

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

Student caught with a handgun

Weapon was confiscated after search by SRO

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review
A Jay School Corporation student was detained by law enforcement Friday after being found in possession of a firearm.

In a press release Friday afternoon, the school corporation said the student was found in possession of a firearm on school property in the Alternate Placement Program housed at General Shanks in Portland. The incident occurred late Friday morning.

Jay Schools superintendent Jeremy Gulley confirmed to The Commercial Review later Friday that the firearm that was found was a handgun.

A search led to the discovery of the firearm, the release says. The search was conducted by school resource officer Cody Jessee, Gulley added.

"The situation was swiftly addressed by school administration and the School Resource Officer," the release says. Gulley added Friday evening that he did not have full details on what led to the search but that he believed staff of the Alternate Placement Program had reason for suspicion.

The release also says there was no immediate threat to students or staff. Gulley elaborated later, saying he felt there was no need for a lockdown Friday because the firearm had been secured by law enforcement.

"The security process worked," he said.

The Alternate Placement Program is an alternative to out-of-school suspension for students and is housed in the north wing of the former elementary school building, 414 Floral Ave., Portland.

See **Handgun** page 2



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Leuthold laughs

Sophomore Autumn Leuthold laughs as she walks blindfolded while playing Pin the Tail on the Donkey during Fort Recovery FFA's Agricultural Olympics on Friday. Students competed in various activities, including bobbing for apples and musical chairs, during the event in Fort Recovery High School's gymnasium.

Funding approved for The Venue

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

A planned performance space will get some financial assistance.

Portland Redevelopment Commission on Friday approved contributing \$35,000 toward concrete and plumbing work for The Venue of Portland.

Dave Smyts, Treaver Schmit, Jamie Smith and Travis Smith of The Venue visited the redevelopment commission last month to discuss plans and request funding for the property at 105 W. Main St. The Smiths own the site via CopperSmith Property Management and plan to rehabilitate it, with

Smyts and Schmit to rent it initially and potentially buy it in the future for use as a concert venue featuring local, regional and national performers. They asked for any help that might be available, with redevelopment then requesting that they return with a breakdown of specific costs.

The redevelopment commission reviewed that breakdown Friday, with commission member Rusty Inman noting that some items, such as exterior masonry work, would fit better within the city's facade program. Pointing out that the redevelopment commission has traditionally selected a partic-

ular part of a project and then funded it at 20%, he suggested considering building improvements as opposed to items such as furnishings.

Jamie Smith said the key steps to get the project going are plumbing, electrical and the concrete floor.

Answering additional questions from the redevelopment commission and Mayor Jeff Westlake, Jamie Smith said plans for the rear (south side) of the building include a garage door that would open to an outdoor patio space.

Westlake also asked to visit the space to get a better idea of what the group has planned. Smyts

noted that Sweetwater Sound of Fort Wayne will be visiting the building Saturday to discuss sound and lighting needs for use as a concert space. Asked about a timeline, Travis Smith said it will likely take a year from the start of construction to completion.

Redevelopment commission members Reda Theurer-Miller, Mike Simons, Dave Teeter, Inman and Johnston voted unanimously to contribute \$35,000 toward the floor and plumbing. (As owners of CopperSmith Electrical, the Smiths said they will do the electrical work at cost.)

See **Approved** page 2

Retrospect

JC rolled on senior night

Twenty-five years ago this week, the Patriots sent their seniors off in style.

The Feb. 24, 1999, edition of The Commercial Review featured coverage of the Jay County High School boys basketball team's 68-45 defeat of the Monroe Central Golden Bears on Senior Night.

The seniors led the effort, with Nathan Michael, Matt Westgerdes, Brad Bennett, Brian Jounay, Josh Ford and Chad Loy combining for 51 of the Patriots' points.

Nathan Michael led that effort as he scored 22 points while shooting 7-of-12 from the field, including four made 3-pointers,

and 4-of-4 from the foul line. He expressed not only that he would miss playing for the school but with a special teammate.

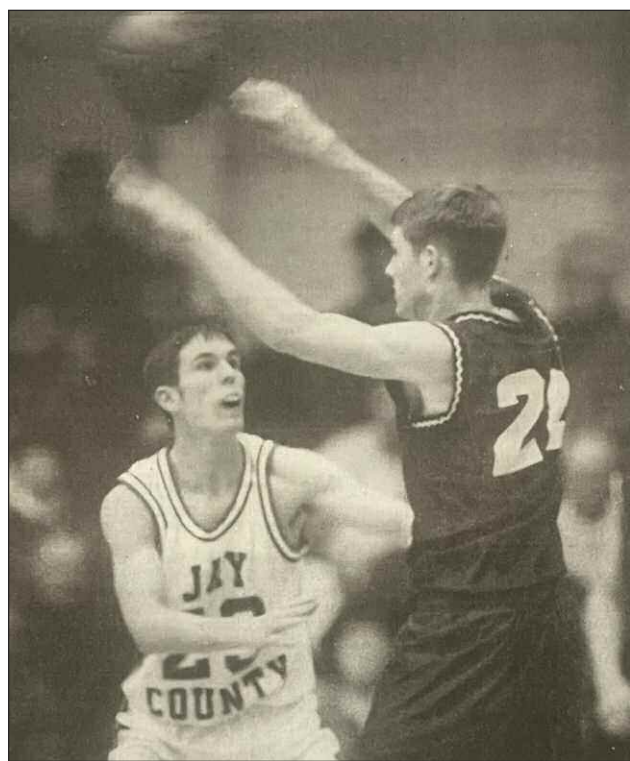
"It's kind of weird," Michael said. "It's not weird so much that I'm not going to play at Jay County but that I'm not going to play with Andrew (Michael, a JCHS junior and Nathan's cousin) anymore. We've grown up playing together. We've done so many things together, it's hard to believe that it's over. I know he's probably not going to go to the same college as me so we're done playing together. It's just hard."

The Patriots had no problems dispatching of

Monroe Central to finish the regular season at 13-8, rolling out to a 23-5 lead at the end of the first quarter. That included the game's first dozen points while the Golden Bears turned the ball over on their first six possessions.

"We did a pretty nice job early of getting them to turn the ball over," JCHS coach Craig Teagle said. "I was pleased with the way we were able to take advantage and make the baskets."

Westgerdes joined Nathan Michael in double figures with 15 points on 6-of-8 shooting. Bennett followed with eight while Jounay scored four and Loy and Ford each had two.



The Commercial Review/Mike Snyder

Deaths

Joyce Bailey, 73, Portland
Margaret Davis, 83, rural
Bryant
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 52 degrees Friday. Today's forecast calls for mostly cloudy skies with the high topping out in the low 30s and a 50% chance of snow. Expect a low in the low 20s tonight with winds gusting to 20 miles per hour. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

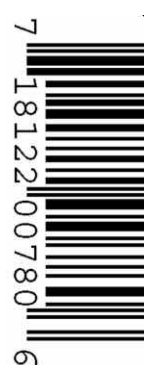
In review

Portland Board of Works has scheduled a meeting for 4 p.m. Thursday in council chambers at the fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St. The meeting will include opening bids for a new wet weather pump station at the city's wastewater treatment plant.

Coming up

Tuesday — Coverage of Monday's Jay County Commissioners meeting.

Wednesday — Reporting from next week's Dunkirk City Council meeting.



Obituaries

Joyce Bailey

June 5, 1950-Feb. 21, 2024
Joyce A. Bailey, age 73, of Portland passed away on Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2024, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne. She was born in Portland on June 5, 1950, the daughter of Harold M. "Bus" and Mary E. (Shawver) Shauver. She was married on June 25, 1994, to Steven Bailey who survives.



Bailey

Joyce was a homemaker, did tax preparing, worked for Manor Monuments and was a 1968 Portland High School graduate. She also volunteered for Red Cross, serving on two deployments for Hurricane Katrina and in Iowa.

Surviving are her husband Steven; daughter Anita Evans

(companion: Jason May) of Fort Recovery and a son James Bailey (wife: Amber) of San Antonio, Texas; brother Jeff Shauver of Salamina; and seven grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Jama Bumbalough; brother Joseph Shauver; and sister Jennifer Scott.

Funeral services will be Monday, Feb. 26, at 2 p.m. in the Baird-Freeman Funeral Home with Pastor Darrell Borders presiding. Burial will follow in the Salamina Cemetery. Visitation will be Monday from noon to 2 p.m.

Memorials can be made to the Red Cross.

Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.

Margaret Davis

March 26, 1941-Feb. 18, 2024
Margaret "Maggie" Ann Davis, 83, of rural Bryant, Indi-

ana, passed away at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, Feb. 18, 2024, at her granddaughter's home in Portland, Indiana.

She was born on Wednesday, March 26, 1941, in Geneva, Indiana. She married Richard P. Davis on Thursday, July 4, 1957, in Gas City, Indiana. Maggie attended Geneva High School. She was a long time resident of Bryant, Indiana. She worked for CTS as a lead person for over 30 years.

Maggie attended the Sugar Grove Church of the Nazarene. She had babysat several children throughout the years who would still come to visit and call. Maggie enjoyed going to garage sales and above all spending time with her sons, grandkids, great-grandkids and great-great-grandkids.



Davis

She will be sadly missed by her sons Clint (Connie) Davis, Portland, Indiana, Dave (Mandy) Davis, Pennville, Indiana, Mark (Tammy) Davis, Pennville, Indiana; seven grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; and sister Marcella Daugherty, Geneva, Indiana.

She was preceded in death by husband Richard P. Davis; father Ivan "Pat" Hough, mother Wilma (Roe) Hough; and siblings Charles Hough, Freddie Hough, Betty Huey, Ene Mann, Rose Davis and Donna Hough; and daughter-in-law Rinada Davis.

Family and friends may gather to share and remember at Downing & Glancy Funeral Home located at 100 N. Washington St., Geneva, on Saturday, Feb. 24, 2024, from 2 to 8 p.m. and from 1 to 2 p.m. at Downing & Glancy Funeral Home on Sunday, Feb. 25, 2024.

A service to celebrate her life will be at Downing & Glancy Funeral Home at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 25, 2024, with Pastor Steve Rogers officiating. Interment will follow in the Gravel Hill Cemetery.

Preferred memorials can be sent to Sugar Grove Church of the Nazarene, 5475 W. 400 North, Portland, IN 47371.

Arrangements are being handled by Downing & Glancy Funeral Home in Geneva.

Condolences may be made at glancyfuneralhomes.com.

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

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

CR almanac

Sunday 2/25	Monday 2/26	Tuesday 2/27	Wednesday 2/28	Thursday 2/29
50/34	59/51	63/39	49/27	44/32
Another day of mostly sunny skies is expected Sunday, when the low will be around 34.	More mostly sunny skies on Monday. The high may reach up to 59 degrees.	Temperatures will continue to climb Tuesday, which has a 50% chance of showers.	Rain is also possible Wednesday under mostly cloudy skies.	Mostly sunny skies are on the horizon for Thursday, when the high will be 44.

Lotteries

Hoosier
Midday
Daily Three: 7-8-4
Daily Four: 1-4-3-9
Quick Draw: 4-6-15-18-19-24-25-26-28-29-31-38-51-57-67-68-69-76-77-79
Pick 5: 8-1-7-7-3
Evening
Rolling Cash 5: 15-17-19-25-33
Jackpot: \$130,000

Powerball
Estimated jackpot: \$376 million

Mega Millions
Estimated jackpot: \$525 million

Ohio
Midday
Pick 3: 1-5-6
Pick 4: 5-6-4-6

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery
Corn.....4.03
March corn.....4.03
Wheat.....4.44

POET Biorefining Portland
Corn.....4.05
March corn.....4.05
April corn.....4.08

The Andersons Richland Township
Corn.....3.92
March corn.....3.92
Beans.....11.18

March beans.....11.18
Wheat.....5.34

ADM Montpelier
Corn.....3.87
March corn.....3.89
Beans.....11.21
March beans.....11.23
Wheat.....5.33

Heartland St. Anthony
Corn.....4.00
March corn.....4.00
Beans.....10.99
March beans.....11.03
Wheat.....4.94

Today in history

In 1803, in its Marbury v. Madison decision, the Supreme Court established judicial review of the constitutionality of statutes.

In 1868, the U.S. House of Representatives impeached President Andrew Johnson by a vote of 126-47 following his attempted dismissal of Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton. Johnson was later acquitted by the Senate.

In 1986, the Supreme Court struck down, 6-3, an Indianapolis ordinance that would have allowed women injured by someone who had seen or read pornographic material to sue the maker or seller of that material.

In 1989, a state funeral was held in Japan for Emperor Hirohito, who died in January at the age of 87.

In 2017, the Jay County High School boys basketball team used an 8-0 fourth-quarter run to carry it to a 50-39 victory over Bellmont in its regular-season finale.

In 2021, Jay County Soil and Water Conservation District honored Betty Drinkut as a River Friendly Farmer and Carl Kaiser as Conservationist of the Year during its annual meeting.

—The CR

Citizen's calendar

Monday
9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.
3 p.m. — Jay County Redevelopment Commission, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.
3:30 p.m. — Jay County Solid Waste Management District, 5948 W. Indiana 67, Portland.
6 p.m. — Dunkirk Board of Works, city building, 131 S. Main St.
6:30 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.

Wednesday
6 p.m. — Dunkirk Park Board, city building, 131 S. Main St.

Breakfast prep
Jay County FFA members Ella Stockton and Nick Lyons scoop fruit salad out of a bucket in preparation for Thursday's staff breakfast at Jay County Junior-Senior High School. The event was part of the chapter's celebration of National FFA Week.

The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Handgun ...

Continued from page 1
The corporation's administrative offices are in the west wing and some of its preschool program is housed in the south wing. All three wings are separated and do not have direct access to each other.

"We understand the concern this may cause among parents and guardians," the school corporation said in the release. "We will take all necessary actions to secure our schools and protect our students and staff."

Friday evening, Gulley said he plans to "press pause" on the Altern-

nate Placement Program until security procedures can be reviewed. That will mean that there will be no new students assigned to the program for a period of time, with those students instead serving out-of-school suspensions.

Students who are already in the Alternate Placement Program will still report to it Monday. Gulley said Jesse will be on hand to ensure a secure environment.

He added that he will continue to evaluate the situation in the coming days in regard to any changes to security protocols.

"We do review all security incidences for lessons learned and will adjust security decisions based on facts and information," he said.

The school corporation, in the release, also asked that all those in the community ensure that their firearms are secure. Gulley later acknowledged that the handgun that was confiscated was a firearm owned by someone other than the student and that it had been left unsecured for the student to gain access to it.

"You've got to help us on securing your weapons," he reiterated.

Approved ...

Continued from page 1
The funding will be passed through Portland Economic Development Corporation.

Also discussed Friday were potential plans for the site of the former Hunt's building at 208 and 210 N. Meridian St., Portland. Demolition of the building is scheduled to begin next week with an estimated timeline of 30 days.

Portland Park Board president Brian Ison told the redevelopment commission a committee has begun brainstorming plans for the site of the Bailey Building on Main Street which was also recently demolished. The early vision is for a small park that would serve as a downtown gathering space.

Teeter, who also serves on the committee, suggested that it look into options for the Meridian Street site as well. Inman, however,

said his preference would be to pursue a new building on the site.

"If we continue to lose these buildings, there's going to be no TIF district because there's going to be no tax money," said Inman. "We need these to be taxable entities."

That led to a discussion about zoning regulations, as currently the former Hunt's building location would require a variance to allow new construction. The commission discussed the process of changing zoning regulations and whether to look at just one part of the zoning rules or to revamp them holistically.

Consultant Ed Curtin of CWC Latitudes suggested a more overall approach, noting that zoning rules will also impact the potential development of the 68 acres the county purchased on the west side of the city.

The redevelopment com-

mission decided to take the issue to Portland City Council to gauge support for moving forward with revamping zoning rules.

In other business:
•The redevelopment commission approved its financial report, which shows a total of \$841,005.99 available. Portland clerk-treasurer Lori Phillips said there were no major changes but noted that the commission is collecting monthly rent from The Graphic Printing Company. (The redevelopment commission in December bought the Hood Building, home of The Graphic Printing Company, for potential development of the upper three floors with the company now renting the basement and first floor.)
•Westlake swore in Inman, Theurer-Miller, Johnston, Simons and Teeter as redevelopment commission members.

SERVICES

Sunday
Davis, Margaret: 2 p.m., Downing & Glancy Funeral Home, 100 Washington St., Geneva.

Monday
Bailey, Joyce: 2 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Tuesday
Lengerich, David: 11 a.m., Downing & Glancy Funeral Home, 100 Washington St., Geneva.

March 2
Meier, Nancy: 4:30 p.m., Kuhn's Den, 442 E. Line St., Geneva.

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

Our third annual motorsports 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)

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Big business card (3x3.5) — **\$90**

Business card (2x2) — **\$75**

Deadline for ads is Wednesday, March 13

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

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



Photo provided

Donations made

The Cincinnatus League recently presented checks to several organizations. Pictured are Julia Schwomeyer of Cincinnatus League, Heidi Bouse of Youth Service Bureau, Allison Smiley of Arts in the Parks, Rusty Inman of John Jay Learning Center and Kyle Cook of Jay Community Center.

Famous magician visiting Portland

Magic is in the air. Jon Mobley, previously featured on the TV show "Penn and Teller: Fool Us," will be performing at 3 p.m. March 2 at Jay County Campus of Arts Place.

Taking Note

Mobley is a "master of slight of hand, an award-winning storyteller, and can seemingly read the minds of complete strangers," according to a press release from Arts Place.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. The show is the second performance in the Eric R. Rogers Performing Arts Series.

For more information, visit Arts Place at 131 E. Walnut St., Portland, call (260) 726-4809 or email jcc@myartsplace.org.

Woodworkers

Arts Place's latest display

showcases local woodworkers.

Works created by Jerry Hartzell, Mason Homan, Carol Johnston, Myles Nasby, Tim Passmore, David Smiley and Mark Tillman are on display now through March 25 at Jay County Campus of Arts Place, 131 E. Walnut St., Portland.

Also next month at Jay County Campus of Arts Place, beginner group acoustic guitar lessons will be offered from 4 to 4:45 p.m. Tuesdays from March 5 to April 23. Fourth graders through high school seniors are welcome.

Grieving mother feels let down by siblings

DEAR ABBY: My beautiful adopted son, "Allen," age 32, took his life six months ago. He had struggled with mental illness his entire adult life. He'd had a close relationship with his cousin — in fact, the boys were inseparable. But when Allen started smoking tobacco at 13, my sister would no longer allow him around her son, even though her husband smoked. Allen was devastated.

My younger brother has a big cabin and hosts annual deer hunting events. I approached him several times to ask if Allen could be invited to the hunt or just be invited to the northern woods for fun. His answer was always "Not this time." My husband died 11 years ago. Coming from a big fam-

Dear Abby



ily, I thought I'd get some help from them. Quite the opposite. Today, I'm left with bitter feelings toward my family. I know I'll never get over these losses or the feeling that the rejection from my siblings was part of Allen's depression. I'm not looking to mend our relationships, just some words of comfort. — SADDER THAN SAD IN MICHIGAN

DEAR SADDER: Please accept my deepest sympathy for the loss of your son. Your family may not have included him because they didn't understand his mental illness and felt ill-equipped to cope with it. This is not to excuse the fact that they distanced themselves, but rather to try to explain why they may have kept him at arm's length.

There is support available for you in the absence of theirs so you won't feel so alone. The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention could enable you to find a grief support group near you. To find one, visit afsp.org. Another terrific organization

is the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI). Visit nami.org and you will find a wealth of resources. PLEASE don't wait.

.....

DEAR ABBY: I have a friend I've known for 30 years. We have shared many good times together and feel like family. The problem is, she cuts me off during every phone conversation. It doesn't matter if I'm talking about the weather or something I think is important — she interrupts me in mid-sentence and announces she has to go, for whatever reason. She has done this for years, but lately it's gotten worse. She's in a new marriage, and we rarely talk anymore. But when we do, it's a

given that as soon as I get into talking, she has to go. I never do that to her. I listen patiently and quietly while she tells me about her life. Should I just forget about our friendship and stop answering her calls? Telling her will only make her mad to the point that she won't talk to me anymore anyway. — CUT OFF IN KENTUCKY

DEAR CUT OFF: If telling this friend how her behavior affects you will drive her away, you should definitely tell her how you feel. If, after that, she runs in the opposite direction, it will indicate that your relationship was on shaky ground and has reached its expiration date.

Community Calendar

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

Today

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

Sunday

A BETTER LIFE - BRANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Sunday at The Rock Church, 1605 N. Meridian St., Portland. Come early for a meal. For more information, call (260) 766-2006.

Monday

PORTLAND BREAKFAST OPTIMISTS — Will

meet at 7 a.m. for breakfast at Richards Restaurant.

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

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

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY (TOPS) — Will meet for weigh-in at 4:30 p.m., with the meeting at 5 p.m., at Trinity United Methodist Church, 323 S. Meridian St., Portland. New members welcome. For more information, call (260) 726-5924.

PREGNANCY CARE CENTER — Free pregnancy testing with ongoing support during and after pregnancy. The center is located at 216 S. Meridian St., Portland. Hours are 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information or to schedule an

appointment, call (260) 726-8636.

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

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

Tuesday

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

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

JAY COUNTY CANCER SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in conference room C at Indiana University Health Jay Hospital. Open discussion for cancer patients, survivors, family members or anyone interested in helping with the group. For more information, contact Linda Metzger at (260) 726-1844.

A BETTER LIFE - BRI-

ANNA'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. For more information, call Amanda Price at (765) 283-2107.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 7 p.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (567) 279-8352 or (260) 729-7000.

Wednesday

WEDNESDAY MORNING BREAKFAST CLUB — Will meet at 8 a.m. in the east room of Richards Restaurant. All women are invited to attend.

PING PONG — Will be played from 11 a.m. to noon on Wednesdays at West Jay Community Center.

PORTLAND ROTARY CLUB — Will meet at noon each Wednesday in the cafe at John Jay Center for Learning, 101 S. Meridian St., Portland.

EUCHRE CLUB — Will meet at 2 p.m. the fourth Wednesday of each month at Chalet Village Health and Rehabilitation in the North Lounge.

Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

Friday's Solution

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

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

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PARKE COUNTY MAPLE FAIR

Feb 24-25, Mar 2-3, 2024 8am-3pm

Pancake Breakfast and visit Maple Syrup Camps Parke County Fairgrounds U.S. 41 North, Rockville Indulge in a delightful Pancake Breakfast at the start of maple syrup season and explore local vendors at the Parke County Fairgrounds.

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WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

For Jay County Schools
February 19 - March 1

Monday: Main Entrees: Mini cheese stuffed ravioli, Garlic breadstick, **Alternate Entrees:** Build your own pizza fun lunch, chicken salad with cheese, breadstick **Sides for all meals:** Roasted broccoli

Tuesday: Main Entrees: Soft beef whole grain tacos, shredded lettuce, shredded cheddar cheese, salsa **Alternate Entrees:** Build your own pizza fun lunch, chicken salad with cheese, breadstick **Sides for all meals:** Seasoned black beans

Wednesday: Main Entrees: Classic pepperoni pizza **Alternate Entrees:** Build your own pizza fun lunch, chicken salad with cheese, breadstick **Sides for all meals:** Savory green beans

Thursday: Main Entrees: Waffle flavored chicken chunks **Alternate Entrees:** Build your own pizza fun lunch, chicken salad with cheese, breadstick **Sides for all meals:** Tater tots

Friday: Main Entrees: Baked mozzarella cheese sticks **Alternate Entrees:** Build your own pizza fun lunch, chicken salad with cheese, breadstick **Sides for all meals:** Baked shoestring fries

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The People's House is not working

The Free Press
(Mankato, Minnesota)
Tribune News Service

We need a solution to the U.S.-Mexico border problem. Americans agree far and wide. Yet, we don't have it.

We need to help Ukraine and Israel fight various wars — in one case to keep peace and another to repel an invasion of a free country of the sort not seen since World War II. Yet, Congress refuses to act.

The GOP-led House is mostly to blame. Its colleagues in the Senate have favored both a border solution and aid to Israel and Ukraine. But as the Senate delivered a "clean" Ukraine-Israel bill, GOP House Speaker Mike Johnson said the

Guest Editorial

House won't be "rushed" into a vote. He sent members home.

This isn't how Congress is supposed to work.

Three leading House GOP committee leaders seem to understand that as all have said last week they will not run for re-election.

Rep. Mike Gallagher, from Green Bay, Wis., will relinquish his chairmanship of the special committee

on China. Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers, R-Washington, will surrender leadership of the powerful Energy and Commerce Committee. House Homeland Security Committee Chairman Mark Green, R-Tennessee, announced he would also leave.

Green hinted at the dysfunction as a reason for leaving, telling the Associated Press: "Well, the work to productivity ratio may have had a little bit to do with it."

Gallagher was one of only three Republicans to vote against the highly politicized impeachment of Homeland Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas, but he said the pushback and likely primary challenge that would be launched against him were "nothing" com-

pared to the anger he faced after voting to certify the 2020 election.

McMorris Rodgers gave up one of the most powerful committees in Congress — the one that added a prescription drug benefit to Medicare and formulated the Affordable Care Act. She, like the others, cited family as a main issue for leaving.

But one GOP strategist had a different analysis. "They would clearly rather be home with their family than in Washington with a dysfunctional Congress," Republican strategist Doug Heye told the Associated Press. "I would have said this to you 10 years ago, but it's just gotten worse. Congress has become a bad workplace."

And so where does this leave

the people, those who are to be served by their elected representatives?

At worst, it leaves them with even less confidence in the democratic system and more susceptible to the ideas of authoritarianism. At best, it should motivate them to get involved beyond the ballot box to attend precinct caucuses or join other groups that are trying to make a change.

Much has been made about the Russian oligarchy form of government. Webster's defines oligarchy as "a government in which a small group exercises control especially for corrupt and selfish purposes."

It seems that would fit the definition of what is happening in the United States.

Childbirth shouldn't cause a catastrophe

By **LINDSAY K. SAUNDERS**
OtherWords

I had a baby in 2021 and quickly learned how parenting and child care expenses add up.

My husband and I had saved up for months to afford my unpaid maternity leave — I kept working even after my water broke because we needed every penny. It was a dream come true to have a career that I was proud of and finally be welcoming a child into our lives.

But I had no idea how hard it would really be.

While I was on unpaid maternity leave that cost us our health benefits, my husband was let go from his job. Already reliant on WIC — the federal food aid program for women, infants, and children — we were forced to go to food pantries, apply for Medicaid, and referred to a diaper bank. We were in survival mode: exhausted, stressed out, and worried.

Despite a litany of postpartum complications that continue to plague me more than two years later, I ended up only taking seven weeks of leave before I returned to work out of desperation.

I wondered: Why doesn't the U.S. have a paid parental leave policy?

Instead, my first and only experience with motherhood was marred by stress and trauma. Again and again, I had to choose between my health and a paycheck, which can feel like a punishment. I'd proudly served my country on a one-year assignment overseas working on foreign aid, and it didn't matter.

We found child care at a loving, quality child care center, but the tuition kept increasing. Now the monthly cost is almost twice our mortgage. In fact, child care costs exceed college tuition where we live in North Carolina, as well as in at least 27 other states. My stomach gets in a knot every six months when I know the tuition will increase again.

I wondered: Why don't we invest more in early care and education?

Meanwhile, the crises causing outsized harm to families throughout the pandemic compounded: a diaper shortage, a formula shortage, inflation, and wages that wouldn't keep up. So many people are struggling to get back on their feet and desperately need balance and some peace of mind. The stress took its toll, and my hus-

Lindsay K. Saunders



band and I separated in spring 2023.

I wondered: If only we'd had more support, would we have made it?

I have an advanced degree and work as a communications director at a nonprofit while also freelancing. After paying for necessities, we have nothing left, so I get food and supplies from neighbors and friends. I work so hard as a single mom to try to achieve the dreams I have for myself and my baby boy — the dreams that all mothers have. I don't want my child to deal with the stress and constant refrain of "we don't have the money for that," like I did growing up.

Families desperately need, want, and deserve better. Welcoming a child should never be the reason a family plunges into poverty, especially in one of the wealthiest countries in the world. We shouldn't be sacrificing health, quality early learning, or stability in exchange for a roof over our heads and food. Instead, we should be building strong foundations and generational wealth for our kids.

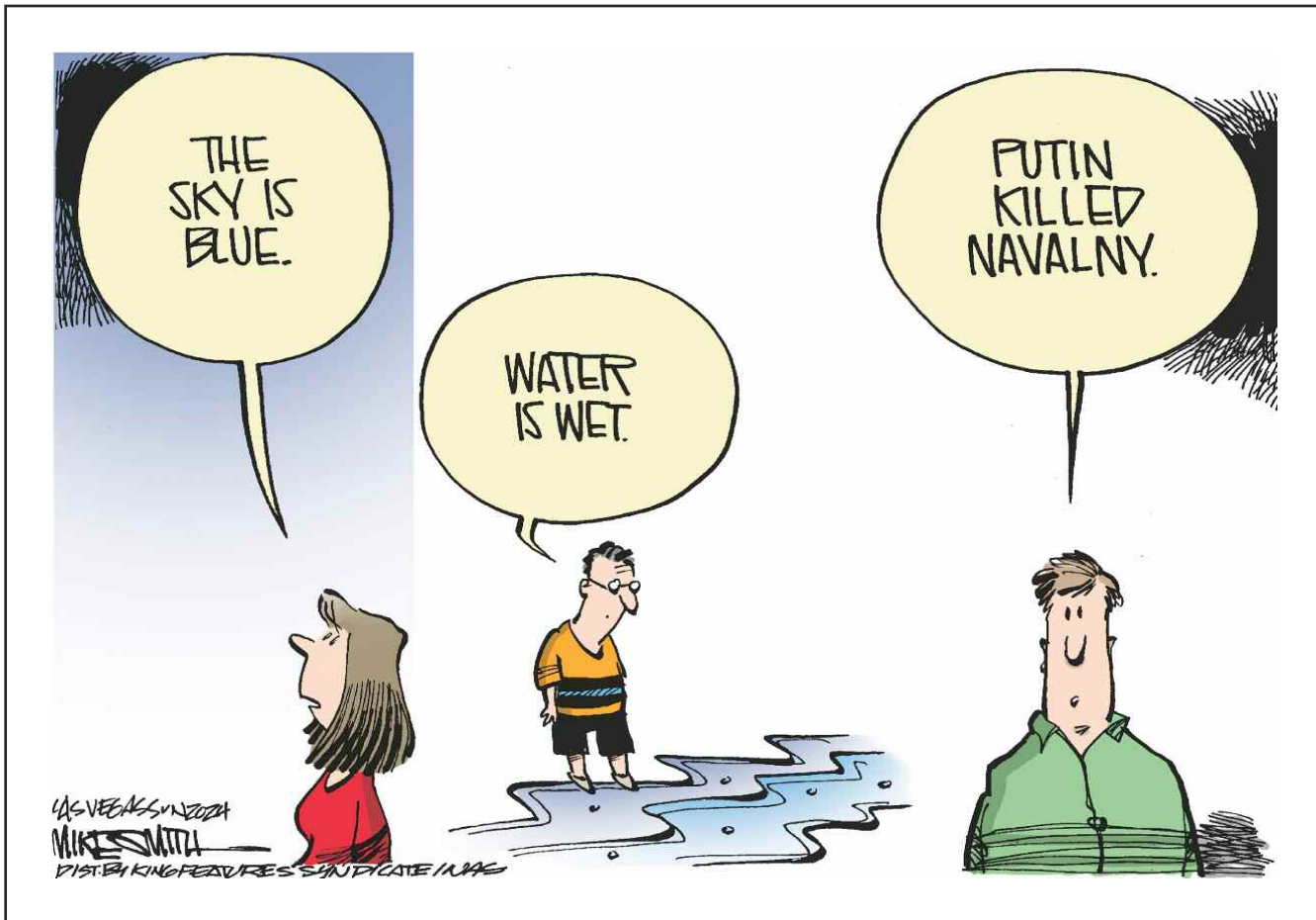
We need federally mandated paid parental and medical leave. We need additional dedicated funding for programs like WIC that support over 6 million families.

And we need to continue expanding the Child Tax Credit. In North Carolina alone, the monthly Child Tax Credits received in 2021 helped the families of 140,000 children lift themselves out of poverty. Nationally, the credit cut child poverty by over 40 percent before Congress let the pandemic expansion expire at the end of 2021.

Congress must put our tax dollars and policies toward strong support for families. Let's ensure no parent experiences welcoming a child as a financial catastrophe and make this country a place where families prosper.

.....
Saunders is a North Carolina mother and dedicated advocate for RESULTS Educational Fund, a national anti-poverty organization.

OtherWords is a free editorial service published by the Institute for Policy Studies.



Scandals matter to your health

By **F.D. FLAM**
Bloomberg Opinion
Tribune News Service

The field of cancer biology is a mess. Signs of trouble emerged years before the most recent scandal, in which investigators found evidence of data manipulation in a slew of high-profile papers from the Harvard-affiliated Dana Farber Cancer Institute.

It's the latest crisis in academic research, where there's a clear need for better quality control — a tighter filter than peer review. Some researchers suggest that AI could help point out which papers need closer scrutiny.

But to understand what's going on, we have to understand how we got here. A decade ago, some research watchdogs started raising alarms after scientists found fewer than half of "landmark" pre-clinical cancer studies — those in top journals — could be replicated.

In 2021, a similar evaluation found that hype is the norm. Researchers found they could only reproduce 50 out of 193 experiments. And in those that did replicate, the second try showed much smaller effect sizes — only 15% as big as what had originally been claimed.

These are the kinds of experiments in test tubes or in mice that determine which treatments get tested in people. They also influence how trial subjects are informed about risks and benefits. So the results affect the lives of real people.

While evidence of data tampering — what the Dana Farber scientists are accused of — is a different problem from irreproducible results, both stem from the same root causes. Scientists gain fame and fortune by obtaining flashy, potentially high-impact findings, but people benefit from findings that are solid and reproducible. We also benefit from findings that show which treatments are unlikely to work, though these are hard to get published.

As Nobel winner William Kaelin warned me back in 2017, biomedical

F.D. Flam



researchers have started making bigger claims with flimsier evidence. (He's also at Dana Farber, but his work hasn't been named in this current scandal.)

Scientists are allowed to make mistakes, of course. But they are supposed to present their data exactly as they measured it. Any graphs are supposed to represent that data as measured. Adding, subtracting or changing data without explanation is usually considered an act of fraud.

While the case is still being investigated, Dana Farber plans to retract six papers and issue corrections in many more. It's possible that the problems in some of the papers might have been accidental, but there are an awful lot of them — and such errors would still cast doubt on the findings.

Data manipulation is all too common, said Ivan Oransky, co-founder of the blog Retraction Watch. "The part that worries me is we're going to continue treating this like this weird anomaly, which it isn't."

A study that doesn't replicate, on the other hand, might have been done according to all the rules, but the conclusions aren't ones you'd want to bet the lives of cancer patients on. The researchers might have misinterpreted their data or the experiment might work only under very specific conditions.

So why hasn't peer review prevented the publication of weak results and outright fraud? For one, many papers don't include their raw data, making fraud hard to spot.

But at a deeper level, peer review isn't the quality control measure many people assume. Some historians trace peer review back to 1830, when English philosopher William

Whewell proposed it for papers to be published in a new journal, the Proceedings of the Royal Society of London. In the first attempt, Whewell himself took on the job but couldn't agree with a second reviewer, thus ushering in a long tradition bemoaned by scientists the world over.

Reviewers often have the expertise to evaluate 90% or 95% of a paper, said Brian Uzzi, a social scientist who studies problems with replication at the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University. "You'll leave that last 5% hoping that the other reviewer is going to pick up on it. But maybe the other reviewer is doing the same thing," he said. Reviewers are also often pressed for time, overwhelmed by other review requests and their own research obligations.

Uzzi found that in social science, where there's been a longstanding reproducibility crisis, machine learning can flag the papers most likely to fail attempts at replication. He used data on hundreds of attempted replications to train a system that he then tested on 300 new experiments for which he had replication data. The machine learning system was more accurate than individual human reviewers, as well as inexpensive and almost instantaneous.

Perhaps such systems could help human experts do more to flag sloppy and dishonest work by taking a first pass. It could also help direct overworked reviewers and journal editors away from the famous scientists and institutions who tend to get the most attention and toward important findings by lesser-known teams.

Scientists already create a flood of new research papers, so it wouldn't hurt to add a new layer of quality control and put more time and money into separating good papers from bad. Otherwise, we will be paying for all that bad research — not only with our tax dollars, but with our health.

.....
Flam is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist covering science.

The Commercial Review



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

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CRYPTOQUIP

YESTERDAY'S CRYPTOQUIP: DAILY BOOKS THAT
LAST LONGER: FIVE WEEKS ALONG IN NEW YORK
ON A 100-MILE RIDE TO NEW YORK CITY.
Today's Cryptiquip Clue: Hugs and Ki

Trivial Review

(Answers are printed below, upside down.)

Dice rhymes

- 1) What dice game was invented by a wealthy couple to play on their luxury boat?
- 2) What Canadian band's song "One Week" references both wasabi and LeAnn Rimes?

Answers: (1) Yahtzee (2) Barenaked Ladies

Today's Cryptiquip Clue: Hugs and Ki

CRYPTO FUN

Solve the code to discover words related to weddings. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 14 = R)

A. 12 7 5 4
Clue: Promises

B. 10 14 9 3 11
Clue: Woman on her wedding day

C. 18 14 7 7 20
Clue: Man on his wedding day

D. 20 21 14 14 17
Clue: Get hitched

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to getting married.

CRTIEE

Answers: Rectie, Rectee

Guess Who?

I am an actress/singer born in California on February 20, 2003. I started out on television in a series based on the "American Girl" books. I moved on to Disney television, and later released my debut single about driving past a former flame's house.

Answer: Olivia Rodrigo

kids' corner

FOOD FACT!

THIS TYPE OF STORE IS WHERE MOST PEOPLE BUY THEIR FOOD AND OTHER SUPPLIES.

ANSWER: SUPERMARKET

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Aisle
SPANISH: Pasillo
ITALIAN: Corridoio
FRENCH: Allée
GERMAN: Gang

What's the Difference?

There are four differences between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?

Answers: 1. Man is wearing the 2. Extra milk in cart 3. Price on sign is different 4. "Shop" missing from the back wall

THIS DAY IN... HISTORY

FEB 26

- 1815: NAPOLEON BONAPARTE ESCAPES FROM EXILE.
- 1919: PRESIDENT WOODROW WILSON SIGNS AN ACT OF CONGRESS THAT ESTABLISHES THE GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK.
- 2008: THE NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC PERFORMS IN NORTH KOREA.

New word CHECKOUT

a point at which goods are paid for in a store

TIE THE KNOT WORD SEARCH

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

- ### WORDS
- BAND
 - BETROTHED
 - BOUQUET
 - BRIDESMAID
 - BUFFET
 - CELEBRATION
 - CENTERPIECES
 - CEREMONY
 - CHURCH
 - COUPLE
 - DANCING
 - DINNER
 - FESTIVITIES
 - GUESTS
 - HAPPINESS
 - INVITATION
 - LIMOUSINE
 - MARRIAGE
 - OFFICIANT
 - RECEPTION
 - RINGS
 - SEATING
 - VOW
 - WEDDING

Did You Know?

THE FOUR LARGEST GROCERY BRANDS IN NORTH AMERICA INCLUDE WALMART, AMAZON, KROGER, AND COSTCO.

GET THE PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: CHECKOUT COUNTER

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

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Solution time: 26 mins.

Yesterday's answer 2-24

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

For better or worse

South dealer. East-West vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A 9
♥ J 10 9 5 4 3
♦ J 5 4
♣ Q 2

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

EAST
♠ Q 3
♥ 7 6
♦ K Q 10 8 6
♣ 10 8 7 6

SOUTH
♠ K 10 8 7
♥ A K Q 8
♦ A 2
♣ K 4 3

The bidding:
South West North East
1♥ Pass 1♠ Pass
4♠ Pass 6♥

Opening lead: four of spades.

It is certainly possible to stumble into a good result by accident. For example, consider this deal from a pair championship where North responded to his partner's opening one-heart bid with one spade. This fancy footwork was intended to prevent East-West from bidding their (presumed) best suit, but South unexpectedly raised the spade response to game.

This put North in a position where he couldn't afford to pass, and also

where he couldn't bid five hearts for fear his partner would read this as a slam try and jump to six spades. So North decided, for better or worse, to bid six hearts, which could not be misunderstood, and in that way he terminated the bidding.

Oddly enough, the spade bid worked out very well when West decided to lead one, expecting his partner to trump. After this lead, the slam could not be defeated. Declarer won East's queen with the king, cashed the A-K of trump and led a low club toward dummy.

This placed West on the horns of a dilemma. In practice, he followed low, allowing dummy's queen to win. South thereupon cashed the ace of spades, crossed to his hand with a trump and led the ten of spades through West's jack. It did not matter whether or not West covered; either way, declarer would be able to dispose of dummy's last club on a spade and lose only a diamond trick to make the slam.

Had West gone up with the ace of clubs at trick four, the outcome would have been the same. In that case, declarer would not have lost a diamond trick, disposing of one of dummy's diamonds on the king of clubs and another on the extra spade trick he could establish.

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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

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Solution time: 21 mins.

Saturday's answer 2-23

Yesterday's answer 2-24

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Famous Hand

West dealer. East-West vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ K 9 7 6
♥ K J 10 8 6 5 4
♦ K 5
♣

WEST
♠ A 5 4
♥ 9 7
♦ Q J 7 2
♣ 8 7 4 2

EAST
♠ Q J 10 8 3 2
♥ Q 2
♦ A 10 9 4
♣ 6

SOUTH
♠ A 3
♥ 8 6 3
♦ A K Q J 10 9 5 3
♣

The bidding:
West North East South
1♥ 1♠ 2♣
Pass 2♥ Pass 2♠
Dble Pass Pass 6♠
Pass 6♦ Pass 7♠
Pass Pass Dble

Opening lead: ace of spades.

If you make a phony bid in an effort to mislead your opponents, there is always the chance you might fool your partner and cause your side irreparable damage. But on lucky days, such a deception might pay even greater dividends than expected, which is exactly what happened on this deal from the world championship match between Italy and Brazil in 1969.

Pietro Forquet and Benito Garozzo were North-Smith for Italy when the bidding went as shown. After Forquet's one-heart opening, Garozzo naturally felt that without a diamond lead he could make at least a small slam in clubs, so he decided to bid two diamonds at his first turn in an effort to inhibit a diamond lead.

Garozzo's leap to six clubs two rounds later was made in the hope of silencing his partner, but Forquet did not recognize the two-diamond bid as merely lead-inhibiting, and he corrected six clubs to six diamonds.

This contract held no appeal for Garozzo, who ran to seven clubs, which East doubled after two passes. The double conventionally barred a spade lead and offered West the option of leading a diamond or a heart, depending on his hand and how he construed East's double.

But the Brazilian West, for reasons best known to himself, plunked down the ace of spades (though he should have known from the bidding that the ace would not survive).

As a result, Garozzo wound up making the doubled grand slam for a score of 1,630 points, instead of going down three 500 points, which would have been his lot had West led the queen of diamonds.

Tomorrow: Cutting the Gordian Knot.
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Saturday's answer 2-23

SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane

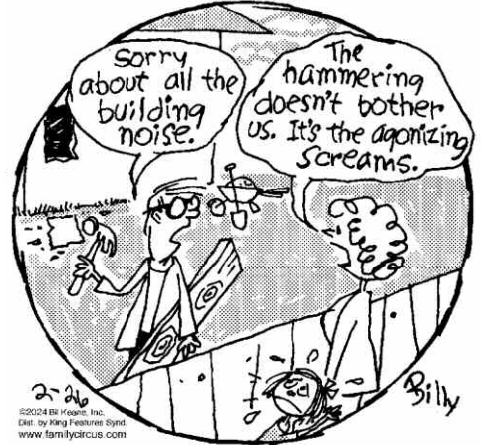


Little Billy turns in another revealing look at Daddy-turned-carpenter.

SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



Daddy continues his studio renovation while his 7-year-old substitute continues his expose.

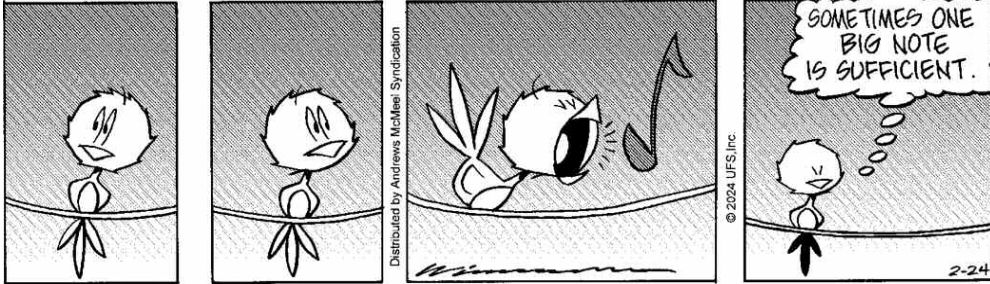
Peanuts



Peanuts



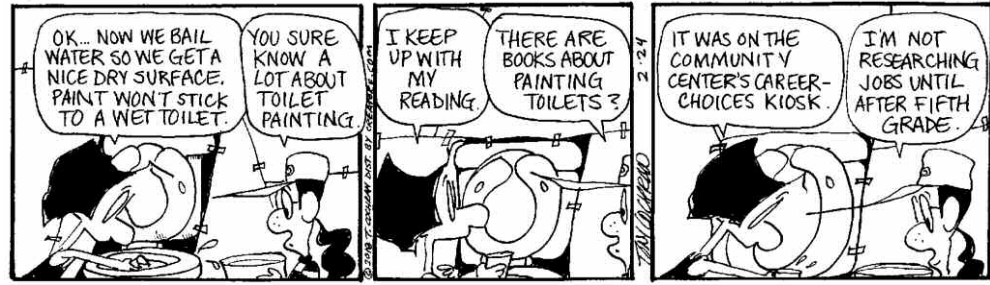
Rose is Rose



Rose is Rose



Agnes



Agnes



Hi and Lois



Hi and Lois



Between Friends



Between Friends



Blondie



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



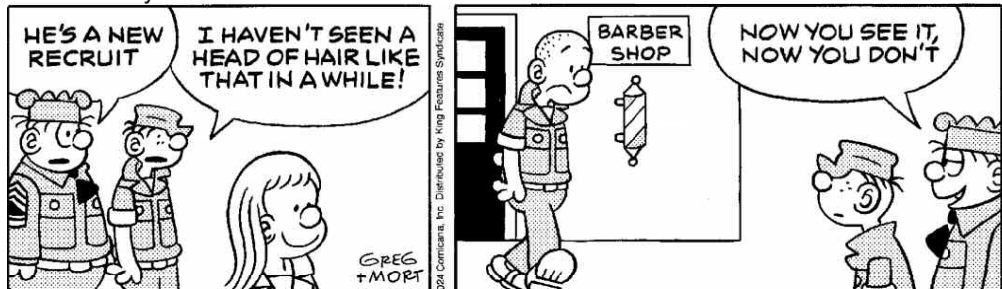
Snuffy Smith



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.

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250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice
Jackson Township, Jay County, Indiana
Cash and Investments Combined Statement - 2023

Local Fund Number	Local Fund Name	Beg. Cash and Inv. Bal. Jan 1, 2023	Receipts	Disbursements	End Cash and Inv. Bal. Dec 31, 2023
Governmental Activities					
01	Township General	\$14,275.93	\$30,678.02	\$33,521.73	\$11,432.22
11	Firefighting Fund	\$8,037.30	\$10,798.86	\$10,000.00	\$8,836.16
61	Rainy Day Fund	\$3,078.23	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,078.23
81	Township Assistance Fund	\$39,961.60	\$1,039.97	\$426.18	\$40,575.39
91	Levy Excess Fund	\$597.64	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$597.64
95	Payroll Withholdings Fund	\$0.00	\$1,147.50	\$1,147.50	\$0.00
Total All Funds		\$65,950.70	\$43,664.35	\$45,095.41	\$64,519.64

SS: Jay County
I, Rex A. Pinkerton, Trustee of Jackson Township, Jay County, Indiana, do solemnly affirm under the penalty of perjury that the preceding report is complete, true and correct; that the sum with which I am charged in this report are all of the sums received by me; and that the various items of expenditures credited have been fully paid in the sums stated; that such payments were made without express or implied agreement that any portion thereof shall be retained by or repaid to me or any other person. I further affirm that a complete and detailed annual report, together with all accompanying vouchers showing the names of persons having been paid money by the township, have been filed as required by law in the office of the County Auditor, and that copies of such annual report are in custody of the Township Board and the State Board of Accounts. Said report is subject to inspection by any taxpayer of the township.
Rex A. Pinkerton, Jackson Township Trustee
Telephone: 260-731-4311
Date this report was to be published 2-24-2024
Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, the Chairman of the Township Board of Jackson Township at its annual meeting this 19th day of February, 2024
Terry L. Rigby, Jackson Township Board Chairman
This report was received, accepted, and approved by the Township Board at its annual meeting, this 19th day of February, 2024.
Jackson Township Board:
Kathy Mosser
Matt A. Caster
CR-2-24-2024 HSPAXLP

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Fort Recovery falls in sectional opener

By ANDREW BALKO

The Commercial Review
HAILVAND, Ohio — There wasn't a ton of scoring in the sectional opener. The Raiders found just enough points to end the Indians' season.

The eighth-seeded Fort Recovery High School girls basketball team kept the game close with the No. 5 seed host Wayne Trace Raiders during Division III sectional opener Thursday, but couldn't get shots to fall down the stretch as its season ended with a 35-30 loss.

The win will send Wayne Trace (14-9) to the sectional championship at Parkway where they face the host Panthers.

"We had so many different girls step up in different ways," FRHS coach Tyler Deitsch said. "It was huge for us to have girls who hadn't really done things all season had a really big impact today.

"It sucks to lose, especially knowing this team won't be the same next year losing three seniors. ...

"I'm proud of the way these girls fought through adversity ... giving us a chance to get back in it with the group that we have is great."

Two of Fort Recovery's freshmen stepped up big in the fourth quarter to keep the Indians' hopes alive.

With a five-point lead, the Raiders applied pressure in the backcourt, forcing freshman Bridget Homan to bring the ball up the floor. Homan responded by



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

FRHS freshman Sophia Guggenbiller goes up for a layup in the sectional opener at Wayne Trace on Thursday that the Indians lost 35-30.

taking the ball coast to coast, finishing through contact and converting a three-point play to pull Fort Recovery (8-15) to within two. Homan later scored off of a dribble handoff to hit the final shot from the floor for either team.

Fort Recovery also got a lift from freshman Brynn Willmann, who came in to guard the Raiders' leading scorer Lexi Moore.

"We knew Brynn had a similar body type that matched up with (Moore),"

Deitsch said. "Brynn is an aggressive defender and gives us fits in practice all the time ... she reads things so well and is a very smart player. That was an adjustment we didn't necessarily plan on making, but when we did and saw it worked, we stuck with it down the stretch.

"She didn't get a ton of minutes this year, but the ones that she did were big, especially tonight."

While the freshmen's efforts, coupled with WTHS

shooting 3-for-11 from the line to finish the game kept the Indians close, Fort Recovery couldn't find the offense to pull out the win.

"We were able to take care of the ball and keep it in the hands of the girls we needed to," said Raiders coach Bethany DeJarnett. "We were able to knock down some free throws when we needed to — not as many as we should have down the stretch but it got it done."

Defensively, Wayne Trace

Box score			
Wayne Trace Raiders vs. Fort Recovery Indians		Score by quarters:	
		Wa. Trace	7 6 9 13—35
		Ft. Rec.	9 2 6 13—30
Girls varsity summary			
Division III Sectional opener			
Wayne Trace (14-9)			
	FG-FGA	FT-FTA	PTS
Zartman	0-0	0-0	0
Sinn	0-1	0-0	0
Myers	2-4	0-0	5
CareWinans	1-10	2-4	4
Moore	6-12	3-8	15
CaroWinans	1-4	2-6	5
Stoller	2-7	0-0	6
Totals	12-38	7-18	35
	.316	.389	
Def. rebound percentage: .680			
Fort Recovery (8-15)			
	FG-FGA	FT-FTA	PTS
Niekamp	0-6	3-6	3
Guggenbiller	2-4	2-4	7
Wendel	3-11	4-4	12
Leuthold	1-4	0-0	3
Mhinkmp	0-1	0-0	0
Homan	2-6	1-1	5
Willmann	0-1	0-0	0
Totals	8-33	10-15	30
	.242	.667	
Def. rebound percentage: .594			
3-point shooting: Wayne Trace 4-9 (Stoller 2-4, Myers 1-1, CaroWinans 1-2, CareWinans). Fort Recovery 4-16 (Wendel 2-8, Guggenbiller 1-1, Leuthold 1-2, Niekamp 0-2, Homan 0-3).			
Rebounds: Wayne Trace 30 (Moore 13, Myers 8, team 6, Zartman, CaroWinans, Stoller). Fort Recovery 27 (Niekamp 5, Leuthold 5, team 5, Wendel 4, Guggenbiller 3, Willman 3, Muhlenkamp, Homan).			
Assists: Wayne Trace 3 (Myers 2, Stoller). Fort Recovery 5 (Niekamp 3, Wendel, Leuthold).			
Blocks: Wayne Trace 3 (Moore 2, Myers). Fort Recovery 2 (Niekamp, Leuthold).			
Personal fouls: Wayne Trace 18 (CaroWinans 4, Stoller 4, Zartman 3, Sinn 2, Myers 2, Moore 2, CareWinans). Fort Recovery 20 (Guggenbiller 5, Leuthold 5, Niekamp 4, Muhlenkamp 4, Wendel, Homan).			
Turnovers: Wayne Trace 15. Fort Recovery 14.			

came in with a game plan to try to shut down FRHS senior Wendel. The resulting ball pressure limited the Indians' opportunities in the paint, as they didn't hit a layup until the third quarter.

"We knew we needed to know where (Wendel) was at," DeJarnett said. "With us keeping the ball out of her hands and pushing the ball out when doing their weave was a big focus for us because we knew they were going to try and penetrate to the basket. That was definitely a game changer for us that helped us a lot."

After hitting five jumpers, Fort Recovery finally scored inside as

Wendel drove off a screen by Niekamp with 2 minutes, 10 seconds, left in the third.

Despite the Raiders' focus on Wendel, she scored a team-high 12 points.

"I just knew I had to score points," Wendel said. "If I saw an open lane, I was going for it and if people were closing in to me I just went right into them hoping to draw a foul."

Moore ended with a double-double for Wayne Trace, as she led all players with 15 points and 13 rebounds.

"We did everything that we needed to to stay in the game," Dietsch said. "We just couldn't hit shots down the stretch."

Fort Recovery advances to state tournament

ROSSVILLE, Ohio — The Indians are headed to Columbus.

The Fort Recovery High School girls bowling team finished second at the OHSAA Division II district tournament at Interstate Lanes in Rossville on Thursday to punch its ticket to the state finals.

Teams had to finish in the top three spots to earn a trip to the state tournament, hosted by H.P. Lanes in Columbus from March 1-2, while the top three individuals not on qualifying teams also advance.

Napoleon ran away with the district championship by

totalling 4,153 pins. The Indians solidified their second-place finish with a total pinfall of 3,567, while St. Marys Memorial (3,456) edged out Perkins for the final berth by 43.

Emily Lauber finished as the Indians' top bowler, as she finished 22nd overall. The senior

started the day with her best game, rolling a 215 that helped total 632 pins. Napoleon's Carlee Hohenbrink earned the district title with 683 pins.

The other four Indians found themselves in the top-45 as well. Brooklyn Weyerick finished 22nd with 522 pins, Kayal Heitkamp's

507 placed her 27th, Deanna Brown had 490 to take 33rd and Ella Schoen knocked down 465 pins, capturing 44th place.

Fort Recovery didn't break 200 in any of its six baker games, but still finished second behind Napoleon with 951 pins to the Wildcats' 1,038.



Jay County Republican Party

MEET THE
REPUBLICAN
CANDIDATES

February 29, 2024

John Jay Center for Learning Café

5:30-8 p.m.

Introductions at 6:30 p.m.

Eight ...

Continued from page 10

After the Patriots' 5-4 lead, Belmont (20-4) finished the first quarter on a 13-2 run over 2 minutes, 39 seconds.

The second quarter didn't go much better for Jay County. It started on a positive note as Eli Dirksen picked the pocket of Dylan Velez and took the ball for an easy layup to cut the deficit to single digits.

The Braves responded with a 10-0 run to expand their lead to 18 points.

The second quarter ended on a sour note for the Patriots. With less than 30 seconds left, Ben Crouch went up for a reverse layup that was blocked by Dylan Velez. Contact on the way down resulted in Crouch, who at the time led JCHS with six points, falling into the wall where there wasn't padding. He was removed from the game and did not return.

"We've finally got him going and out of the post players, offensively, he was the most aggressive," Bomholt said. "We were struggling the way it is, then all of a sudden, we lose the guy that's been the most aggressive. We needed him on the floor so that hurt us, but that's not why we lost."

Crouch's six points would remain as the high for the Patriots as Swoveland and Jackson Edwards matched that mark. Edwards was the only other Patriot to hit back-to-back shots, draining corner threes off of

cross-court passes by Parker Nichols to end the third period and open the fourth.

While Swoveland, Jay County's leading scorer at 9.7 points per game, was only held to six, the next two leading scorers, Liam Garringer and Wesley Bihn, were both scoreless off the bench.

"These guys are long, athletic, have a high basketball IQ and when they want to defend, they're as good defensively as anybody in the area," Belmont coach Payton Selking said. "Anytime you can hold a varsity basketball team under 40, you've got a pretty good chance of winning."

On the other side of the ball, the Braves focused on being aggressive while not settling for the first shot they got against Jay County's zone. That game plan resulted in a 40.7% shooting percentage (24-of-59) from the floor including nine made triples.

Kord Fuelling and Jack Scheumann had particularly strong nights, scoring 18 and 14 points, respectively. Fuelling shot well near the rim, finishing 6-of-8 in the paint, including a transition slam, while Scheumann rained in three triples.

"I told these guys not to settle offensively against the zone," Selking said. "We really wanted to punch gaps and get downhill to get multiple guys to guard us in the high post and short corner and kick it out from

there. The guys did a great job moving the ball all night."

With the loss, Jay County is 2-4 in February as it prepares for the sectional opener against host New Castle slated for 6 p.m. Wednesday. Bomholt will look for his team to improve offensively before it takes the floor against the Trojans.

"We have to be a better offensive team," Bomholt said. "We can't do what we did tonight. I don't care if it's New Castle or whoever, it's hard to beat a team with that many turnovers."

Junior varsity

The Patriots surrendered a 11-point lead to Belmont in a 54-48 loss.

Jay County (13-7) hit five first-quarter threes to run out to a 19-8 lead. Things went south for the Patriots in the second period when Kade Sommers scored the only two baskets, while Belmont's Beau Baker scored nine points himself as the Braves totaled 14.

JCHS only scored four points in the third quarter as well, as 16 Belmont points gave the Braves the lead. The Patriots put up 21 in the fourth, but eight made free throws and nine other points kept Belmont on top.

Drew Schemenaur finished as Jay County's top scorer with 12 points.

Bellmont was led by Maddux Miller and Baker with 20 and 15 points, respectively.

Box score

Class 3A No. 8 Bellmont Braves vs. Jay County Patriots				Score by quarters: Jay Co. 7 8 9 7 — 31 Bellmont 17 16 15 12 — 60			
Boys varsity summary							
Jay County (8-13)				3-point shooting: Jay County 4-28 (Edwards 2-5, Dunnington 1-3, Swoveland 1-4, Crouch 0-1, Nichols 0-2, Muhlenkamp 0-2, Garringer 0-3, Comer 0-9). Belmont 9-27 (Scheumann 3-7, Fuelling 2-5, Krull 2-5, James 1-3, Velez 1-4, WBaker 0-1, Hackman 0-1, Vogel 0-1).			
	FG-FGA	FT-FTA	PTS				
Comer	1-10	0-0	2				
Nichols	1-5	0-0	2				
Mhinkmp	0-2	0-0	0				
Edwards	2-5	0-0	6				
Garringer	0-3	0-0	0				
Dunnington	1-6	2-2	5				
Crouch	3-7	0-2	6				
Dirksen	1-1	0-0	2				
Forthofer	0-2	0-0	0				
Phillips	1-1	0-0	2				
Bihn	0-0	0-0	0				
Swoveland	2-7	1-2	6				
Totals	10-47	3-8	31				
	.213	.375					
Def. rebound percentage: .550							
Bellmont (20-4)							
	FG-FGA	FT-FTA	PTS				
James	2-9	2-3	7				
WBaker	0-1	0-0	0				
Scheumann	5-14	1-2	14				
Miller	0-0	0-0	0				
Hackman	0-1	0-0	0				
Vogel	0-2	0-0	0				
Fuelling	8-13	0-0	18				
Velez	4-9	0-0	9				
Hoffman	3-5	0-4	6				
BBaker	0-0	0-0	0				
Krull	2-5	0-0	6				
Totals	24-59	3-9	60				
	.407	.333					
Def. rebound percentage: .692							
Rebounds: Jay County 34 (Swoveland 7, team 7, Phillips 6, Crouch 3, Edwards 2, Garringer 2, Dunnington 2, Bihn 2, Nichols, Dirksen, Edwards). Belmont 45 (Velez 11, Scheumann 8, Hoffman 7, Fuelling 6, James 4, team 4, Miller 3, Vogel, Krull).							
Assists: Jay County 6 (Nichols 3, Comer 2, Garringer). Belmont 14 (James 4, Scheumann 3, Fuelling 2, Velez 2, Hoffman 2, Krull).							
Blocks: Jay County 4 (Dunnington, Phillips, Bihn, Swoveland). Belmont 2 (James, Hoffman).							
Personal fouls: Jay County 14 (Dunnington 4, Swoveland 3, Nichols 2, Garringer 2, Bihn 2, Forthofer). Belmont 11 (Velez 3, James 2, Hoffman 2, WBaker, Scheumann, Fuelling, BBaker).							
Turnovers: Jay County 18. Belmont 13.							

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County — Junior high wrestling
Jay County Invite — 9 a.m.

Monday
Jay County — Junior high wrestling vs. Blackford — 9 a.m.

TV sports

Today
10 a.m. — Premier League: Nottingham Forest at Aston Villa (USA)
11:30 a.m. — NASCAR Cup Series: Ambetter Health 400 (FS1)
12 p.m. — NHL: St. Louis Blues at Detroit Red Wings (ABC)
12 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Houston at Baylor (CBS); Indiana at Penn State (BTN); Missouri at Arkansas (ESPN)
12 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Villanova at Creighton (FOX)
12:30 p.m. — Premier League: Manchester City at AFC Bournemouth (NBC)
2 p.m. — NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series: F8 208 (FS1)
2 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Washington at Arizona (CBS); Duke at Wake Forest (ESPN); West Virginia at Iowa State (ESPN2)

2 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Oklahoma State at Oklahoma (FOX)
2:15 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Iowa at Illinois (BTN)
2:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: St. Bonaventure at UMass Amherst (USA)
3 p.m. — NHL: New York Rangers at Philadelphia Flyers (ABC)
3 p.m. — PGA Tour: Mexico Open (NBC)
4 p.m. — Men's college basketball: North Carolina at Virginia (ESPN); Alabama at Kentucky (CBS); Oklahoma at Oklahoma State (ESPN2)
4:30 p.m. — MLS: Seattle Sounders at Los Angeles FC (FOX)
4:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: George Mason at Loyola-Chicago (USA)
4:30 p.m. — College gymnastics: Big Five Meet (BTN)
5 p.m. — NASCAR Xfinity Series: Raptor King of tough 250 (FS1)
6 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Texas at Kansas (ESPN)
6:30 p.m. — College hockey: Notre Dame at Michigan (BTN)
8 p.m. — Men's college basketball: UIC at Indiana State (Bally Indiana); Villanova at UConn (FOX); Texas A&M at Tennessee (ESPN); Washington State at Arizona State (ESPN2);

8:30 p.m. — NBA: Boston Celtics at New York Knicks (ABC)
9 p.m. — Women's college hockey: Ohio State at Wisconsin (BTN)
9:30 p.m. — Women's college basketball: UNLV at Nevada (FS1)
10 p.m. — Men's college basketball: USC at UCLA (ESPN2)

Sunday
8:30 a.m. — Premier League: Sheffield United at Wolverhampton (USA)
12 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Creighton at St. John's (CBS); SMU at South Florida (ESPN2); Maryland at Rutgers (BTN); Rhode Island at La Salle (USA)
12 p.m. — Women's college basketball: LSU at Tennessee (ESPN)
1 p.m. — NBA: Milwaukee Bucks at Philadelphia 76ers (ABC)
1 p.m. — NHL: Tampa Bay Lightning at New Jersey Devils (TNT)
2 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Purdue at Michigan (CBS); Florida Atlantic at Memphis (ESPN); Southern Illinois at Evansville (Bally Indiana)
3 p.m. — PGA Tour: Mexico Open (NBC)
3 p.m. — NASCAR Cup Series: Ambetter Health 400 (FOX)
3:30 p.m. — NBA: Los Angeles Lakers at Phoenix Suns (ABC)

3:30 p.m. — NHL: Philadelphia Flyers at Pittsburgh Penguins (TNT)
4 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Temple at Wichita State (ESPN); UAB at Tulane (ESPN2); Ohio State at Michigan State (CBS)
5 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Xavier at Marquette (FS1)
5 p.m. — NBA: Dallas Mavericks at Indiana Pacers (Bally Indiana)
6:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Minnesota at Nebraska (BTN)
7 p.m. — NBA: Denver Nuggets at Golden State Warriors (ESPN)
9:30 p.m. — NBA: Sacramento Kings at Los Angeles Clippers (ESPN)

Monday
3 p.m. — Premier League: Brentford at West Ham United (USA)
7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Miami at North Carolina (ESPN); West Virginia at Kansas State (ESPN2)
7 p.m. — Golf: Capital One's The Match (TNT)
9 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Baylor at TCU (ESPN)
9 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Colorado at UCLA (ESPN2)

Tuesday
6:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Georgetown at Villanova (FS1)

7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Cincinnati at Houston (ESPN2)
7 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Indiana at Northwestern (BTN)
7:30 p.m. — NBA: Philadelphia 76ers at Boston Celtics (TNT)
8:30 p.m. — Women's college basketball: St. John's at Marquette (FS1)
9 p.m. — Men's college basketball: N.C. State at Florida State (ESPN2); Texas at Texas Tech (ESPN2); Penn State at Iowa (BTN)
10 p.m. — NBA: Houston Rockets at Oklahoma City Thunder (TNT)
10:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Nevada at Colorado State (FS1)

Local notes
Tournament scheduled
The Fort Recovery High School volleyball program is holding its annual alumni volleyball tournament on Friday, March 22. Teams can consist of former players or anyone living in Fort Recovery, and don't need to be from the same graduating class. Entry costs are \$10 per player, with all proceeds going to the FRHS volleyball team. For more information, contact Travis Guggenbiller by March 20 by emailing guggenbiller@fortrecoveryschools.org

Midwest Walleye Challenge
Indiana anglers are invited to participate in the 2024 Midwest Walleye Challenge, a virtual fishing tournament. The tournament begins March 30 and ends June 30, with walleye, sauger and saugeye counting. Contestants need to utilize the MyCatch mobile app to submit photos of their catches with a measuring device. Participants can enter for free for the chance at the grand prize or pay a \$25 fee to be eligible for biweekly cash prizes. Those interested in participating can register by visiting AnglersAtlas.com/event/769 or by using the MyCatch app. For further information, visit on.IN.gov/walleye.

Registration open
Registration for the Dunkirk co-ed softball league is now open. The league will start on April 7, and will cost \$250 for each team to register. First and second-place teams win a payout of \$400 and \$200 respectively. To register, call Brock Farmer at (765) 209-4289.

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To have an event listed in "Sports on tap," email details to sports@theocr.com.

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Eight is too much

State-ranked Belmont pulls away from Jay

By **ANDREW BALKO**

The Commercial Review

DECATUR — The Patriots drew first blood when Aiden Phillips put back a missed shot.

Three minutes later, they regained a one-point lead over the Braves on a three from Gradin Swoveland.

The Patriots trailed the rest of the night.

After a slow start, Class 3A No. 8 Belmont pulled away from the Jay County High School boys basketball team Friday for a 60-31 clobbering.

“We didn’t execute offensively, either taking care of it or shooting it,” JCHS coach Jerry Bomholt said. “When you don’t do that, it makes a long day.”

The Braves’ 1-3-1 zone defense gave Jay County (8-13) problems all night, holding the Patriots to 21.3% shooting (10-of-47) from the field while also turning them over 18 times.

“It was a ‘soft 1-3-1’ where they weren’t trapping the guards out front,” Bomholt said. “We have an alignment we run, but we just threw it up in the bleachers about six times. It’s hard to score from up there, I don’t care how good you are.”

See **Eight** page 9



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Jay County High School’s Ben Crouch gets blocked by Job Hoffman of Belmont on a reverse layup during the Patriots’ 60-31 loss on Friday. Crouch was Jay County’s leading scorer with six points at the time, but contact on the play resulted in Crouch hitting his head on the baseline wall and he was removed from the game.

Indians fall in overtime

FR will play Rams in sectional on Wednesday

NEW BREMEN, Ohio — The Indians had a chance to head into the tournament on a high note.

The opportunity slipped away in the extra session.

Fort Recovery High School’s boys basketball team finished the regular season Friday night with a 65-59 overtime loss to the New Bremen Cardinals.

The ninth-seeded Tribe will visit No. 5 seed Upper Scioto Valley at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the opening round of the Division IV sectional tournament. The winner will advance to take on No. 4 seed Mt. Victory Ridge-mont or No. 6 seed New Bremen for a sectional championship Friday.

FRHS (7-15, 1-8 MAC), which dropped its final two games after back-to-back wins over Newton Local and New Knoxville, struggled to score in overtime, managing only a couple of Briggs Overman free throws. Meanwhile, four Cardinals (9-13, 4-5 MAC) scored in the extra session.

The game was tight throughout, with New Bremen leading by two after the first quarter before the Indians nabbed a three-point lead at halftime. The Cardinals flipped the margin for a 38-35 advantage after three periods before a 22-point fourth for FRHS forced overtime.

Overman’s overtime free throws gave him a game-high 20 points. He hit a 3-pointer in all four quarters of regulation.

Brody Barga joined him in double figures with 10 points and Rex Leverette added nine.

Aaron Thieman led New Bremen with 16 points, scoring 11 in the second half and two more in overtime. The Cardinals had four players in double figures, with Hayden Zeller scoring a dozen points while Keaton Puthoff and Rogan Muether added 10 apiece.

In Friday’s junior varsity game, the Indians fell behind early en route to a 48-41 loss to New Bremen. Grant Fortkamp racked up 22 points for FRHS but no one else had more than five.

Acheson named top MAC bowler

Four Indians earned all-conference first-team honors.

Among them was a conference athlete of the year.

Lucas Acheson took home the highest honor amongst Fort Recovery High School athletes Thursday as he was named the Midwest Athletic Conference boys Bowler of the Year. Girls

bowling coach Alison Rosegrant earned MAC Co-Coach of the Year honors as the conference released its award winners in boys bowling, girls bowling and girls basketball.

Acheson was also named to the All-MAC first team for boys bowling.

Other first-team selections for

Fort Recovery were Emily Lauber, Ella Schoen and Brooklyn Wierick of the girls bowling team. The Indians finished as co-MAC champions to help Rosegrant share the Coach of the Year honor with Tyler Philpot of co-MAC champion Versailles.

Cali Wendel, Karlie Niekamp

and Makenna Huelskamp of the FRHS girls basketball team were all second-team All-MAC selections.

Earning honorable mention were Kayla Hietkamp of the girls bowling team, Austin Steinbrunner of the boys bowling team and Saige Leuthold of the girls basketball team.

Home Improvement

2024

GRAPHIC
PRINTING
NEWSPAPERS

Our spring home improvement 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)

Full-page color
\$550 (only one available)

1/2-page color – \$475

1/2-page B&W – \$300

1/4-page B&W – \$225

Big business card (3x3.5) – \$100

Business card (2x2) – \$60

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 Wednesday, March 6