

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

Woman charged for OWI causing death

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

An Ohio woman has been charged with the death of a passenger in her car resulting from an accident last year.

Brianna F. Mason, 23, Sidney, was charged Friday in Jay Superior Court with a Level 4 felony for causing death when operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Level 5 felony for reckless homicide, two Level 6 felonies for criminal recklessness and a Class C misdemeanor for operating a vehicle without a driver's license.

Mason was arrested Monday and booked into Shelby County Security Center in Ohio.

The charges stem from an accident about 2:20 a.m. Aug. 14 at the intersection of Indiana 67 and Indiana 26 just west of Portland. Mason's vehicle went off Indiana 26 at a high rate of speed and rolled several times, ejecting the four passengers.

Taylor L. LeMaster, 20, Berne, died from injuries sustained in the crash.

Two other passengers, Mercedes A. Ryan of Anderson and Araia L. Mullins of Chesterfield, also had extensive injuries.

Mason's four passengers were not wearing seatbelts, according to documents filed in connection with the case.

According to a Jay County Sheriff's Office report, Mason displayed "red, watery and bloodshot eyes" and slurred her words when police arrived on scene. She told police she had not been drinking. (According to the report, she later said she had been drunk the day prior and believed she had been drugged at a bar.)

See OWI page 2

Redkey man is facing rape charges

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

A Redkey man is accused of raping a mentally disabled person several times in the last decade or more.

Teddy R. Baldwin, 75, was arrested April 25 and charged in Jay Circuit Court with six counts of rape when the victim is mentally disabled or deficient, all Level 3 felonies.

According to a probable cause affidavit filed in connection with the case, Baldwin knowingly or intentionally performed sexual acts with the victim identified as "NW" multiple times in his Redkey residence and at a rural Jay County property.

NW told police he moved in with his mother and Baldwin in May 2012.

See Rape page 2

Seniors honored



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Cheryl Ruiz hugs her daughter Chloe on Monday during Jay County High School Honors Night. Cheryl and her husband Bobby presented Chloe with the Portland Evening Optimist Club Scholarship. Among Chloe's other awards were the American Red Cross Leaders Save Lives Scholarship and Kris A. Rose (Wonder Woman) Scholarship.

Jay County High School announces more than \$1.9 million in awards and scholarships

Local students hauled in nearly \$2 million.

During its annual Honors Night on Monday, Jay County High School's seniors received awards and scholarships of \$1,942,652.40.

Of that total, nearly \$57,000 came from local scholarships and awards, along with \$251,344.40 through The Portland Foundation. The Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship came to just over \$222,000 for Gage Sims. (Other finalists were Zion Beiswanger, Nick Lyons and Danielle May.)

The remaining \$1.41 million coming via scholarships offered from colleges, universities and technical schools.

A total of 612 scholarships and awards were announced.

"Tonight we gathered to celebrate a remarkable journey of dedication, perseverance and achievement," said assistant principal James Myers in closing comments. "Your commitment to excellence has not only elevated your futures, it also enriched our entire community. ... Your passion, creativity and intellect have left a mark on our school that will continue to impact the world beyond these walls.

The following is a list of the scholarships and awards presented Monday night at JCHS:

Technical honors

Wesley Bihn, Riah Champ, Morgan Davis, Abraham Dirksen, Allison Hawbaker, Luke Muhlenkamp, Emma Outcalt, Madison Reier, Brooke Retter, Alaina Rodgers, Dakota Rowles and Lucas Timmerman

Academic honors diplomas

Zion Beiswanger, Hannah Boggs, Jose Bravo-Torres, Isabel Castro-Martell, Cameron Clark, Kenzie Clayton, Brayden Collins, Justin DeHoff, Isabella Denton, Caleb DeRome, Maggie Dillon, Breanna Dirksen, Trevin Dun-



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Jay County High School seniors Justin DeHoff (left) and Brayden Collins look at their academic honors diploma medals, presented by Portland Lions Clubs during Honors Night Monday. For more photos from the evening, visit thecr.com.

nington, Jackson Edwards, Madyson Fraley, Marisa Gallegos-Vargas, Bryan Garcia Benitez, Riley Garland, Liam Garlinger, Ryne Goldsworthy, Brenna Haines, Madison Hambrock, Hayden Hardman, Willow Hardy, Joske Herndon, Garrett Hime, Madeline Hudson, Zander Hudson, Caden Hull, Kenzie Landon, Hannah Laux, Reece Leavell, Nicholas Lyons, Danielle May, Isaac Miller, Mason Muhlenkamp, Molly Muhlenkamp, Makinsey Murphy, Samuel Myers, Parker Nichols, Ty Paxson, Kallie Richardson, Erin Ring, Chloe Ruiz, Samantha

Sager, Sophia Saxman, Zoey Shaneyfelt, Gage Sims, Alexander Smith, Emily Smith, Conner Specht, Azalea Thompson, Laila Waddell, MacKenzie Weesner, Leah Wenning and Anthony Wood

3.8+ Honor Section

Zion Beiswanger, Wesley Bihn, Hannah Boggs, Jose Bravo-Torres, Cameron Clark, Brayden Collins, Isabella Denton, Caleb DeRome, Maggie Dillon, Abraham Dirksen, Breanna Dirksen, Madyson Fraley, Marisa Gallegos-Vargas, Riley Garland, Ryne Goldsworthy, Brenna Haines,

Madison Hambrock, Hayden Hardman, Willow Hardy, Allison Hawbaker, Joske Herndon, Garrett Hime, Zander Hudson, Kenzie Landon, Hannah Laux, Reece Leavell, Nicholas Lyons, Danielle May, Isaac Miller, Luke Muhlenkamp, Mason Muhlenkamp, Molly Muhlenkamp, Makinsey Murphy, Parker Nichols, Emma Outcalt, Ty Paxson, Kallie Richardson, Chloe Ruiz, Samantha Sager, Sophia Saxman, Zoey Shaneyfelt, Gage Sims, Alexander Smith, Emily Smith, Azalea Thompson, Luke Vormohr and Mackenzie Weesner

See Honored page 5

Deaths

Ronald Twigg, 79, Portland
Wanda Branscum, 83, Dunkirk
Michael Walker, 77, Portland
Richard Mock, 64, Dunkirk
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 74 degrees Monday. The low was 62.
Tonight's low will be in the mid 50s. Skies will be mostly sunny Thursday with highs climbing into the lower 80s and a 20% chance of rain. The low will be in the lower 60s.
See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

The Portland Forge Retirees Committee has canceled the Portland Forge Family Picnic scheduled for Saturday, May 18, because of a lack of interest.

Coming up

Thursday — Coverage of the JCHS girls tennis match against Muncie Central.
Friday — Another road project will start soon in Jay County.
Saturday — Coverage of this week's Portland Board of Works meeting.



Rape ...

Continued from page 1
NW said Baldwin sexually abused him dozens of times while they lived in the same home in Redkey. The victim's mother, Deanna Baldwin, now has a restraining order against Teddy Baldwin, and she and NW no longer live in Redkey. Baldwin would warn NW after having sex that he "couldn't tell anyone or he would get arrested," according to the affidavit, and would threaten that NW would be "sent to a home" and his "mother would be left alone" if he told others about the sexual acts. Baldwin would also offer to take NW out to eat or buy him items he wanted in exchange for not telling others, the document says. NW expressed to police that it wouldn't have made a difference if he had

asked Baldwin to stop during the sexual acts and said Baldwin was intimidating. Later in an interview with police, NW said he asked Baldwin to stop many times and said he would stop for a short time before the behavior started again. Police visited the rural property in Jay County where several of the sexual acts took place. The property consists of an abandoned house, where NW directed police to a dresser where they found vibrator and sex lubricant, both items that were used by Baldwin to perform sexual acts with him. He also pointed out a mattress he said Baldwin would use for the acts. In Indiana, a Level 3 felony sentence ranges between three and 16 years, with an advisory sentence of nine years.

Obituaries

Ronald Twigg
Dec. 8, 1944-April 26, 2024
Ronald Duane Twigg, age 79, of Portland passed away on Friday, April 26, 2024, at his residence. He was born in Jay County on Dec. 8, 1944, the son of Roscoe and Rozella Irene (Worth) Twigg. He was married on Nov. 22, 1969, to Barbara Gaston who survives. He was a 1962 Bryant High School graduate and served in the U.S. Army from 1965 to 1967. He was a member of Arch Bridge Kroozers and Asbury United Methodist Church. Ron had worked for Hardy Chevrolet and Arm's Auto Body.



Twigg

Surviving are his wife Barbara; one daughter, Angela Twigg of Portland; two brothers, Fred Twigg (wife: Elaine) of Ohio and Rick Twigg of Portland; and several nieces and nephews and great-nieces and great-nephews. He is also survived by his dogs Isabella and Benjie. He was preceded in death by a brother, Phillip Twigg.

Funeral services will be held Thursday, May 2, 2024, at 11 a.m. in the Baird-Freeman Funeral Home with Pastor Joe Boggs presiding. Burial will follow in the Green Park Cemetery. Visitation will be Wednesday from 3 to 7 p.m.

Memorials can be made to Critical Care at Asbury United Methodist Church. Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.

Wanda Branscum
May 26, 1940-April 26, 2024

Wanda J. Branscum, age 83, of Dunkirk passed away on Friday, April 26, 2024, in IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie. She was born in Jay County on May 26, 1940, the daughter of Keith and Olah (Woodard) Bost. She was married to Clarence Branscum and he passed away in 1994.



Branscum

Wanda had retired from Saint Gobain and attended the Redkey Nazarene Church. She was a graduate of Gray High School. Wanda loved word search games, embroidery and her dog Cricket. Surviving are a daughter Jacqueline Patterson (husband: Brad) of

Dunkirk; three grandchildren, Kendra Shaw (husband: Chris), Chase Wellman and Nathan Patter-son; and four great-grandchildren, Arianna Shaw, Harlow Ryan, River Shaw and Lennon Shaw. She was preceded in death by a son, Christopher Allen Harshman; and siblings Marvin Bost, Joseph Bost, Glen Bost, Cletis Bost, Clinis Bost, Cleon Bost, Weldon Bost, Victor Bost, Arlene Hambrook and Betty Rotino.

Funeral services will be Saturday, May 4, 2024, at noon in the Baird-Freeman Funeral Home with Pastor Mike Donathan presiding. Burial will follow in the IOOF Cemetery in Dunkirk. Visitation will be Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon.

Memorials can be made to Jay County Cancer Society or Alzheimers Association. Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.

Richard Mock

With deep affection and respect, we remember Richard G. Mock, a man of immense love, generosity and talent.

Born on May 11, 1959, in Bluffton, Indiana, Richard, known as Ric to all his family and friends, was a man who loved his family, relished in friendly competition and held a deep love for his hometown, Dunkirk.



Mock

Ric's career as a tool and die worker for Chrysler Automotive showcased his unique skills and talents. Even after retiring in 2021, his creative spirit remained, practicing the art of drawing and enjoying the peace it gave him. He also took great pleasure in the simple joys of life, like baseball and fishing. The love of sports made him a cherished teammate and opponent on the baseball field. He was a dedicated member of the Dunkirk Elks Lodge and an attendee of The Rock Church. Ric enjoyed spending time with his friends, whether on the phone or in person.

Ric's loving spirit will continue to live on through his wife, Jo Ann Mock, whom he married on Oct. 1, 1983. His children, Cory (Taylor) Mock and Lee (Kathryn) Mock; granddaughter Emmalyn Mock; and a future grandchild also survive him. He is remembered by his parents, Ruth and Dewaine Geesaman;

brother Stan Mock; and sisters Rhonda (Roger) Skeens, Debbie (Bob) Helfst, Cheryl Williams and Linda Green.

Ric was preceded in death by his father Jerry (stepmother: Agatha) Mock; and brothers Dennis and Mike Lewis.

The celebration of Ric's life will be 1 p.m. Friday, May 3, 2024, at the Wilson-Shook Funeral Homes and Cremation Center (Dunkirk Memorial Chapel). The visitation will be at the same venue on Thursday, May 2, from 3 to 7 p.m. and an hour prior to services on Friday. Burial will follow in Dunkirk I.O.O.F. Cemetery of Dunkirk, Indiana.

As we celebrate Ric's life, we invite all who knew him to leave memories and upload photos on his memorial page at wilsonshookfh.com. Let us remember Ric, not for his departure, but for the loving, generous and talented life he led.

Michael Walker
Dec. 15, 1946-April 27, 2024

Michael Wayne Walker, 77, Portland, passed suddenly at his home on Saturday, April 27, 2024.

The son of Floyd and Nema (Hatzel) Walker was born on Dec. 15, 1946. Mike grew up in Redkey, Indiana, graduated from Redkey High School and played basketball during his time there.

Mike was the owner of Mike's Auto Sales in Portland, Indiana, and retired from Fort Recovery Industries after 18 years of employment. He enjoyed fishing, trap shooting and all things outdoors throughout his life.



Walker

Mike leaves behind his son Brandon Walker (Cara Cramer); her children Kris Petty and Alexis Bentz as well as five bonus grandchildren; his long-time girlfriend Debbie Hart; a sister, Pam Walker of Colorado; and several nieces and nephews.

Michael was preceded in death by his parents; and his brother James M. Walker.

Cremation services will be handled by The Meeks Mortuary and Crematory, Washington Street Chapel, and he will be interred with his brother at Hillcrest Cemetery in Redkey, Indiana.

Condolences may be sent to the family at meeksmortuary.com.

CR almanac

Thursday 5/2	Friday 5/3	Saturday 5/4	Sunday 5/5	Monday 5/6
82/62	77/56	76/56	75/55	74/64

Lotteries

Powerball
Monday 11-38-47-67-69
Power Ball: 14
Power Play: 2
Estimated jackpot: \$178 million

Mega Millions
Estimated jackpot: \$257 million

Hoosier
Monday
Midday
Daily Three: 6-4-5
Daily Four: 1-9-6-9
Quick Draw: 2-4-5-6-9-11-19-26-27-28-29-30-32-33-37-45-60-65-74-75
Evening
Daily Three: 6-2-3

Daily Four: 4-2-2-0
Quick Draw: 1-5-6-8-26-39-42-44-47-49-59-61-64-67-71-74-75-77-78-80
Cash 5: 14-25-27-32-42
Estimated jackpot: \$160,000

Ohio
Monday
Midday
Pick 3: 7-5-1
Pick 4: 3-7-8-9
Pick 5: 4-4-7-5-6
Evening
Pick 3: 2-6-8
Pick 4: 6-0-5-9
Pick 5: 0-7-2-8-5
Rolling Cash: 2-15-16-17-34
Estimated jackpot: \$150,000

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery
Corn.....4.29
June corn4.29
Wheat4.92

POET Biorefining Portland
Corn.....4.45
June corn4.45
July corn.....4.45

The Andersons Richland Township
Corn4.35
June corn4.35
Beans11.46

June beans11.46
Wheat5.61

ADM Montpelier
Corn.....4.18
June corn4.20
Beans11.35
June beans11.37
Wheat5.58

Heartland St. Anthony
Corn.....4.28
June corn4.31
Beans11.20
June beans11.30
Wheat5.37

Today in history

In 2014, the Jay County High School softball team ran its perfect record to 12-0 with a 6-0 victory over the Mississinewa Indians. Pitcher Larissa Boles racked up 12 strikeouts while allowing just two hits and a walk in the shutout.

In 2019, Kristi Betts turned in her letter of resignation from Jay School Board, effective June 11. Betts was in the midst of her second term on the school board — she was initially elected in 2012 — but her family was planning a move to Chickamauga, Georgia.

In 2023, The Graphic Printing Company finalized the purchases of The News-Gazette (Winchester) and The News Times (Hartford City), adding those papers to its long-time publications The Commercial Review and The News and Sun. —The CR

Citizen's calendar

Today
4 p.m. — Jay School Board special meeting, General Shanks, 414 Floral Ave., Portland.

Thursday
4 p.m. — Portland Board of Works, city hall, 321 N. Meridian St.

Monday
5:30 p.m. — Portland Plan Commission, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland.

Monday
5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.

OWI ...

Continued from page 1
Her results on a preliminary breath test came in at 0.086%, and her blood alcohol level tested soon after came in at 0.071%. (The legal limit is 0.08%.) Steven Butts of Sidney, Ohio, who had been a passenger in the vehicle, told police Mason "drives like she is in the middle of a race" and drives worse while intoxicated. Butts and Mullins recalled Mason drinking peach-flavored beer while driving Aug. 14. Police found cans of peach-flavored beer littered around the scene, as well as a bottle of Fireball Cinnamon Whisky. Butts shared a video of Mason driving before the crash with Mullins' bra covering her face and eyes while driving. Mullins showed police a video of the speedometer clocking at 120 mph. Mullins told police Mason asked her after the accident to say she had been driving the vehicle because Mason does not have a license. Mason told police she was driving to the highway intersection near Portland when a white SUV swerved into her lane, causing her to drive off the east side of the road and crash. She estimated she had been driving 70 mph and slowed to 60 mph before driving off the road. According to event data recorder information obtained from the vehicle, it had been traveling 87 mph about five seconds before the crash. Upon impact, the vehicle was traveling 73 mph. (The speed limit is 55 mph.) Ryan, who had once been in an intimate relationship with Mason, told police Mason has attempted to lie to her about the crash several times. In Indiana, a Level 4 felony sentence ranges from two to 12 years, with an advisory sentence of six years.

SERVICES

Thursday
Twigg, Ronald: 11 a.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Friday
Mock, Richard: 1 p.m., Wilson Shook Funeral Home, 317 N. Main St., Dunkirk.

Saturday
Branscum, Wanda: noon, Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Service listings provided by
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120 N. Meridian St.
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progressiveofficeproducts.com

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Workplace crush leaves woman scrambling

DEAR ABBY: I am a lesbian who recently experienced heartbreak by falling in love with my mentor and boss. I didn't want it to happen, but it did. The time we spent together was a balance of bliss and fear. My heart and soul feel that she feels the same way. I left my job because my feelings for her became so overwhelming, I couldn't cope.

She knows how I feel about her, and she has shown interest in me in the past. She is not gay, but I do know of straight women

Dear Abby



who have fallen in love with one woman in their lives. We have a 15-year age difference. That doesn't matter to me. I'm absolutely crazy about her. I dream about our Victorian home together and a beautiful

garden and life. I want nothing else but to make her happy for the rest of her life, make her breakfast every morning and beautiful dinners every night.

We are no longer communicating, upon her request. I want to heal my heart and live my life. It's so hard to let go of her, but I know I should. On the other hand, something tells me I should wait for her. How can I move forward and find the love I deserve in this life? — CRUSHED IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR CRUSHED: If you really want to find the love you know you deserve, then you are going to have to find someone who is ready and willing to provide it. This person is not. She was interested in you only as a friend and an employee. Asking you to stop communicating with her was a strong message.

It may take time and even psychological counseling to help you disengage from your fantasy

of an idealized life with this woman. But for the sake of your sanity, it's important that you try.

DEAR ABBY: My significant other loves to play video games. I believe he has become addicted. I don't know how to tell him enough is enough. I would love to be heard and noticed by him, but he is too infatuated with his video games. I have even participated in his hobby with him. Am I the "bad guy" for wanting quality

time? What can I do? — LOSING THE GAME IN MARYLAND

DEAR LOSING: There is nothing wrong with playing video games — unless it becomes an obsession. Tell your significant other that if he wants your relationship to continue, he is going to have to devote more time to it. Tell him you no longer feel you are noticed or heard, and that it is hurtful. How he reacts will tell you all you need to know.

Harmony Players performing 'Guide'

Harmony Players will present their production of the musical comedy "A Gentleman's Guide to Love & Murder" this weekend.

Shows are scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Friday and 2 and 7:30 p.m. Saturday in Shafer Hall at Horizon Convention Center, 401 S. High St., Muncie.

The cast features Jay County residents Ann Casey and Emma, Tristan and Linda Rodden.

Tickets are \$10 and are available at bit.ly/HPAGGtLaM. (They will also be available at the door with payment via cash, check Venmo or PayPal only.)

Exhibit open

The Ball Stores exhibit is on display at Minnetrista's Heritage Gallery in the Center Building.

Taking Note

The exhibit features photos and items showcasing the departments and merchandise of Ball Stores.

"We are thrilled to unveil the Ball Stores exhibition and offer visitors the opportunity to reconnect with a treasured piece of Muncie's history," said Sebastián Encina, Associate Director of Curation & Exhibition at Minnetrista. "Through a curated collection of objects and artifacts, we aim to celebrate the legacy of Ball

Stores and its profound impact on our community."

Free screenings

Adams Memorial Hospital offers free screening and diagnostic mammograms, breast MRI, breast ultrasounds and ultrasound-guided breast biopsies to area women who meet financial criteria.

Funding for the program comes from Indiana Breast Cancer Awareness Trust, a grant funded through profits from the breast cancer license plate. (Those may be purchased online or at any Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles branch.)

Women may call the hospital's central scheduling department at 724-2145 to request an application. For more information, contact Susan Sefton at 724-2145.

Community Calendar

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

Today

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

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.

SINGLES AND SEPARATES SUPPORT GROUP — For anyone who's lost a loved one or has a spouse living in long-term care or suffering from an illness, the group will meet at 2 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month in the Arthur & Gloria Muselman Wellness Pavilion in Berne. For more information, call Sarah Conrad at (260) 589-4496.

COMMUNITY REINFORCEMENT AND FAMILY TRAINING — A non-confrontational, evi-

dence-based intervention for helping families affected by addiction meets at 4 p.m. each Wednesday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.

AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP — New Beginnings, a support group for friends and families of alcoholics, will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday in the Zion Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 726-8229.

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 Wednesday at Redkey United Methodist Church, 122 W. Main St. Come early for a meal. For more information, call Pastor Randy Davis at (765) 369-2085.

Thursday

SMART RECOVERY — A group for those struggling with addiction that focuses on motivation, coping with cravings, managing thoughts, feelings and behavior, and living a balanced life meets at 11 a.m. each Thursday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient

Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY — A 12-step Christian recovery program meets at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. each Thursday 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.

PORTLAND LIONS CLUB — Will meet the first Thursday of the month at Portland Lions Civic Center, 307 W. 100 North. The meal will be served at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

FORGET-ME-NOT — A support group for parents, friends and relatives who have lost a baby through miscarriage, birth or illness will meet from 7 to 9 p.m. at St. Vincent Randolph Hospital, Winchester, in community room 1. For more information, call Kimberly Sibery at (765) 964-6075 or Nikki Bosworth at (765) 584-6452.

Friday

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.

SOFT SHOULDERS — A support group for anyone suffering from memory loss, will meet at 10:30 a.m. the first Friday of each month in the Fireplace Room at Edelweiss Place at Swiss Village in Berne. For more information, call (260) 589-3173.

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.

ROAD RIDERS FOR JESUS — Will meet at 10 a.m. on the first Saturday of each month in the West Walnut Church of Christ fellowship hall, 204 W. Walnut St., Portland. (Please enter from the door facing the alley on the north side of the building.)

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

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

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.

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PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING APPLICATION CONDITIONS:

- 1.) Your dust control flag markers must be in place, at BOTH ends, of your application area by Thursday, May 30th.
- 2.) If potholes appear, during the summer months, in your dust control area; please contact the Jay County Highway Dept @ (260) 726-8701 and request grading or stone applied.
- 3.) The Jay County Highway Department retains full control and authority to maintain said dust controlled areas by grading. Grading will usually be necessary if the surface has deteriorated to a hazardous condition in the opinion of the Highway Department.
- 4.) I agree to pay, in advance, for the dust control solution applied by GREAT LAKES CHLORIDE, INC.
- 5.) Dust mats will be applied in 50 feet increments only. (400 feet minimum)

ONE APPLICATION ONLY
DEADLINE: Thursday May 30th, 2024
LAST DAY FOR PAYMENT
PAYMENT MUST BE MADE IN ADVANCE
Cards, Checks or Money Orders Only

Jay County Highway Department
1035 E 200N, PORTLAND, INDIANA 47371

For More Information, call 726-8701

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ARTS PLACE

Jack Ronald
Spring Paint Out

Saturday, May 4th, 2024

5:00-6:30pm

Activities are made possible in part by the Community Foundation of Randolph County, Indiana Arts Commission, a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency

Jay County Campus of Arts Place
131 E Walnut St. Portland, IN 47371
260.726.4809

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Tuesday's Solution

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

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

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Memories flew him back in time

Editor's note: This column is being reprinted from April 29, 2009. Brigham Field is now long gone, while the former Steed Field — now Portland Municipal Airport — has grown in the last few years with the extension of the runway and addition of a new corporate hangar. The fly-in breakfast referenced in this piece is now led by the American Legion Riders.

By JACK RONALD
The Commercial Review

As I snapped the picture, I was seven again.

At my age, that's a whole lot of time travel in the blink of an eye.

Mike Snyder alerted me that the newsroom had gotten a call that the last of the hangars at Brigham Field was going to be

Back in the Saddle



demolished, starting that morning.

Everyone else on the editorial staff was busy, so I grabbed a camera and said I'd check it out before I picked up the mail.

Now, to people over a certain age, Brigham Field is a known quantity. To people under a certain age, it's a mystery.

I fell on the edge of the former and hoped to be able to explain it to the latter.

When I was growing up, Port-

land had not one airport, but two.

One, Steed Field, grew over time and with leadership from Dick Shreeve and others into the city's municipal airport.

The other, Brigham Field, was a grass strip east of town, not far from the fairgrounds, that in its earliest years tended to attract experimenters and inventors and barnstormers and in its second generation was the favored site for radio control model aircraft enthusiasts.

As a kid, I grew up closer to Steed Field.

It was a pretty short hike through what was then the Johnny and Margaret Finch farm to the grass runways at Steed, aka Portland, airfield.

And to a little kid in Indiana,

that grass runway looked about as high-tech as it could get.

Why pave? I wondered. Grass was just fine.

My trips out to Brigham were fewer. I remember one or two with my father. And I remember solo trips out on my bike on what is now Division Road. But Steed Field held my allegiance when all was said and done.

And I suspect that's because of Dick Shreeve. My dad had incredible confidence in Dick. Dad would have loved to learn to fly, and there were momentary discussions of flying lessons on my part. But I suspect there was a feeling that we just weren't up to the task.

Flying an airplane in that era seemed just short of having magic powers. Not something that mortal Ronalds could do.

The coolest event at Steed Field in those days was a fly-in, drive-in chicken barbecue put on in the summertime by the local Jaycees. It was comparable to the breakfast event put on by Westchester United Methodist Church during the engine and tractor show today.

And like the Westchester event, the fly-in, drive-in barbecue provided a great opportunity for a kid to take an airplane ride for the first time and feel that airborne magic.

The noise of the propeller, the vibration of a small single-engine aircraft, the excitement as the speed built while racing down the runway, then that moment when, amazingly, you were no longer earthbound.

If that's not magic, I don't know what is.

Only dictators have immunity

Los Angeles Times
Tribune News Service

It seems unlikely that the Supreme Court will embrace Donald Trump's outrageous claim that as a former president he enjoys absolute immunity from criminal prosecution for actions that he allegedly took to overturn the 2020 election. This is a relief. To do otherwise would allow the office to become, as Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson put it, "the seat of criminal activity in this country."

Ominously, however, some conservative justices during Thursday's oral argument expressed concerns about prosecuting former presidents. That raises the possibility that the case might be returned to the lower courts for a determination of which of Trump's alleged actions constituted "official acts," a category Trump's lawyers have defined broadly.

Such a muddled outcome would be a mistake, and not only because it would make it less likely that Trump would be put on trial before the November election. If the justices focus on the allegations against Trump, they can and should rule there should be no protection for criminal conduct just because it is connected in some way to the president's official duties.

Understandably, some questions focused on the future implications of a ruling denying Trump immunity. For example, Justice Neil M. Gorsuch expressed a concern about "future uses of the criminal law to target political opponents based on accusations about their motives." He noted that the court would be "writing a rule for the ages."

Of course, the justices should think about the consequences of their decisions. But the primary focus in this case should be on whether Trump is entitled to immunity for the specific actions he allegedly took in an attempt to overturn the election.

The answer should be no. Allowing the most powerful person in the nation, if not the world, to operate without any fear of prosecution for, say, ordering the murder of a political opponent or throwing out election results is a recipe for a dictatorship.

Under questioning from Justice Amy Coney Barrett, Trump's lawyer John Sauer conceded that some of the actions Trump allegedly took were private acts. But even supposedly

Guest Editorial

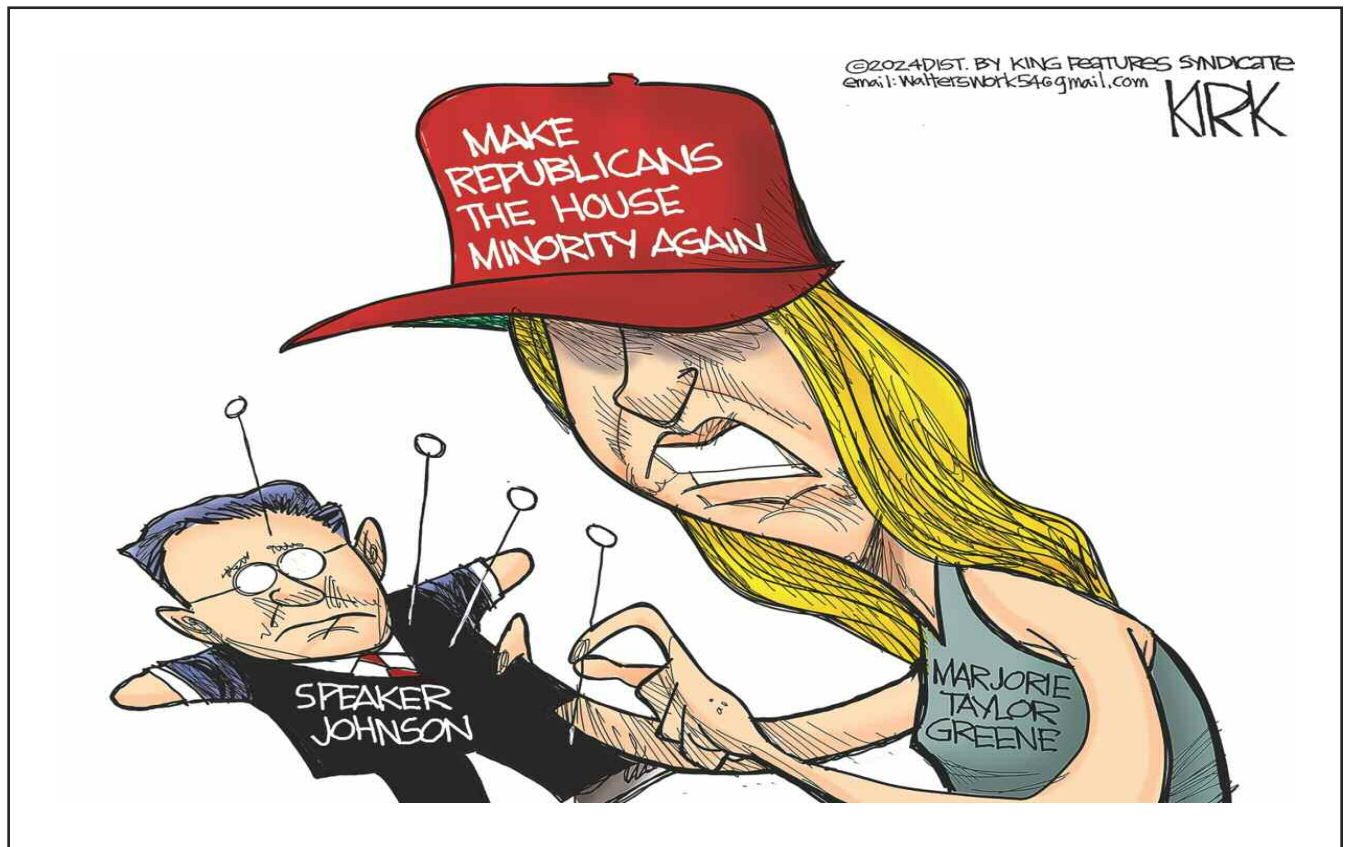
"official" acts — such as Trump's alleged effort to enlist the Justice Department in an attempt to overturn the election — were allegedly part of what former Deputy Solicitor General Michael Dreeben called an "integrated conspiracy," in which the former president allegedly used his official powers and his private conduct to try to subvert the election.

Dreeben discussed the distinction between acts a president seeking reelection takes as an "officeholder" and those he takes as an "office-seeker" (Sauer said he accepted the distinction between a president acting as president versus acting as a candidate.)

The court should recognize that a president can be acting as an "office-seeker" — or, in Trump's case, someone seeking to hold on to an office after losing an election — even when his official duties are involved. Dreeben reminded the justices that one of the acts that put former President Richard Nixon in jeopardy was his attempt to have the Central Intelligence Agency shut down the FBI's Watergate investigation. That is an apt analogy to the allegation that Trump tried to have the Justice Department abet his attempt to subvert democracy.

The court should hand down a decision that would allow Trump's trial to proceed — and it should do so quickly. The court has taken far too much time in dealing with Trump's audacious immunity claim already, rejecting a plea by special counsel Jack Smith last year to consider the issue before an appeals court acted and scheduling oral argument on the last day of such proceedings.

It would be wrong to think of an expeditious ruling in this case as an anti-Trump gesture; a ruling that allowed Trump to go on trial before the election could politically benefit the former president if he were acquitted. The real beneficiaries of a trial before November would be the voters, who deserve to know whether a candidate for the nation's highest office has been found innocent or guilty by a jury.



Policy vital to security, economy

By MARIO H. LOPEZ
The Fulcrum
Tribune News Service

While it may not get the dramatic headlines that other topics garner, few public policy issues will affect the future of our country the way telecommunications infrastructure will, specifically considering the current regulatory path for 5G and wireless spectrum.

How American policymakers handle spectrum will affect national security and American economic international competitiveness now and for decades to come. Economic growth, entrepreneurship, upward mobility, innovation, education and health care are among the areas that are and will be impacted.

That is because spectrum — the radio frequencies that transmit information wirelessly — is the foundation necessary to ensure that American consumers have access to reliable and affordable high-speed internet. And in our increasingly connected world, access to spectrum has a direct bearing on economic activity across vital industries.

American security and international status come into play because our economic competitors understand the crucial role that spectrum plays and are already relying on its use to be a key factor in commerce. Political leaders of all persuasions talk about ensuring that the United States leads the world's economy — in particular over China, a country that many see becoming progressively adversarial toward us.

There is spectrum to be had, but it needs to be made available. Historically, the Federal Communications Commission, which controls access to and use of the various spectrum bands for non-federal users, had authority to auction licenses. That authority expired over a year ago, and Congress needs to move on reauthorizing it.

The good news is that the spectrum auctions have been a Nobel-worthy approach that has been beneficial to taxpayers, bringing in more than \$233 billion to the U.S. treasury, paid by

Mario H. Lopez



wireless companies via the auctions. All companies can participate, including new entrants in the market. That increased competition among providers yields lower broadband prices for consumers.

Recently introduced legislation in the Senate, the Spectrum Pipeline Act of 2024, would in part reestablish the FCC's auction authority — a necessary first step.

Along with auction reauthorization, the bill acknowledges the role of mid-band spectrum, which works well for 5G applications due to its combination of capacity and range. The National Telecommunications and Information Administration would be directed to identify at least 2,500 megahertz of mid-band spectrum that can be reallocated from federal to non-federal use.

Wireless industry association leaders project that in just three years, China will have nearly quadruple more licensed mid-band spectrum for commercial purposes than the United States. That analysis also shows that the U.S. is lagging behind countries like France, Japan, the United Kingdom and South Korea. In fact, the U.S. is currently ranked 13th in the world for assigned licensed mid-band mobile spectrum according to research from IT and technology consulting firm Accenture.

In addition to the wider issue of global competitiveness, there are the practical, everyday economic benefits for Americans in modernizing our spectrum policy that only increase the significance to moving spectrum policy forward. By now most Americans have an intuitive understanding of how they benefit from internet connectivity.

Those benefits still need to be

expanded to parts of the population, however. The gap in access to communication technologies hurts millions of underserved communities. That is known as the digital divide — and wireless access is an essential component to addressing that disparity. For example, data from Pew Research Center shows that 20 percent of the Hispanic population relies solely on smartphones for access to broadband for internet connectivity. Other communities face similar circumstances.

Ensuring that access is an important component for improving prospects for economic opportunity.

The tangible role of the internet to education, a cornerstone for individual success, is evident. Improved internet access allows students to access online educational resources, participate in remote learning and engage in e-learning platforms. This helps level the playing field and ensures that individuals from all socioeconomic backgrounds have equal access to educational opportunities, enabling them to acquire the skills necessary for better career prospects.

The rise in Fixed Wireless Access, which uses wireless broadband for home and business internet, has been a positive development in this regard. FWA can continue to be one way for more people to enjoy broadband for the first time than before. But providers can only offer 5G FWA in areas where there is enough spectrum and network capability.

Policymakers need to understand the magnitude of wireless spectrum policy, and its ramifications for Americans, both as individuals in pursuit of social and economic advancement and for the country's national security and standing. The costs of not doing so would be a significant, and lasting, setback on all these fronts.

Lopez is president of the Hispanic Leadership Fund, a public policy advocacy organization that promotes liberty, opportunity and prosperity for all Americans.

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VOLUME 151—NUMBER 1
WEDNESDAY, MAY 1, 2024

www.thecr.com

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

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—Thomas Jefferson

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Honored ...

Continued from page 1
Ivy Tech Community College associate's degree
Zion Beiswanger, Maggie Dillon, Madison Fraley and Makinsey Murphy

Ivy Tech Community College ICC
Hannah Boggs, Brayden Collins, Isabella Denton, Caleb DeRome, Breanna Dirksen, Marisa Gallegos-Vargas, Brenna Haines, Madison Hambrock, Willow Hardy, Joske Herndon, Garrett Hime, Hannah Laux, Reece Leavell, Nicholas Lyons, Danielle May, Isaac Miller, Molly Muhlenkamp, Parker Nichols, Erin Ring, Chloe Ruiz, Sophia Saxman, Zoey Shaneyfelt, Emily Smith, Azalea Thompson, Laila Waddell and Mackenzie Weesner

Ivy Tech Community College certification
Madalyn Hull (CNA), Jaylen Hartley (CNA), Alaysha Brannon-Roberts (dementia care), Riah Champ (dementia care), Emily Craig (dementia care), Allison Hawbaker (animal agribusiness) and Emma Outcalt (animal agribusiness)

National Honor Society
Zion Beiswanger, Hannah Boggs, Isabel Castro-Martell, Isabella Denton, Caleb DeRome, Maggie Dillon, Breanna Dirksen, Madyson Fraley, Marisa Gallegos-Vargas, Brenna Haines, Madison Hambrock, Joske Herndon, Kenzie Landon, Hannah Laux, Reece Leavell, Nick Lyons, Danielle May, Isaac Miller, Molly Muhlenkamp, Parker Nichols, Madison Reier, Kallie Richardson, Erin Ring, Chloe Ruiz, Samantha Sager, Sophia Saxman, Gage Sims and Mackenzie Weesner

IU Health Jay Bridge to the Future Scholarship
Danielle May, Madison Hambrock, Molly Muhlenkamp

First Bank of Berne
Brayden Collins

Jay County Junior High Honor Society Scholarship
Danielle May and Madyson Fraley

Jay County Junior High Student Council Scholarship
Madyson Fraley, Sophia Saxman, Hannah Laux, Molly Muhlenkamp and Isabella Denton

FCC (Indiana) Hiroshi Nozue Memorial Engineering and Maintenance Scholarship
Reece Leavell

Daughters of the American Revolution - Mississinewa Chapter
Zion Beiswanger

Daughters of the American Revolution - Mississinewa Chapter
Sophie Saxman

All Allen County Athletic Conference Academic Certificated
Zion Beiswanger, Bella Denton, Maggie Dillon, Breanna Dirksen, Madyson Fraley, Brenna Haines, Willow Hardy, Joske Herndon, Hannah Laux, Danielle May, Molly Muhlenkamp, Sophia Saxman, Wes Bihn, Caleb DeRome, Abraham Dirksen, Garrett Hime, Nick Lyons, Luke Muhlenkamp, Parker Nichols and Gage Sims

Jay County High School Athletic Letter Blanket Awards
Zion Beiswanger, Madyson Fraley, Brenna Haines, Willow Hardy, Cash Hollowell, Molly Muhlenkamp, Sophia Saxman, Brayden Collins, Darren Fisher, Liam Garringer, Ryne Goldsworthy, Isaac Miller, Samuel Myers, Parker Nichols, Cody Rowles, Gage Sims and Bryce Wenk

Randy O. Poole Mental Attitude Award
Molly Muhlenkamp



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Brooke Retter is presented with the Women's Life Redkey Gamma Nu Chapter 12 scholarship from guidance counselor Chelsea Guggenbiller Monday during Jay County High School Honors Night. Among her other awards, Retter won the Jay County Conservation Club Scholarship and the Delta Theta Tau Zeta Alpha Redkey scholarship. She also earned a technical honors diploma. (The Commercial

Michelle Bruggeman Memorial Scholarship
Willow Hardy and Molly Muhlenkamp

Foreign Exchange Student Recognition
Carla Alashkar, Oskar Alart Mateo, Labibah Awliyah, Anis Edi, Chadi El Yaagoubi, Hugo Gutierrez Fernandez, Lucie Henneaux, Tinatin Japaridze, Livia Luzzi, Jovana Markovic, Matilda Mende, Maria Mire, Angie Montebello, Isabella Puusepp and Naroa Zugasti Goicoechea

Academic Competition Award
Carla Alashkar, Labibah Awliya, Anis Edi, Tinatin Japaridze, Hannah Boggs, Sarah McClain, Tessa Miller, Jovana Markovic and Isabella Puusepp

IASP Rising Stars of Indiana
Hannah Boggs, Ty Paxson, Gage Sims and Emily Nicole Smith

IASP Academic All-Star nominee
Gage Sims

German Student Recognition Award
Maggie Dillon and Samantha Sager

Madison Township Alumni Scholarship
Danielle May, Emily Smith, Wes Bihn, Bella Denton, Brayden Collins, Cameron Clark, Isaac Miller and Ty Paxson

Gov. IP Gray Alumni Scholarship
Liam Garringer and Samantha Sager

Advanced Manufacturing 2 Certifications
Peyton Lykins and Cameron Castillo

Jay County Pee Wee Football Scholarship
Ryne Goldsworthy

The Portland Foundation
Zion Beiswanger, Joseph Belda, Wesley Bihn, Hannah Boggs, Isabel Castro-Martell, Riah Champ, Cameron Clark, Kenzie Clayton, Brayden Collins, Carson Davis, Isabella Denton, Caleb DeRome, Maggie Dillon, Breanna Dirksen, Joseph Dow, Trevin Dunnington, Madyson Fraley, Marisa Gallegos, Liam Garringer, Ryne Goldsworthy, Brenna Haines, Madison Hambrock, Hayden Hardman, Willow Hardy, Allison Hawbaker, Joske Herndon, Cash Hollowell, Karci Hopkins, Madeline Hudson, Zander Hudson, Caden Hull, Madalyn Hull, Kenzie Landon, Hannah Laux, Reece Leavell, Nicholas Lyons, Danielle May, Sarah McClain, Isaac Miller, Mason Muhlenkamp, Molly Muhlenkamp, Makinsey Murphy, Parker Nichols, Ty Paxson, Kaley Pettus, Madison Reier, Brooke Retter, Kallie Richardson, Erin Ring, Chloe Ruiz, Saman-

tha Sager, Sophia Saxman, Zoey Shaneyfelt, Gage Sims, Emily Smith, Conner Specht, Azalea Thompson, Laila Waddell, MacKenzie Weesner, Leah Wenning, Addison Wilhelm, Anthony Wood and Mark Woodall

Spanish Award
Hayden Hardman and Livia Luzzi

Matt Aker Scholarship
Danielle May and Kenzie Landon

Portland Lions Club Scholarship
Molly Muhlenkamp

Cheryl Lee Geesaman Memorial Scholarship
Kaley Pettus

Lance Corporal Andrew F. Whitacre Memorial
Mark Woodall

Fred Lingo Memorial Scholarship
Trevin Dunnington and Zander Hudson

Thomas Conwell Memorial Scholarship
Madison Reier

BBB Students of Integrity Scholarship
Madyson Fraley

Jay Today Outstanding Students
Trenton Franks, Conner Maitlen and Chadi El Yaagoubi

Zachary Allen Wolford 4-H Goat Memorial Scholarship
Cameron Clark

Delta Theta Tau Zeta Alpha Redkey
Reece Leavell, Parker Nichols, Brooke Retter and Samantha Sager

Jay Retired Teachers Association Scholarship
Cameron Clark

Psi Iota Xi Sorority Scholarship
Nick Lyons and Ty Paxson

Redkey Veterinary Agricultural Records Scholarship
Emma Outcalt

Michael A. Alig Memorial Fund/FFA Scholarship
Zion Beiswanger, Nicholas Lyons, Mason Muhlenkamp and Molly Muhlenkamp

FFA Senior Sash Award
Ben Heath, Nick Lyons, Makinsey Murphy, Molly Muhlenkamp, Madyson Fraley, Ty Paxson, Madison Reier, Alaina Rodgers and Gage Sims

Jay County Jjunior Fair Board
Ty Paxson, Nicholas Lyons, Molly Muhlenkamp, Brayden Collins, Gage Sims, Madison Reier and Ben Heath

Ernest and Martha Loy Memorial Scholarship
Brayden Collins and Nick Lyons

Melissa Hall Memorial Scholarship
Madison Reier

Women's Life Redkey Gamma Nu Chapter 12
Brooke Retter and Reece Leavell

Knights of Pythias of Indiana
Zoey Shaneyfelt

William O. Hutchins Portland Jr. League Baseball and Softball Scholarship
Ryne Goldsworthy and Riah Champ

Portland Evening Optimalist Club Scholarship
Chloe Ruiz

Lexie Gierhart Memorial Scholarship
Zoey Shaneyfelt

Norm Vinson Memorial Scholarship
Maggie Dillon and Makinsey Murphy

Mandy Theurer Memorial Agricultural Scholarship
Wesley Bihn

Mandy Theurer Memorial Cosmetology Scholarship
Alaina Rodgers

S.A.L. Bobby Wherry Memorial Scholarship, American Legion Post 211
Nathan Lothridge and Erin Ring

James Burk and Charles Denney Sr. Scholarship, American Legion Post 211
Wesley Bihn

Honor Guard Scholarship American Legion Post 211
Wesley Bihn

Honor Guard Scholarship American Legion Post 211
Madison Hambrock, Isabella Denton, Maggie Dillon

Robert Guy Ayers, American Legion Post 211
Nathan Lothridge and Samantha Sager

WPGW Jay Today Scholarship
Conner Maitlen

T-Flyerz Scholarship and Special Recognition
Zander Hudson, with special recognition for Mackenzie Brown, Carson Davis, Audrey Hummer and Leah Wenning

Sue Shoemaker Memorial Scholarship/XI Chapter of Delta Theta Tau
Cameron Clark, Kenzie Clayton, Willow Hardy and Hannah Laux

Dunkirk Kiwanis Club
Hayden Hardman

Senior class officers
President Chloe Ruiz, vice president Nick Lyons, secretary Brenna Haines and treasurer Willow Hardy

Jayland Partners Scholarship
Cameron Clark and Madison Hambrock

Spencer G. Calvert Memorial Scholarship
Hayden Hardman

Juan Pablo Heart and Attitude Scholarship
Zion Beiswanger

Frank Inman Memorial Scholarship
Zion Beiswanger

USMC Distinguished Athlete Award
Ryne Goldsworthy and Willow Hardy

USMC Semper Fidelis Award for Musical Excellence
Hannah Boggs

USMC Scholastic Excellence Award
Parker Nichols

Portland Vocational Women
Allison Hawbaker

Jay County Jr-Sr High School Archery Scholarship
Allison Hawbaker and Zander Hudson

Elks Lodge of Portland 768 Scholarship
Joseph Dow and Hannah Laux

Win on the Wabash Super Raffle Scholarship
Madison Reier and Gage Sims

Jay County Conservation Club Scholarship
Brooke Retter

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church Scholarship
Hannah Laux and Sophie Saxman

Alcove Artist Scholarship
Hannah Boggs

National Art Honor Society
Riley Garland

Outstanding Art Student
Riley Garland and Ty Paxson

Latin Award
Hannah Boggs

Sharon Dues Memorial Scholarship
Wesley Bihn

Outstanding Social Studies Student
Hannah Boggs

Jay County Farm Bureau Scholarship
Danielle May

Valentine Family Business Scholarship
Trevin Dunnington

Valentine Family Fine Arts Scholarship
Zander Hudson

Justin Valentine Holy Trinity Catholic Church Scholarship
Molly Muhlenkamp

Outstanding FACS Senior
Destiny Boggess

Math Award
Zion Beiswanger, Hannah Boggs, Maggie Dillon, Brenna Haines, Garrett Hime, Nicholas Lyons, Gage Sims, Molly Muhlenkamp and Ty Paxson

Jane E. Switzer Memorial Scholarship
Madyson Fraley and Nicholas Lyons

American Red Cross Leaders Save Lives Scholarship
Zion Beiswanger, Brenna Haines and Chloe Ruiz

Student Council Officer Award
Nicholas Lyons, Brenna Haines, Zion Beiswanger, Chloe Ruiz and Madyson Fraley

Honor Thespians
Hannah Boggs and Samantha Sager

Charlotte Ann Wilmore Memorial Scholarship
Laila Waddell

West Jay Optimist Club Scholarship
Reece Leavell and Erin Ring

Dr. H.L. Shroyer Christian Love Scholarship
Hannah Laux

Marilee & Gayle Gaunt Memorial Scholarship
Laila Waddell, Hayden Hardman, Kaley Pettus and Erin Ring

Jay Classroom Teachers Association Scholarship
Liam Garringer, Ryne Goldsworthy, Joske Herndon, Nicholas Lyons and Sophia Saxman

Greg Ashley and Sara Pyle Scholarship
Hannah Boggs and Samantha Sager

Zack Hummer Memorial Scholarship
Trevin Dunnington

Wanda D. Miskinis Memorial Scholarship - Zeta Chi Chapter Delta Theta Tau
Madyson Fraley, Reece Leavell and Kaley Pettus

Pennville Community Center Scholarship
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Bryant High School Alumni Scholarship
Hannah Laux

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Outstanding Business Student
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Breakfast Optimist Club Scholarship
Zander Hudson

Kris A. Rose (Wonder Woman) Scholarship
Chloe Ruiz

Crown City Cruisers
Wesley Bihn

Dan Orr Scholarship
Zion Beiswanger

William R. Sudhoff Scholarship
Brayden Collins

Knights of Columbus Scholarship
Joske Herndon

SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly
I TOLD YOU IF YOU FED THE SEA GULLS THEY'D NEVER LEAVE US ALONE.
PICKUP WINDOW

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane
5-1
'I AM acting my age. I'm seven.'

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

An exception to the rule

North dealer. North-South vulnerable. NORTH: A 6, K 7 5 2, 10 4, 9 6 5 4 2. WEST: 9 3, J 8 4, K 1 9 7, J 10 8 3. EAST: K Q J 10 8 7 5 2, Q 10 6 3. SOUTH: 4, A 9, A Q 8 6 5 3 2, A K Q. The bidding: North East South West Pass 4 5 5 4. Opening lead — nine of spades.

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PRACTICING FOR THE DOUBLES TOURNAMENT, I SEE... I SUPPOSE YOU AND THE GARAGE WILL BE PARTNERS AGAIN... I DON'T THINK SO HE DOESN'T MOVE AS WELL AS HE USED TO!

Rose is Rose

PEEKABOO... I HAVE YOUR... HE CAN'T SEEM TO ACCEPT... MY FEARLESS HUNTRESS TENDENCIES.

Agnes

I'M GOING TO START A 'GIRLS ONLY' CLUB, AND IT WILL BE BETTER THAN ANY STUPID 'BOYS ONLY' CLUB! HOW? WE WILL BE OPEN-MINDED! WE WILL LET BOYS JOIN! THEN IT WON'T BE A 'GIRLS ONLY' CLUB. TRUST ME... THE MORAL VICTORY WILL BE WORTH THE LOWERED STANDARDS

Hi and Lois

I'M A BABY. I DON'T HAVE A WORRY IN THE WORLD. AND THAT WORRIES ME.

Between Friends

HOW DOES MY DOCTOR EXPECT ME TO JUST CUT OUT CAFFEINE? I CAN'T GO COLD TURKEY... I NEED TO CUT DOWN SLOWLY... HAVE A LITTLE LESS OVER TIME. YOU'RE DRINKING A VENTI... HOW IS THAT 'CUTTING DOWN'? DO YOU SEE A DONUT?

Blondie

WITH ALL THE TECHNOLOGY TODAY, I'M SURPRISED ANYONE EVEN WRITES YOU LETTERS ANYMORE. WHY DON'T THEY JUST EMAIL YOU LIKE EVERYONE ELSE? THAT'S A WEIRD ATTITUDE FOR A MAILMAN. NOT REALLY... THE JUNK MAIL IS WHERE THE REAL JOB SECURITY IS, ANYWAY.

Snuffy Smith

THIS WEATHER PUTS ME IN A BAD MOOD !! NOT ME !! PUTS ME IN A BED MOOD !!

Beetle Bailey

HOW DOES BEETLE GET A GIRL LIKE MISS BUXLEY? HE'S KIND, ATTENTIVE, HONEST, ROMANTIC AND THOUGHTFUL. Hmm... maybe I should try some of that.

Some plays might run contrary to standard procedure, but that doesn't necessarily mean they are wrong. For example, consider this deal where South finds himself in five diamonds doubled on the bidding shown. It seems natural to win the spade lead in dummy and return a trump. That's what you would normally do with this trump holding, but it's not what declarer should do in the pres-

Tomorrow: Pinpoint defense. ©2024 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

5-1 CRYPTOQUIP

NMEWP EVNE FOD IOE BT VZR SBJIQWEW FPZLLQD SBREOJW MBP VNQQBCWWT, VW CNR

AWNP-QD PWSBFTZLNAQW. Yesterday's Cryptoquip: DELI'S PROMOTIONAL JINGLE WHICH IS SUNG BY A SUBMARINE SANDWICH: 'I AM JUST A POOR BOY.'

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals L

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS: 1 Sentry's cry, 5 Switch positions, 8 Herring's kin, 12 'Lucky Jim' author, 13 'Yo!', 14 Marathoner's tempo, 15 Place of origin, 17 Diminutive suffix, 18 Mountain crest, 19 Basketball position, 21 Cheeky back talk, 24 Dime portrait, 25 Dull pain, 28 Boost, 30 '— show-time!', 33 Marseilles monarch, 34 Mila of 'Black Swan', 35 Spy org., 36 Director Lee, 37 Coral formation, 38 Fine, 39 'West-world' network. DOWN: 2 'Funny!', 2 Roman god of love, 3 Rickey flavor, 4 Dangerous fly, 5 'So that's it!', 6 Up-to-date, 7 Harmonization, 8 Shell out, 9 Hockey coup, 10 Part of a French play, 11 Woodland grazer, 16 Earl Grey, e.g., 20 New newts, 22 Pivot, 23 Tendon, 25 Par-seghian of football, 26 Swindle, 27 Like the latest computing equipment, 29 Poodle's name, perhaps, 31 Aunt, in Acapulco, 32 Utter, 34 Ray of McDonald's, 38 Pearl producer, 40 Low voices, 42 Scepter, 43 Mosque, 44 Asta's feeder, 45 Dull sound of impact, 47 Woody Guthrie's son, 48 Narc's measure, 49 Tarzan's clique, 52 Rock producer, 53 Goal.

MOOD CON FUSE SOLI LIE AGOG GOES COLD BLOG HOG RARITY MELEE GOBI ACES WERE COOL TIRE TENET DNA LUKEWARM PEEK TIRE PHASE KAHUNA GEO LEAD WHITEHOT URGE AUG BANE MOSS YES ETON

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

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Jay County can face some new teams in the sectional, see story below

JC junior high softball hosts Elwood today, see Sports on tap

Sports

Girls wrestling is an official sport

The Patriots have been wrestling for the past eight years. Now, they will finally be recognized for it.

During its April meeting on Monday, the IHSAA board of directors voted to fully recognize girls wrestling and boys volleyball as IHSAA sanctioned sports.

Both sports will receive recognition for the first time during the 2024-25 sports season.

The Indiana High School Wrestling Coaches Association has been conducting a state tournament since 2017 and girls wrestling got added to the Emerging Sport Process back in 2022. Since then, the sport has grown to include over 1,400 athletes representing 117 different schools.

Girls wrestling will continue to be a winter sport and boys volleyball will remain in the spring, but details on their IHSAA state tournaments will be announced in the coming months.

The Patriots have sent 15 wrestlers to the state tournament for 27 total appearances. Twenty-one of those 27 appearances have resulted in a medal, including three state championships by Mallo-

ry Winner. Lizzie Dollar also made the championship match twice, finishing as the runner-up in 2019 and 2020.

Winner will get the opportunity to win her fourth state championship and her first one as an official IHSAA sport in the coming year.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Reach for it

Jay County Junior High School's Maddie Clark reaches to hit a forehand during a doubles match against the Adams Central Jets on Saturday.

Oklahoma DT Laulu completes emotional draft journey

By GEORGE BREMER

The Herald Bulletin (Anderson) Tribune News Service

INDIANAPOLIS — It took Jonah Laulu a few extra moments Saturday evening to believe his dream really had come true.

When the Oklahoma defensive tackle answered the phone call from Indianapolis Colts general manager Chris Ballard informing him he was the 234th overall pick in the seventh round of the NFL Draft, Laulu first double-checked to make certain he wasn't being pranked.

Ballard quickly re-assured Laulu the call was real and told him to go ahead and decline all the incoming calls from suitors

hoping to sign him as an undrafted free agency.

Thus began a celebration some considered unlikely as recently as February when Laulu failed to receive an invitation to the NFL Scouting Combine.

Like every other obstacle in his way throughout his football journey, however, Laulu pushed it aside and kept marching toward his goal.

"Right before I transferred to Oklahoma (in 2022), I think that's when I realized, OK, I could make football my career," Laulu said. "And so, man, just doing it for real — I'm still shaking. It's something you always dream about. Everybody always says I want to go play in the

NFL. ... Being one of the guys that actually gets to do it is crazy. (It's) just very overwhelming right now."

Laulu's football journey began as an oversized high schooler for whom the game came easily.

The 6-foot-5, 289-pounder learned his work ethic from watching his mother work two jobs to manage bankruptcy when he was 15 years old, and his talent in the game first took him to Hawaii to begin his college career.

His redshirt freshman season was an eye-opening experience as he learned real techniques and strategy for the first time. By Year 2, Laulu was showing rapid improvement and beginning to believe he could climb

into the highest levels of the game.

Then the Warriors underwent a coaching change, and Laulu's progress was stunted.

After two seasons under the new coaching staff, he made a tough decision to enter the transfer portal.

"I just felt like I wasn't getting better as a defensive lineman," Laulu said. "And so I kind of fought myself with it — entering the portal or not. Ended up entering the portal because I wanted to get better coaching. I wanted to be in a system that kind of showcased my abilities, where I could play all over."

Laulu found his new home at Oklahoma, playing for one of the nation's most respected

defensive-minded head coaches in Brent Venables.

The days of watching YouTube videos to learn new pass-rushing moves and studying tape of NFL stars like Maxx Crosby, Aaron Donald and Ed Oliver alone at home were over.

Now Laulu was part of a deep defensive line and received the kind of coaching that could push him into the next level.

It still wasn't smooth sailing.

Laulu spent his first season getting "cooked" by wide receivers as a hybrid outside linebacker in the Sooners' 3-4 scheme. He quickly realized he wasn't cut out to rush quarterbacks from the edge and moved inside as a defensive tackle.

See Laulu page 7



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Fort Recovery draws Fairview in first round

The Midwest Athletic Conference can be brutal to teams that play in weaker conferences.

The Indians learned over the weekend that they won't have to face another MAC team until the district opener at the earliest.

The Fort Recovery High School softball team was awarded the No. 8 seed in the Division III Northwest 1 divisional tournament and will face off against the fifth-seeded Fairview Apaches in the first round of the sectional tournament.

The game will be played at Fairview on May 7 at 5 p.m.

Fairview (8-7) is the defending district cham-

pion, but will have a tougher path to Bath High School for the championship game as the No. 5 seed.

The Indians have already taken a step forward this season with three wins in MAC play and are one win away from their season total a year ago. A victory in the opener would set up a date with the third-seeded Wayne Trace Raiders. The sectional championship game against the Raiders (11-2) would take place on May 10 at 5 p.m.

The district opener at Bath is the earliest the Indians could run into a MAC team with No. 4 seed Coldwater coming from the bottom half of the

bracket. The Cavaliers (10-8) will have to first beat ninth-seeded Allen East (5-11) before drawing the Paulding Panthers (11-3) who have earned the No. 2 seed in the tournament. Fort Recovery previously fell to Coldwater 6-2 back on April 16.

The district opener will be held at Bath on May 14 with an estimated start time of 6 p.m. after the first district game.

Top-seeded Parkway (15-3) is the most likely opponent for the championship game, as the highest seeded team they can face is No. 6 Van Buren (5-5) in the district opener. The Indians previously lost to the Panthers on April 6, 11-5.

IHSAA announces sectional alignments for next two seasons

The Patriots have the chance to be seeing a lot more of the Spartans on the hardwood in the coming postseasons.

The IHSAA announced the sectional assignments for six sports Tuesday morning, all of which will feature some shakeup for Jay County High School in the postseason for the 2024-25 and 2025-26 athletic seasons.

The most drastic change will be to Jay County football, which moves from Class 4A Sectional 20 to Class 3A Sectional 28. The Patriots will still be able to matchup with Mississinewa, but no other teams made the jump down.

Allen County Athletic Conference rival Heritage is also in Sectional 28, as well as coach Grant Zgunda's former school Delta. Other potential matchups include Bellmont, Bishop Luers, Norwell and Oak Hill.

Boys and girls basketball will still feature the same teams between the Class 3A Sectional 24s, but it has bumped down from a seven-team bracket to a six-team bracket. Both Frankton and Centerville departed the sectional, while the Connersville Spartans joined.

Hamilton Heights bounced the girls team from the sectional championship in 2024, while New Castle ended the boys' season.

Connersville will also join the Class 3A Sectional 24 volleyball tournament. Hamilton Heights also joined the sectional to replace Centerville and Frankton. The only difference between the basketball and volleyball sectionals is the absence of the Yorktown Tigers in the volleyball sectional.

Frankton took down the Patriots in 2023 before falling to New Castle in the championship game for their final run in the sectional.

Centerville also left the boys soccer Class 2A Sectional 23 and the girls soccer Class 2A Sectional 24. Hamilton Heights left the girls as well, while New Castle departed from the boys.

As replacements, the girls sectional added Mississinewa, while the boys picked up Oak Hill.

Hamilton Heights downed the girls team in the 2023's sectional opener, while the boys fell to host Mississinewa in the championship game.