

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

## Phase one finally done

### Aviation board OKs close-out request

By RAY COONEY  
The Commercial Review

The first phase of the runway extension project that began nearly three years ago is finally in the books.

The final step still awaits for phase two.

Portland Board of Aviation on Wednesday approved the final pay request and a close-out request letter for the first phase of the runway extension project at Portland Municipal Airport.

The project's first phase involved grading and drainage of the land west of the existing runway — the extension added 1,500 feet to bring the runway to 5,500 feet in order to accommodate larger aircraft — to allow for the added length.

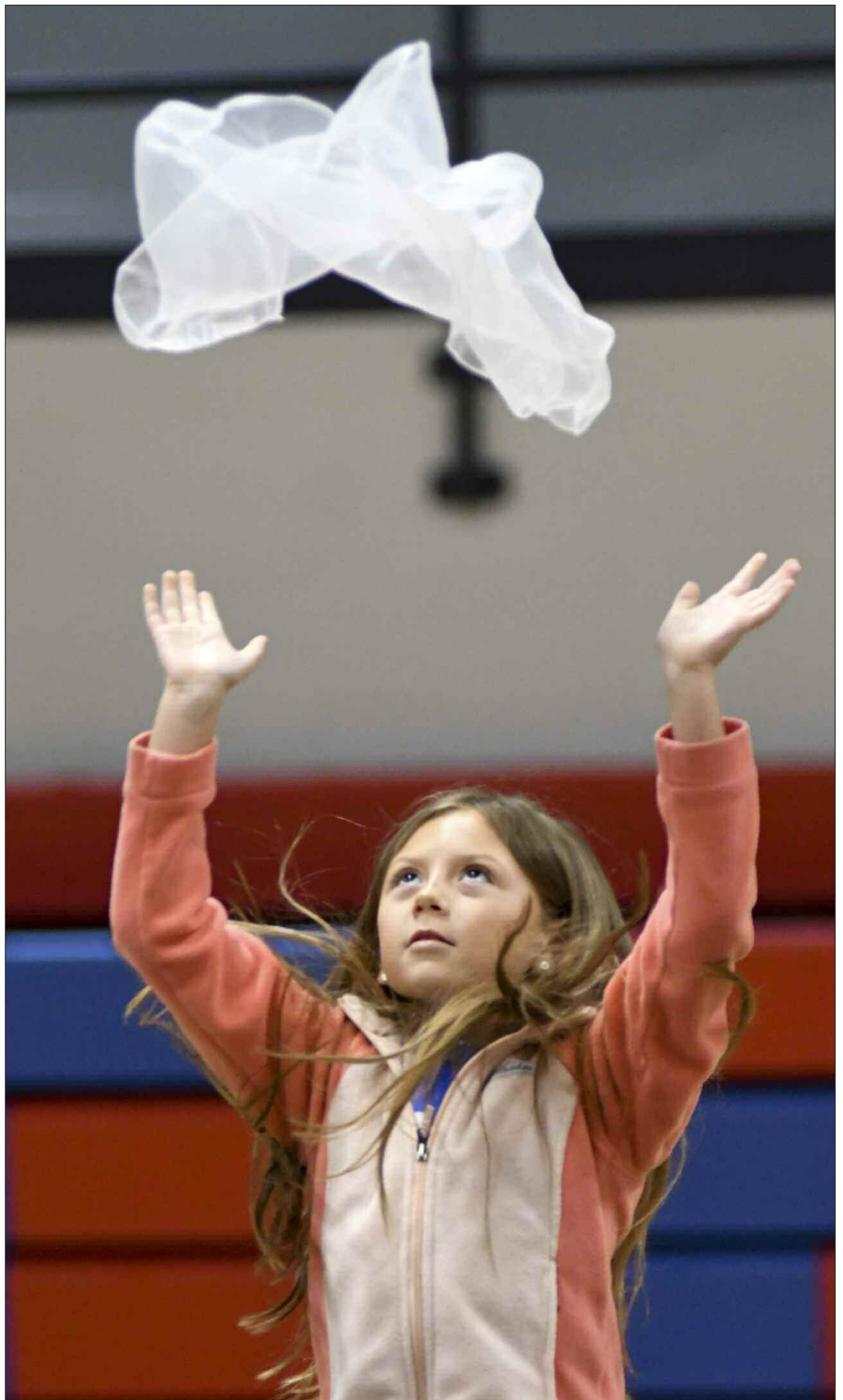
The work has long since been completed, but the final paperwork was delayed because of a lawsuit involving the couple from whom contractor HIS Constructors purchased fill dirt for the project. Last month, the aviation board and Portland Board of Works approved an indemnity agreement with HIS that protects the city from any judgment that may come down in the case.

With the indemnity clause in place, aviation board members Faron Parr, Clyde Bray, John Ferguson and Caleb Lutes approved the final Federal Aviation Administration grant pay request of \$10,311.41 for the project as well as the close-out request letter for the grant.

Jason Clearwaters of engineering firm Butler, Fairman and Seufert reported that the project came in well under budget, which will lead to \$334,219.20 in approved funding being returned to the FAA.

"It's unfortunate we can't capture those funds for another project, but that's how it goes," he said.

See **Done** page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

## Senate dispenses with impeachment

### Articles rejected without a trial

By MICHAEL MACAGNONE  
CQ-Roll Call  
Tribune News Service

WASHINGTON — The Senate voted Wednesday to dispense with impeachment articles against Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas without a trial, in a show of procedural hardball from the Democratic caucus.

Majority Leader Charles E. Schumer, D-New York, who had said his party would quickly dispense of the impeachment, made two procedural points of order that the articles did not meet the

constitutional standard for impeachment.

The Democratic caucus stuck together to back those, in 51-48-1 and 51-49 votes, which meant that the articles fell. Republicans made procedural motions to halt that fate, but the Democratic caucus rejected them.

About three hours after the senators were sworn in as impeachment jurors, the chamber had wiped out the articles and ended its time as the impeachment court.

The procedural drama on the floor started right away. Schumer offered Republicans a time agreement which would have allowed more than three hours of debate along with votes on several resolutions.

Sen. Eric Schmitt, R-Missouri, objected and blocked that plan, and accused Democrats of "setting the Constitution ablaze" by voting to dispense with the articles without a trial.

See **Dispenses** page 2

## From the Skye

Skye Ingram tosses a scarf in the air to mimic snow during Thursday morning's rehearsal for the East Elementary School first grade spring program at East Jay Elementary School. The students performed a variety of musical numbers to go along with the story "The Day the Crayons Quit."



Indiana Capital Chronicle/Whitney Downard

State Rep. Jeff Thompson, R-Lizton, addresses excess levy appeals and school referendums at a Wednesday meeting of the tax reform task force. It was formed during the 2023 legislative session to look at options ahead of the 2025 budget session.

## Pushing toward simplicity

By WHITNEY DOWNARD  
Indiana Capital Chronicle  
indianacapitalchronicle.com

The chief budget architect for the Indiana House of Representatives outlined property tax concerns Wednesday for the next legislative session, with a focus on school referendums and the use of excess levy appeals.

Other topics included: remonstrance petitions, the maximum levy growth quotient formula and debt thresholds. Many were issues Rep. Jeff Thompson, the chair of the fiscal-minded Ways and Means Committee, attempted to address during the 2023 session but couldn't come to an agreement with senators.

"I'm working toward simplicity," Thompson said after his presentation before the State and Local Tax Review Task Force. "(But) I don't think we can solve it all in a single session. I've

### Ways and Means chair is focused on property taxes

come to the conclusion that it is so massive that you've got to take ... (a) series of steps."

#### Warning on ag land

Thompson warned members of the panel that "we're going to have a significant increase in the assessed value of farm ground."

To determine the agricultural base rate for a given assessment year, the Department of Local Government Finance calculates a rolling average using six years of capitalized net operating

income and net cash rent. The highest value of the six is dropped from the formula, and the remaining five years are averaged to determine a base rate.

For 2024, the base rate was determined to be \$2,280 per acre, which is \$380 per acre higher than for the 2023 assessment year.

An increase in assessed value doesn't automatically mean an increase in a farmer's property tax bill but it can.

See **Simplicity** page 2

### Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 73 degrees Wednesday. The low was 59.

Tonight's forecast calls for partly cloudy skies with a low in the lower 40s.

Expect windy conditions Saturday with gusts up to 25 miles

per hour. The high will be in the lower 50s under partly cloudy skies.

The high will be in the 50s again Sunday with lows in the mid 30s for the weekend.

For an extended forecast, see page 2.

### In review

Jay County Solid Waste Management District will have recycling trailers available from 8 to 11 a.m. Saturday across from Pennville Fire Station and 9 a.m. to noon in the parking lot at 220 Lincoln St., Portland.

### Coming up

**Saturday** — Coverage of Thursday's JCHS baseball game against Woodlan.

**Tuesday** — Photo of the Jay County High School prom king and queen.

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





# Done ...

Continued from page 1  
The final step that remains before the second phase of the project is officially complete is an FAA flight check that has been called off several times, including last week because of inclement weather.  
The aviation board also approved an FAA grant pay request of \$45,191.60 for the design of the apron expansion. Clearwaters said he has a draft plan to be reviewed and the project is still on track for bidding later this spring.  
Looking ahead to other possi-

ble airport improvements, airport manager Hal Tavzel asked the board to consider adding concrete floors to more hangars later this year if the budget allows. He said about six to eight existing hangars still need concrete work.  
Tavzel also reported that 20 planes landed at the airport for the April 8 solar eclipse with most flying in from elsewhere in Indiana as well as Michigan and Wisconsin. Among those in attendance were astronaut Josh A. Cassada, who was pilot of NASA's SpaceX Crew-5 mission that launched on Oct. 5, 2022. The Min-

nesota native spent 157 days living and working aboard the International Space Station.  
"We had a pretty awesome event," Tavzel said.  
In other business, the board:  
• Heard a reminder that the Aviation Indiana quarterly meeting was set for Thursday in Greensburg. Clearwaters said he planned to attend. Portland Municipal Airport will host the next quarterly meeting Aug. 8. Tavzel said he has already lined up a speaker from Aero Energy, and aviation fuel delivery service.  
• Portland clerk-treasurer Lori

Phillips told the board a check has been to Richard Shafer to continue rental of one of his buildings — his property is adjacent to the airport — for equipment storage.  
• Heard the following from Tavzel:  
—The airport sold 4,777 gallons of fuel in March for \$21,662.04. That's down from 5,273 gallons in March 2023.  
—The airport has had some jet activity recently, mostly from POET Biorefining but including other organizations. (A 10-seat plane was slated to land at the

airport Thursday morning.)  
"We expect that to continue to improve," Tavzel said.  
—He has talked with Verizon about providing a wireless connection to the airport's automated weather observing system. As a result, he is looking at switching to the company for all of the airport's phone and internet expects will result in cost savings.  
—Coblentz Construction is in the process of installing a new hydraulic hangar door.  
• Paid claims totaling \$3,446.97.

## CR almanac

Saturday 4/20	Sunday 4/21	Monday 4/22	Tuesday 4/23	Wednesday 4/24
<b>52/33</b>	<b>55/36</b>	<b>61/45</b>	<b>62/42</b>	<b>59/34</b>
Mostly sunny skies are expected Saturday, with wind gusts reaching up to 25 mph.	Mostly cloudy skies on Sunday, with the low at nip dipping into the mid 30s.	Sunny skies are on the horizon for Monday, when the high will be around 61.	Tuesday looks to be rainy with a 60% chance of showers.	Wednesday's forecast shows mostly sunny skies and a high in the upper 50s.

## Lotteries

<b>Powerball</b> 24-29-44-47-54 Power Ball: 2 Power Play: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$98 million	Daily Four: 0-9-2-0 Quick Draw: 1-3-4-5-10-12-34-35-36-37-39-42-47-55-57-64-70-74-78-79 Cash 5: 10-26-30-31-41 Estimated jackpot: \$75,000
<b>Mega Millions</b> Estimated jackpot: \$178 million	<b>Ohio</b> Wednesday Midday Pick 3: 2-3-8 Pick 4: 7-9-6-5 Pick 5: 9-1-6-3-1 Evening Pick 3: 8-6-5 Pick 4: 7-5-9-4 Pick 5: 6-4-9-0-7 Rolling Cash: 8-23-24-29-37 Estimated jackpot: \$150,000
<b>Hoosier</b> Wednesday Midday Daily Three: 6-5-9 Daily Four: 7-5-9-3 Quick Draw: 4-6-12-17-18-21-22-32-34-39-42-46-52-53-62-70-72-73-76-80 Evening Daily Three: 9-8-9	

## Markets

<b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b> Corn.....4.35 May corn.....4.35 Wheat .....4.55	May beans .....11.32 Wheat ..... 5.15
<b>POET Biorefining Portland</b> Corn.....4.38 May corn.....4.38 June corn .....4.37	<b>ADM Montpelier</b> Corn.....4.08 May corn.....4.12 Beans.....11.23 May beans .....11.26 Wheat .....5.11
<b>The Andersons Richland Township</b> Corn .....4.21 May corn.....4.21 Beans .....11.32	<b>Heartland St. Anthony</b> Corn.....4.28 May corn.....4.28 Beans.....11.10 May beans .....11.15 Wheat .....4.74

## Today in history

In 1775, American and British soldiers exchanged fire in Lexington and Concord in Massachusetts. The gun-fire followed the night after Gen. Thomas Gage, the royal governor of Massachusetts, was commanded by King George III to suppress rebellious Americans.  
In 1809, Charles Darwin was born in Shrewsbury, Shropshire, England. Darwin was an English naturalist who developed the scientific theory of evolution by natural selection.  
In 1973, Bob Moreno set an individual record and was part of a relay record as the Redkey High School boys track team beat Southern Wells 83-44. Moreno set the school record in the mile at 4 minutes, 44.9 seconds. He teamed with Ted Hammers, Scott Smith and Luis Moreno for a school record 4x400 relay time of 3:45.8.  
In 2018, freshman Aubrie Schwieterman hit a walk-off single to bring Hannah Phillips to the plate and give the Jay County High School softball team a 5-4 victory over Woodlan Warriors.  
In 2022, after having its first four scheduled competitions canceled or postponed because of rain, wind and snow, the Jay County High School boys golf team scored a 175 to defeat visiting Bluffton (184) and Southern Wells (217) at Portland Golf Club.  
—The CR

## Citizen's calendar

<b>Monday</b> 3:30 p.m. — Jay County Solid Waste Management District, 5948 W. Indiana 67, Portland. 5 p.m. — Jay County Commissioners, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 5:30 p.m. — Center Cemetery Board, Community Room, Jay County Public Library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland. 6 p.m. — Dunkirk	Board of Works, city building, 131 S. Main St. 7 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St. <b>Wednesday</b> 5 p.m. — Jay County Redevelopment Commission, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 6 p.m. — Dunkirk Park Board, city building, 131 S. Main St.
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## Simplicity ...

Continued from page 1  
Thompson said he estimates that base rate for agricultural land could soon jump to \$3,100 because of the nature of the rolling average.  
"And so we're going to see a shift to farm ground. It's on its way based upon the current formula. And so I just think it's a policy issue. Do we want to allow that to happen or not to happen?" he asked.

### Appeals and school funding

Thompson also examined the last three years of growth in excess levy appeals. Indiana communities can seek property tax levies beyond traditional caps when property values increase at a faster rate than the state average.  
A boom in assessed values during the COVID-19 pandemic drove up maximum levy appeals as local government units sought to pay for schools, fire protection and more. But while the number of appeals didn't change much between 2022 and 2023, Thompson noted that the amount approved nearly quadrupled.  
"... what these levy appeals really do, a lot of times, is just shift around

who receives the money. The taxpayers don't pay any more," Thompson said.

That's partly because a large portion of payers, 90% in some areas, are already at their caps. But Thompson said he didn't consider growth to be one of the biggest areas of concern.

Instead, he pointed to rate-based school operating referenda that aren't subject to maximum levy growth limitations nor curbed by circuit breaker limitations.

This means that when a homeowner's assessed value increases, schools will see a funding bump unless they decrease their tax rates — and taxpayers will see their referendum property tax bills increase.

"In most cases, that's worked pretty well until we hit 2022 (taxes paid in) 2023 ... we had a significant increase in the amount of the statewide levy," Thompson said. "Part of it was tied to — not all of it, now — was the huge amount of increase in assessed value."

Such referendums are approved by taxpayers, Thompson acknowledged, but homeowners don't always anticipate double-digit jumps in assessed

values that will drive up tax bills when voting for a referendum.

A 2023 bill authored by Thompson implemented a cap that limited increases to a "typical" 5% to 6%. Follow-up action in 2024 extended that for some but allowed more flexibility.

But Thompson warned that if the cap wasn't extended out to 2030, property owners were projected to see a 14.2% jump in 2025 taxes paid in 2026.

Rep. Greg Porter, an Indianapolis Democrat, wondered if some voters approved referenda on a more conceptual basis to prioritize better teacher wages and educational advancement in their communities.

"I think people don't necessarily try to sit back and calculate your assessed values — unless you're trying to sell your home — but they're just looking at the overall situation in regards to educational attainment or outcomes," Porter said. "I understand what you're saying but the argument on the other end is what the intent of that said voter (was)."

.....  
*This story was edited for length. To read the full version, visit indianacapitalchronicle.com.*

## Dispenses ...

Continued from page 1  
That's when Schumer made his first point of order. After a brief pause, Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, made a motion to take the Biden administration's immigration policies.  
Schumer was no longer interested. "In our previous consent request, we gave your side a chance for debate in public, where it should be, and your side objected. We are moving forward," Schumer said.

The two impeachment articles, accusing Mayorkas of "willful and systemic refusal to comply with the law" and "breach of public trust," were the first effort to oust a sitting Cabinet secretary in more than a century.

Mayorkas' tenure as Homeland Security secretary has made him a lightning rod for criticism amid the broader disputes between the Biden administration and Republicans over immigration and border policy.  
Senate Republicans

claimed Wednesday's votes to avoid a trial damaged the institution, as Democrats sought to ignore damage done by the Biden administration's immigration policies.

Sen. Mike Lee, R-Utah, one of the major advocates for the chamber to hold a trial, made a motion on the floor and pointed out that the second of the two articles included an allegation that Mayorkas lied to Congress, a felony.

"If this is not impeachable, then what is?" Lee said.

Lee and Sen. Ron Johnson, R-Wis., have threatened that Republicans may withhold the unanimous consent usually required for the Senate floor to function in response to the votes.

After the votes, Schmitt told reporters the process "bulldozes 200 years of precedent and lights fire to our constitutional order," echoing other Republican criticism of the vote.

Schumer called the Mayorkas impeachment the "least legitimate, least substantive and most politicized impeachment trial ever" that was meant to boost former President Donald Trump's reelection chances, in a floor speech Wednesday.

Sen. Christopher S. Murphy, D-Conn., and other Democrats said the impeachment articles offered by Republicans were meritless and meant as a political ploy.

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**Glancy**, Max: 11 a.m., Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, 109 W. Windsor St., Montpelier.

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Kayla Reilly, HR Specialist  
Swiss Village  
1350 W. Main St.  
Berne, IN 46711  
Or e-mail: [careers@swissvillage.org](mailto:careers@swissvillage.org)

**Due to the high risk of fires and liability issues, The Jay County Solid Waste Management District has decided to terminate all battery recycling programs currently provided by the District.**

All battery recycling drop-off sites, provided and serviced by the district, will be closed and all containers will be removed! Please do not leave batteries at any of the locations once the containers are removed.

Jay County Solid Waste Management District is working to find options for the safe storage, packaging and transporting of batteries to a recycling center. Once a revised program has been finalized, the District office will be the designated drop-off location along with our Annual Tox Away Day to recycle your household batteries. We must follow all laws and regulations to make sure we have a safe program!

**Thank you for your patience and understanding.**

**Jay County Solid Waste Management District**



## Sixty two donate blood

Sixty two donors gave blood Tuesday during American Red Cross' blood drive at Jay Community Center.

Donors included Michael Eads, Doris Muhlenkamp, Kevin Keller, Carla Pogue, Teresa Kelly, Jeff Pogue, Billy Sipe, Franklin Hogle, Sarah Rines, Kay Westgerdes, Herbert Westgerdes, Michael Schmidt, Joseph Boggs, Dennis Negele, Gary Schmiesing, Gordon Holcomb, Jack Freeman, Margaret Reier, Joyce Koenig and Lorrissa Bousman.

Also Bruce Richard, Freeda Osenbaugh, David Osenbaugh, Mary Laux, Larry Barnette, Connie

Ronald, Lindzy Upp, Melissa Osterholt, Douglas Shidler, Jodi McKee, John Hart, Pamela Rogers, Eric Rogers, Ruthann Brockman, Tim Morris, Mackenzie Staver, Joseph Reinhard, William Link, Ana Minnich, Elizabeth Skiver, Abby Homan, Tamy Lyons, Samuel Grubb, Brenda Wilson and Duane Monroe.

Also William Back, Jamie Davis, Nichole Parks, Cheryl Landfair, Gary McMillan, Bennett Weitzel, Kathleen Wood, Jennifer Esparza, Joyce Eldridge, Marlene Runyon, Jayne Pearson, Anthony May, Darwin Johnson, Anthony Smith, Jennifer Smith and Julia Garringer.

## Cancer treatment advances

By DEEDEE STIEPAN

Mayo Clinic News Network  
Tribune News Service

Kidney cancer is one the most common cancers in the U.S., with over 81,000 new diagnoses in 2023 alone. Mayo Clinic sees a high volume of kidney cancer cases and is among the most experienced institutions in treating kidney tumors. Doctor Aaron Potretzke, a Mayo Clinic urologist, explained how advances in diagnostics and treatment have made kidney cancer more treatable than ever before.

Most kidney cancer is

discovered at an early stage when the cancer is small and confined to the kidney.

"Many patients are diagnosed coincidentally by imaging of the abdomen with a small renal mass, and they have a lot of options," Potretzke said.

The surgical approach to kidney cancer has shifted over the years to preserving as much of the healthy kidney as possible. Mayo Clinic has adopted some advanced techniques, such as using robotics.

"There is a focus, when it's safe and feasible, to removing just the tumor

and leaving as much of the normal kidney behind as possible. Doing so is associated with increased long-term kidney function," Potretzke said.

Another option is to perform an ablation. Because many kidney tumors found early are relatively low risk, a third option is to keep a close eye on it, which is called active surveillance.

"Not everyone is a suitable candidate, but for patients with smaller renal masses, the risks of treatment may actually outweigh the potential benefits," added Potretzke.

## Man concerned about inviting cousin

DEAR ABBY: I have a 25-year-old niece, "Meadow," who embraces the hippie lifestyle. She's kind and sweet and loves everyone. She has also opposed "the Establishment." She's heavily tattooed and has several facial piercings and thick underarm hair.

My son is the complete opposite. He is in the business world and is very professional in his manner and dress. He's getting married in three months to a lovely girl. Meadow is invited because she wanted to come. My son is nervous about her coming to the wedding. He doesn't know Meadow that well. They were close as kids but haven't seen much of each other in adulthood.

My son is worried Meadow will wear an outfit that will display the tattoos and her bushy underarm hair. He's afraid she will be a spec-

tle, and her appearance will become the focus of the wedding and not his lovely bride. He's also worried someone will ridicule or comment about Meadow, and he will then have to defend her, causing a disruption. None of us are close to Meadow or feel comfortable with her appearance. How do we handle her presence at the wedding? — CONFORMING IN CAROLINA

DEAR CONFORMING: Excuse me. Who invited this counter-

Dear Abby



culture cousin to the wedding? The time to have raised these issues was before the invitations were sent out. If Meadow is already invited, it would be terrible to disinvite her.

If someone comments on her appearance, I'm sure it won't be the first time she has heard it. If it happens, resist the urge to rush to her defense. Simply explain calmly that Meadow is there because she's family. (It's the truth.) As to her upstaging your son's bride, that won't happen if Meadow is seated at a distance from the altar.

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

## 'A Choired Taste' takes stage April 30

A community choir will perform at the end of the month.

A Choired Taste will take the stage at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 30, in Hall-Moser Theatre on the Jay County Campus of Arts Place.

The choir has 18 members and will perform a variety of music. Admission is free.

### Redkey alumni

Calling all Redkey High School graduates.

A banquet is upcoming for Redkey alumni April 27 at Redkey Elementary School. Registration begins at 4:30 p.m. with a meal served at 5:30 p.m. and the program to follow.

Special class recognition will be given for the classes of 1944, 1954, 1964 and 1974.

Tickets are \$20 per person. Checks may be addressed to Redkey Alumni Association, PO Box 571, Redkey IN 47373. Reservations are due no later than Saturday, April 20.

For more information, call Karen Baugher at (765) 744-7651.

### Taking Note

### Digging into past

The Fort Recovery committee researching the histories of downtown business buildings is hosting another public discussion next week.

Helen LeFevre, Nancy Abels and Jill Kaup Andrews will present information about the Weiler Long building at 7 p.m. Tuesday in Fort Recovery High School's community room. (The Weiler Long building currently houses NAPA Auto Parts.) The discussion will pertain to seven or more businesses houses in the building from 1880 to today, including photos, description of its architecture and the history of its past owners. The public is invited to attend and share what they remember about the building's history.

To learn more, call (419) 852-6110 or (419) 852-0763.

### Kite festival

The Ansel Toney Memorial Kite Festival is scheduled for 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 11, at the Academy of Model Aeronautics in Muncie.

Attendees are invited to bring their own kite to fly along with members of the Hoosier Kitefliers Society. Kites for all ages will also be available.

The AMA is located at 5161 E. Memorial Drive, Muncie. Admission is free.

For more information, call Dick Claycomb at (765) 348-6014.

### Expo is in May

LifeStream will host its Healthy Aging Expo from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, May 9, at the First Bank Kuhlman Center in Richmond.

The event will be themed "1950s Sock Hop." Vendors will be set up to share resources and provide activities for those who attend.

The event is free and the first 200 attendees will receive a complimentary lunch.


To learn more, visit [lifestreaminc.org/expo](http://lifestreaminc.org/expo).

FOR

# VOTE DOUG HORN

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## Community Calendar

Notices will appear in Community Calendar as space is available. To submit an item, email [news@thecr.com](mailto:news@thecr.com).

### Today

**DUNKIRK HISTORICAL SOCIETY** — Is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the first and third Friday of each month in the former W.E. Gaunt Jewelry building, 113 S. Main St., Dunkirk.

**PAST RECOVERY SERVICES** — Peer Addiction Support Team recovery

support group meets at 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. each Friday at the Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition office at 100 N. Meridian St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 251-3259.

**CINCINNATUS LEAGUE** — Will hold its next meeting at noon Friday, April 19, at Harmony Café in Portland.

### Saturday

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS** — Will meet at 10 a.m. at Zion Evangelical

Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 251-3336 or (260) 729-7000.

**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.

### Sunday

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

### Monday

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

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

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

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

**PREGNANCY CARE CENTER** — Free pregnancy testing with ongoing support during and after pregnancy. The center is

located at 216 S. Meridian St., Portland. Hours are 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (260) 726-8636.

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

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

**NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS** — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Monday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland.

## Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

### Thursday's Solution

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

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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# The Commercial Review



# Take threat of breakdown seriously

**Bloomberg Opinion**  
Tribune News Service

The latest projections from the Congressional Budget Office repeat a warning made many times before: The trajectory of US government borrowing is unsustainable. Washington, fixated on this year's elections, isn't merely unwilling to act; it's ignoring the issue altogether. Just how concerned should the country be about this dereliction of duty?

Like all economic forecasts, fiscal projections are usually wrong, and the fiscal crunch that the CBO warns is coming might never happen. Equally, what lies ahead could be even scarier: A

## Guest Editorial

reckoning of the chances of better or worse outcomes is therefore valuable. Analysts have undertaken such an exercise for Bloomberg's Big Take, and the conclusion isn't reassuring.

The authors, from Bloomberg Economics, take the new CBO projection as the baseline. This shows public debt rising from just under 100% of gross domes-

tic product this year — the highest since the end of World War II — to 116% in 2034. At the outset, they note that this disturbing baseline is actually pretty optimistic in three ways.

First, it's a "current law" projection, which assumes that tax cuts enacted by Donald Trump's administration in 2017 will expire on schedule by 2025. Regardless of this year's election results, that's unlikely. Second, toward the end of the forecast period, the projection assumes falling defense spending as a share of GDP. Given current geopolitical tensions, this too looks improbable. Third, the CBO expects interest rates

(which drive debt-servicing costs) to be slightly lower than financial markets currently suggest. All these assumptions are material: Plug in market-implied rates, for instance, while letting the other two assumptions stand, and the baseline debt ratio rises to 123% of GDP by 2034.

Yet those aren't the only things that might change. Using so-called stochastic simulations, the exercise examined the spread of future debt-to-GDP ratios around the agency's baseline, running a model of the economy a million times with different combinations of economic growth, inflation, budget deficits and interest rates, with

patterns drawn from historical data. In nearly 90% of cases, the debt ratio keeps rising over the course of the coming decade — and in that sense is unsustainable, as in the baseline. In the worst 5% of cases, the ratio soars above 139% by 2034 and keeps on climbing.

The bottom line is simple: Take the CBO's projections seriously but not literally. The numbers won't be right, but uncertainty runs both ways, and outcomes could just as easily be worse than expected as well as better. The warning of eventual fiscal breakdown stands, and responsible politicians would be doing something about it.

## Session a mixed bag for educators

By **KEITH GAMBILL**  
Indiana Capital Chronicle  
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Now that the 2024 legislative session is over, educators are curious about what the next session will bring. Legislators largely adhered to a more restrained approach aimed at minor adjustments, and some positive outcomes for retired and future educators emerged from the session.

The passage of House Enrolled Act 1004 offers a pragmatic solution to the pressing issue of financial security for retired educators. By enabling the Indiana Public Retirement System to devise long-term strategies for cost-of-living adjustments and granting a 13th check, this legislation acknowledges and honors the lifelong dedication of educators to the future generations of Indiana.

While a minor bill this session, HEA 1042 will help address the state's teacher shortage, a challenge that poses a threat to the quality of education. The legislation lays down a pathway to attract and retain educators by allocating additional funds for transition-to-teaching scholarships.

However, the 2024 session did present some challenges for teachers, most notably attempts to undermine their ability to negotiate collectively, a move that threatens to intensify Indiana's teacher shortage. We must ensure every student learns from a caring and qualified educator and that educators have a seat at the table to advocate for their students' futures, get the respect they're due and earn the pay, benefits and work schedules that enable them to support and care for loved ones and sustain long-lasting careers.

Diminishing these rights undermines educators' autonomy and directly impacts their ability to provide high-quality education. Proposals to hire school chaplains to fill counselor vacancies in schools threatened to erode the support our students need. Moving forward, teachers must sit at the table where decisions are made about their profession and what's best for their students.

The 2025 legislative session presents an opportunity for meaningful change, particularly in how schools are funded and educators are paid. We must commit to all educators, including education support professionals, that they will have competitive salaries and benefits, which they need to support their families, and time off to care for a sick loved one or themselves.

Implementing the revamped Indiana high

**Keith Gambill**



school diplomas and transitioning to the science of reading will demand a robust infrastructure supported by well-compensated and highly qualified teachers.

ISTA stands ready to work with lawmakers to advocate for increased investment in our public schools. Adequate funding is the cornerstone of supporting the upcoming diploma changes and science of reading and ensuring that every Hoosier student has access to a high-quality public education. We must prioritize competitive teacher salaries to attract and retain the professionals central to our public schools' success.

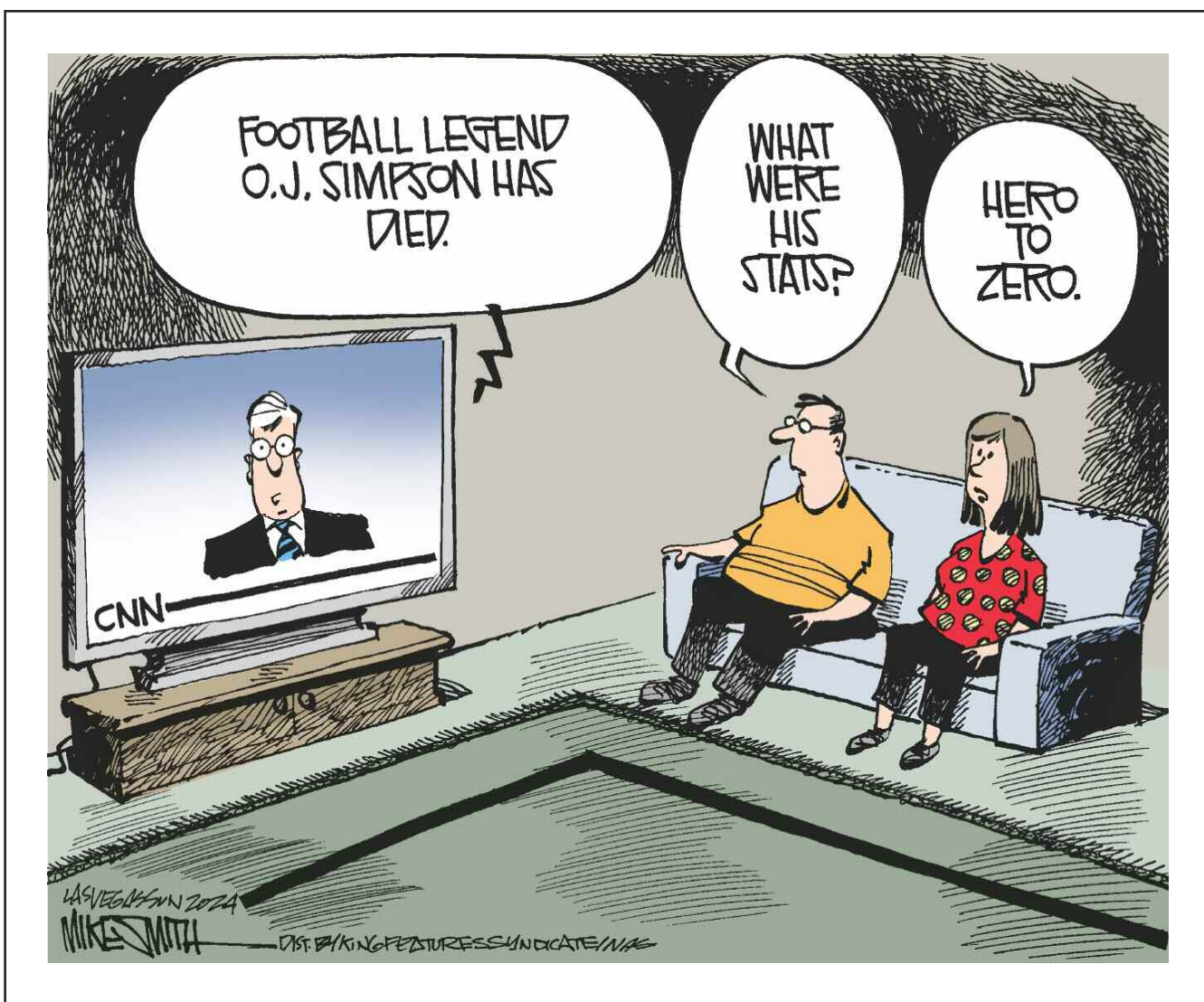
As we anticipate the next session, which will center on school funding, we urge collaboration with all stakeholders to develop a comprehensive funding model that reflects the needs of our schools and the value of our educators. Addressing educator pay is not merely an investment in our workforce but an investment in the future of Indiana's education system, ensuring that the state can successfully implement changes such as the science of reading and new diploma paths while maintaining high educational standards.

Together, we can rewrite the rules to reverse Indiana's educator shortage. We know every kid needs and deserves a neighborhood school with well-prepared educators, class sizes with one-on-one attention, enough nurses, counselors, and healthy meals to ensure they can thrive.

We also know short-term gimmicks and lowering standards won't fix the underlying problems we can and must solve so kids get the quality education they need to prepare for their future. Educators, parents and communities are coming together and demanding long-term solutions to long-term problems. Together, we can build a state where all students have the support they need to succeed regardless of race, background, or ZIP code.

.....  
*Gambill is president of the Indiana State Teachers Association.*

*Indiana Capital Chronicle is an independent, non-profit news organization. Its website is indianacapi-*



## Biden closing a gun portal

By **FRANCIS WILKINSON**

Bloomberg Opinion  
Tribune News Service

In issuing a new rule to close the gun show loophole for firearm sales, the Biden administration isn't just narrowing one of the easier paths by which criminals obtain guns. It's attempting to close a sacred portal into American gun culture.

The rule, which has been under public review since it was officially proposed last August, targets unlicensed gun dealers who sell their wares on the Internet, at flea markets or elsewhere without a federal license. It's rooted in the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, which President Joe Biden signed into law in 2022. Along with other regulations, the law clarified what "engaged in the business" of selling firearms means. The definition now includes unlicensed merchants who repeatedly sell guns for profit.

"If you sell guns predominantly to earn a profit, you must be licensed and you must conduct background checks," Attorney General Merrick Garland said at a press briefing Wednesday. Other private firearms transfers, however, including among family members, will remain legal without a background check.

The need for such regulation has long been obvious. Between 2017 and 2021, federal investigations linked unlicensed dealers to 68,388 trafficked guns and 368 shootings. A 2009 report by gun violence researcher Garen Wintemute, based on research at 78 gun shows in 19 states, depicted a lawless free-for-all where guns traded hands amid Nazi memorabilia, Confederate flags and racist propaganda. When Bloomberg LP founder Michael Bloomberg was mayor of New York, he sent investigators to gun shows in other states, where they documented dealers willfully selling to straw purchasers and to a buyer

**Francis Wilkinson**



who conveyed that he would fail a background check.

The teen perpetrators of the 1999 Columbine massacre obtained their guns from a friend who had purchased them, without a background check, at a gun show. They aren't the only mass shooters who exploited the loophole. The Trace reported earlier this year:

In addition to the Columbine shooters, the private sales loophole armed a man who killed nine people at two Atlanta brokerage firms in 1999; a man who killed six of his co-workers and injured eight others at an aircraft parts plant in Meridian, Mississippi, in 2003; a man who killed seven people and wounded 25 others in Midland and Odessa, Texas, in 2019; and a teen who killed two people and wounded seven others at his former high school in St. Louis in 2022.

It has long been a tenet of the gun movement that guns are necessary for good guys to defend themselves against bad guys. This pronouncement has always been an awkward fit with the movement's vigorous defense of the gun show loophole. Gun Owners of America vowed last year to go to court to block the unlicensed-seller rule if it goes into effect. Republican Senator John Cornyn of Texas, who helped negotiate the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, called the rule a Biden "power grab" that has stretched the meaning of the phrase "engaged in the business" beyond the intent of Congress.

Screening firearm buyers for

felony convictions or severe mental illness is consistently supported by an overwhelming majority of Americans, including gun owners. A typical background check takes only minutes to complete. (There's a reason the federal checking system is called "instant.")

By contrast, the demand to give dangerous people easy access to guns is politically unpopular, morally untenable, and logically bizarre. Yet it's consistent with a movement that decries violence while insisting that cities, states, and the federal government must not regulate the lethality of firearms, who can access them or where and how they can be carried — regardless of the threat they pose to public health.

The National Rifle Association and other vectors of gun culture insist on the primacy of "law-abiding" gun owners. But if lawful gun owners are their focus, why have they waged a decades-long battle against restricting gun sales to criminals and the mentally ill? It's not an easy question to answer.

It does, however, hint at the primeval force driving much of American gun culture. For millions of Americans, guns are a dangerous but acceptable tool for self-defense or sport — something to be handled only by those who meet a baseline level of lawful responsibility. For many others, they are more like a religious obsession — too sacred and transcendent to be encumbered by laws or shabby concerns with the pursuit of happiness or preservation of life. It's primal. It's incompatible with a modern society. And it looks like it will be killing us for many decades to come.

.....  
*Wilkinson is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist covering U.S. politics and policy.*

# The Commercial Review



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—Thomas Jefferson

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# Honey board funds competition

By LINDSEY BEREBITSKY  
Purdue Ag News

Sweet, syrupy, golden liquid swirls over the end of grooves in wooden wands and into everything from yogurt to baklava to fresh, steaming sopaipillas. It's no secret that honey is more than a spoonful of sugar, but the National Honey Board says that American consumers prefer it over any other sweetener on the market.

In the past few years, specialty sauces like hot honey combined the classic warm, sweet feeling with a bright, spicy kick and have taken over market trends. To encourage more innovation with America's favorite sauce, Mike Caffee, external relations and career services coordinator within the Department of Food Science at Purdue, partnered with the National Honey Board to launch a competition for students to create honey condiments.

Each of the 10 teams had to have at least one food science student on board, and several teams included students from across Purdue University. For example, agricultural and biological engineering major Siddharth Kumar got involved after hearing about the competition through a friend's Instagram. He joined another agricultural and biological engineering major, Alvin Cai, and two food science majors, Hayley Wong Liang and Sam Weber, to form the team "Ya like jazz?"

Team leader Wong Liang said, "We fermented our honey with garlic and we decided to combine that with gochujang, which is a red chili paste from Korea. We wanted something trendy, and K-pop music and Korean dramas are bringing in the soft powers from Korea. If so many people are being exposed to those foods, why not capitalize on the market?"

Her teammate Kumar added, "Fermenting the honey and garlic extracts more flavors, and it can change the color and viscosity, or thickness, of the sauce."

Ya like jazz's gochujang honey sauce is designed with fried foods in mind. Whether it's wings or vegetarian options like tofu, the umami flavors from the garlic honey and the heat from the red chili



Purdue Ag News/Tom Campbell

Team Aji chumbo — from left, Anurag Pujari, Manya Kadiwala and Melissa Suarez — made a sauce inspired by a pepper jam from Panama during a competition for students to create honey condiments hosted by the National Honey Board in partnership with the department of food science at Purdue University. They used orange juice and honey to bring out the flavor of habaneros and balance their heat.

paste are sure to maximize the potential of every bite.

Graduate students were also welcomed to compete in the competition. Hansel Mina and Adriana Vanegas Torres, both PhD students in food safety and microbiology, are also labmates in Amanda Deering's lab and named their team "Le parce" (translating to "The good friends") as a testament to their shared Latin American heritage and friendship.

Mina and Vanegas created a multipurpose sauce that can be used as both a salad dressing and a meat marinade. Its flavor profile centers around passion fruit, a tropical purple fruit filled with black seeds and a tart, bright yellow pulp.

"With the honey, the passion fruit gives our sauce a sweet and acidic taste," Mina said. "It tastes like Argentinian chimichurri with a touch of the tangy tropical fruit."

Vanegas and Mina decided not to use any preservatives and relied on their training in food safety to use a heat treatment and bottling method to protect the sauce. They also brought in other challenging ingredients, like panela cane sugar that comes in the form of a brown block. They'd like

to use Boiler Bee Honey from Purdue's hives if they have the chance to go commercial.

While this experience was similar to their lab work together, they enjoyed having fun and experimenting without the pressure of data and deadlines. This competition also gave them ideas for their next steps after graduate school. As Mina prepares to take on a United States Agency for International Development grant in Peru aimed at adding value to their passion fruit crop with products much like the sauce he and Vanegas made, he knows this experience will benefit him long into the future.

Manya Kadiwala, a freshman in food science, reached out to coordinator Caffee to see if there was anyone else looking for a team. He connected her with a senior in her major, Melissa Suarez, and a PhD in food science, Anurag Pujari.

Kadiwala said that differences in experience and age weren't obstacles for their team, but instead markers of their success. "The learning part of this experience was the most exciting part for me. Working with a senior and a PhD student taught me

many different factors to consider as I came up with ideas on this project, like how feasible things are in a time limit and what different people would think of certain products."

Team "Aji chumbo" was born from valuing different perspectives. The namesake comes from Panama, where aji chombo peppers are used to make a jam.

"I'm from Panama, and in Panama, we don't eat spicy food. We have certain peppers we use to flavor food—just not for hotness," Suarez said. "We have this jam called, 'aji chombo jam,' that we use to put on meats or crackers. It's a perfect combination of sweet and heat."

While aji chombo peppers are too difficult to get in the United States, the jam served as inspiration for their condiment development. They found a close match in habanero peppers and used fresh-squeezed orange juice and honey to mask the heat.

Teammate Pujari said, "The citrus here brings in more depth of flavor and can tenderize meat if it's used in a marinade."

The teams had to develop and create a new condiment in a couple months with a budget of \$500. They also had to make a

process flow chart about their operations, draw up ingredient and product labels and write a two-page essay on the health benefits of honey.

The teams presented their findings and final products to a panel of judges, including representatives on the National Honey Board and professors from food science and agricultural economics, on April 10. All the students retain their intellectual property rights and can take the project to patents and commercialization if they so choose.

Keith Seiz from the National Honey Board said, "I was so impressed and surprised by how all 10 teams made something completely different. Some had drawn on global flavors, others had interesting takes on classic condiments and still others came up with new kinds of products entirely."

The next day, the winning three teams were announced in the Nelson Hall of Food Science in front of an audience of industry sponsors. Third place was given \$2,500, second \$5,000 and first \$7,500, awards that would be split evenly amongst each team's individual members.

The team "Sweet

Stingers," composed of all freshmen in food science, took home third place for their garlic honey ranch.

"We wanted to do a twist on a midwestern classic, and our sauce makes a great dip for wings or a topping for pizza and salads," said team member Ana Crane.

"Honey Up" won second place for their invention of a honey ketchup powder. Storing a sauce as a powder allows it to double as a dry rub or seasoning, and it also takes up less space and can be shelf-stable for up to 10 times as long as a normal condiment. It can be rehydrated with water for a dip, making it an accessible sauce for military personnel as well.

The first place team felt a mixture of feelings. Some surprised, some sure and confident, but all excited to hear the National Honey Board representative Seiz call out Ya like jazz? as the winner of the competition. Their spicy, Korean-inspired "Beehive Blaze" sauce with gochujang won the judges over by stomach and heart.

The group's leader Wong Liang said the biggest thing they had learned together from the competition was, "When you have a creative idea, you should always try it."

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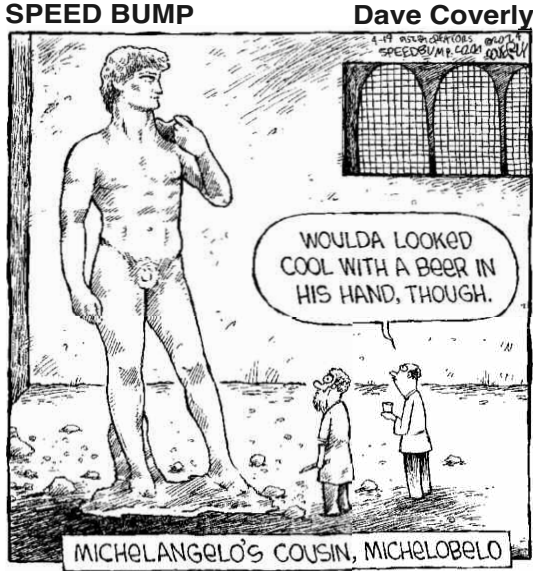
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**Contract Bridge** By Steve Becker

**Bidding quiz**

You are South, and the bidding has gone:

West	North	East	South
1♦	1NT	Pass	?

What would you bid with each of the following five hands?

- ♠ Q87 ♥ 952 ♦ 763 ♣ AK93
- ♠ 853 ♥ Q96542 ♦ 4 ♣ J73
- ♠ KQ63 ♥ KJ85 ♦ 9 ♣ QJ94
- ♠ 942 ♥ A7 ♦ 82 ♣ KQ9643
- ♠ 72 ♥ KQ8753 ♦ 7 ♣ KJ92

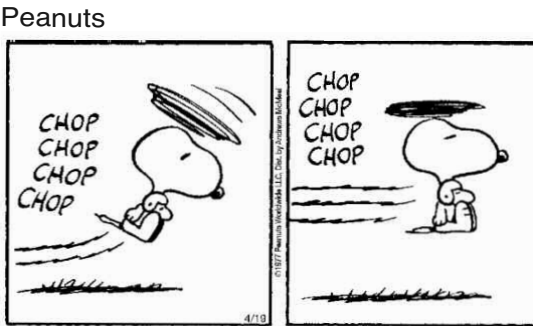
1. **Two notrump.** Partner's overcall is equivalent to an opening bid of one notrump, indicating 15 to 17 or 18 points, notrump distribution and at least one diamond stopper. You should therefore raise to two notrump to invite him to go on to three, just as you would have done had he opened the bidding with one notrump.

2. **Two hearts.** This shows a weak hand with five or more hearts. You are saying, in effect, that two hearts is a safer contract than one notrump. Partner should accept your judgment and pass. If you happen to play transfer bids, you would bid two diamonds to force partner to bid two hearts, which you would then pass.

3. **Two diamonds.** This is clearly a game-going hand, but a major-suit game looks much more desirable than a game in notrump. Accordingly, you cuebid West's suit, asking partner to bid a four-card major if he has one. If partner retreats to two notrump instead, you will raise him to three. If you play that two diamonds would be a transfer to hearts, then you should have an agreement that two clubs would be Stayman in this situation.

4. **Three notrump.** That's what you'd bid if partner had opened with one notrump, and that's what you should bid opposite the notrump overcall. It would be pointless to bid three clubs instead, ostensibly aiming for an 11-trick game when a nine-trick game is available.

5. **Four hearts.** This is also a game-going hand opposite the one-notrump overcall, but this time your six-card suit is a major, and partner is known to hold at least two hearts. In general, eight-card major-suit fits are better off being played in the major rather than in notrump, and with your 2-6-1-4 distribution, you should have no reason to believe otherwise. As before, if you play transfers, you should bid two diamonds and then raise partner's two-heart response to four.



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36	Salary	40	Eyelid	41	Milne	42	Keep for oneself	46	Poodle's bowlful	47	—	48	Aussie hopper	49	Mediocre	50	Old U.S. gas brand	51	Pester	DOWN	1	Essen exclamation	19	Give a darn	33	Attention-getting call	34	Pulverize potatoes	36	"Yippee!"	37	Relaxing resorts	38	Casual shirt	39	"Clumsy me!"	40	Classic Fords	42	Golfer Michelle	43	— and outs	44	Mauna —	45	Pooch

**Solution time: 25 mins.**

Yesterday's answer 4-19

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## Reds ...

Continued from page 8  
“That looks like Mariner baseball as we know it,” Servais said.  
Miller (3-1) allowed only one hit — an Elly De La Cruz solo homer that just cleared the right-field wall in the second inning — over six brilliant innings, and he earned his third win of the season after Garver’s homer with two outs in the bottom of the sixth inning.

Trent Thornton, Gabe Speier and Austin Voth came out of the bullpen and each tossed a scoreless inning to close it out.

Mariners pitchers held the Reds to a total of five runs in the three-game series; the Reds came in averaging 6.1 runs through their first 15 games.

“What can you say? Awesome pitching series for us,” Servais said.

The 25-year-old Miller came into the game with a streak of 14 1/3 scoreless innings pitched, and he has now allowed only one earned run in his last 20 1/3 innings, lowering his season ERA to 1.85.

“I like where I’m at,” Miller said.

He gave up only one hit Wednesday, with one walk and seven strikeouts — all while not feeling like he had his best stuff through the first few innings.

“As the game went on, I definitely feel like I got better,” he said. “If it was last year, whenever I felt like this, I just felt like I was just in a hole. Whereas

now, it feels like if something’s not working, I can go to something else.”

Miller didn’t have his usual command of his four-seam fastball — pulling the ball to his glove side — and relied on his sweeper to get ahead of hitters and his two-seam fastball to put them away.

The two-seamer is a pitch he developed late in his rookie season last year, and he remembered the first one he threw in a game last September was on a 3-2 pitch that froze Dodgers star Mookie Betts for a strikeout.

He threw that two-seamer 19 times Wednesday and got eight called strikes with it — striking out Reds leadoff hitter Jonathan India with it three times.

“He continues to learn,” Servais said of Miller. “Last year, he just didn’t have a whole lot of Plan B to go to. But his ability to land off-speed pitches early in counts — when he struggled to do that at times last year — he’s just grown so much as a pitcher.”

As important as anything in this series, Rodriguez began to flash some of his old form.

After being picked off at first base to end Sunday’s series against the Chicago Cubs, Rodriguez effectively saved Tuesday’s victory with three incredible plays in center field.

On Wednesday, he scorched a double to center field in the third inning

for his first extra-base hit since his very first at-bat of the season on March 28, a streak of 67 at-bats without one.

It took just two more at-bats for another one — when he laced a 104.8-mph double to right field in the eighth inning.

Raleigh’s home run in the second inning, off Reds left-handed starter Andrew Abbott, was his third of the season.

Garver was the Mariners’ most expensive offseason acquisition — signing a two-year, \$24-million free-agent deal — but he’d struggled early to settle in with his new team. He said he’s felt better at the plate the last handful of games, and even when he got out in his first two at-bats against Abbott, he still liked his approach.

When he got an elevated 93-mph fastball in his third at-bat, he didn’t miss it, sending it 393 feet over the scoreboard in left field.

“I think we’re getting back to [the] kind of the player I have been,” Garver said. “Pretty much just dominating fastballs is kind of my game plan. [And] being able to lay off the spin.”

Mariners hitters walked seven times and struck out nine times — with 20 walks and 31 strikeouts total in the three-game series — an indication that they’re seeing the ball better and generally sticking with a consistent plan at the plate.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

## Shielding off

Jay County High School freshman Caleb Garringer shields off his opponent from Bluffton during the 1,600-meter run at West Jay Elementary School.

## Sports on tap

### Local schedule

**Today**  
Jay County — Track at Ansonia — 4:30 p.m.; Baseball at Shenandoah — 5 p.m.; Softball vs. Madison-Grant — 5:30 p.m.; Fort Recovery — Softball at Arcanum — 5 p.m.

**Saturday**  
Jay County — Boys golf at Adams Central — 9 a.m.; Baseball vs. Randolph Southern — 10 a.m.; Junior high baseball vs. Randolph Southern — 12 p.m.; Fort Recovery — Track at Milton Union — 9:30 a.m.; Baseball vs. Lincolnview — 11 a.m.

### TV sports

**Today**  
3:30 a.m. — Formula 1: Chinese Grand Prix (ESPN2)  
2:45 p.m. — BBL basketball: Manchester

Giants at Leicester Riders (Bally Indiana) 5:30 p.m. — NASCAR Xfinity Series: Ag-Pro 300 (FS1)  
6:30 p.m. — Wrestling: U.S. Olympic trials (USA)  
6:40 p.m. — MLB: Los Angeles Angels at Cincinnati Reds (Bally Indiana)  
7 p.m. — College baseball: Florida at Vanderbilt (ESPN2)  
8 p.m. — College baseball: Penn State at Central Michigan (BTN)  
10 p.m. — PFL fighting: Welterweights & featherweights (ESPN)  
11:45 p.m. — AFL football: Port Adelaide Power at Collingwood Magpies (FS1)

**Saturday**  
3 a.m. — Formula 1: Chinese Grand Prix (ESPN2)  
5:30 a.m. — NRL Rugby: Canberra Raiders at Brisbane Broncos (FS1)

10 a.m. — Premier League: Brentford at Luton Town (USA)  
10:30 a.m. — NASCAR Xfinity Series: Ag-Pro 300 (FS1)  
12 p.m. — College football: Michigan spring game (FOX)  
1 p.m. — NBA playoffs: Orlando Magic at Cleveland Cavaliers (ESPN)  
12 p.m. — College softball: LSU at Tennessee (ESPN2)  
12:30 p.m. — UFL: St. Louis Battlehawks at Memphis Showboats (ABC)  
12:30 p.m. — ARCA Menards Series: Talladega (FS1)  
2 p.m. — College football: Illinois spring game (BTN)  
2:15 p.m. — MLB: Milwaukee Brewers at St. Louis Cardinals (Bally Indiana)  
2:30 p.m. — Premier League: Arsenal at Wolverhampton (USA)  
3 p.m. — LPGA Tour: The Chevron Champi-

onship (NBC)  
3 p.m. — PGA Tour: RBC Heritage (CBS)  
3:30 p.m. — NBA playoffs: Phoenix Suns at Minnesota Timberwolves (ESPN)  
4 p.m. — MLB: New York Mets at Los Angeles Dodgers (FS1)  
4 p.m. — College gymnastics: NCAA Championship (ABC)  
4 p.m. — USL Championship: Oakland Roots at Detroit City (FOX)  
4:30 p.m. — IMSA SportsCar Championship: Acura Grand Prix of Long Beach (USA)  
6 p.m. — NBA playoffs: Philadelphia 76ers at New York Knicks (ESPN)  
6:30 p.m. — Wrestling: U.S. Olympic Trials (USA)  
6:40 p.m. — MLB: Los Angeles Angels at Cincinnati Reds (Bally Indiana)  
7 p.m. — UFL: San Antonio Brahmas at Michigan Panthers (FOX)  
8:30 p.m. — NBA playoffs: Los Angeles Lak-

ers at Denver Nuggets (ABC)  
10 p.m. — USL Championship: Sacramento Republic at Orange County SC (FOX)

### Local notes

**Challenge set**  
The Adams County 5K Run/Walk Challenge for the 2024 season will begin April 20, where participants 19-years-old or older can compete in a total of eight races within Adams County.  
The cost to register for the challenge is \$150 and will enter participants in all eight races, with five needing to be completed for the Challenge Series award.  
Challengers don’t need to be from Adams County, but only the first 100 entries will compete. Participation in individual events is available as well.  
To sign up or for more information, visit [www.adamscounty5kchallenge.com](http://www.adamscounty5kchallenge.com).

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Name:JEFFREY M COSNER Vin #: 1658 1972 MARKIV 16 X 64 Lien: \$742.60 CR 4-12,192024- HSPAXLP</p>	<p><b>PUBLIC AUCTION</b> Located in the Women’s Building &amp; Farmers Building at the Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 E Votaw Street, Portland Indiana on Friday Afternoon <b>APRIL 26, 2024</b> 5:00 P.M. <b>HOUSEHOLD GOODS – OLD &amp; COLLECTORS ITEMS</b> Maytag side by side refrigerator; GE Profile washer &amp; dryer; Proform 585 treadmill; Marcy Power Series Fitness System; curved sofa; china cabinet; wing back chair; queen size bed; kneehole desk; set of white cabinets/cubicles; wood rockers; (2) bar chairs; WICKER: couch, rocker, chair, coffee table and end table; 4 drawer lamp stand; Lazy Boy leather recliner; leather chair with footstool; Walnut 3 drawer acorn pull dresser with mirror; flip top desk; 1 drawer dropleaf sand; 1 drawer lamp stand; outdoor patio round table with 4 chairs; Serta Motion Essentials bed; Oak bookshelf; desk; marble top stands; 5 drawer dresser; 3 drawer dresser with mirror; chest; Sony DVD player; Sony flatscreen TV; large alligator head; oil lamps; copper fire extinguisher; Bateleur Eagle Print – John A Ruthman 3/11/79; large decorative metal urn; Weber charcoal grill; wood Adirondack chair; Master Built smoker; Kenmore gas grill; cement stand; decorative flower pots; Dyson sweeper; lamps; pictures; pitcher bowl set; stained glass lighthouse; area rugs; Brass ship lantern; old cameras; flasks; wood ammo box; Crystal ware; trunk; vintage shoe shine box; 4 drawer jewelry chest; mini trampoline; HP printer/copier; rocking dolphin; brass lamps; pitcher &amp; bowl; vintage ladies hats; metal horse head; hat boxes; binoculars; Kenmore gas grill; (2) crockery bean pots with lids; jug; wire hat holder; Gilbert erector set; frames; Rocket Roaster; jewelry chest; coffee table; GF grill; cookware; Insta Pot; Magnalite roaster; blender; crock pots; plastic storage cabinet; purses; books; bedding; cups &amp; saucers; towels; games; stock pot; food saver; vacuum sealer; fans; watering cans; utensils; and many other items not listed. <b>MOWERS – SCOOTER - BICYCLES – TOOLS</b> John Deere X350 mower with 48” deck; Troy Bilt TB46 Hydrostatic mower; Drive Spit Fire Ex mobility scooter; Trek Multitrack 7000 men’s and women’s bicycles; Trek Carbon Madone women’s bicycle; Westward stack tool box; Stihl MS 170 chain saw; Stihl tree trimmer; Black &amp; Decker cut saw kit; Pittsburgh 21 pc. ¾” socket set; Craftsman ¾” drive socket set; Bosch hammer drill; Black &amp; Decker hedge trimmer; Makita circular saw; Dewalt angle grinder; Hitachi disc grinder; Stihl gas blower; Coleman Power Mate Inflation Mate; Craftsman 19.2V work set; Ryobi jig saw with laser; All Trade 117 pc. drill/bit set; Dewalt &amp; Milwaukee reciprocating saws; Pittsburgh large wrench set; Stihl hedge trimmer; bolt cutters; Craftsman socket sets; Craftsman belt sander; Shop Vac; Toro battery weed eater; Echo gas weed eater; small fiberglass ladder; tree trimmers; pruners; socket sets; screwdrivers; nut drivers; tape measure; stud finder; Werner step ladder; sledges; axe; drill bits; allen wrenches; pipe wrenches; Craftsman wrenches; hammers; mallets; pliers; glass cutter; rakes; shovels; extension cords; jumper cables; gas can; and many other items not listed. <b>AUCTIONEERS NOTE:</b> Please note that we will be running 2 rings so please come prepared. Doors will open at 3:30 day of auction. <b>John Scarbrough, Deceased</b> LOY AUCTION AC31600027 AUCTIONEERS Gary Loy AU 01031608 Travis Theurer AU11200131 Aaron Loy AU11200112 CR 4-19-2024</p>

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# Sports

## Bruns finishes top three

Jalyn Bruns had a good fall season.

It has only improved in the spring.

The 2022 Fort Recovery High School graduate finished third in a three-team meet on April 13 and 14 at Forest Hills Golf Course.

Bruns' total score of 163 strokes helped lead the IU-East women's golf team a blowout victory with a score of 645. IU Kokomo came in second with 737 strokes while Rio Grande trailed with 785.

Her score also placed her third out of 19 total golfers. Only Brooklynn Cromwell and Katie Craig — both of which also golf for IU-East — shot better than Bruns with scores of 158 and 160, respectively.

Bruns' first round score of 77 tied with Craig's second round for the lowest in the entire meet.

### Noah Arbuckle JCHS — 2020

Earned the win in seven innings of work on the mound for the Hunt-

## Collegiate check-up

ington University baseball team on April 13 as the Foresters took down the Grace Lancers 6-3.

Grace only was able to give Arbuckle trouble in the eighth inning, giving up two singles and a double that led to two runs before making his exit from the game.

Only allowing one earlier run, Arbuckle secured the win for the Foresters (25-15) with six strikeouts, three walks, seven hits and three earned runs.

### Crosby Heniser JCHS — 2022

Struck out the side in one inning of work for the Manchester University baseball team on April 12 in a 18-3 loss to the Hanover Panthers.

Heniser sat down the first two batters looking, before giving up a double. He quickly struckout one more batter to end the inning. The Spartans (9-19) didn't score enough runs in the top of the eighth to allow him another inning of work.

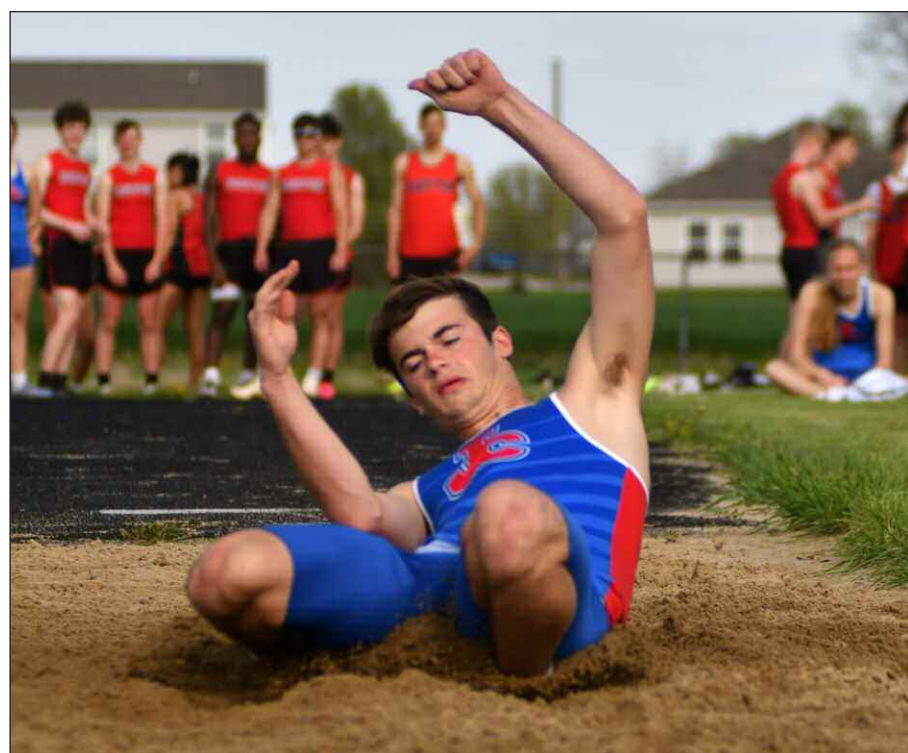
He started in left field the next day, going 0-for-3 as the Panthers beat the Spartans 5-2.

### Maddie Guggenbiller FRHS — 2023

Came through as a pinch hitter for the Defiance College softball team on April 13 in a 4-2 loss to the Franklin Grizzlies.

With one out in the top of the seventh, the FRHS grad got an opportunity to pinch hit for the Yellowjackets (9-18). She responded by blasting a home run to center field to cut the lead to two runs.

Over the previous three games, Guggenbiller struggled as she struck out in 7-of-11 at bats.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

## Coming down


Jay County High School sophomore Peyton Yowell lands into the sand pit for the long jump at West Jay Elementary School during the Patriots' meet against Bluffton.

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## Porter receives life ban from NBA

By PETER SBLENDORIO  
New York Daily News  
Tribune News Service

NEW YORK — In an explosive ruling, the NBA banned Toronto Raptors center Jontay Porter for life after an investigation found he gambled on multiple games and limited his on-court availability for betting purposes, the league said Wednesday.

The probe came after a March 20 game in which Porter played only three minutes after a gambler wagered on the 24-year-old center to underperform as part of an \$80,000 parlay to win \$1.1 million, according to the announcement.

Investigators found Porter divulged "confidential information" to that gambler before the game, and then claimed he felt ill. Porter played at least 21 minutes in each of the previous four games.

Porter also placed 13 bets totaling \$54,094 — resulting in winnings of \$21,965 — on NBA games between January and March, according to the investigation. Porter did not appear in any of the games involving those wagers, though he did bet once on the Raptors to lose, the NBA said.

"There is nothing more important than protecting the integrity of NBA competition for our fans, our teams and everyone associated with our sport, which is why Jontay Porter's blatant violations of our gaming rules are being met with the most severe punishment," NBA Commissioner Adam Silver said in a statement.

Licensed sports betting operators and an undis-

closed watchdog organization informed the NBA of the "suspicious bets" regarding that March 20 game, and the \$80,000 wager was frozen, according to the league. That wager was not paid out.

The 6-10 Porter, who went undrafted out of Missouri in 2019, was on a two-way contract with the Raptors and averaged 4.4 points and 3.2 rebounds over 26 games, including five starts, this season.

He is the younger brother of Denver Nuggets forward Michael Porter Jr., and an older brother of former University of Denver guard Coban Porter, who pleaded guilty in February to vehicular homicide-DUI in a January 2023 crash that left a woman dead.

Porter is the second person to be banned from the NBA under Silver, who became commissioner in 2014. The first was former Los Angeles Clippers owner Donald Sterling after audio caught him making racist comments.

Wednesday's ban marks the latest significant gambling scandal in professional sports, adding to a dubious list that also includes the banishments of MLB greats "Shoeless" Joe Jackson and Pete Rose.

Porter's scandal surfaced within days of Dodgers star Shohei Ohtani accusing his now-fired interpreter, Ipei Mizuhara, of stealing money from him to pay off a gambling debt. Last week, Mizuhara was charged with felony bank fraud after he allegedly stole more than \$16 million from Ohtani, according to federal authorities.

## Mariners sweep Reds

By ADAM JUDE  
The Seattle Times  
Tribune News Service

This ... this is more like it.

This is the brand of baseball the Mariners envisioned when they put this roster together.

"We're in a good spot right now," said Mitch Garver, who hit his first home run with the Mariners, a go-ahead blast in the sixth inning to help power a 5-1 victory over the Cincinnati Reds on Wednesday afternoon.

Bryce Miller was dominant for a third consecutive start, Julio Rodriguez had two hard-hit doubles, and the Mariners (9-10) completed a three-game sweep of the Reds (9-9) to start to climb out of their early-season malaise.

"Our team as a whole, we have our head above water

right now and we have not been hitting the baseball like we know how — and that's a good thing for us," Garver said. "We are right there, right where we need to be."

Cal Raleigh hit a solo homer in the second inning, and Josh Rojas added a pinch-hit homer to lead off a three-run seventh inning that helped put the game out of reach.

After an uneven stretch of baseball to open the season, the Mariners appear to have settled down and opened up the sort of play-book manager Scott Servais had expected coming out of spring training.

It's a familiar script for what this club has been for the past few years: solid starting pitching, a lock-down bullpen, good defense and grind-it-out at-bats.

See Reds page 7