

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

Vehicle recording policy approved

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

Plans are in the works to install cameras in county-owned vehicles.

Jay County Commissioners approved a vehicle recording policy and consent form for employees during their meeting Monday.

The policy, which mainly impacts employees of Jay Emergency Medical Service and Jay County Highway Department, has been in discussion for months following an accident involving one of the county's ambulances.

In April, Jay Emergency Medical Service director Gary Barnett shared estimates for dash cameras to record audio and video and share location services. At that time, county attorney Wes Schemenaur suggested amending the county's personnel policy to address employees being recorded while in vehicles.

Cameras would likely face toward the road as well as inside the cab of the vehicle. (Per privacy laws, cameras are not allowed in the back of an ambulance where patients are being treated.)

Consulting firm Waggoner, Irwin, Scheele and Associates developed a policy for the county to consider. According to the document, using recording devices in county vehicles is intended to "ensure the safety and accountability of employees, protect County assets, and promote efficient operations."

The policy applies to all county-owned vehicles and county employees who operate or ride in such vehicles while on duty.

It stipulates recording devices in county vehicles will:

- Have the capability to record audio, video and the vehicle's Global Position System location
- Be activated when the vehicle is in operation
- Be tamper-proof and securely installed to prevent unauthorized access or removal
- Comply with applicable laws and regulations regarding privacy and data protection

Authorized personnel may access recordings for official purposes only, and employees are not allowed to disable, tamper with or obstruct the devices. According to the policy, "access to recordings shall be restricted to individuals with a legitimate need-to-know" and personally identifiable information of employees or members of the public on recordings will be handled per applicable privacy laws.

Recordings will be stored and retained for a period of time — Schemenaur suggested they should be kept for at least six months in accordance with the filing cutoff for tort claims — before they will be deleted.

Employees will be trained as needed for using the devices. Any suspected tampering, misuse or unauthorized access to the recorded data should be reported to county officials. Failure to comply with the policy could result in disciplinary action, it states, up to and including termination.

See Policy page 2

Queen sweep



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Molly Muhlenkamp was crowned the winner for the Miss Jay County Fair Queen Pageant on Sunday evening at Jay County Junior-Senior High School. A 2024 JCHS graduate, Muhlenkamp plans to study health and exercise science: pre-physical therapy at Ball State University beginning in the fall. Joining her on the fair queen's court are first runner-up Inara Sanderson, second runner-up Makinsey Murphy, third runner-up Hannah Laux and Miss Congeniality McKenna Vore.

Muhlenkamp adds Miss Jay County Fair crown after winning JCHS homecoming and prom titles

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

Homecoming queen.
Prom queen.
Fair queen.

Molly Muhlenkamp completed the trifecta Sunday evening as she was crowned the winner of the Miss Jay County Fair Queen Pageant in the auditorium at Jay County Junior-Senior High School.

"My heart dropped, but it was

amazing," said Muhlenkamp. "Big smiles."

Inara Sanderson finished as the first runner-up, with Makinsey Murphy as second runner-up and Hannah Laux as third runner-up. McKenna Vore repeated as Miss Congeniality to earn a spot on the court for the third year in a row.

The win made for a queen sweep for Muhlenkamp, who graduated from Jay County

High School earlier this month. She was also crowned homecoming queen in September and prom queen in April.

Contestants were judged based on an interview with judges prior to Sunday evening as well as professional wear and formal wear competitions during the pageant.

There was also a new aspect to the competition this year. Rather than being asked an on-

stage question, contestants were each given a word to respond to.

Muhlenkamp's word: Charity. She talked about going Christmas caroling with her Catholic Youth Organization.

"That is one of my favorite events," she said. "The smiles on their faces when we go are just irreplaceable and indescribable and so amazing."

See Sweep page 2



Tribune News Service/mlive.com/Joel Bissell

Electric ribbon

A festivalgoer dances with a large ribbon Friday at Tripolee during day 2 of Electric Forest at the Double JJ Resort in Rothbury, Michigan. The multi-genre music festival ended Sunday.

West Nile found in Jay

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

On Friday evening, Jay County Health Department reported mosquitoes in Jay County have tested positive for West Nile Virus.

The health department is encouraging area residents to take precautions, including wearing long sleeves and applying insect repellent, especially from dusk to dawn when mosquitoes are most active. Residents should also remove any stagnant water, which is a breeding ground for mosquitoes, as well as cleaning clogged gutters.

"Everybody should make sure they're protecting themselves when they go outside, especially between dusk and dawn," said health department environmentalist and administrator Heath Butz.

The statewide database on West Nile Virus from the Indiana Department of Health has not been updated

with 2024 numbers as Jay County is one of the first locations in the state to show a positive test this year.

West Nile Virus was also found in mosquitoes in Jay County in 2017, '18, '21 and '22 and '23. The first positive tests in the last two years came on Aug. 17 and July 28, respectively. (Although the disease is most common in the late summer months, West Nile Virus disease can occur any time during the mosquito season, which is typically from May through October in Indiana.)

"The prevention measures are going to be the same," said Butz. "We're just going to have a longer season to be mindful of West Nile Virus and the

potential risks that are involved with it."

The health department noted that most who contract West Nile Virus have few or no symptoms, which include headache, body aches, joint pains, vomiting, diarrhea and rash. It is transmitted to humans when they are bitten by an infected mosquito.

Those over 60 or with compromised immune systems are at higher risk for severe illness, which can include tremors, encephalitis, coma and paralysis.

For more information, call the health department at (260) 726-8080. Brochures are also available at the health department, 504 W. Arch St., from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Residents encouraged to take precautions

Deaths

Anna Chaney, 91, Portland
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County's high temperature topped out at 82 degrees Sunday. The low was 68.

The forecast calls for rain with a chance of thunderstorms tonight and a low of 70. Expect mostly cloudy skies Wednesday with a high in the lower 80s and more rain.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Jay County Public Library will host Family Fair Night from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday. The event will include a petting zoo, ice cream, outdoor games, crafts and other activities. There will also be an opportunity to sign up for a chance to win free passes and ride wristbands for the Jay County Fair.

Coming up

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

Thursday — Results from the Portland Rockets game against the Fort Wayne Blues.



Sweep ...

Continued from page 1
Muhlenkamp said her interview focused on her activities related to the fair and her plans after high school.

She will attend Ball State University to pursue a degree in health and exercise science: pre-physical therapy. She hopes to go on to earn a doctor of physical therapy degree and become a physical therapist.

Her interest started in human body systems class with Katie Daniels when they covered the physical therapy unit.

"It really caught my attention because I love the fact that I can help people of all ages," said Muhlenkamp.

She then had a job-shadow experience at Adams Physical Therapy in Portland.

"I just really fell in love with it," she said.

Muhlenkamp was sponsored by Jay County FFA after being named 2024 FFA Sweetheart. During high school, she was a member of the National Honor Society, served on student council and the student athletic advisory council and was a member of HOSA Future Health Professionals.

She was a member of the girls soccer, basketball and track teams. During her final two seasons, she served as a captain and helped lead the girls soccer team to a 22-8-2 record and the girls basketball team to a 45-5 record.

Muhlenkamp is a 10-year 4-H member and serves on the Jay



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Pictured is the 2024 Miss Jay County Fair Queen and her court. From left are third runner-up Hannah Laux, first runner-up Inara Sanderson, Miss Jay County Molly Muhlenkamp, second runner-up Makinsey Murphy and Miss Congeniality McKenna Vore.

County Junior Fair Board. She volunteers as a lector at Holy Trinity Catholic Church and was a senior officer for its youth group.

She is the daughter of Kerry and Katie Muhlenkamp. After completing her education, she plans to return to Jay County to raise a family.

This summer, Muhlenkamp is working as a lifeguard at Portland Water Park.

She shared some thoughts on her upcoming year as fair queen.

"I'm looking forward to being an inspiration for all the younger children," said Muhlenkamp, "and eating fair food."

CR almanac

Wednesday 6/26	Thursday 6/27	Friday 6/28	Saturday 6/29	Sunday 6/30
82/58	79/57	85/71	89/63	80/54
There's a 50% chance of showers and thunderstorms on Wednesday when the high will be 82.	Sunny skies are in the forecast for Thursday when the low will be in the mid to upper 50s.	Friday's forecast shows mostly sunny skies with a high of 85 degrees.	Another 50% chance of showers and thunderstorms on Saturday.	There's a slight chance of rain continuing into Sunday. Otherwise, mostly sunny.

Obituaries

Anna Chaney

Oct. 25, 1932-June 21, 2024
Anna Belle Chaney, age 91, of Portland passed away on Friday, June 21, 2024, in Morrison Woods Nursing Home in Muncie.

She was born in Blackford County on Oct. 25, 1932, the daughter of Arthur and Etta Belle (Fetty) Chapman. She was married in 1948 to Robert H. Chaney and he passed away in 1988.

Anna had worked in food services for Jay School Corporation and was a member of New Beginnings Holiness Church. She enjoyed cooking and crafting, and she was a Cincinnati Reds and Indianapolis Colts fan.

Surviving is one son, Robert Chaney (wife: Cindy) of Richmond; three daughters, Sandy Dodd (husband: James) of Winchester, Shelvia Rines of Geneva and Vicki Keen (husband: Paul) of Portland; eight grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by 10 siblings.

Funeral services will be held on Wednesday, June 26, at 11 a.m. in the Baird-Freeman Funeral Home with Pastor Randy Smith presid-



Chaney

ing. Burial will follow in the Green Park Cemetery. Visitation will be Tuesday from 4 to 7 p.m. and Wednesday from 10 to 11 a.m.

Memorials can be made to the New Beginnings Holiness Church. Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.

The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connection to our coverage area free of charge.

They include the name, city of residence, birth/death date and time/date/location of services.

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

Lotteries

Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$84 million	57-60-62-69-74-77-78 Cash 5: 13-16-32-33-41 Estimated jackpot: \$254,500
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$97 million	Ohio Sunday Midday Pick 3: 4-8-1 Pick 4: 9-4-3-5 Pick 5: 7-9-1-7-8 Evening Pick 3: 4-0-7 Pick 4: 0-4-4-3 Pick 5: 0-1-5-2-6 Rolling Cash 5: 13-22-34-36-39 Estimated jackpot: \$210,000
Hoosier Sunday Midday Daily Three: 2-8-3 Daily Four: 7-4-7-5 Evening Daily Three: 8-6-8 Daily Four: 0-8-2-0 Quick Draw: 4-5-7-10-26-31-34-36-37-44-48-52-54-	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....4.21 Oct. corn4.23 Wheat4.82	July beans11.63 Wheat 5.14
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....4.22 July corn4.25 Aug. corn4.26	ADM Montpelier Corn.....4.14 July corn.....4.09 Beans11.71 July beans11.66 Wheat5.12
The Andersons Richland Township Corn4.10 July corn4.10 Beans11.67	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....4.20 July corn4.20 Beans11.45 July beans11.45 Wheat4.92

Today in history

In 1876, Gen. George Custer and his troops were killed in the Battle of Little Big Horn.
In 2007, Dunkirk City Council OK'd moving forward with a grant application for the construction of a new fire station and base for Jay Emergency Medical Service. (The new facility was constructed at its current site on county road 400 South.)
—The CR

Citizen's calendar

Monday 5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St. 7:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 S. Main St.	Tuesday 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Works executive session, mayor's office, city hall, 321 N. Meridian St. 5:30 p.m. — Portland Park Board, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.
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Policy ...

Continued from page 1
The document also includes a consent form for employees to sign. If they refuse, it says, their usage of county vehicles could be restricted. (Similar to other consent forms within the

personnel policy, if an employee does not sign the form, it's documented that they received a copy and refused to sign it.)

Schemenaur noted the recordings could help with questions about liability in the future, such as with vehicle accidents.

Commissioners president Chad Aker added he has heard concerns about employees' privacy.

"One of the biggest complaint(s) that I heard was from employees that we're spying on them, trying to catch them doing something wrong," he said. "That's not the purpose — the purpose is for our liability."

Aker pointed out the policy could benefit employees in different situations, such as false allegations.

"I've heard that same complaint, too, it's not that we're trying to be 'big brother,' it's really for their protection," said Schemenaur.

Commissioner Brian McCalliard added that the footage will only be reviewed if there is an incident.

SERVICES

Wednesday
Chaney, Anna: 11 a.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Friday
Doss, Jennifer: 10 a.m., Wilson-Shook Funeral Home, 2048 N. 1000 West, Parker City.
Burchnell, James: 7 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Service listings provided by
PROGRESSIVE DEL TORO OFFICE PRODUCTS
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Portland, Indiana 47371
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progressiveofficeproducts.com

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EXPLORE

CATHOLIC

"What is Truth?"

An informal discussion on the search for objective Truth in a world that seems to lack truth nearly everywhere, with Fr. Peter Logsdon of the Catholic Churches of Jay and Randolph County

- Considering Becoming Catholic?
- Want to Know More about the Catholic faith?
- Just Curious or Interested in this topic?

THURS, June 27TH

BUFFALO WINGS-N-RINGS in Portland @ 7:00 PM

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Area farmer won landmark case

By HANK NUWER

This column is about an ordinary Jay County farmer who became a hero to many American farmers with marginal operations prior to World War II.

Among the hardest hit by the Great Depression were farmers, particularly those with mortgages to pay. That certainly was the case with my maternal grandfather, an immigrant from Poland, who from 1919 on sold milk from Jersey cows on his rural New York State 80 acres.

The Great Depression hit in 1929, and prices for farm products skidded. Worse, farmers continued to pay mortgage payments on land collapsed in value.

Because times were hard, many farmers also overextended by purchasing farm machinery that sometimes went kaput

Far From Randolph County



even while payments remained.

Alternatively, rather than take on more debt, farmers like my grandfather plowed the land with horses and mules while I trudged alongside him to keep him company. I was 7 years old before he bought his first tractor in 1952.

During the 72nd Congress in 1932, some amendments and resolutions to the Bankruptcy Law were introduced to give farmers protection of the courts.

Nonetheless, by 1938, aged pioneer farmer and widower James Madison Wright of Jay County was

tapped out after years of filing lawsuits.

Union Central Life Insurance foreclosed on Wright's mortgage notes. The court of appeals sided with the mortgage company in two court cases.

Wright's farm was seized and sold in a sheriff's sale.

The Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals affirmed the foreclosure sale of Wright's 280-acre spread. It looked like his case was closed and lost forever.

Entering the picture now was Hoosier attorney Samuel Ellis Cook of Huntington. He argued that the seizure was unconstitutional because Wright had not been allowed to keep his land and to restructure his debt under legislation known as the Frazier-Lemke Farm Moratorium Law.

Cook, himself elderly now with longish white

hair and beard, appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court, which agreed to take the case. A son of a farmer and home schooled, he graduated with a law degree from Valparaiso University in 1888. He also labored some years as a schoolteacher, newspaper editorial writer, judge and, in 1923, an elected Democrat to the 68th Congress.

All told, Wright fought United Central Life insurance for eight years before Cook prevailed, and the Supreme Court overturned the lower court's decision in 1938.

The Supreme Court during Franklin Delano Roosevelt's New Deal era was made up of Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes and Associate Justices Louis Brandeis, Willis Van Devanter, James Clark McReynolds, George Sutherland, Owen Roberts, Pierce Butler,

Harlan Fiske Stone and Benjamin Cardozo.

Cardozo did not vote because he had suffered a heart attack and stroke that ended his life on July 9, 1938.

The case attracted national headlines, law journal articles and much praise from farmers across the country who now benefitted by restructuring their debt instead of losing all they worked for at sheriff bargain sales.

Sadly, Wright himself was unable to get back his forfeited land, but he did have the satisfaction of knowing his attorney had won a landmark court case.

Wright died on Dec. 19, 1942. He was interred alongside his late wife Emma G. Wright at the I.O.O.F. Cemetery at Pennington following services at Walnut Corner Friends Church.

His attorney, Samuel

Ellis Cook, 85, died after a week's illness in Huntington on Feb. 22, 1946.

Just before the 83-year-old Wright died of bronchial pneumonia in 1942, the Muncie Star-Press offered this praise: "While Mr. Wright did not succeed in redeeming his farm, his two cases which he won in the U.S. Supreme Court, established the rights of farmers beyond question and fixed the law so that thousands of farmers in the United States were able to redeem and save their farm homes."

Incidentally, my grandfather squeezed by on his farm and eventually paid off the mortgage.

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Nuwer and his wife Gosia live in Fairbanks, Alaska, but keep up with news about their former Union City neighbors.

Alcoholic boyfriend continues bad behavior

DEAR ABBY: I dated a guy who hid from me the fact that he was a severe alcoholic. After I realized it, I continued to date him, thinking it was love when it wasn't. Unfortunately, after two years of dating, I became pregnant.

When I told him, he moved back in with his mother in another state. He doesn't work, won't get a job and calls only when he's good and ready. He has never paid any child support. He'll call once every few

Dear Abby



months and promise our now 4-year-old daughter that he's coming to see her, but he never has.

He saw her only twice when she was a baby, and I had to

travel to him for both of those visits. (He wasn't there for her birth, either.) My daughter cries for him. He also has an 18-year-old daughter from a previous relationship I found out about only after I was pregnant. He abandoned her, too.

Should I cut off contact to save my child from being sad for a man she doesn't even know? — DISILLUSIONED IN GEORGIA

DEAR DISILLUSIONED: By all means, cease contact

with your sperm donor. You have to concentrate on the well-being of your daughter, who understandably is grieving the loss of a father who abandoned her.

It was a mistake to allow her deadbeat dad to talk to her and make promises he had no intention of keeping. Do not allow that to continue.

Because the reason he gives for not contributing to child support is he doesn't

work (are you SURE this is true?), consider discussing this sorry situation with a lawyer. It might be worth the money to pay for one consultation.

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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 Dear-Abby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Community Calendar

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

Today

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

COMPASSIONATE CONNECTIONS RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP — A group for anyone with a substance use disorder that helps individuals find connections as they develop long-term recovery meets at noon each Tuesday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.

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

JAY COUNTY CANCER SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in conference room C at

Indiana University Health Jay Hospital. Open discussion for cancer patients, survivors, family members or anyone interested in helping with the group. For more information, contact Linda Metzger at (260) 726-1844.

A BETTER LIFE - BRANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for substance abuse. Meal starts at 6 p.m. and the meeting is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. every Tuesday at the Nazarene Fellowship Building across from the Nazarene church, 249 E. Center St., Dunkirk. For more information, call Amanda Price at (765) 283-2107.

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

Wednesday
WEDNESDAY MORNING BREAKFAST CLUB

— Will meet at 8 a.m. in the east room of Richards Restaurant. 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.

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

COMMUNITY REINFORCEMENT AND FAMILY TRAINING — A non-confrontational, evidence-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.

PORTLAND EAGLES — Will meet at 6 p.m., on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month at the Eagles' lodge, 320 N. Meridian 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 - BRANNA'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.

Sudoku

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

Level: Beginner

Saturday's Solution

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

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.

FAIR SPECIAL

Our Jay County Fair special section will be distributed in The Commercial Review (Portland) and The News and Sun (Dunkirk)

1/2-page color

- \$500

(limited availability)

1/2-page B&W

\$400

1/4-page color

\$350

(limited availability)

Big business card

(3x3.5) - \$100

1/4-page B&W

\$275

Business card

(2x2) - \$52

Space for color ads is limited and will be on a first-come, first-serve basis.
DEADLINE FOR ADS IS THURSDAY, JUNE 27

Contact Lindsey at:

L.Cochran@thecr.com

or (260) 726-8141

Elks event served as inspiration

To the editor:
June 14th was my second time that I got to witness our local Elks lodge hold their ceremony of Flag Day.

The ceremony was the dedication to our American flag. Last year, it was in front of the Elks; this year, at Goodrich Brewery.

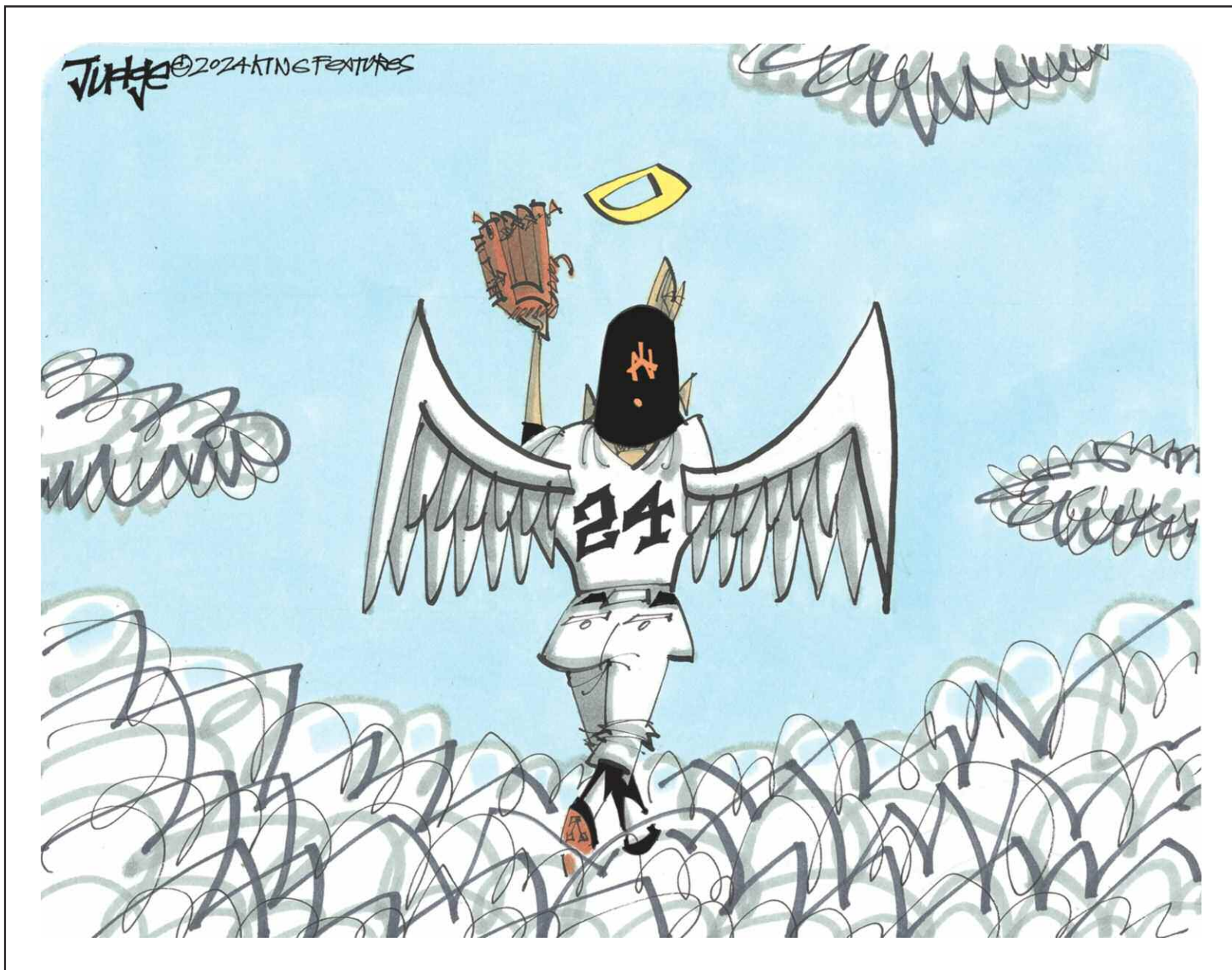
Thanks to Bryan Alexander and his dedicated group who so undoubtedly expressed their feelings and their emotions about what the flag means to them, truly this is an inspiration. This kind of heart-felt embodiment as each and every one of the speakers dared express is not just an inspiration — it is also the true embodiment of the American soul. These brave individuals reached out to show their love by what they expressed about their flag and their country.

It is truly a teacher to us all of how we should all be influencing and impacting the people of our community.

Thank you for recognizing Flag Day.

Sincerely,
Mayor Jeff Westlake
Portland

Letters to the Editor



Education is the key factor

By MICHAEL J. HICKS

Several readers objected to my recent column about economic illiteracy colliding with feelings about today's booming economy. I was tempted to quote a pithy bumper sticker about the relevance of feelings, but this is a family publication.

Instead, I'll simply say, your emotions offer a poor epistemological approach to understanding macroeconomic fluctuations.

Nationwide, it is clear that the U.S. economy is performing historically well. On every important measure — employment, wages, GDP, or wealth — the economy is not just performing at record levels, but outperforming the rest of the world.

Robust national economic performance has benefits for every county and small town, but that does not mean every place shares equally in economic growth. There are plenty of places that continue to do poorly.

Many places are doing very, very poorly.

There are two phenomena around differences in economic performance of states and counties. The first is that the gap is growing. Rich places are getting richer and poor places poorer. This is in stark contrast to most of the nation's history, in which state and local economies became more alike rather than diverging in wealth and opportunity.

The second phenomenon is a growing political divide between rich and poor places. This will shock many folks, but poor places are increasingly governed by Republicans and rich places by Democrats. The gap between rich and poor places might help explain the partisan differences in perceptions of the economy.

The regional differences are compelling across dimensions of rural and urban places, as well as between cities and rural areas.

The rural-urban income gap is more than 2% larger than it was a decade ago, with rural workers earning only 75 cents for every dollar earned by urban workers. Poor economic conditions in rural America are nothing new, but they aren't fueled by national economic conditions. Many of the problems are related to state, rather than national, conditions.

The 10 poorest rural areas are all in solidly Republican states. Only

Michael J. Hicks



half of the 10 richest rural places are in Republican states.

There is a rural-urban divide in politics, with GOP-leaning rural places doing worse than Democrat-leaning urban places. There is also a gap between the political leanings of the poorest and richest rural parts of each state that distinctly disfavors GOP states.

The GOP has a firm electoral lock on poor, rural places. There is considerable evidence that decades of ineffective state policies have helped immiserate rural places in many states. But, again, the political divides are newer than the policy failings. So, which party is responsible for those poor policies will vary state by state. Indiana is the median state in terms of rural affluence.

We are a nation of city dwellers, with 8 out of 10 Americans living in metropolitan counties. The six most affluent metro areas have per capita incomes more than double the rural county average. As with rural places, there are big regional divides in urban affluence.

Rich cities are mostly a blue-state characteristic. Of the top 25 richest metro areas in the country, as measured by per capita income, only five are in solidly GOP states. Three are in Texas and two in Florida.

Only three of the 25 poorest metro areas are in Democratic-controlled states. California has two of them and Michigan one. The Chicago area, which includes parts of Indiana, ranks 32nd and Indianapolis is the 49th-richest metropolitan area in the nation.

Indiana's worst-performing city, I am sad to report, is Muncie. It ranks 353rd out of 385 in per capita income. Poor cities are mostly a red-state characteristic.

It is difficult to lay the blame for worsening economic conditions at the feet of one party or the other. For the past 50 years, there was considerable overlap in state policies, so conservative Democratic states behaved a lot like more progressive Republican states in tax,

education and economic development policy.

However, today there is a growing understanding that differences in economic outcomes are mostly connected to differences in educational attainment. Other factors, like tax rates and tax structure, are of declining importance.

I would go even farther in concluding that differences in tax policies explain almost none of the differences in affluence or growth. That is a major departure from the start of my career a quarter-century ago. Today, differences in economic conditions are almost exclusively caused by the level of education of residents.

This means the observed differences in economic conditions across states seems likely to worsen. We are in the first extended period of diverging educational attainment in U.S. history. And there is a very deep political divide around education policy that seems certain to exacerbate the economic and political divide.

The 15 states that have seen the biggest relative drop in educational attainment are all solidly Republican states — and poor. Indiana ranks 10th on this list. The top 15 states are all solidly Democratic — and affluent. This gap will worsen as states with a large share of well-educated adults are attracting more, while states with a shortage are losing them.

The U.S. remains firmly in a long patch of strong economic performance. But there are growing differences between states and within urban and rural places. These differences are increasingly connected to political affiliation, which naturally fuels different perceptions. It is not an excuse for getting economic facts wrong.

The political realignment means that we cannot give credit to Democrats for creating wealth, or the GOP for being more popular in poor places. However, if we stumble through another generation of diverging educational attainment, placing blame for diverging economic performance will be easy.

Hicks is the director of the Center for Business and Economic Research and the George and Frances Ball distinguished professor of economics in the Miller College of Business at Ball State University. Email him at mhicks@bsu.edu.

Treat other gun violators like Biden

By NOLAN FINLEY

The Detroit News
Tribune News Service

If Hunter Biden's name had been Jim Bob Jones would he have been tried and convicted for lying on a federal firearms purchase form?

In all honesty, I'd say not.

The son of the president is a political target of Republicans hoping to tar his father with the influence peddling schemes that have made Hunter Biden millions. The gun charge was the surest means to assure he became the only presidential offspring in history to be convicted of a felony.

The trial on tax evasion charges that will come later this year, while promising more salacious and damaging testimony, are less certain to deliver a guilty verdict, and may ultimately be avoided with a plea deal.

The gun case was iron-clad, as demonstrated by the jury's speedy return of its verdict. But it doesn't change the fact that almost no one else who does what Hunter Biden did has faced legal consequences.

The president's son was charged with three violations of federal law for falsifying the form a purchaser must fill out before buying a gun. Hunter Biden failed to disclose his drug addiction, as required, when he bought a handgun from a Delaware dealer in 2018.

In 2019, 27 million background checks were done on gun buyers. Of that number, 478 individuals were reported to federal prosecutors for lying on the form. And just 298 faced charges.

That puts Hunter Biden in rare company and adds credence to the claims that his prosecution was at least in part politically motivated. But it doesn't mean he should not have been charged. Just the opposite — the other 180 violators should have been

Nolan Finley



in the courtroom with him.

The federal law Hunter Biden violated was championed by his father when he was in the Senate. It was designed to help answer a key concern of those advocating for more responsible gun policies: How to keep firearms out of the hands of those most likely to abuse them.

Yet, like so many measures passed in response to cries to "do something" about guns, lax enforcement has rendered the screening form requirement largely useless.

In general, gun laws aren't aggressively enforced. Remember that Anthony McRae, the shooter who killed three students on the Michigan State University campus, was previously arrested on a felony gun charge that would have prevented him from purchasing a firearm. He was allowed to plead down to a misdemeanor.

A Republican-backed law pending in Congress called the Prosecuting Gun Crimes Saves Lives Act would prioritize the prosecution of those who illegally purchase guns. It's gone nowhere for lack of support by Democrats, who keep pushing for more restrictive laws that end up being undermined by progressive or lazy prosecutors.

On the day his son was convicted, President Joe Biden attended an anti-gun rally calling for even more gun laws.

Hunter Biden may not have been treated the same as others who violated the screening law. But all future violators should be treated the same as Hunter Biden.

The Commercial Review



US PS 125820

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VOLUME 151—NUMBER 39
TUESDAY, JUNE 25, 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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Photo provided

Ribbon cutting

Jay County Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon-cutting ceremony last week for Sweet T's Creations. The dessert shop is located at 2 W. High St., Redkey.

I&M submits energy generation plans

Indiana Michigan Power on Friday announced that it has filed plans with state regulators for additional energy generation resources.

The plans submitted to the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission include Indiana Michigan Power utilizing Lawrenceburg Natural Gas, Hoosier Line Solar, Elkhart County Solar and Meadow Lake IV Wind. Combined, they have the capacity to generate nearly 1,000 megawatts.

"I&M's commitment to developing a robust, diverse energy portfolio highlights our focus to appropriately balance reliability, environmental sustainability and affordability while allowing us to best fulfill the needs of our customers," said Steve Baker, I&M president and chief operating officer, in a press release.

The company will purchase the power from the independently operated wind and solar facilities. It will purchase the power from the existing natural gas facility near Lawrenceburg.

The plans are part of Indiana Michigan Power's effort to retire its coal-fueled facility in Rockport in 2028.

Celebrating Cash

Penn Township Public Library has announced the retirement of librarian Brenda Cash.

Cash's last day at the library will be Thursday. She has been the librarian for 17 years.

Business roundup

An open house to celebrate Cash's career is scheduled for 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, June 29 at Pennville Community Center, 210 S. Union St.

Facility unveiled

Ball State University recently unveiled its new Betsy M. Ross Sports Link Studio.

Part of the College of Communication, Information and Media, the studio will be part of the Sports Link program. It is named for Ross, who graduated from BSU and went on to work as a weekend anchor for ESPN's "SportsCenter" as well as at the South Bend Tribune and WLWT TV in Cincinnati before launching GameDay Communications.

"Through her professional and civic accomplishments, Betsy has illustrated what we desire for all of our students: that the excellent education they have received at Ball State will prepare them to have fulfilling careers and to lead meaningful lives," said Ball State president Geoffrey S. Mearns in a press release. "Betsy, you are a role model for our students. Today we honor your many accomplishments, and we express our gratitude to you for

all the ways in which your contributions have made an impact on our University."

Paxton purchases

Paxton Media Group last week announced the purchase of the Kernersville News.

The company purchased the paper, also known as Carter Publishing Company. It now owns 15 daily publications in North Carolina.

Paxton, which is based in Kentucky, owns 14 daily newspapers in Indiana, including The Courier-Times (New Castle), The Chronicle-Tribune (Marion), the Huntington Herald Press and the Connersville News-Examiner.

IDDC awarded

The Association of Marketing and Communication Professionals recently awarded Indiana Destination Development Corporation with a Gold VIDDY Award for its Home Again IN Indiana campaign.

The awards (formerly the Videographer Awards) recognize outstanding achievements in video and digital production. Indiana Destination Development Corporation, in partnership with Indiana Association of Realtors, earned its award from a field of more than 2,500 entries.

"The success of the Home Again IN Indiana campaign highlights the strong connection Hoosiers have with their roots," said Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch in a press release. "We

are incredibly proud of this achievement and are thrilled to have welcomed these Hoosiers back home."

Courses offered

Indiana Chamber of Commerce will offer a pair of OSHA general compliance courses in August.

A 10-hour course will be held Aug. 20 and 21. A 30-hour course will run Aug. 20 through 23. The courses will result in two to four credits toward Safety Compliance Specialist Certificates.

The chamber is also offering a Safety Leadership Principles seminar Sept. 19 and 20 in Indianapolis. The seminar will focus on helping attendees improve their skills related to worksite analysis, accident investigation, the impact of stress on safety, key performance indicators and employee involvement.

For more information, call or email (800) 824-6885 or events@indianachamber.com.

New meal

McDonald's has added a \$5 Meal Deal to its menu.

The new menu item features a McDouble or McChicken sandwich, small fry, four-piece Chicken McNuggets and small drink for \$5.

"We heard our fans loud and clear — they're looking for even more great value from us, and this summer that's exactly what they'll get," said Joe Erlinger, president of McDonald's USA,

in a press release. "Value has always been part of our DNA. We're focused on living up to that legacy and offering delicious, affordable options customers can enjoy any time they walk through our doors, go through our drive thru or place an order through our app."

McDonald's is also offering a free medium fry on Fridays with a minimum \$1 purchase and will be giving away free fries Saturday, July 13, for National French Fry Day.

Named SVP

Dollar General Corporation last week announced Tony Rogers as its new senior vice president and chief marketing officer.

Rogers most recently served as chief marketing officer for Signet Jewelers. He previously worked as chief marketing officer for Walmart.

"I am excited to welcome Tony to Dollar General," said Emily Taylor, Dollar General executive vice president and chief merchandising officer, in a press release. "His proven ability to drive innovative personalized marketing strategies that enhance brand positioning, connect with consumers, and drive growth will elevate our customer engagement and support our key initiatives here at Dollar General."

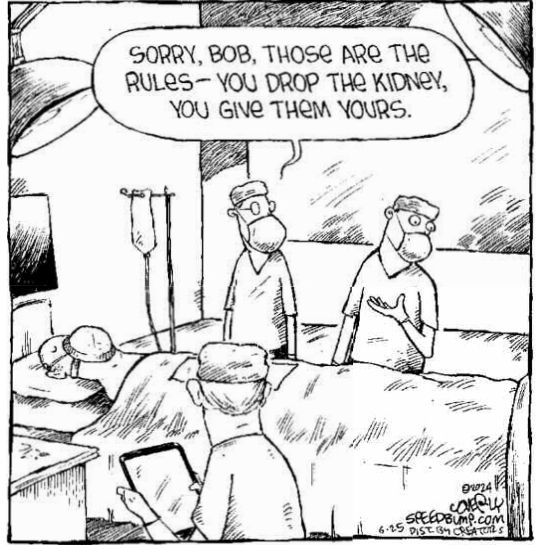
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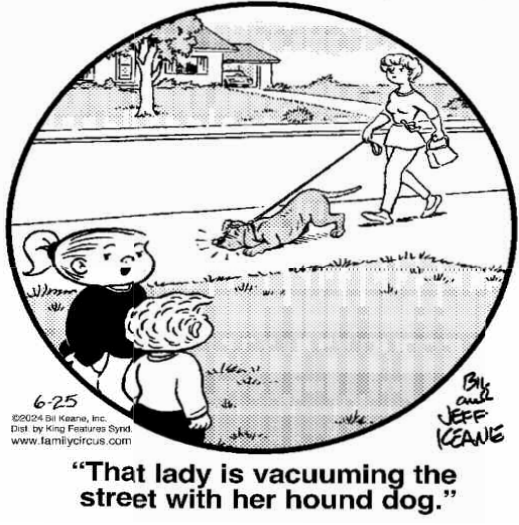
SPEED BUMP

Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

A question of probabilities

South dealer. Both sides vulnerable. NORTH: A Q 10 5, J 4, 10 8 3, A Q 10 6. WEST: J 9 7 4 3, 8, Q J 9 4, J 9 5. EAST: K 6 2, 7 5 2, A K 7, K 8 4 3. SOUTH: 8, A K Q 10 9 6 3, 6 5 2, 7 2.

holds, and continues with a diamond. East cashes the A-K and shifts to a trump. How should declarer proceed from this point? Having lost the first three tricks, it appears South must decide whether to attempt a spade finesse or a club finesse in order to avoid losing a club trick. Each finesse has an even chance of winning, so it might seem natural to settle the matter by mentally tossing a coin. But there is much more to the situation than at first meets the eye, and there is a way for declarer to add significantly to his chances. The correct approach is to win the trump return with the nine, lead a spade to the ace and ruff a spade. South then crosses to the jack of trump and ruffs the ten of spades. As it happens, the king falls on the ten, and declarer makes four hearts without having to risk a finesse. If South stakes the outcome strictly on a finesse in either black suit, he has only a 50% chance of succeeding. But if he first tries to drop the king of spades by ruffing one or two rounds of the suit, he increases his chances considerably, since he still has the 50% chance of winning a club finesse in reserve if the spade king does not fall.

Tomorrow: A not-so-innocent mistake. ©2024 King Features Syndicate Inc.

Peanuts



Rose is Rose



Agnes



Hi and Lois



Between Friends



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



CRYPTOQUIP

ERQY IQNIBQ XJQ LNPBQSQBU XWJXVG NW QBQAXSNJO, V JQLCNY SRQU EVBB SXCQ

OSQIO SN XANVG SRQP. Yesterday's Cryptoquip: VERY BIG MAMMAL THAT IS DRESSING UP IN A TIE-DYED T-SHIRT AND LOVE BEADS: A HIPPIE-POTAMUS. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: I equals P

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS: 1 John Irving hero, 5 Auction action, 8 "— boy!", 12 "The Time Machine" people, 13 Aussie hopper, 14 Former Chicago mayor Emanuel, 15 Chinese-born concert pianist, 17 Beagle's bane, 18 Actor Cariou, 19 Wee amounts, 21 Called a strike?, 24 Rude dude, 25 Passion, 26 Frilly ornamentation, 30 Bonn conjunction, 31 Wooden box. DOWN: 2 In the style of, 3 Darling of baseball, 4 Pooh's pal, 5 Muffin choice, 6 Charged bit, 7 Canine "Bow-wow!", 9 Powder, 10 Biblical pronoun, 11 You love (Lat.), 16 Guided, 20 "Nope!", 22 Bistro handout, 23 Cushions, 24 Army bigwigs, 26 Healthy dessert, 27 Yard tool, 28 Classic theaters, 29 Cold War initials, 31 Pal, 34 Raspy, 35 Geological periods, 37 Cutting tool, 38 Sans pizzazz, 39 Gambling city, 40 Diner sign, 41 Blog entry, 44 Some printers, 45 Haw preceder, 46 Mine matter, 47 Marry. Solution time: 22 mins. Yesterday's answer 6-25

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Box score

Portland Rockets vs. Fort Wayne Renegades					
Renegades					
	ab	r	h	bi	
Sewell ss	3	0	0	0	0
Massing lf	3	0	3	0	0
Deakins cf	3	0	1	0	0
Keating c	3	0	0	0	0
Berwick 3b	3	0	0	0	0
Layson p	2	0	0	0	0
Stromberg 1b	3	1	1	0	0
Ianacelli rf	2	0	0	0	0
Esepest 2b	2	0	0	1	0
Totals	24	1	5	1	0
Rockets (7-9)					
	ab	r	h	bi	
Coffey ss	2	1	2	1	0
McEldowney cf	3	0	2	1	0
Smith lf	2	0	0	0	0
Young pr	0	0	0	0	0
Kennedy eh	3	0	0	0	0
Meade 1b	3	0	0	0	0
Caldwell dh	2	0	0	0	0
Pullins rf	1	0	1	0	0
Pratt 2b	3	0	0	0	0
Gleason c	2	1	1	1	0
Ridgway rf	2	1	2	0	0
Rogers 3b	2	0	0	0	0
Totals	25	3	8	3	0
Renegades 000 010 0 — 1					
Rockets 001 020 X — 3					
LOB — Renegades 5, Rockets 4.					
2B — Renegades 1 (Massing),					
Rockets 1 (Coffey). 3B — Rockets					
1 (McEldowney). HR — Rockets 1					
(Gleason). SB — Rockets 1 (Cof-					
fey).					
IP H R ER BB SO					
Renegades					
Layson	6	8	3	3	1 3
Rockets					
Reynolds	5	5	1	0	1 4
McEldwry	2	0	0	0	2 1

Split ...

Continued from page 8
McEldowney then came in from center field to toss the final two innings and secure the save. He also provided a spark with his bat, as his RBI triple in the third inning started the scoring for the Rockets.

Two more runs came in the fifth inning. The frame started off with a solo home run by catcher Gavin Gleason, off of Ty Layson, who is Gleason's teammate at Manchester University. (Joel Kennedy, Crosby Heniser and Jared Holley of the Rockets also played for Manchester with Gleason and Layson.)

"For me, hitting has been a little bit of a struggle lately but that's baseball," Gleason said. "It felt good to finally get a home run out here and just got to build on that and stay positive."

The final run scored via double by Coffey to drive in Vasin Ridgeway later in the inning.

In the second game on

Saturday, the Rockets entered the bottom half of the fourth inning tied at 1-1 after Cade Meade drove in a run in the third and an error got Joel Deakins across in the top of the fourth.

Single by Landon Rogers and Trey Pullins put a pair of runners on for Coffey, who blasted a three-run home run to deep center field to take a 4-1 lead. That lead didn't last due to key mistakes.

"Coffey hits a monster ... and we're ahead 4-1 and we can't close the deal with that makeshift unit they have?" Miller said. "We should tip the hat. But, our whole thing today was 'no matter who's doing what, do your job.' We did not execute that."

The Renegades took a 5-4 lead in the top of the fifth on with four unearned runs. An error by Blake Caldwell at third base allowed the first run to score, and three more came around before the final out could be made.

The sixth inning opened with an error by Rogers in left field and another by Caldwell at third. Donavin Massing then laid down a bunt that the Rockets allowed to roll for a single as Caldwell went to cover third and Connor Young didn't come off the mound hard enough for the ball.

The first run scored on a passed ball and the other two came as the result of a blooming fly ball that landed between Rogers and Coffey in shallow left field to give Fort Wayne an 8-5 advantage. None of the Renegades' runs were earned in the game.

"The plays were indicative of a hot, tired ballclub," Miller said. "We were that and I think we're better than that."

The only other runs for Portland came on a single by Caldwell in the fifth and a sacrifice fly by Ridgeway in the seventh.

Offense was in short order in the first game against the Jackers as well. An error in the first inning and a double by

Gleason in the fifth gave the Rockets two runs, but despite five more hits, they couldn't scratch any more across.

Fort Wayne got a pair of runs off of Mitch Waters on a walk and a trio of singles in the fourth inning. A single and two more walks loaded the bases in the sixth before the second hit of the inning drove in the winning run against Waters in the 3-2 loss.

The Rockets flipped the script in the second game, picking off the Renegades in a one-run victory.

Portland rattled off four runs in the fourth inning on singles by McEldowney and Meade and a sacrifice fly by Garrison Brege.

McEldowney also delivered the winning run with a base hit in the fifth to drive home Pullins.

The Jackers scored four runs off of Holey — three in the fourth and one in the fifth — but it wasn't enough to secure the sweep.

Box score

Portland Rockets vs. Fort Wayne Renegades					
Renegades					
	ab	r	h	bi	
Sewell ss	5	2	2	0	0
Massing lf	3	2	1	0	0
Layson 2b	4	2	1	0	0
Keating c	3	1	0	0	0
Deakins cf	4	1	2	2	0
Berwick 3b	4	1	0	0	0
Ianacelli rf	4	0	1	3	0
Stromberg p	4	0	0	0	0
Esepest 1b	2	0	0	0	0
Totals	33	9	7	5	0
Rockets (7-10)					
	ab	r	h	bi	
Coffey ss	3	1	2	3	0
Gleason c	3	0	0	0	0
Meade 2b	4	1	2	0	0
Kennedy 1b	3	1	1	0	0
Caldwell 3b	2	0	1	0	0
Rogers lf	4	1	1	1	0
Ridgway cf	3	0	0	1	0
Pullins c	4	0	2	0	0
Young cr	0	1	0	0	0
Dunlavy p	4	0	0	0	0
Totals	30	5	9	5	0
Renegades 000 143 0 — 8					
Rockets 001 310 1 — 7					
LOB — Renegades 9, Rockets 9.					
2B — Renegades 3 (Sewell,					
Deakins, Ianacelli), Rockets 3 (Cof-					
fey, Meade, Kennedy). HR — Rock-					
ets 1 (Coffey). SB — Renegades 1					
(Ianacelli), Rockets 1 (Coffey).					
IP H R ER BB SO					
Renegades					
Stromberg	5	7	5	4	2 6
Esepest	2	2	1	1	2 3
Rockets					
Dunlavy	4.2	4	5	0	4 4
Young	1.1	2	3	0	0 0
Ridgway	1	1	0	0	1 2

Scheffler ...

Continued from page 8

Scheffler's victories include the Masters and the Players Championship. He becomes the first PGA Tour golfer to achieve six wins in a season since Tiger Woods in 2009 and the first tour golfer to have six victories before July since Arnold Palmer in 1962.

"Yeah, it's pretty special. It's been a great season. I've been fortunate to come away with some wins and it's been a lot of fun," Scheffler said.

The final hole of regulation was marred by protesters from Extinction Rebellion running onto the green with what appeared to be yellow and red powder spray, halting play for several minutes.

"When something like that happens, you don't really know what's happening, so it can kind of rattle you a little bit, just because there's people running around the green and there's police officers running around the green and you don't know if they're peaceful, you don't know what they're doing, you have no idea what's going on, so it can be

'Yeah, it was a lot to go with. Who prepares for someone, for four people to run with, I don't know what they had, but they left a lot of marks on the greens, which is not right for us players, especially when two guys are trying to win a golf tournament.'

—Tom Kim

a bit stressful," Scheffler said. "That can be a stressful situation and you would hate for the tournament to end on something weird happening because of a situation like that, and so I felt like Tom and I both tried to calm each other down so we could give it our best shot there on 18."

Scheffler and Kim are friends. Earlier in the week, they went to

Sally's Apizza for a birthday celebration: they share the same birthday, June 21. Kim turned 22, Scheffler 28.

Kim, who had been the solo leader in each of the first three rounds, nearly holed his approach on the 18th hole for eagle. It spun back to about 12 feet.

After the delay, and after Scheffler just missed his birdie

attempt that would have won the tournament, Kim knocked in a birdie to force the playoff.

"I thought it was a little closer than 10, 12 feet. I thought it was, like, a tap-in. But I'm sure that it would have spun back," Kim said. "Yeah, it was a lot to go with. Who prepares for someone, for four people to run with, I don't know what they had, but they left a lot of marks on the greens, which is not right for us players, especially when two guys are trying to win a golf tournament."

Because of damage around the cup on the 18th hole, the hole location was moved about 25-30 feet closer to the front of the green. While Scheffler was able to hit his approach on the green, Kim hit his in the right front bunker.

Kim's ball plugged. His third shot left him a long attempt for par, which he missed. Then Scheffler lagged his ball up close for the tap-in par.

"I needed to smash another wedge and the wind died as soon as I hit it and when the wind dies and you don't hit it perfect,

it's going to be short and I got penalized by leaving it in the bunker in a deep plug," Kim said.

Scheffler and Kim tied at 22-under-par 258, one shy of the tournament scoring record set by champion Keegan Bradley last year.

With the \$3.6 million winner's check, Scheffler surpassed \$27 million in earnings this year alone. Although it was his first victory at TPC River Highlands, it was the fourth win for his caddie here in Cromwell: Ted Scott won three titles with Bubba Watson (2010, 2015 and 2018).

Five golfers were tied for the lead at one point, including both Scheffler and Kim. Scheffler birdied holes 13 through 15, the birdie at 14 giving him the outright lead. Scheffler remained the leader until Kim's final putt in regulation.

Tom Hoge and Sungjae Im tied for third place at 20-under; two shots behind Scheffler and Kim. Patrick Cantlay, Justin Thomas, Tony Finau and Akshay Bhatia tied for fifth at 18-under.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today	
Jay County summer swim team at Wells Community — 6 p.m.	
Fort Recovery ACME baseball vs. St. Henry — 6 p.m.	
Fort Recovery Eels swim team vs. St. Henry — 6:30 p.m.	
Portland Rockets vs. Fort Wayne Blues — 1 p.m.	
Wednesday	
Fort Recovery ACME baseball at Fort Loramie — 6 p.m.	
Portland Rockets at Northeast Kekiongas — 7 p.m.	

TV sports

Today	
12 p.m. — UEFA European Championship 2024: Poland vs. France (FOX)	
12 p.m. — UEFA European Championship 2024: Austria vs. Netherlands (FS1)	
3 p.m. — UEFA European Championship 2024: Slovenia vs. England (FOX)	
3 p.m. — UEFA European Championship 2024: Serbia vs. Denmark (FS1)	
6 p.m. — Copa America soccer: Canada vs. Peru (FS1)	
7:10 p.m. — MLB: Pittsburgh Pirates at Cincinnati Reds (Bally Indiana)	
7:10 p.m. — MLB: New York Yankees at New York Mets (TBS)	
9 p.m. — Copa America soccer:	
Wednesday	
12 p.m. — UEFA European Championship 2024: Belgium vs. Ukraine (FOX)	
12 p.m. — UEFA European Championship 2024: Romania vs. Slovakia (FS1)	
1:10 p.m. — MLB: Pittsburgh Pirates at Cincinnati Reds (Bally Indiana)	
3 p.m. — UEFA European Championship 2024: Portugal vs. Georgia (FOX)	
3 p.m. — UEFA European Championship 2024: Turkey vs. Czechia (FS1)	
6 p.m. — Copa America soccer: Jamaica vs. Ecuador (FS1)	
7:15 p.m. — MLB: Atlanta Braves at St. Louis Cardinals (Bally Indiana)	
8 p.m. — NBA draft (ESPN)	

Argentina vs. Chile (FS1)

Wednesday	
12 p.m. — UEFA European Championship 2024: Belgium vs. Ukraine (FOX)	
12 p.m. — UEFA European Championship 2024: Romania vs. Slovakia (FS1)	
1:10 p.m. — MLB: Pittsburgh Pirates at Cincinnati Reds (Bally Indiana)	
3 p.m. — UEFA European Championship 2024: Portugal vs. Georgia (FOX)	
3 p.m. — UEFA European Championship 2024: Turkey vs. Czechia (FS1)	
6 p.m. — Copa America soccer: Jamaica vs. Ecuador (FS1)	
7:15 p.m. — MLB: Atlanta Braves at St. Louis Cardinals (Bally Indiana)	
8 p.m. — NBA draft (ESPN)	

9 p.m. — Copa America soccer: Mexico vs. Venezuela (FS1)

Local notes	
Soccer camp announced	
The Jay County High School boys and girls soccer teams will hold a youth soccer camp July 29-31.	
The camp is for kids going into first grade up to eighth grade. It will be held from 5:6:30 p.m. at the old soccer field behind the baseball diamond.	
Admission is \$30 per child and each additional child from the same household will cost only \$20.	
To sign up visit https://jqco.de/bf9AoD . For more information,	
kimuhlenkamp@jayschools.k12.in.us or rreynolds@jayschools.k12.in.us.	
Payment can be sent to the high school front office by July 12th.	
Meet booked	
The Jay County Chamber Classic golf outing is set for Friday, July 19, at Portland Golf Club.	
The deadline to register is July 10, and it's limited to 20 teams. Awards of \$400, \$200 and \$100 will be given out to first, second and third place, respectively.	
Golf will begin with a shotgun start at 10 a.m.	
To register, email tabby@jaycounty-chamber.com .	
For more information call (260) 726-4481.	

Date set	
The 42nd annual Cancer Association of Darke County/Annie Oakley Golf Tournament is set to take place on July 22 at Turtle Creek Golf Course in Greenville, Ohio.	
Lunch will be served at 11:15 a.m., with a shotgun start to follow at 12:15 p.m.	
All proceeds will go to the Cancer Association of Darke County.	
For additional information or an entry form call (937) 548-9960 or email director@cadcinfo.org .	
.....	
To have an event listed in "Sports on tap," email details to sports@thecr.com .	

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250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF JAY, SS:
IN THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT
PROBATE DIVISION
CAUSE NO.:
38C01-2404-ES-000003
IN THE MATTER OF THE
SUPERVISED ESTATE OF
FRANCIS H. HALL,
DECEASED
NOTICE OF SUPERVISED
ADMINISTRATION
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
JAY COUNTY, INDIANA.
In the matter of the Estate of Francis H. Hall, deceased.
Estate Docket:
38C01-2404-ES-000003
Notice is hereby given that on June 5, 2024, Stacy L. McGuyre was appointed the Personal Representative of the Estate of Francis H. Hall, deceased, who died intestate on the 21st day of January, 2024, a resident of Jay County, Indiana. All persons who have claims against this Estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred.
Dated at Portland, Indiana, this June 5, 2024.
Jon Eads
Clerk, Jay Circuit Court
Probate Division
Stacy L. McGuyre, I.D. #31064-32
Attorney at Law
2028 N. Park Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46202
Tel No.: (317) 965-0407
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Sports

Weekend split

Portland Rockets split on Saturday and Sunday in close games

By **ANDREW BALKO**
The Commercial Review

Unable to take advantage of runners in scoring position earlier in the game, Aidyn Coffey took an aggressive lead at second base to try and make something happen.

"Aidyn, I gotchu," Noah McEldowney shouted from the plate to communicate that Coffey didn't need to risk getting picked off.

One pitch later McEldowney made good on his word and delivered an RBI triple to right-center field to get the Rockets on the board.

Overall, that's how the weekend went for the Rockets — some crucial mistakes and some major bailouts.

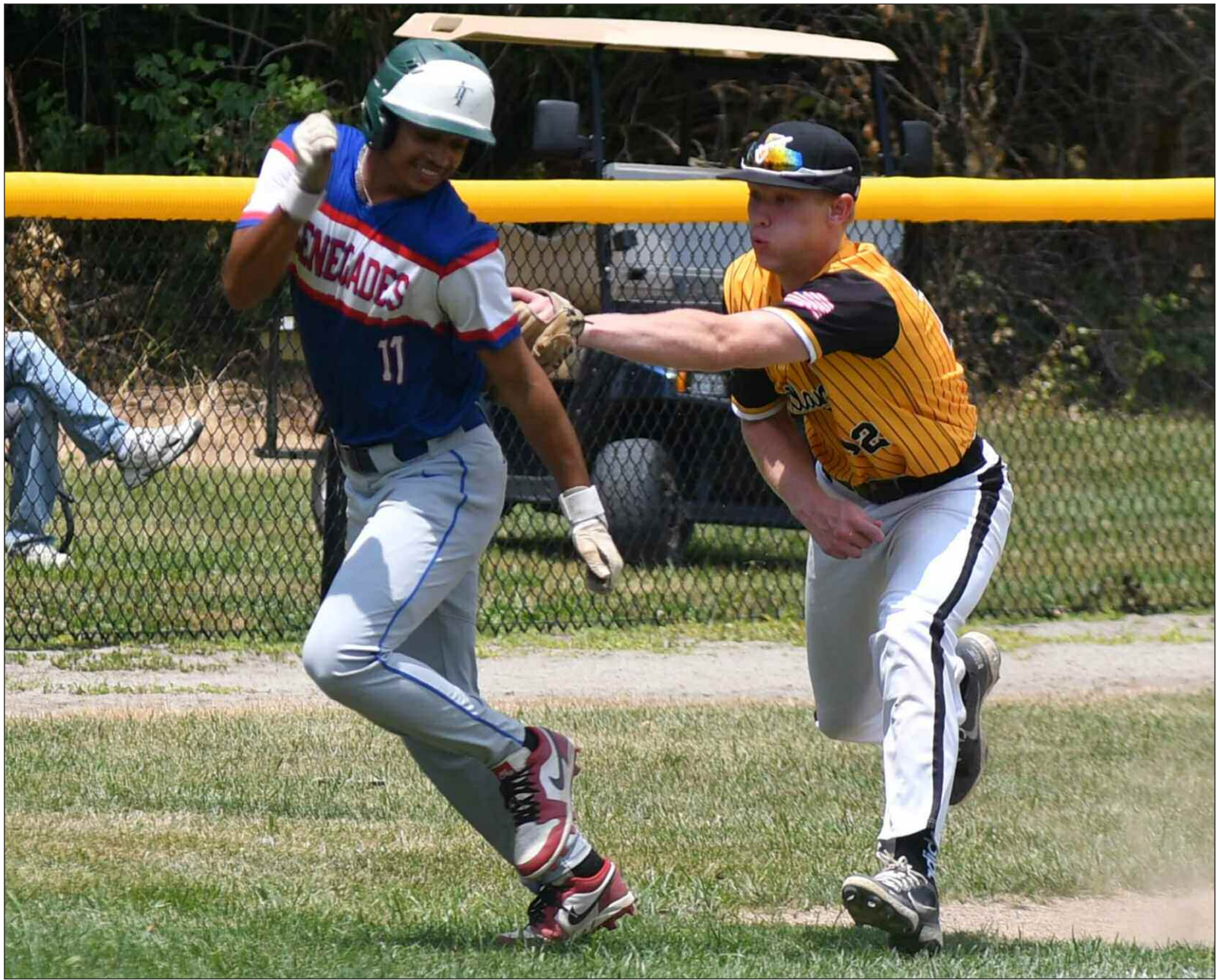
The Portland Rockets split a pair of double headers to finish 2-2 over the weekend against two Fort Wayne Teams. They opened the weekend up with a 3-1 victory over the Renegades on Saturday before errors crippled them in an 8-6 loss. On Sunday, the Rockets dropped the first game to the Jackers 3-2 before finishing the weekend with a 5-4 win.

Tyler Reynolds and McEldowney carried the Rockets (8-11) to Saturday's win with strong performances on the mound.

"Tyler did his job and then McEldowney came in and it was a good lefty, righty slant, change of pace," said Rockets manager Randy Miller. "One guy throws a little speedier ball and it looked like we had a plan and executed it."

Reynolds started the game on the mound, only giving up one unearned run in the fifth inning after a pair of errors and a sacrifice fly. Four punchouts did enough to slow the Renegades down to earn Reynolds the win.

See **Split** page 7



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Third baseman Landon Rogers of the Portland Rockets tags out Johnny Sewell of the Fort Wayne Renegades during the first game of the of the weekend. The Rockets won the game 3-1 to start off the weekend Saturday before dropping the second game 8-6.

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Kaehr leads Hornets to top of Stinger division

The fifth week of soccer yielded low scores and a plethora of players who found the goal once.

The Stinger division boasted one of only two players who scored twice for their team on the day.

Ian Kaehr's two goals made him the only player from the Pennville Soccer Club Stinger division with a multi-goal day as he led the Patriot Sportswear Hornets to victory on Saturday. Kaehr scored twice, while Raelyn McClain added one goal to push the Hornets past the AgBest Express Bees 3-0.

The Bees also fell in a close matchup with the A Place to Grow Wasps later in the day 1-0. Kenna Penrod put home the only goal in the victory. Penrod now sits two goals behind Mabel Leonhard, the division leader.

The Hornets finish atop the division with 13 points as the regular season comes to a close. The Wasps' 10 points made them the runners-up, while the Bees finished in third place with three.

The league tournament is set for June 29.

Meteors win
Neymar Carreno and

Local roundup

Liam Phipps lead the Bro Shadow Meteors to a 2-0 victory on Saturday and a perfect record to claim the top spot in the Pennville Soccer Club Space division. Carreno and Phipps each scored one goal against the Dave's Heating and Cooling Asteroids to give the Meteors a final record of 6-0-0.

The Asteroids, Vinson Rental Properties Galaxy and Ohio Valley Gas Stars all finished 2-2-2 to tie for second place and the New Beginnings Holiness Church Rockets brought up the rear with zero points.

The Galaxy and the Stars beat the Rockets 3-0 and 1-0 respectively on Saturday. Carter Love, Calvin Minch and Alexandria Vinson scored for the Galaxy, while Madalyn Malyska accounted for the Stars' lone goal.

Cougars split
Despite being the division leader in goals, Lyle Beiswanger was only able

to lead the Portland Insurance Cougars to a split in the final week of the regular season of Pennville Soccer Club Wildcat division play.

Beiswanger's first goal of the day came as part of a 1-0 victory over the Penrod Monument Jaguars.

Later in the day, he scored again to make him one of two players to score more than one goal over the weekend, but the WPGW Lions still defeated the Cougars 2-1. Charlee Peters and Jade Westgerdes both found the goal for the Lions.

Five players scored in the middle game of the day, as the POET Biorefining Cheetahs beat the Pennville General Store Tigers 3-2.

Gage Heckman, Jax McClain and Liam Thompson got the ball past the goalie for the Cheetahs, while the Tigers' goals came from Blake Jellison and Kyland Teegarden.

The Lions finished in first place for the league with 16 points. The Jaguars and Tigers both tied with seven to finish as the runners-up, while the Cougars placed fourth, just one point short of the other two teams. The Cheetahs rounded out the standings with five points.

Scottie Scheffler wins Travelers Championship

By **JOE MORELLI**
The Middletown Press (Conn.)
Tribune News Service

CROMWELL — The Sunday shootout anticipated for the final round of the Travelers Championship delivered.

There was even more drama than golf on the 18th green at TPC River Highlands when protesters stormed the green, halting play for several minutes.

The drama switched back to golf and Tom Kim forced a sudden death playoff with Scottie Scheffler. But the tournament favorite only solidified his hold on the No. 1 world rankings, making par on the first playoff hole to defeat

Kim and win the tournament championship.

"So in terms of playing through the season, I try not to look too far into the past or look too far into the future. I've been very fortunate to come away with some wins this year and it's been fun," Scheffler said. "It was a lot of hard work paying off, and so very grateful to have some trophies to kind of show for it."

It's the sixth victory of the year for Scheffler and his fourth Signature Event win. The Travelers Championship is the final of eight Signature Events on the PGA Tour schedule.

See **Scheffler** page 7