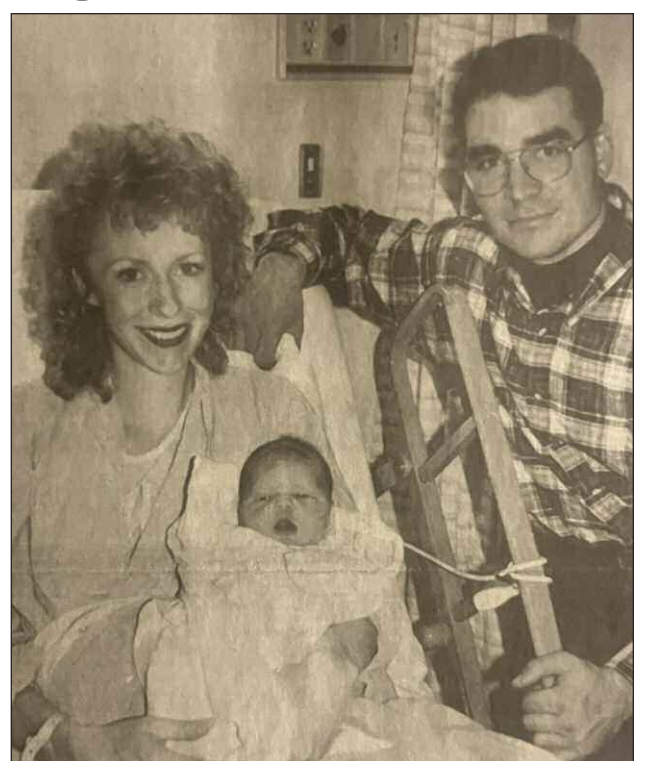
Leta recalled admitting clerk Michael Schmidt saying "the race is on" upon her arrival.

"We knew we could have taken bets, but we decided not to hype it up," said nurse Gail Kuhn. "We didn't want to push them."

While having multiple babies delivered that close together is not unusual for some hospitals, it was for Jay County.

Rebecca arrived at 3:10 a.m. that morning, with Leta 10 minutes behind her. That interval held almost exactly through delivery, as Dr. David Rohrer delivered Erika just 11 minutes before Dr. Frank Vormohr delivered Adam.

Erika Ann Kunkler, pictured with her parents Rebecca and Brian Kunkler of rural Portland, was the first baby born at Jay County Hospital in 1999. She beat Adam Christopher Haffner, the son of Jame and Leta Haffner of rural Bryant, by 11 minutes.



The Commercial Review/Laurie Chen

Deaths

Dixie Mann, 83, Geneva
Mary Gunter, 96, Portland
Evelyn Stroble, 100, Fort Wayne
John Territo, 54, Redkey
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 36 degrees Friday. There is a chance of freezing rain and snow today with up to an inch of accumulation possible. The high will be in the mid 30s. Tonight's temperature will remain steady in the low 30s.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Jay County Purdue Extension Office is partnering with Jay County Clerk's Office for a program at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday at Jay County Courthouse to provide information and advice for those considering a run for elected office. Those interested may register with the extension office by calling (260) 726-4707.

Coming up

Tuesday — Results from the Class 2A boys wrestling team state tournament.

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

7 18122 00780 6

Obituaries

Dixie Mann

Dixie Mann, 83, Geneva, died Thursday at Envie in Berne. Arrangements are pending at Downing & Glancy Funeral Home in Geneva.

Mary Gunter

June 6, 1927-Jan. 3, 2024
Mary E. Gunter, age 96, a resident of Portland, passed away on Wednesday, Jan. 3, 2024, at her home in Portland.



Gunter

Mary was born on June 6, 1927, in Hartford City, Indiana, the daughter of William Maddox Sr. and Mary (McCombs) Maddox. Mary worked for Sheller Globe in Montpelier for 28 years, retiring in 1988. She was a life member of the DAV. Mary married Grover Gunter on Dec. 7, 1999, and he passed away on Sept. 21, 2002.

Survivors include: Her children — Bobbie Siegrist (husband: John), Portland, Indiana, Darrell Derringer, Portland, Indiana, and Deanna Derringer, Portland, Indiana

Stepdaughter — Mary Weaver (husband: Gary), Bryant, Indiana
Siblings: Margaret Oyler — Muncie, Indiana, Roberta Riggs, Poneto, Indiana, Larry Maddox (wife: Karen), Hartford City, Indiana, and Charles Maddox (wife: Martha), Hartford City, Indiana, Joyce Jenkins, South Bend, Indiana, and Linda Stroup (husband: Paul), Elkhart, Indiana

Ten grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and nine great-great-grandchildren
Three step-grandchildren
She was preceded in death by her husband Grover Gunter; and her children Bill Whitacre and Caryn Radziejewski.

Visitation will be held on Monday from 2 to 4 p.m. at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland. Funeral services will follow at 4 p.m. on Monday at the funeral home. Pastor Steve Arnold will officiate and burial will be held at a later date at Wells Cemetery, northwest of Portland.

Evelyn Stroble

July 19, 1923-Jan. 2, 2024
Evelyn (Edwina) Stroble passed away at the age of 100 on the morning of Jan. 2, 2024, at the Towne House Retirement

Center in Fort Wayne.

Born on July 19, 1923, to John and Bernice Davis in Jay County, Indiana, she married Jim Stroble on June 6, 1942. They were married for 78 years until Jim passed away in 2020.

Edwina was primarily a homemaker, taking care of Jim and her two sons (Larry and Lynn). She worked several jobs during the early years, including selling Avon. When Jim started Tri-State Instrument Service in 1963, she worked alongside him (and later Lynn when he took over the business) shipping, receiving and bookkeeping until finally retiring in 1977.

She was the wife of an avid gardener and became a reluctant avid canner. Edwina and Jim purchased a Florida retirement home and spent over 20 years of winters there, officially making them 'snow birds.'

Edwina is survived by son, Lynn Stroble (Cathy); grandchildren Kimberly Wade (Staughton), Tim Stroble, Ryan Stroble, Emily Sze (Leo) and Mandi Haffner



Stroble

(Corey); and great-grandchildren Ronin, Kiernin, Damien, Sydney, Lydia, Vivian and Isla.

She was preceded in death by her husband Jim; son Larry Stroble (Suzi); brother Paul Davis; and sister Marcia Scott.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 9, 2024, from 10 a.m. to noon at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland.

Graveside services will follow at Spring Hill Cemetery in Fort Recovery, Ohio.

John Territo

Sept. 15, 1969-Jan. 4, 2024
John Territo, age 54, a resident of Redkey, passed away on Thursday, Jan. 4, 2024, at his home in Redkey. He was a former resident of Jamestown, New York.



Territo

John was born on Sept. 15, 1969, in Tulsa, Oklahoma, the son of Victor J. and Sallie (Hayes) Territo. He graduated from Southwestern Central School in Jamestown, New York. John worked at MSSSL in Portland and

attended Redkey Church of the Nazarene.

He married Lynn (Fields) Rees on July 11, 2020.

Survivors include: His wife — Lynn Territo, Redkey, Indiana

His mother — Sallie Territo, Jamestown, New York
Siblings — Timothy Territo, Westfield, New York, and Cynthia Territo, Burleson, Texas

Several nieces and nephews
Visitation will be held on Tuesday from 3 to 6 p.m. at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland. Funeral services will follow at 6 p.m. on Tuesday at the funeral home with Pastor Chuck Hollandback presiding.

Memorials may be directed to Jay County Cancer Society. Condolences may be expressed at williamsonspencer.com.

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

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

CR almanac

Sunday 1/7	Monday 1/8	Tuesday 1/9	Wednesday 1/10	Thursday 1/11
36/26	39/32	44/31	36/28	39/26
Skies will be cloudy with a chance of snow and a high of 36 degrees.	Expect mostly cloudy skies with temperatures sticking in the 30s all day and night.	Tuesday's forecast shows rain. The low at night will dip to 31 degrees.	There's a 20% chance of snow on Wednesday, when the high will be 36 degrees.	Partly sunny on Thursday. At night, there's a chance of rain and snow.

Lotteries

Hoosier MIDDAY Daily Three: 6-7-1 Daily Four: 6-5-7-9 Quick Draw: 1-2-3-6-8-13-32-36-45-49-58-60-65-72-73-76-77-78-79-80	Pick 5: 3-4-2-2-1 Evening Rolling Cash 5: 5-26-28-30-32 Jackpot: \$110,000 Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$35 million
Ohio MIDDAY Pick 3: 6-3-4 Pick 4: 0-2-6-9	Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$140 million

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....4.57 Feb. corn4.57 Wheat5.36	Feb. beans12.53 Wheat5.76 ADM Montpelier Corn.....4.42 Feb. corn4.46 Beans.....12.38 Feb. beans12.42 Wheat5.71
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....4.57 Feb. corn4.60 March corn4.62	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....4.44 March corn4.49 Beans.....12.20 Feb. beans12.23 Wheat5.31

Today in history

In 1974, the United States started Daylight Saving Time.
In 2004, the Fort Recovery High School girls basketball team dominated the visiting South Adams Starfires 74-35 behind 11 points from freshman Holly Stein and 10 from senior Jenn Stahl.

In 2023, the Jay County High School girls wrestling team won the regional championship led by individual regional titles from Mallory Winner and Kiley Williams. The Patriots cruised over runner-up Rochester by 51 points.
—The CR

Citizen's calendar

Monday 9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 10 a.m. — Portland Redevelopment Commission, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland. 3:45 p.m. — Jay County Election Board, voting room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 4 p.m. — Jay County Public Library Board of Trustees, community room, library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland.	5 p.m. — Jay School Board, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland. 6 p.m. — Dunkirk Board of Works, city building, 131 S. Main St. 6 p.m. — Fort Recovery School Board, community room, high school, 400 E. Butler St. 7 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St.
Tuesday 5:30 p.m. — Portland Park Board, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.	

Sale ...

Continued from page 1
It has been a long road to selling the Sheller-Globe south site, which the city purchased in October 2014. (TLS by Design bought the former Sheller-Globe north site a year earlier.) It has been mostly vacant since the 1980s. From 2014 through 2016, there were hints of interest in the property through Jay County Development Corporation, but nothing came to fruition.
Herman Kittle Properties made a proposal to construct senior housing on the site in 2017. The city passed on that opportunity in part because it was storing some of its street department equipment in the building.
In 2019, the city approved selling the Sheller-Globe south site to John Goodhew of Goodhew Roofing and Metals. That agreement was terminated in May 2021 at Goodhew's request because the city could not provide a clean environmental study, which was a stipulation of the contract. He had planned to renovate the property to manufacture standing seam roofing and carports.

The site was put back up for sale in 2022, with the board of works choosing the offer from Fifer.
As part of the final purchase agreement, the city agreed to follow through on remediation of any currently known environmental issues, including the monitoring by IWM that was approved Thursday. Any future environmental issues that may arise will be the responsibility of the property owner.
The board also briefly discussed holding another meeting next week to address the former Hunt's Building at 208 and 210 N. Meridian St. The building was declared unsafe in August, with the board opening bids for its demolition in October. At that time, it agreed to pause the process in order to allow Portland Redevelopment Commission time to look into options and costs to save the building.
The issue is on the agenda for Portland Redevelopment Commission's meeting at 10 a.m. Monday.
JASHroyer Group of Muncie was the only bidder that had the required credentials and certificate of liability

insurance to handle the job. It put in an initial bid of \$249,000 for the job, but later agreed to reduce that amount to \$189,000 as the firm is already in the city taking down and removing debris from the Bailey Building at the southwest corner of Meridian and Commerce streets.
In other business, the board:
•Approved new police chief Dustin Mock's recommendation to relieve officer Chris Jack of his duties. He was still in his probationary period after being hired in February. Westlake said there were ethical issues that led to the dismissal but did not elaborate further.
•Wrote off outstanding checks of two years old or older totaling \$3,116.09. Also wrote off bad debt two year's old or older of \$2,451.62.
•Approved the following: payment of retainage totaling \$18,412.34 to Milestone Contractors for a paving project; a contract for Schemenaur to continue serving as city attorney; and a bill adjustment of \$163.72 for 307 E. Union St. because of a water leak.

SERVICES

Today
Griffis, Steven: 11 a.m., Pleasant Hill Church, 9945 N. 800 East, Union City.

Monday
Daugherty, Eileen: 1 p.m., Swiss Village Chapel, 1350 W. Main St., Berne.
Gunter, Mary: 4 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Tuesday
Stroble, Evelyn: 12:30 p.m., Spring Hill Cemetery, Fort Recovery.
Territo, John: 6 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Wednesday
Velasco, Tammy: 10:30 a.m., First Mennonite Church, 566 W. Main St., Berne.

Service listings provided by
PROGRESSIVE DEL TORO OFFICE PRODUCTS
120 N. Meridian St.
Portland, Indiana 47371
(260) 726-9201
progressiveofficeproducts.com

Capsule Reports

Vehicle fire
A woman's truck caught on fire Thursday near East Elementary School.
The 1994 Dodge Ram 1500's engine compartment began smoking on Jackson Street next to the parking lot after Christy Curtis dropped off a child for school about 7:45 a.m. Thursday. Six Portland Fire Department personnel responded to the scene within five minutes, putting out the flames by 8:09 a.m.
There were no injuries from the incident, with damage mostly limited to the engine compartment.
Jay School Corporation superintendent Jeremy Gulley said in an email at 8 a.m. Thursday no students were impacted and school operations continued as normal.

Speeds up to 100 Mbps with EarthLink Wireless Home Internet done in 10 minutes or less. Sign up today and get a \$100 gift card! Terms and conditions apply.

Reliable Internet NOW! **855-430-1496**

GREAT SELECTION of newspaper roll ends FOR SALE!

Stop by our office or call TODAY!

The Graphic Printing Company
The Commercial Review
309 West Main Street
Portland, IN 47371
260-726-8141
Office Hours:
Tuesday - Friday 10 am - 4 pm

Collectibles show schedule released

Collectibles of all kinds will be back at Jay County Fairgrounds for seven shows in 2024.

Jay County Fair Board recently announced its schedule for the Jay County Fair Cards, Coins, Comics and Collectibles shows for the year, with the first set for Jan. 20.

The fair board held its first such show in October with a second in December. They featured sports cards, Pokémon, Magic: The Gathering and Yu-Gi-Oh! cards, coins, Coca-Cola items, NASCAR memorabilia, Funko Pop! items, comic books and vintage toys.

Other 2024 shows are scheduled for Feb. 17, March 9, April 13, Sept. 14, Oct. 19 and Nov. 16. All shows will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., with vendor set-up from 7 to 10 a.m.

Offering program
East Central Indiana

Taking Note

Regional Planning District recently announced a partnership with Northstar for the Digital Literacy Program.

The program, which is free through the end of the year, provides lessons on computer basics including email usage, operating systems and software including Microsoft Excel, PowerPoint and Google Docs. There are also modules regarding social media, distance learning and managing your digital footprint.

To access the Digital Literacy Program for free, visit bit.ly/JayCoDLP and click "sign up as a learner."



Photo provided

New members

Portland Lions Club recently welcomed two new members. Pictured above are Michael Biggs and Brad Stultz, who joined the group Dec. 21.

Man's silent treatment tactics worn thin

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been married for two years. We rushed into marriage, unfortunately, before getting to know each other very well. Whenever we have a disagreement, he gives me the silent treatment for days. Sometimes, it lasts weeks.

He won't eat anything I cook or help around the house. If I'm in one room, he will lock himself up in another one. He sleeps on the couch or on a pull-out mattress. Eventually, he will end it by returning to our bed and trying to initiate intimacy. I usually accept, but the issue never gets resolved or discussed — we just carry on. When I've tried discussing the issues, he says, "Don't start!"

I'm fed up with his childish behavior. We have a 7-month-old

Dear Abby



baby and children from my previous marriage, so it has become increasingly difficult for me to leave him. He's not the type to go to therapy. He will admit we have communication issues, but that's the extent of it. I've reached the point that I no longer care about our marriage, and if I had the means, I'd happily leave. Please help. — SILENT TREATMENT IN THE NORTHEAST

DEAR SILENT TREATMENT: Because your husband doesn't want to go to therapy does not mean you shouldn't. When you tell him that you plan to schedule some sessions, expect him to find a dozen reasons why you "don't need it" or to go into another silent phase. Therapy for you would be illuminating and could help you decide how much longer you want to tolerate an increasingly intolerable living situation.

DEAR ABBY: We recently attended the wedding of a close family member on my husband's side. All went seemingly well until the next day when I was sharing snapshots of the beautiful

day with my stepdaughter. I promptly received what I'll call a form letter via text from her, saying: "Hi! As the holidays approach, we're sending this message to our close family members. With flu season coming up and a rise in COVID cases, we're asking everyone to not kiss the baby. This is also a reminder not to take or post photos of the baby. We take lots of beautiful photos of her and if you'd like some, we are happy to send them to you. Our goal is to minimize her media presence until she's old enough to consent to how her pictures are used."

When I spoke to other family members, I realized none of them had received this message. I'm hurt. I spent what I thought was a

beautiful day at a family function, taking snapshots of the event and of our grandchild. Now here's a text telling me not to take pics of her. I don't know how to handle this. — JOY DESTROYED IN THE WEST

DEAR JOY DESTROYED: You are the only person who received that message because you are the only person who was taking photos. Parents are entitled to decide whether they want pictures of their children posted on social media. You should always ask whether it's OK to post pictures of an event or a child before doing so. Now you know how your stepdaughter feels about it, so "handle this" by apologizing.

Community Calendar

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

Today

DUNKIRK HISTORICAL SOCIETY — Is open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the first and third Saturday of each month in the former W.E. Gaunt Jewelry building, 113 S. Main St., Dunkirk.

MUSEUM OF THE SOLDIER — Is open from noon to 5 p.m. the first and third Saturday and Sunday of the month. It is located at 510 E. Arch St., Portland. The website is museumofthesoldier.com.

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.

ROAD RIDERS FOR

JESUS — Will meet at 10 a.m. on the first Saturday of each month in the West Walnut Church of Christ fellowship hall, 204 W. Walnut St., Portland. (Please enter from the door facing the alley on the north side of the building.) For more information, call (260) 726-8463.

Sunday

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

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.

DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP — Meets at 3 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at Mercer Health in Coldwater, Ohio.

JAY COUNTY DRUG PREVENTION COALITION — Will meet at 3:30 p.m. the second Monday of each month at Portland Fire Department, 1616 N. Franklin St. For more information, call (260) 251-3259.

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. 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. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (260) 726-8636.

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.

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.

REDISCOVERING JOY — The support group of widows and widowers meets at 6:30 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at R & R Fabrications, 601 E. Washington St., St. Henry, Ohio. For more information, email rediscoveringjoy@yahoo.com.

Tuesday

JAY COUNTY PASTORS AND CHAPLAINS — Meet at 11:30 a.m. on the second Tuesday of each month in the chapel at Indiana University Health Jay Hospital.

BRYANT COMMUNITY CENTER EUCHRE — Will be played at 1 p.m. each Tuesday.

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

POWER UP FROM ANYWHERE

DURACELL
M150 Portable Power Station

From Duracell, the #1 trusted battery brand, the M150 Portable Power Station enables you to work and have fun from anywhere.



ONLY \$199

Give the gift of portable power to friends and family this holiday season!*

portablepower.info/offer145

Laptop	Phone	Tablet
1 Charge	6 Charges	3 Charges

*Order by December 15th for Christmas delivery. Battery purchase does not include phone.

Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

Friday's Solution

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

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.



It's not just a generator.
It's a power move.™

Receive a free 7-year warranty with qualifying purchase* - valued at \$735.

Call 866-953-2203 to schedule your free quote!

GENERAC

*Terms and Conditions apply.

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

For Jay County Schools

January 8-12, 2024

Monday: Main Entrees: Doritos Nacho Cheese Tortilla Chips, Seasoned Beef Taco Meat, Shredded Lettuce, Shredded Cheddar Cheese **Alternate Entrees:** Cereal, Yogurt & Cheese Fun Lunch, Cheddar/Mozzarella Salad, Breadstick **Sides for all meals:** Vegetarian Refried Beans

Tuesday: Main Entrees: Beef Hot Dog on Whole Wheat Bun **Alternate Entrees:** Cereal, Cracker & Egg Fun Lunch, Cheddar/Mozzarella Salad, Breadstick **Sides for all meals:** French Fries

Wednesday: Main Entrees: Chicken Nuggets, Macaroni and Cheese **Alternate Entrees:** Cereal, Yogurt & Cheese Fun Lunch, Cheddar/Mozzarella Salad, Breadstick **Sides for all meals:** Seasoned Peas

Thursday: Main Entrees: Toasted Cheese Sandwich **Alternate Entrees:** Cereal, Yogurt & Cheese Fun Lunch, Cheddar/Mozzarella Salad, Breadstick **Sides for all meals:** Campbell's Tomato Soup

Friday: Main Entrees: Classic Cheese Pizza **Alternate Entrees:** Cereal, Yogurt & Cheese Fun Lunch, Cheddar/Mozzarella Salad, Breadstick **Sides for all meals:** Seasoned Carrots

george family
DENTISTRY

112 North Ship Street, Portland, IN
(260) 726-4710

Prepare if planning to seek office

Jay County's Purdue Extension Office and Jay County Clerk's Office are partnering on an event at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday at Jay County Courthouse. It is designed to provide advice to anyone considering running for local office.

Great idea. More often than not when there are challenges to candidates, errors in advertising or issues with campaign finance reporting, the answer is "I didn't know."

This event looks to be attempting to provide the information candidates need to know prior to running for office. If you're planning or considering a run, please attend (Filing for the next election cycle begins Wednesday.)

While we're on the topic, we'd also like to provide some advice:

Editorial

•Visit the Indiana Secretary of State Election Division website (in.gov/sos/elections). Click on "candidate information." You'll find a variety of documents and forms there, including a 2024 candidate guide. There's also a 2024 election calendar brochure that includes all of the dates and deadlines for this year's election cycle.

•Attend a meeting. Especially if you plan on running for commissioner or council (both have seats up for election this year), attend one of their meetings. We

know from experience that walking into such a meeting for the first time can be overwhelming. It's like joining a conversation everyone else in the room has been part of for years. If you're running for office, you need to have a lay of the land, get to know the people and processes involved and understand the issues being discussed.

•Know why you're running. This seems obvious, but in our experience it's not. Why do you want to run? What issues are important to you and where do you stand on them? What do you think about the major topics that have been discussed over the last year? What do you want to do if you are elected to the office you're seeking? There's a lot more to think about beyond those questions, but those are the basics you should have

answers before even thinking about filing paperwork to run.

•Make sure you're running for the right office. It's not at all unusual for someone to run while clearly not understanding what that particular office actually does. We recall a commissioner candidate who talked endlessly about finances. While commissioners certainly make decisions that impact finances, Jay County Council is the fiscal body. A little research in advance can help make sure you're running for the office that best impacts the things you care about.

•If you plan on running as a member of one of the two major political parties, talk to your county chair and/or others involved in the party locally. These folks can help determine if you are eligible to run for the

party — rules require that "the two most recent primary elections in Indiana in which the candidate voted were primary elections held by the party with which the candidate claims affiliation" and/or receive approval from the party chair — and can help guide you through the election process.

•Ask. If you don't know, ask. Ask the party chair. Ask the county clerk. Ask an elected official. Ask someone. There's no shame in not knowing something. Be willing to ask the questions to find out the information you need to know.

Running for office is an excellent way to get involved and to make an impact on your community. We encourage those who plan to run to properly prepare themselves for that important task. — R.C.

Racial issues, old war back at center

By CLARENCE PAGE

Chicago Tribune
Tribune News Service

Like a political version of a veteran sports writer, as the presidential primaries approach I have been expecting some hapless candidate to throw out the first major gaffe.

Republican presidential candidate Nikki Haley now has achieved that dubious prize.

Asked at a recent New Hampshire town hall what she believed had caused the Civil War, she should have knocked that ball out of the park.

After all, since the first shots of the War Between the States happened to be fired in South Carolina, her home state where she used to be governor, surely she knew the answer to the historical question.

Yet, oddly she replied like a somewhat flustered high school student who had forgotten to study for her history exam.

She offered a cluster of words to say the war was sparked by questions of "how government was going to run." She, of course, curiously had left out by far the most important issue.

"In the year 2023," the questioner said, "it's astonishing to me that you answer that question without mentioning the word 'slavery.'"

"What do you want me to say about slavery?" Haley retorted before abruptly moving on to the next question.

Suddenly you could almost hear the rush of Haley's once-promising political future like the air out of a punctured balloon.

Haley blamed "definitely a Democrat plant," which seemed to make bad matters worse for her.

I was reminded of an elderly white Southern gentleman who patiently explained to me how the Civil War, which he preferred to call "the War of Northern Aggression," never really ended in 1865.

"That was just intermission," he said.

His words came back to me during, among other occasions, the Jan. 6, 2021, assault on Capitol, where the Confederate flags were plentiful.

Too bad, I thought. Although Haley is more conservative than I am, I have long viewed her as smart and reasonable in our otherwise often-loony political era, especially in her 2015 response to the

Clarence Page



racist mass killing at the historically Black Mother Emanuel AME church in Charleston.

Despite polls that showed strong support for the Confederate flag remaining over the State House grounds, she called for its removal. To the astonishment of many, the state soon did so, with legislators voting in favor of the move by overwhelming margins.

But even with Democrats as prominent as President Barack Obama praising her "eloquence on the subject" in his eulogy for the victims, the issue has remained a touchy one for her and numerous others with political ambitions in the region.

In the years since the disaster, she often has lamented the killings for sullyng a flag that for many hardcore traditionalists represents, as a popular bumper sticker in the region says, "Heritage, not Hate!"

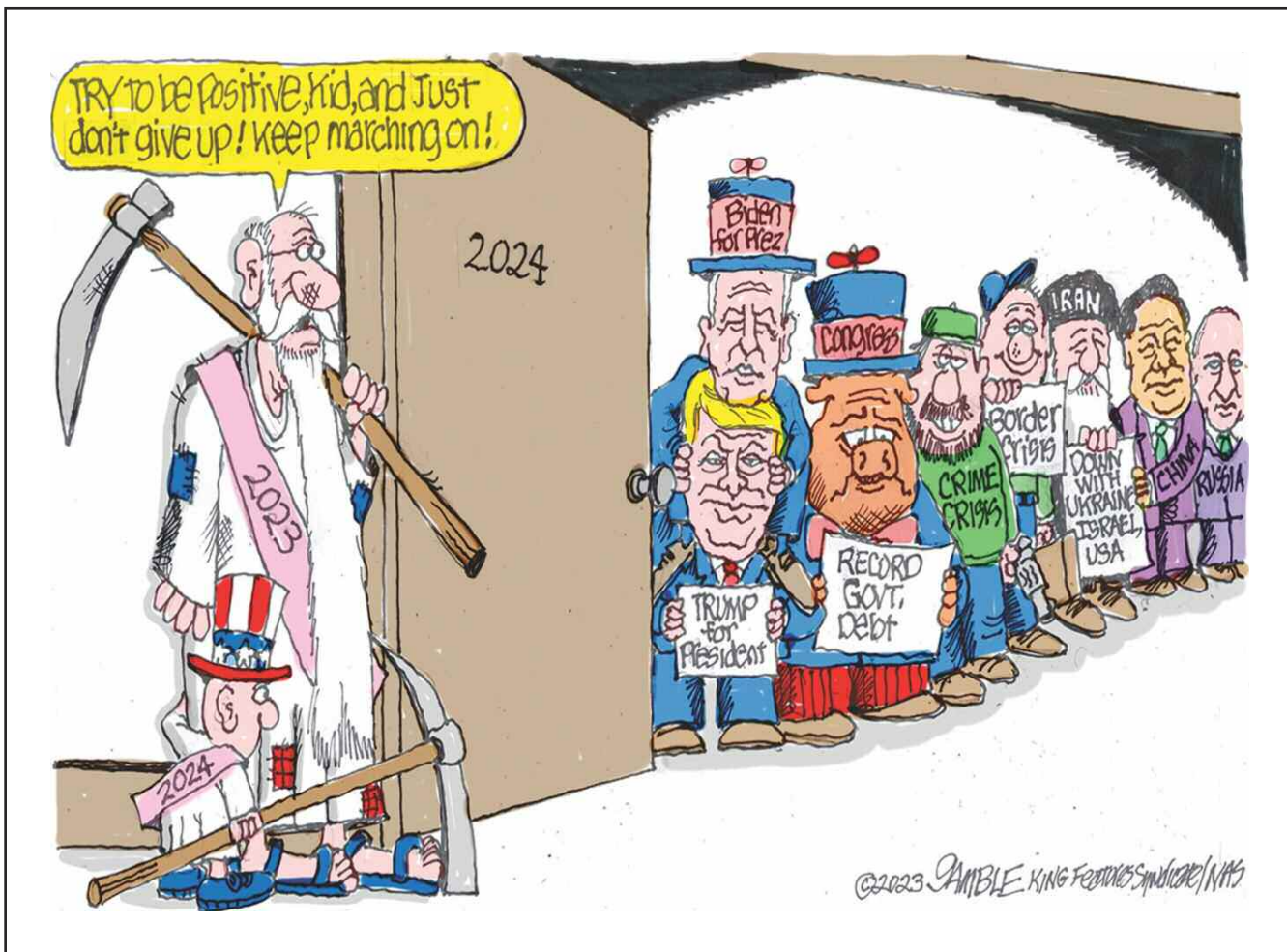
Yet, as unappealing as such stickers may be to African Americans like me, whose ancestors were liberated by that war, polls and interviews show Donald Trump dominating as the GOP's front-runner and, just as surprising, making more gains with Black voters than he did in 2020.

Although President Joe Biden's campaign claims to have gotten the message and they have almost a year to whip up some enthusiasm in the Democratic base, a lot of his supporters are understandably nervous.

Frankly, I, too, never thought Biden would have this much to worry about from an opponent facing four indictments and more than 90 federal felony charges. But voters will often surprise you, even when they seem to be worried about the wrong war.

This isn't baseball or ancient history that we're talking about now. We're talking about the future of our republic and whether, as Benjamin Franklin once asked, we can keep it.

Now that's still a hard question to answer.



2024 pits perception vs. reality

By MICHAEL LEPPERT

Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

During my professional career, I've said it countless times and in countless ways: perception is reality. Oh, I wish I could take those moments back! Not just because of my awful tendency to weave profanity into my version of the cliché, but because the cliché itself has engulfed far too many of us.

In 2024, the battle between what is real and what is not will be epic.

Yes, yes, it's a big election year, the latest in a streak of the-most-important-elections-of-our-lifetimes. And nothing strains the perception and reality continuum more than election season. This year, that is practically the entire game.

Let's talk about the pesky Fourteenth Amendment and other inconvenient laws that will impact the presidential race. The never-ending legal saga of former President Donald Trump is ground zero of the perception versus reality war. His most recent problem of being removed from the ballot in Colorado and Maine has inspired debate and conversation that is straight out of the Twilight Zone.

Too many politicians from both parties are pandering to voters by taking the position that Trump's quest to return to the White House should be decided solely by the election. Of course, we all agree with the authority of elections, even though Trump and his supporters didn't agree with it in 2020. Many of them still don't. But before voters get to decide in any year, candidates must be qualified to hold the office.

Article II, Section 1, Clause 5 of the U.S. Constitution establishes the qualifications to be president. We learned about these in elementary school: the person must be a natural born citizen, at least 35 years of age, and must

Michael Leppert



have lived in the country for the previous 14 years.

The Fourteenth Amendment, enacted after the Civil War, modified those qualifications to prevent those responsible for such a rebellion from infiltrating public office in the newly restored union. The plain, applicable language of Section 3 states: "No person shall...hold any office...(having) engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof."

The language is plain. It's inconvenient for this moment, but it's still plain and applicable. And the reality is that it is a legal matter, not a political one. There is no value for politicians to proclaim, "let the voters decide!" The constitution is not set aside by the whims of the moment. It never has been before, and there is no reason to do it now.

To Trump and his fans, good luck at the Supreme Court in January.

The question of presidential immunity for Trump's acts related to the insurrection will likely be decided this month too. The reality here is that over 700 people have been convicted of crimes related to January 6. There is a truckload of evidence implicating Trump's criminal role in it. Too many Americans think this is also something to be decided by public sentiment. Nope. Not in the moment it's not. The political process can lead to new laws in the future, but we don't vote on the applicability of laws as they exist now, or in the past.

Neither of these issues will be

decided by public commentary or creative social media posts. They will be decided in court, as they should be, even though the legal questions really aren't that complicated.

For SCOTUS to interpret that the Fourteenth Amendment's insurrection language doesn't apply to Trump, it will have to strain a little. They could decide a conviction is necessary, or that he wasn't technically "an officer" of the government when he was president. But it will require a decision that abandons the virtues of "textualism" this court holds so dear.

On the question of presidential immunity, SCOTUS will need to do far more than strain to rule in Trump's favor. It will have to create a fantasy land. As much as this court has rattled my faith in it with its recent decisions, this just won't happen. Trump will go to trial in all of his criminal cases. It's also a fantasy to believe he will escape being convicted in all four cases.

This unprecedented legal saga will end badly for Trump in 2024, not because people of my ilk are rooting for it, but because the criminality and the law are both so clear. There isn't a reality-based escape route for him.

America is either a nation of laws or it isn't. It's often inconvenient and imperfect, but our laws have served us better than any one person ever could. That's reality.

The perception of many is that Trump is something other than the obvious. When reality ultimately prevails, I hope we will all be prepared for it.

Leppert is an author, educator and a communication consultant in Indianapolis.

Indiana Capital Chronicle is an independent, nonprofit news organization. Its website is indianacapitalchronicle.com.

The Commercial Review



US PS 125820

HUGH N. RONALD (1911-1983), Publisher Emeritus
JOHN C. "JACK" RONALD (1948-2022), Publisher Emeritus

RAY COONEY
President, editor and publisher

LOUISE RONALD
Board chair

TONIA HARDY
Business manager

BRIAN DODD
Production manager

VOLUME 150-NUMBER 161
SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 2024

www.thecr.com

The Commercial Review is published daily except Sundays, Mondays and four holidays (New Year's Day, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving and Christmas — holidays are observed on Tuesday when they fall on a Monday) by The Graphic Printing Co. Inc., 309 W. Main St., Portland, Indiana 47371. Periodical postage paid (USPS 125820) at Portland, Indiana. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Commercial Review, 309 W. Main St., P.O. Box 1049, Portland, Indiana 47371 or call (260) 726-8141.

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

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

Subscription rates
Internet-only: Three days - \$3; Monthly auto-pay - \$10; 13 weeks - \$32; six months - \$60; one year - \$108.
City (walking - where available): Monthly auto-pay - \$11; 13 weeks - \$36; six months - \$68; one year - \$122.
Motor route (where available): Monthly auto-pay - \$12; 13 weeks - \$44; six months - \$74; one year - \$140.
Mail: Monthly auto-pay - \$13; 13 weeks - \$49; six months - \$80; one year - \$151.
Home delivery problems: Call (260) 251-9588

1-6 CRYPTOQUIP

UGSH BGZWWLHT, L URB
SMWSIFLHT FZ DVC BLM IZOS
DZFFESB, DVF L LHRYJSNFHFEC
WLIOSY BSJSH VW.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHAT MIGHT YOU IMAGINE IS EVERY CHIROPRACTOR'S FAVORITE GENRE OF MUSIC? HIP POP.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: W equals P

Trivial Review

(Answers are printed below, upside down.)

Championship queries

1) Cincinnati Bengals quarterback Jake Browning is the leading passer in the history of what school?
2) Two University of Michigan players won the Heisman trophy in the 1990s Who were they?

(1) The University of Washington
(2) Desmond Howard and Charles Woodson

1-8 CRYPTOQUIP

SB EV EQDSGDST BUNNJP
PUQU TQUEDSVF GOUDTCUG
JB XQSVOSVF DZWUG, CU
PIZNX WU XQEPSVF GDQEPG.
Saturday's Cryptoquip: WHEN SHOPPING, I WAS EXPECTING TO BUY SIX COKE BOTTLES, BUT I INADVERTENTLY PICKED SEVEN UP.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: P equals W

CRYPTO FUN

Solve the code to discover words related to computers. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 1 = E)

A. 20 11 5 11
Clue: Information

B. 14 1 14 15 4 13
Clue: Storage capacity

C. 16 10 12 1 22
Clue: Containers for storing information

D. 22 1 4 17 1 4
Clue: Provides service to another computer

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to computer cleanup.

RESEA

Answer: Erase

Guess Who?

I am a singer born in England on January 12, 1993. I planned to become an English teacher, but tried out for "The X Factor" as a solo artist. I was ultimately paired with other singers to form a very successful boy band before moving on to a solo career.

Answer: Zayn Malik

kids' corner

PEOPLE FACT!

THIS TYPE OF ACTIVITY ALLOWS THE BRAIN TO KEEP WORKING BUT ALSO RELAX IN A MEANINGFUL WAY.

ANSWER: HOBBY

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Hobby
SPANISH: Hobby
ITALIAN: Hobby
FRENCH: Passe-temps
GERMAN: Hobby

Creative Coloring

Celebrate hobbies. Color in this picture to create your own masterpiece.

THIS DAY IN... HISTORY

JAN 10
1430: PHILIP THE GOOD ESTABLISHES THE ORDER OF THE GOLDEN FLEECE, THE MOST PRESTIGIOUS ORDER OF CHIVALRY.
1812: THE FIRST STEAM-BOAT ON THE OHIO RIVER OR THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER ARRIVES IN NEW ORLEANS.
1920: THE TREATY OF VERSAILLES TAKES EFFECT, ENDING WORLD WAR ONE FOR ALL COMBATANT NATIONS EXCEPT THE UNITED STATES.

New word

RECREATION
activity enjoyed when not working

COMPUTER TERMS WORD SEARCH

RYJHDPDSVWCHHSIGGULSD
FOSAWERCENEGLLELTNI
EEERUKSEENFJICNHMJLFU
RGLDDDRDKFJNPNRTCEJELT
AYIDSHEMTERWRCPORBUUM
WRFROBHBORUIOTUPTUO
TVBISOUGOTPEPLYGYABO
FSEVKKRBTBOHHNUPTPAL
OAPPEYETUOATEUCFCOICC
SLHMCTRGCACNREEFWAYYK
FFJIFAANOPDKPBRSMFDY
HFFSTNSPMPPLRUKOALJGEJ
HFIFYUPPHPLVMAPFADKWL
OJPDPESPUIIYAONORLBE
HAULNRDYTECSSEEPBWDNE
BKTVISUYEAFTHSYEVD
FHRTDJCRTEBLJYLESHW
MHAEPNMGMBIJBPHPRLGKDB
LTTDMAAJGBOPSPYROMEM
OSSYWLBLELNTIABHMKFCG

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

APPLE
APPLICATION
BACKUP
COMPUTER
DESKTOP
EJECT
FILES
HARD DRIVE
INPUT
INTELLIGENCE
KEYBOARD
LAPTOP
MEMORY
MOTHERBOARD
OFFICE
OUTPUT
PERSONAL
PREFERENCES
REBOOT
SLUGGISH
SOFTWARE
SPAM
STARTUP
TRASH

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Cotillion celeb 4 Greek vowels 8 — of honor 12 Promising words? 13 For fear that 14 "Mamma Mia" group 15 Political strategist 16 Region 17 Authentic 18 "Lone-some Dove" author 21 USN rank 22 Snoop 23 A year in Paris 26 Golfer Hogan 27 — Alamos 30 Julia of film 31 Wee bit 32 High point 33 USSR spy org. 34 Springy dance	DOWN 1 Use a rotary phone 2 — St. Vincent Millay 3 Wild hog 4 Boosler of comedy 5 Semesters 6 In — (shortly) 7 Part of SASE 8 Tie the knot 9 Help a crook 10 Construction piece 11 Tony-winning Tyne	ACROSS 35 Grocery section 36 Lobbying gp. 37 — 38 Russian chess grand-master 45 Director Kazan 46 Jazzy Fitzgerald 47 Seek restitution 48 Molecule part 49 Rip 50 TiVo precursor 51 Breaks down 52 Faxed 53 Saigon soup	DOWN 19 Stagger 20 Samovar 23 Noah's craft 24 Pester 25 Central point 26 Satchel 27 Maui souvenir 28 Rowing need 29 Blue hue 31 Box office buys 32 Law firm aide, for short 34 Comic Leno 35 Leave 36 Baby carriages 37 "Narnia" lion 38 Paraphernalia 39 Sax range 40 Funny person 41 Sheltered 42 Invitation notation 43 Smart remark? 44 — Beach, Fla.
---	--	---	--

Solution time: 26 mins.

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Heads I win, tails you lose

North dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH	EAST
♠K7 ♥74 ♦A3 ♣AQJ9874	♠52 ♥A98632 ♦Q982 ♣10

WEST	EAST
♠A9864 ♥K5 ♦J104 ♣K62	♠QJ103 ♥QJ10 ♦K765 ♣53

The bidding:
North 1♣ East Pass South 1♠ West Pass
3♣ Pass 3 NT

Opening lead — jack of diamonds.

It is surely right to formulate a plan at the start of play, but one should always stand ready to alter that plan as new circumstances develop.

Consider this deal where South won the opening diamond lead with the king and led a club at trick two, successfully finessing the jack. Then, imbued with the notion that dummy's clubs were his primary source of tricks, and lacking the entry to his hand to repeat the finesse, South continued with the ace, hoping the king would fall.

When the king did not appear,

South played a third round of clubs to establish the suit. West won and led a diamond to dummy's ace and the contract went down one. Declarer finished with six clubs and two diamonds, while the defenders scored two aces, two diamonds and a club.

South would have fared better had he not put all his hopes on West's holding the K-x, of clubs and focused more on the possibility of West's holding the K-x-x. South could have covered both possibilities by playing dummy's king of spades at trick three, abandoning clubs temporarily. Had he done that, he would have finished with at least nine tricks.

If West took the ace of spades and returned a diamond, South could make 12 tricks by cashing his spades and repeating the club finesse. If West did not take the first spade, South could then revert to clubs to finish with nine tricks.

While it is granted that the king-of-spades play at trick three is not easy to think of — considering the magnetic attraction of dummy's clubs — there can be no denying that it is the right play.

Left undiscussed here is the possibility that a wily East holding the doubleton king of clubs might not have taken the king to lure South into taking a second club finesse — but that's a subject for a whole other column.

©2024 King Features Syndicate Inc.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Aachen article 4 Some babies 9 Service charge 12 Singer Rawls 13 Boredom 14 Vintage 15 Hepburn/Astaire musical comedy 17 "Way cool!" 18 Employ 19 With gusto 21 Not as loud 24 Narcissist's obsession 25 Commotion 26 ER workers 28 Narrow cuts 31 Antique cars 33 Rowing need 35 Withered 36 Take — at (try) 38 "You betcha!!"	DOWN 40 Director Ang 41 Ske-daddled 43 Asked for ID 45 Small beard 47 Chemical suffix 48 Sch. URL 49 Beach sandals 54 Goose egg 55 Say out loud 56 — you kidding?" 57 Sinusitis doc 58 Sucker 59 Hardly any	DOWN 1 Santa's aide 2 Debtor's letters 3 Sister 4 Yellow-stone attraction 5 Dante topic 6 Genetic letters 7 "Star Wars" creator 8 Strainers 9 Home stadium of the Detroit Lions 10 Israeli carrier 11 Vortex	ACROSS 16 Almond, e.g. 20 Mis-fortunes 21 Country singer 22 Rhyming tributes 23 Tennis infraction 27 Verbalize 29 Sloth's home 30 Burpee buy 32 Popcorn seasoning 34 Cookbook entries 37 Strengthen 39 Saute 42 Triangular letter 44 Seminary subj. 45 Hackman of "The Firm" 46 Valhalla VIP 50 Addams cousin 51 Klutz 52 Season opener? 53 Stitch
---	---	--	---

Solution time: 21 mins.

Yesterday's answer 1-6

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13				14			
15			16				17			
18			19				20			
			21				22			
23	24	25			26		27	28	29	
30			31				32			
33			34				35			
			36				37			
38	39	40			41		42	43	44	
45					46		47			
48					49		50			
51					52		53			

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Famous Hand

South dealer. North-South vulnerable.

NORTH	EAST
♠109865 ♥— ♦Q4 ♣A108752	♠QJ ♥AJ106 ♦109653 ♣K9

WEST	EAST
♠4 ♥K9732 ♦AJ72 ♣QJ3	♠QJ ♥AJ106 ♦109653 ♣K9

The bidding:
South 1♣ West 3♠ North 4♥ East Pass
Pass Pass 4♣ Dble

Opening lead — three of hearts.

The 2002 Rosenblum Open Teams — emblematic of world bridge supremacy — was won by a veteran Italian squad, which easily defeated an Indonesian team, 160 IMPs to 70, in a 64-deal final. The event drew a total of 160 teams from all over the globe to Montreal that summer.

Today's deal occurred in the round of 16, when a second Italian entry of upcoming young stars ousted an all-star United States squad comprised of Richard Freeman, Bob Hamman, Jeff Meckstroth, Nick Nickell, Eric Rodwell and Paul Soloway. The Americans were leading by 7 IMPs as the deal — the last of the 64-board match — got under way.

When the Italian pair of Mario D'Avossa and Stelio Di Bello held the North-South cards, the bidding went as shown. D'Avossa's initial raise to three spades — on a hand with which most players would bid four immediately — had the effect of luring Meckstroth and Rodwell into doubling D'Avossa's subsequent four-spade bid. Against this contract, the Americans could collect only a diamond trick and a club trick, so Di Bello finished with a score of plus 990.

At the other table, the Italian East-West pair judged correctly to sacrifice against four spades by bidding five hearts, which was doubled and defeated only one trick — plus 100 for the U.S. The difference of 890 points gave the Italians a 13-IMP pickup on the deal, enough to win the match by 6 IMPs and earn them a place in the quarterfinals.

Tomorrow: Against the grain.

©2024 King Features Syndicate Inc.

Saturday's answer 1-8

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12			13				14				
15			16				17				
18			18				19	20			
21	22	23					24				
25					26		27		28	29	30
31			32			33		34	35		
36			37			38		39		40	
			41			42		43	44		
45	46					47					
48					49		50		51	52	53
54					55				56		
57					58				59		

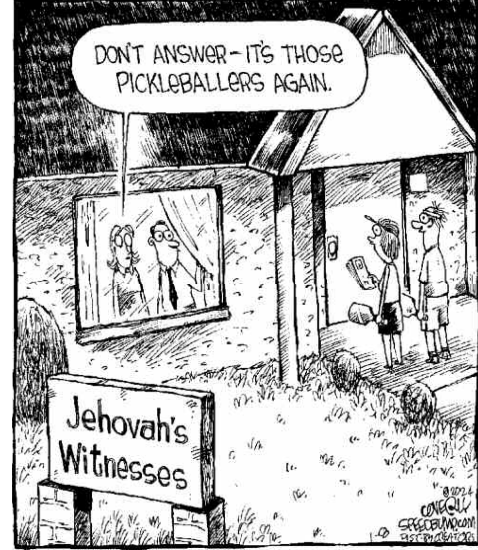
SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



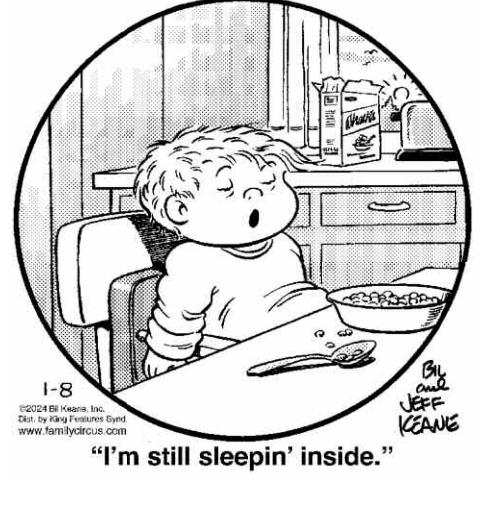
THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



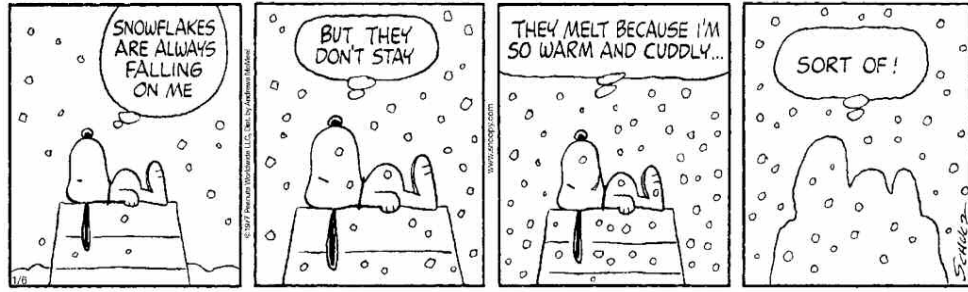
SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



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



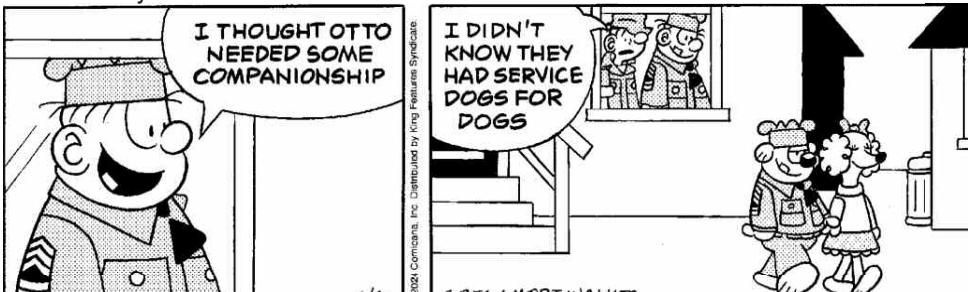
Snuffy Smith



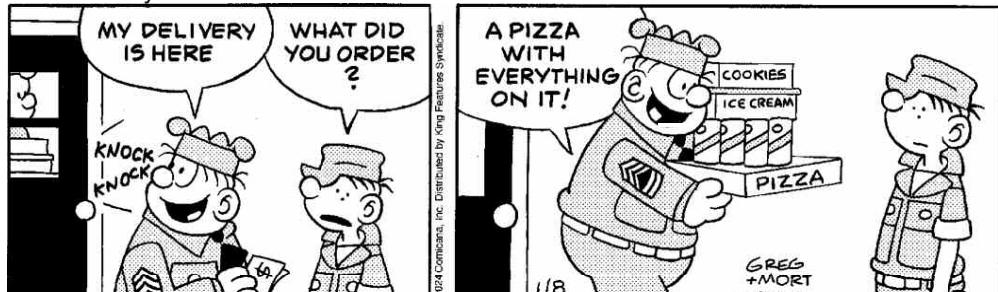
Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



Beetle Bailey



We Deliver

Laughter

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.

The Commercial Review We Deliver

Going against themselves



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

JCHS sophomore David Keen breaches the surface while swimming the 100-yard butterfly on Thursday. Keen finished third in the race as the Patriot boys split by defeating Coldwater 118-82 but falling to Celina 115-109.

Slavik happy with Patriots' personal improvements

By ANDREW BALKO

The Commercial Review

Morgan DeHoff had a strong start to her junior season. She earned first place finishes in her first four events during dual meets.

Since mid-November, DeHoff has only claimed the top spot once, coming in third four times, and second three as well.

To start off the new year, DeHoff broke through again.

DeHoff provided one of the Jay County High School girls swim team's two individual victories as it swept the Celina Bulldogs and Coldwater Cavaliers on Thursday afternoon.

The girls team dominated Celina 157-88 while winning a closer meet against Coldwater 129-104. The boys team split, taking down Coldwater 118-82 while falling to Celina 115-109.

"Tonight we saw a lot of improvements," Patriots coach Matt Slavik said. "The puzzle pieces are coming together. I was really happy with our performance across the board."

"Everyone had a really good meet in the events they swam, super stoked about that. ... Playing things around and swimming in different events and it was a nice fit tonight the way it came together."

DeHoff cruised to a first-place finish in the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 28.5 seconds. Teammate Avery Wentz was the next closest with a 29.53.

It felt really good," DeHoff said. "Having my 50 free time down to a low 28 was really nice. We've been working a lot on technique during practice, so we saw improvement with that and that's good."

It was the Patriot's first individual victory since Dec. 11 against South Adams when she won the backstroke.

Along with her 50 freestyle win, she was the first leg of the 200 freestyle relay team that placed first for Jay County (7-3). Zion Beiswanger, Sophia Hoebel and Lauren Fisher joined DeHoff for the race, finishing in 1 minute, 54.2 seconds, which was over two seconds better from the Coldwater team.

The only other victory for the girls came from Naroa Zugasti on the diving board with a score of 106.65.

Outside of those three top finishes, the Patriots were powered by their depth, earning second in nine events and third in seven.

"(Having depth) definitely helps," DeHoff said. "Especially with our mindset coming in knowing we have a strong team that can get not just the first place finishes, but can follow in with the rest of the places. It really helps."

"And not just me, but a bunch of us are dropping time which definitely helps."

Beiswanger also had a solid night, snagging a pair of second-place finishes for Jay County in

the 200 individual medley and the 100 freestyle.

The boys (2-8) only had two first-place finishes. It also took the diving with Brasen Glassford's score of 139.05. The other came from Lincoln Clamme in the 50 free with a time of 26.42. He beat Matthew Fisher by 1.27 seconds.

Clamme narrowly lost the 100 breaststroke to Coldwater's Quinn Brandon. Clamme clocked in at 1:15.87 while Brandon finished 1:15.72.

"The (boys) highlight of the night was Lincoln Clamme having a solid 50 and 100 breaststroke," Slavik said. "Anytime you can get career best times at a mid-season dual meet, you're doing well."

Matthew Fisher also finished second in the 100 backstroke to go along with the 50 freestyle.

The JCHS tankers combined for 14 career bests and 25 season best times. The improvements have Slavik excited for the direction the Patriots are moving in as sectional draws near.

He plans to utilize the Patriot Invite on Saturday to place swimmers where he could foresee them competing in the postseason as a trial run.

"Individual wins would be great for their own psyche, but more or less, all of them know there's only one person they're swimming against right now and that's themselves and where they were at this time last year," Slavik said. "Right now, most of them are ahead of where they were at this time last year."



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Zion Beiswanger, a sophomore at Jay County High School, swims the backstroke leg of the 200-yard individual medley in a double-dual meet against Coldwater and Celina on Thursday. Beiswanger had a pair of second-place finishes to help the Patriots sweep the meet.

Tribe girls fall to Versailles

VERSAILLES, Ohio — The Indians have been prone to offensive struggles this season.

Those struggles reared their ugly head as the Indians jumped back into Midwest Athletic Conference play.

Fort Recovery High School's girls basketball team struggled to score in the second and fourth quarters as the Versailles Tigers took advantage to take down the Indians 40-28 on Thursday.

The Indians (2-8, 1-2 MAC) hung around with the Tigers (5-4, 3-1 MAC) early in the game.

Cali Wendel hit a three and a 2-pointer while Karlie Niekamp and Makenna Huelskamp added buckets to finish the first quarter with

nine points. Versailles had five baskets — two from Taylor Wagner and Allison Schwartz — to control a 10-9 lead after the first period.

Fort Recovery went cold in the second quarter.

Four hoops that produced nine points gave the Tigers some separation as FRHS only scored a Sage Leuthold 3-pointer. The Indians trailed 19-12 at the half.

The Indians won the third quarter by a score of 10-8. Leuthold was the top scorer of the quarter with a pair of buckets, including a 3-point play. Niekamp was right behind with four points, while Wendel cleaned up the final point on a free throw.

Fort Recovery didn't have enough left in the tank as Versailles doubled up its score winning the period 13-6. Wagner nailed two baskets and two free throws to match FRHS with six points. She finished with a game-high 14.

A final 3-point shot by Niekamp made her the Indians' leading scorer with nine points. Leuthold followed with eight while Wendel and Huelskamp added six and four respectively.

The Indians will get another shot to pick up their second conference win on Jan. 11 against St. John's but are slotted to face Ansonia before that on Tuesday.

Indians test Jay

Not many teams have given the Patriots trouble this season.

The Indians pushed them but couldn't get the Patriots to break.

The Jay County Junior High School girls basketball teams won a pair of close games to the Fort Recovery Indians on Thursday.

The eighth grade team escaped by four points in a 23-19 win. Natalie May led a balanced scoring effort with eight points.

Other scorers for the Patriots (11-1) were Elizabeth Brunswick (five), Raylin Hummer (four), Gabi Petro (two), Amelia Heath (two) and Amara Crawford (two).

Karsyn Schwieterman powered the seventh grade team's 28-12 win with 17 points.

Charlee Peters scored seven points for the Patriots (12-0) while Alivya Schwieterman and Claudia Dirksen added a bucket.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Jay County High School senior Sophie Saxman drives past Madysen Sonnigsen of Bluffton during the Patriots' 40-24 win Friday. Saxman celebrated Senior Night in style with a career-high 20 points and game-high eight rebounds.

Zeroes

Continued from page 10
She shot 7-of-11 from the field and hit 6-of-8 free throws while also pulling down a game-high eight rebounds and dishing out a couple of assists.
She's averaged 15.6 points over the last seven games.
"Sophie's just on a role," said McIntire. "She's rebounding and being such an offensive threat. She just plays so hard, with so much heart. She's just hard to stop because she just works so dang hard. I'm just really proud of her."
Denton, another senior, followed Saxman with eight points while Schwieterman, a freshman, hit

a couple of 3-pointers as she finished with seven points. Amongst the other Patriot seniors, all of whom started, Muhlenkamp had three points, Danielle May chipped in two points and Breanna Dirksen totalled five assists.
The win puts JCHS (15-2, 4-0 ACAC) in solid control for the regular-season conference title with games against Southern Wells (4-11) and Heritage (1-13) remaining. Bluffton is now 4-1 in the conference.
"Losing this game, our goal is obviously to get another shot at them," said Curtis, referencing next week's conference tournament. "The only

way to do that is to get to the Saturday game."
Junior varsity
Jay County scored enough points in the first quarter of the two-quarter contest to win as it defeated the Tigers 22-13.
Alexis Sibray and Natalie Carreno each had six first-quarter points as the Patriots rolled out to a 15-8 advantage. The home team then limited Bluffton to five points in the second quarter.
Carreno kept her scoring going, finishing with a game-high 13 points. Sibray was next with six and Raylah Newton had the other three.
Addison Yates paced Bluffton with five points

Box score

Jay County Patriots vs. Bluffton Tigers					
Girls varsity summary					
Bluffton (13-4, 4-1 ACAC)					
	FG-FGA	FT-FTA	PTS		
Stout	2-8	0-0	5		
Drayer	0-4	2-2	2		
Schreiber	1-6	4-7	6		
Gibson	2-14	0-0	5		
Renner	0-1	2-2	2		
Sonnigsen	1-2	1-2	4		
Eisenhut	0-1	0-0	0		
Totals	6-36	9-13	24		
	.167	.692			
Def. rebound percentage: .677					
Jay County (15-2, 4-0 ACAC)					
	FG-FGA	FT-FTA	PTS		
Muhlenkamp	1-5	1-2	3		
Saxman	7-11	6-8	20		
Schwtrmn	2-12	1-2	7		
MDirksen	0-3	0-0	0		
Denton	3-6	2-4	8		
BDirksen	0-1	0-0	0		
May	1-3	0-0	2		
Totals	14-41	8-14	40		
	.341	.571			
Def. rebound percentage: .833					
Score by quarters:					
Bluffton	0	10	9	5	— 24
Jay Co.	11	10	10	9	— 40
3-point shooting:					
Bluffton 3-11 (Sonnigsen 1-1, Stout 1-2, Gibson 1-6, Drayer 0-2). Jay County 2-13 (Schwieterman 2-7, MDirksen 0-3, Muhlenkamp 0-1, BDirksen 0-1, May 0-1).					
Rebounds:					
Bluffton 32 (Schreiber 8, team 7, Gibson 5, Stout 4, Drayer 4, Renner 2, Sonnigsen 2). Jay County 29 (Saxman 8, Denton 4, BDirksen 4, team 4, Muhlenkamp 3, Schwieterman 3, MDirksen 2, May).					
Assists:					
Bluffton 1 (Drayer). Jay County 11 (BDirksen 5, Schwieterman 3, Saxman 2, May).					
Blocks:					
Bluffton 2 (Stout, Schreiber). Jay County 1 (Muhlenkamp).					
Personal fouls:					
Bluffton 11 (Schreiber 4, Sonnigsen 2, Stout, Drayer, Gibson, Renner, Eisenhut), Jay County 12 (Muhlenkamp 4, BDirksen 3, May 2, Saxman, Schwieterman, MDirksen).					
Turnovers:					
Bluffton 22. Jay County 11.					

Toppled ...

Continued from page 10
Lingo, who was also dealing with illness, fought through to keep the third-place match as short as possible to avoid the bottom seed.
"I just told myself that this pin needs to be short," Lingo said. "If I lose these matches and don't place high enough, it's going to hurt so much more than the physical pain."
In the 140-pound third-place match, Manor and East Noble's No. 10 Kahmya Bell (16-2) went into four overtime periods. Bell won by a sudden-death escape five seconds into the fourth overtime period.
"We both had such good defense, neither of us could get anything," Manor said. "That last period she got out and that's when I was too tired to keep holding her down."
Three more Patriots made the ticket round, but failed to clinch a state berth.
No. 7 Katie Rowles (26-5) fell victim to a tough tournament draw in the 100-pound bracket, losing a 4-3 decision to sixth-ranked Angelina Clay of Lakeland (20-5).
Maleah Parsons (18-10) struggled to find offense in the 145 quarterfinal, losing 17-1 to New Haven's No. 2 Olivia Rhode (31-2) in a technical fall. Madison Gage (7-10) fell to Rochester's Grace Hiroms (21-4) 26 seconds into the 155-pound quarterfinal contest.
"Today we had a lot of girls get eliminated and you hate to see it because

they put in a lot of time and felt like they deserve to go on," Myers said. "Katie was not quite an ideal draw ... an early takedown kind of decided that match. ... You have to move forward and take the good out of it and take the bad and learn from it."
"Maleah didn't have a great draw but that is because she struggled last week. I felt like she was wrestling really well today and if she would have finished off some of those matches last week she would have been in position with a better opportunity to advance in this one."
"In the state tournament series, you set yourself up for the next week, and you can't take anything for granted."
Suffering first-round losses were:
•105 — Sophia Thomas (5-17) by a pin in 1:24 to Ashlyn Brown (3-11) of Peru
•115 — Tatianna Willis (10-8) by a pin in 1:51 to No. 12 Makayla Withrow (21-5) of West Noble
•120 — Calie Yates (8-11) by a pin in 1:22 to Hannah Early (17-13) of North Miami
•120 — Ellie Wendel 91-6 by a pin in 35 seconds to Kyra Doran (16-5) of Rochester
•125 — Willow Hardy (16-12) by a pin in 5:05 to Christian Lewis (9-10) of Prairie Heights
•170 — Tessa Miller (5-17) by pin in 25 seconds to Anna Maszke (1-2) of Central Noble
•190 — Sydney Huftel (0-4) by pin in 2:44 to Katelynn Leckrone (14-13) of Manchester

Indians fade in fourth to fall to Versailles

The Indians only trailed by six heading into the final period.
The Tigers exploded offensively to squash any chance of a comeback.
The Fort Recovery High School boys basketball team dropped its fifth game in a row with a 45-31 loss to the Versailles Tigers on Friday.
Fifteen points from Jace Watren and 12 from A.J. Griesdorn powered Versailles' offensive onslaught that prevented the

Local roundup

Indians (4-7, 0-2 Midwest Athletic Conference) from picking up their first conference win.
Seven of Griesdorn's points came in the fourth quarter as he

hit three shots and spit a pair of free throws. Watren massaged his points throughout the game with a pair of buckets in the first, two 3-pointers in the second, a three in the third and four in the fourth on one basket and two foul shots.
Briggs Overman led FRHS with eight points in his first start of the season. He scored one bucket in the second, and earned the rest of his points at the free-throw line.
Gavin Fallor and Rex Leverette

both added seven points for the Indians.
Fort Recovery only won the third quarter when it knocked down six shots at the charity stripe to outpace Versailles (5-2, 2-0 MAC) 8-7.
Glassford seventh
Three athletes from Jay County and Fort Recovery High Schools competed in the diving portion of the Patriot invite on Friday.
Brasen Glassford and Bryden

Carter both competed for the JCHS boys swim team. Glassford finished seventh with 183.25 points while 168.51 points had Carter sitting ninth.
Oak Hill's Grant Cates won the boys event with 590.1 points.
From FRHS, Theresa Hipple scored 165.5 points to earn sixth place. Abby Sneed of Oak Hill won with a score of 346.1.
The swimming portion of the Patriot invite will be completed today.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County — Boys wrestling team state at Jay County — 9 a.m.; Swim hosts Jay County Invitational — 10 a.m.; Boys basketball (including freshmen) at Adams Central — 5 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Girls bowling vs. Coldwater at Speedway Lanes — 9:15 a.m.; Swim at Jay County Invitational — 10 a.m.; Boys bowling vs. Coldwater at Speedway Lanes — 1 p.m.; Boys basketball vs. Botkins — 6 p.m.
Monday
Jay County — Junior high boys basketball vs. Hagerstown — 6 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Freshman basketball vs. Delphos St. John's — 6 p.m.; Middle school girls basketball vs. South Adams — 5 p.m.
Tuesday
Jay County — Swimming at Yorktown — 6 p.m.; Junior high boys basketball at Northside — 5 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Girls basketball vs. Ansonia — 6 p.m.; Middle school basketball vs. Ansonia — 5 p.m.; Middle school basketball at Delphos St. John's — 5:30 p.m.

10 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Cincinnati at BYU (ESPN2)

Sunday
12 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Michigan at Penn State (BTN)
1 p.m. — Men's college basketball: UMass Amherst at Dayton (ESPN2)
1 p.m. — NFL: Jacksonville Jaguars at Tennessee Titans (CBS); Minnesota Vikings at Detroit Lions (FOX)
1 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Mississippi State at South Carolina (ESPN)
2 p.m. — College FCS football: Montana at South Dakota State (ABC)
2 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Indiana at Nebraska (BTN)
3 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Drake at Belmont (ESPN2)
4 p.m. — PGA Tour: The Sentry (NBC)
4:25 p.m. — NFL: Chicago Bears at Green Bay Packers (CBS); Dallas Cowboys at Washington Commanders (FOX)
5:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Maryland at Minnesota (BTN)
7:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Michigan State at Northwestern (BTN)
8:20 p.m. — NFL: Buffalo Bills at Miami Dolphins (NBC)
Monday
7:30 p.m. — College football playoff national championship: Washington vs. Michigan (ESPN)
7 p.m. — NBA: Boston Celtics at Indiana Pacers (Bally Indiana)
Tuesday
6 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Maryland at Michigan State (BTN)
6:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Seton Hall at Georgetown (FS1)
7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Houston at Iowa State (ESPN2); Missouri at Kentucky (ESPN)
8 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Minnesota at Michigan (BTN)
8 p.m. — NHL: Florida Panthers at St. Louis Blues (Bally Indiana)
8:30 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Marquette at Seton Hall (FS1)
9 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Duke at Pitt (ESPN); Texas A&M at Auburn (ESPN2)
10:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: New Mexico at UNLV (FS1)

TV sports

Today
12 p.m. — Men's college basketball: North Carolina at Clemson (ESPN2); Rutgers at Iowa (BTN); DePaul at Georgetown (FS1); Mississippi State at South Carolina (CBS); La Salle at Fordham (USA)
12:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Kentucky at Florida (ESPN)
1 p.m. — Men's college basketball: St. John's at Villanova (FOX)
1 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Alcorn State at Jackson State (CBS)
2 p.m. — Men's college basketball: TCU at Kansas (CBS); Providence at Creighton (FS1); Auburn at Arkansas (ESPN2); Saint Louis at George Mason (USA)
2:15 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Nebraska at Wisconsin (BTN)
3:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Alcorn State at Jackson State (CBS)
4 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Missouri State at Bradley (Bally Indiana); UNLV at San Diego State (CBS); George Washington at VCU (USA)
4 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Creighton at DePaul (FS1)
4:30 p.m. — NFL: Pittsburgh Steelers at Baltimore Ravens (ABC)
4:30 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Purdue at Maryland (BTN)
6 p.m. — Men's college basketball: UCF at Kansas State (ESPN2)
6 p.m. — Women's college basketball: St. John's at Providence (FS1)
7 p.m. — NBA: Boston Celtics at Indiana Pacers (Bally Indiana)
8 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Texas Tech at Texas (ESPN2); Ohio State at Indiana (FOX)
8 p.m. — AMA Supercross: Monster Energy Series (USA)
8:15 p.m. — NFL: Houston Texans at Indianapolis Colts (ABC)
9 p.m. — Men's college basketball: San Diego at Gonzaga (NBC)

Local notes

Tickets for sale
The Jay County High School athletic department will have tickets for the boys and girls Allen County Athletic Conference basketball tournament for sale through Friday, Jan. 12 at 12 p.m.
Tickets for all three sessions will cost \$10. Tickets for a single session will only be sold at the door for \$6.

Tryouts scheduled

Tryouts for A League of Our Own Independent Baseball League is hosting a tryout at the Mojo-Up Sports indoor Complex in Noblesville on Jan. 30.
Anyone 19-years-old or older that is looking for the opportunity to continue playing baseball can try out.
To sign up or for more information on the league, visit www.aloo0247.com, call (205) 264-1468 or email 411@aloo0247.com.

Brides

full-page color — \$625
full-page B&W — \$525
1/2-page color — \$425
1/2-page B&W — \$325
1/4-page color — \$275
1/4-page B&W — \$225
Big business card (3x3.5) — \$100
Business card (2x2) — \$52

Contact Lindsey at L.Cochran@thecr.com or (260) 726-8141

Space for color ads is limited and will be on a first-come, first-serve basis. Deadline for ads is Jan. 17

Our brides special section will be distributed in The Commercial Review (Portland), The News-Gazette (Winchester), The News Times (Hartford City) and The News and Sun (Dunkirk)

Sports

Turtle toppled

No. 1 Winner of JCHS knocks off second-ranked Trenary to win semi-state and lead group of three Patriot qualifiers

By **ANDREW BALKO**
The Commercial Review

ROCHESTER — During the 155-pound championship match, top-ranked Mallory Winner wrestled against someone that was called “Turtle” by her friends and family in the crowd.

Winner finished off the match by keeping her in a position that resembled a turtle to let the clock tick down to zero and claim the first semi-state championship.

The Jay County High School girls wrestling team had three athletes punch their tickets to the state competition on Friday at Rochester during the first girls wrestling semi-state.

Joining Winner (22-0) will be No. 13 Lina Lingo in the 135-pound weight class and No. 7 Emily Manor at 140.

“All of the girls that advanced put in a solid effort,” JCHS coach Eric Myers said. “In the state placement matches, I felt we wrestled pretty well. We didn’t get all the results that we wanted, but the effort was there. That’s the way it works sometimes.”

Winner earned the sole championship for the Patriots, resulting in her getting a top seed for the state tournament that will be held Friday at Kokomo.

Despite battling illness, the two-time state champion — she won her first two titles at 160 — breezed through the opening two rounds to clinch a berth, beating both opponents by fall in 85 seconds combined. The semifinal match against New Haven’s fourth-ranked Kailey Bussard (26-4) gave a little bit more of a challenge, but Winner ended it 37 seconds into the final period.

The championship match against No. 2 Rhaigyn Trenary (23-2) of Eastside was a different story.

The Jay County junior struck first with a single-leg takedown 1 minute, 46 seconds, into the contest. While trying to wrestle aggressively, Winner nearly pinned herself, but avoided the fall while allowing a reversal and a near fall with 40 seconds left.

Winner said she talked with her dad, JCHS assistant coach



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

John Winner, about how Trenary would try to roll out when Winner put a bar on her, so she was prepared to keep rolling to avoid the self-pin.

An escape by Winner ended the first period 4-3 in favor of Trenary. A late takedown and reversal in the second period kept the Eastside freshman ahead 6-5 going into the final period.

Winner chose to start the final period neutral and got a quick takedown to take the lead. With 1:30 left, the official called an

injury timeout for Winner who was struggling to breath and quickly ran to a nearby trash can.

When the match resumed, Winner took care of business.

“As a wrestler, when I see that with a girl, I would try to take advantage,” Winner said. “As the person winning the match, I knew that I just had to really grind it out. If I had to sit there for a minute on her hip, I would just grind it out.”

“Even though I could hear

them yelling, I had to stick to who I was and win how I know how to win.”

Winner got one final takedown and held Trenary to the mat to win the 155 bracket 9-6.

Lingo (22-9) and Manor (21-3) both advanced to the ticket round on byes. Manor made quick work of Rochester’s Alexis Haughs (12-9) with a pin in 1 minute, 36 seconds, with a state berth on the line.

Lingo’s ticket-round match against Tri-Central’s Danya

Wiseman took some extra effort. The JCHS junior wracked up a 14-2 lead before rolling Wiseman over for a fall with 1:03 remaining.

Lingo lost in a semifinal match that went the distance with No. 9 Alexis Spaulding (26-5) of Columbia City 16-10 before countering Akira Jones’ (13-16) shot in the third-place match and working it into a pin with 7 seconds left in the first period.

See **Toppled** page 9

Start the new year off with a BANG by taking advantage of our advertising specials

1/4 Page Color Ad 47% off	\$324
1/4 Page Black & White 45% off	\$224
3-6x4 Ads 65% off	\$324
1-4x4 Ad 40% off	\$124

*Ads must run in January *Rates do not apply to sections.

New Year! New Savings!

The Commercial Review

Contact Lindsey at L.Cochran@theocr.com or Call (260) 726-8141

JC zeroes out Tigers

Patriots shut out Bluffton in first

By **RAY COONEY**
The Commercial Review

Both teams walked into the gym Friday with zero conference losses.

In the first quarter, the Patriots recorded several more zeroes.

Zero made free throws on two attempts.

Zero made field goals on seven attempts.

Zero points.

Jay County High School’s girls basketball team rode a dominant first quarter to a 40-24 Senior Night victory over Bluffton to give it firm control of the battle for the Allen County Athletic Conference regular-season title.

“Ugly win, but I’m glad we got it for our seniors,” said JCHS coach Sherri McIntire. “Bluffton is just very physical. I didn’t think at times we matched their physicality ...”

“I’m just happy to get out of here tonight with a win. Senior Night. I told them we had two jobs. We’ve got to do our first job and that will make our second job a lot more fun, and that’s celebrating these seniors.”

After Molly Muhlenkamp missed on a drive on the Patriots’ opening

possession, she attacked the lane again and scored the game’s first points with 6:08 on the clock. Back-to-back hoops by Sophie Saxman made it 6-0, and a 3-pointer from Hallie Schwieterman and two free throws from Bella Denton pushed the lead to 11 at the quarter break.

Nothing at all went right for Bluffton in those opening eight minutes, as even a wide open shot off of a perfectly executed baseline inbound play rimmed out.

The Tigers, now 13-4 and losers of three of their last four, were 0-for-8 with eight turnovers before Mairyn Schreiber (six points) finally broke through with a layup on a broken play at the 6:27 mark of the second quarter. A 3-pointer from the left corner by Haley Gibson made it 13-5, but Bluffton would get no closer.

“You can’t put them up that many points,” said Bluffton coach Doug Curtis. “They’ve got two losses on the year and they’ve played a really good schedule. You can’t spot them 10 or 11 points.”

The Patriots scored the next seven points in a row and pushed to a 21-10 lead at halftime. The advantage hovered between nine and the final margin of 16 throughout the second half.

Sophie Saxman led the team’s contingent of seniors on Senior Night, building on her hot streak for a new career-high of 20 points to surpass the 19 she put up Dec. 16 against South Adams.

See **Zeroes** page 9