

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

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Bayrou picked to be France's prime minister

By ANIA NUSSBAUM and WILLIAM HOROBIN

Bloomberg News
Tribune News Service

President Emmanuel Macron picked Francois Bayrou to be France's new prime minister, calling on a longstanding centrist ally to navigate a fractured political landscape that toppled the previous administration.

Bayrou, who leads the centrist Democratic Movement party known as MoDem, steps into the breach after far-right leader Marine Le Pen allied with a left-wing coalition of lawmakers last week to oust Michel Barnier from office as he attempted to drive a stringent budget through parliament.

To avoid the same fate, Bayrou must quickly rewrite fiscal plans with concessions to buy at least implicit support from some of Macron's political adversaries. Investors are watching closely after months of political upheaval and uncertainty sparked temporary selloffs of French assets, at one point driving up the country's borrowing costs as high as Greece's.

"Everyone appreciates the difficulty of the task and I think also that everyone thinks there is a path to be found that unites rather than divides people," Bayrou told reporters after the announcement. "Reconciliation is necessary."

The spread between French and German 10-year bond yields, a proxy for French risk, was two basis points tighter at 77 basis points, close to its average over the past six months. France's CAC 40 Index was little changed.

Macron's decision to dissolve the National Assembly in June plunged the country into an unusual situation where the French president has scant influence over lawmakers. Since the

snap election, the lower house is split into three feuding blocs: the leftist New Popular Front, a shrunken center backing Macron and an expanded nationalist group led by Le Pen.

In a post on X following the announcement, Le Pen said Bayrou must work with her party and its proposals to put together a budget. "Any policy that just extends Macronism, which has twice been rejected at the polls, can only lead to impasse and failure," she said.

Jordan Bardella, the president of the National Rally, said his party wouldn't back a no-confidence vote by default against a prime minister from the center or the right, implicitly giving Bayrou some room to maneuver. Communist leader Fabien Roussel, whose party is part of the leftist bloc, indicated a similar stance.

"Naming a prime minister from his own camp sends a bad signal, it's not what French people want," Roussel told on BFM TV. "But I won't say censure outright, we will judge based on evidence."

Currently the high commissioner of government planning, Bayrou ran for president in three consecutive elections starting in 2002. In 2017, he declared that he would stand aside to instead ally himself with Macron as Le Pen rose in the polls.

The key to Bayrou's success or failure as prime minister will be garnering support from both the center left and the center right to avoid a majority forming that would vote him out like Barnier. That will likely require prising apart the New Popular Front to pick off more moderate Socialists from their alliance with Jean-Luc Melenchon's far-left France Unbowed.



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Celestial show

A performer with Celestial Circus Productions of Dayton, Ohio, twirls batons on fire Friday at Jay Community Center in Portland. Jay Community Center hosted its family fun night Friday, offering free pizza, pop and a show in exchange for good will donations of non-perishable food items.

Biden commutes 1,500 sentences, pardons 39

By ARIANA FIGUEROA

Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden Thursday commuted the sentences of roughly 1,500 people who were placed in home confinement during the coronavirus pandemic, and granted pardons for 39 individuals with convictions for nonviolent crimes.

"America was built on the promise of possibility and second chances," Biden said in a statement. He noted many of the 1,500 were serving long sentences that would be shorter under current laws, policies and practices.

Indianapolis woman made the list

As the Biden administration winds down, it's the largest single-day grant of clemency in modern day history. The president added

that his administration will continue to review clemency petitions before his term ends on Jan. 20. There are more than

9,400 petitions for clemency that were submitted to the White House, according to recent Department of Justice clemency statistics.

"As President, I have the great privilege of extending mercy to people who have demonstrated remorse and rehabili-

tation, restoring opportunity for Americans to participate in daily life and contribute to their communities, and taking steps to remove sentencing disparities for non-violent offenders, especially those convicted of drug offenses," Biden said.

See Biden page 2

Russia launches massive air strike on Ukraine energy sites



AFP via Getty Images/Tribune News Service/Arman Soldin

This grab taken from AFP video footage shows a member of Ukraine's military looking away as a BM-21 "Grad" MLRS 122mm rocket launcher fires on the outskirts of Soledar on Jan. 11, 2023.

BY VOLODYMYR VERBIANYI

Bloomberg News
Tribune News Service

Russia launched a massive air-strike against western Ukraine on Friday in what Kyiv described as one of the largest attacks on its power infrastructure since the war started.

Moscow forces fired almost 200 drones and more than 90 missiles, including at least one made by North Korea, 81 of which were intercepted, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy said on Telegram. The attack forced Ukraine to reduce output at five of its nine nuclear reactors, the International Atomic Energy Agency said.

The Russian Defense Ministry said the strike was a response to Kyiv using six US-made ATACMS long-range missiles to hit a military airfield in Russia's Rostov region on Wednesday.

Moscow's forces have been attacking Ukraine's energy infrastructure since the autumn of 2022, or well before Ukraine received long-range missiles, as part of an attempt to cripple the country in its nearly three-year war.

The strike, which happened after days of relative lull in aerial attacks, included hypersonic Kinzhal missiles and focused

on the western regions of Ternopil, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk and Zakarpattia, according to Ukraine's air force. Neighboring Poland scrambled fighter jets in response.

The targets for the air assault included thermal power plants of private energy group DTEK, with some equipment "significantly damaged," the company said on Telegram. Zelenskiy said 11 cruise missiles were downed by F-16 jets Ukraine received from its Western allies.

The attack was the 12th targeting Ukraine's energy infrastructure this year and has caused widespread blackouts and will lead to longer period of emergency power cutoffs, according to power grid operator Ukrenergo. It came as the temperature plunged across the country with -10C (14F) expected in Kyiv overnight.

The assault took place a day after US President-elect Donald Trump said in an interview that he opposes Ukraine's use of Western-made long-range weapons to strike deep inside Russian territory. Kyiv has fired the missiles at military depots and airfields used by aircraft bombing Ukraine in Russia's border regions.

"It is one of the largest-scale strikes on our power industry," Zelenskiy said. "This is such a 'peace plan' of Putin — to destroy everything."

Deaths

Jewell Freeman, 91,
Dunkirk
Esther McDaniel, 77,
Farmland
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 29 degrees Friday. Today's forecast calls for a high in the lower 40s. Rain is expected tonight with a low in the mid 30s. There will be more rain Sunday with winds gusting to 25 miles per hour and a high in the mid 40s. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Winterfest at the Fairgrounds is scheduled for 5 to 8 p.m. Sunday. The event, which is open to the public, will include carriage rides. Free will donations will be accepted at the gate.

Coming up

Tuesday — Results from the Patriot boys wrestling team in the ACAC Duals.

Wednesday — Coverage of next week's Jay School Board meeting.

Thursday — Results from the JCHS swim meet against the Delta Eagles.





Photos provided

Secret Families

Secret Families Christmas Charity of Jay County had more than 200 volunteers, pictured at left and above, shop, wrap and deliver Christmas presents Dec. 7 to 148 families across Jay County.

Recent divorcee asked to consider marriage

DEAR ABBY: I recently ended an 18-year marriage that should have ended many years earlier. While I was deciding to leave, I met the most wonderful man, "Winston." He treats me like a queen — the polar opposite of my former husband.

My former home was sold during divorce proceedings, and I took Winston up on his offer to move into an empty trailer on his property. We get along so well, and I'm sorry we didn't meet years ago and have a life together.

Winston is my best friend. He has been nothing but respectful since our meeting a year ago. We didn't take our relationship to the next level until my divorce was final six weeks ago. I have been in the trailer for three months now, and I'm very happy. He lives next door in a house with his sister: Neither she nor he has ever married.

We have already talked about marriage. He would like us to be married in around six months. I was thinking of getting ENGAGED in six months, simply because I need time to breathe and I've gone through a lot with moving, changing my name, changing my address, etc. This has now caused a rift in our relationship.

I told Winston I DO want to get married, but I haven't been divorced even two months yet. I need more time to adjust to such a different, more normal, relationship. Previously, he told me "no pressure," and he knows I need time, so I was kind of floored when he expressed wanting to get MARRIED in six months.

I don't think I'm being unreasonable, do you? What should my next step be? I do want a life with him, but I'm just not ready so soon. — PAUSING TO BREATHE IN THE EAST

DEAR PAUSING: You are fresh out of an unhappy marriage. You met Winston on the

Dear Abby



rebound. You DO need time to recover and establish who you are before committing to another marriage. You stated that after you told Winston you needed to take your time, it created a "rift." That is a big red flag, and it does not bode well for what a marriage with him would be like.

People are advised to make no important decisions for one YEAR after a traumatic event. I concur. Get to know Winston AND HIS SISTER a lot better before walking to the altar. I'm also advising you to find a place other than his trailer to live so you can learn to be independent again.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a lonely girl without many friends. The friends I do have I hold on to tightly. One of them is now moving to a different state. She said we would stay in touch and I'd see her once more before she leaves, but she hasn't been answering my calls or texts. She hasn't been talking to another friend, either. My mom says I should stop calling her and she will answer when she has a chance. What should I do? — LONELY FRIEND IN VIRGINIA

DEAR FRIEND: Your mother is a wise woman. There could be more than one reason why your friend hasn't responded to your efforts to reach out. She could be busy. She could be having separation anxiety, just as you are. Or she could be feeling smothered and overwhelmed. Listen to your mother and take a step back.

Free showings coming up

Arts Place is hosting a few free Christmas movie showings in the next few weeks.

Movies are slated to begin in Hall-Moser Theatre at Jay County Campus of Arts Place at the

following days and times: 12:30 p.m. Monday, 11 a.m. Tuesday, 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Thursday, 12:30 p.m. and 5:45 p.m. Dec. 23, 12:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Jan. 2 and 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Jan. 3.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information or questions on how to be involved, contact Arts Place by calling (260) 726-4809 or emailing jcc@myartsplace.org.

Community Calendar

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

Today

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

Sunday

A BETTER LIFE - BRIANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 5 to 6:30 p.m. each Sunday at Fellowship Baptist Church, 289 S. 200 West, Portland. Come early for a meal. For more information, call (260) 766-2006.

Monday

PORTLAND BREAKFAST OPTIMISTS — Will

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

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

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

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

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

appointment, call (260) 726-8636. Walk-ins accepted.

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

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

Tuesday

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.

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

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

Tuesday. The public is welcome.

FRIENDS OF JAY COUNTY LIBRARY — Will meet at 6 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at the library.

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

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

Wednesday

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

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

Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

Friday's Solution

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

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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WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

For Jay County Elementary Schools
December 16-20

Monday: Main Entree: Toasted cheese sandwich **Alternate Entrees:** Popcorn chicken, mini whole grain biscuit, cereal, goldfish & yogurt fun lunch **Sides for all meals:** Tater tots

Tuesday: Main Entrees: Classic cheese pizza **Alternate Entrees:** Popcorn chicken, mini whole grain biscuit, cereal, goldfish & yogurt fun lunch **Sides for all meals:** Seasoned corn

Wednesday: Main Entrees: Chicken nuggets, macaroni and cheese **Alternate Entrees:** Popcorn chicken, mini whole grain biscuit, cereal, goldfish & yogurt fun lunch **Sides for all meals:** Seasoned peas

Thursday: Main Entrees: BBQ pulled pork sandwich **Alternate Entrees:** Popcorn chicken, mini whole grain biscuit, cereal, goldfish & yogurt fun lunch **Sides for all meals:** French fries

Friday: Main Entrees: Doritos nacho cheese tortilla, seasoned beef taco meat, shredded lettuce, shredded cheddar cheese **Alternate Entrees:** Popcorn chicken, mini whole grain biscuit, cereal, goldfish & yogurt fun lunch **Sides for all meals:** Seasoned refried beans

george family DENTISTRY

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

Ethics report should be released

New York Daily News
Tribune News Service

Matt Gaetz resigned from Congress last month after representing the Florida Panhandle for eight years in order to forestall the House Ethics Committee from publishing a likely damning report about his behavior involving a sexual relationship with an underage girl and for paying for sex. That Donald Trump said he wanted Gaetz to be the U.S. attorney general (a truly horrible idea) was just a convenient way for Gaetz to stop the report.

The ethics panel report still must be published and two failed close votes on the House floor Thursday evening only means we still have to wait.

Guest Editorial

The explanation of Gaetz's departure comes from former House Speaker Kevin McCarthy, who went on national TV Wednesday. McCarthy, who Gaetz toppled from power, has no love for Gaetz, but says he's not alone, as "I don't know who really likes him."

The ex-speaker said Gaetz "wanted an excuse to resign" as the bipartisan ethics panel was due to release its findings on

Nov. 15, a Friday: "I blame Matt for lying to the president because Matt needed to get out of Congress before the ethics report came out on Friday. I don't believe he told President Trump that."

Trump tapped Gaetz two days before, on Wednesday, Nov. 13, and Gaetz immediately submitted a letter of resignation. Neither his hasty exit from Congress nor having his AG nomination explode should stop the publication of the report.

As McCarthy said, "If he says he hasn't done this, why don't you clear his name? Put the report out there," adding "these young women need justice."

On Thursday afternoon the ethics committee met for hours

but remained deadlocked on releasing the report, only saying: "The Committee is continuing to discuss the matter."

It then went to the floor, where two motions to out the report failed narrowly, with only one Republican, California's Tom McClintock, joining the Democrats. But the slim GOP control of the House will be even slimmer when the new Congress is sworn in on Jan. 3, making it more likely that Gaetz will not escape public scrutiny.

In the elections, Republicans won 220 seats and Democrats won 215, a closer margin than exists now. However Gaetz has turned his back on the people who reelected him and won't

take his seat, so on the first day the spread will be 219-215. And then on Jan. 20, with Rep. Elise Stefanik leaving to be Trump's UN ambassador and Rep. Mike Waltz becoming the new national security, the House will be divided 217-215. And McClintock will still be there.

That makes it 216 to 216 to release the Gaetz report, taking only a single Republican to side for transparency. We think that Kevin McCarthy will have more friends among GOP conference members than Matt Gaetz.

None of Gaetz's actions — resigning his seat, abandoning the new session or withdrawing from consideration as AG — can wipe away what is written in the report, so publish it.

Pain of loss during the holidays is real

By SARAH STULTZ

Albert Lea Tribune (Minnesota)
Tribune News Service

I was notified Monday that my friend's daughter passed away the night before.

I've known my friend since I moved to Albert Lea, and in the last year or two, her daughter has been sick with cancer.

As the months went on, she progressively got worse until it became too much for her body to handle.

My friend's children have meant everything to her.

Though she and her daughter did not live in the same state, she always spoke highly of her and looked forward to hearing updates about her and her family.

Oh, how hard I knew this would be.

I was reminded of my own pain from losing a child.

No matter the age of the child — whether they are an infant, a child or a grown adult — the pain is real.

Last week I met with a small group of other moms who have also lost children from our own community.

These women are at various stages of their grief and come from different backgrounds, but we have all gone through a similar experience.

The holidays can be a difficult time for parents who have lost children or anyone who has lost a loved one.

It can be difficult to take part in Christmas traditions that you used to enjoy with your loved one — just now without them by your side.

It can be difficult to hang their ornaments on the tree or to hang their stockings alongside the rest of the family's — I know it was for me the first few years after my daughter, Sophie, died.

The pain can be debilitating some days, and some days you're numb. Other days, when things seem to be going well, you are struck with something out of nowhere that reminds you of your child and then the tears flow.

And all of that is OK.

To those who have experienced a loss and who are going through your first Christmas season without your loved one, please be patient with yourself. As human beings, we can be emotional people.

Sarah Stultz



The holidays can be a difficult time for parents who have lost children or anyone who has lost a loved one. It can be difficult to take part in Christmas traditions that you used to enjoy with your loved one — just now without them by your side.

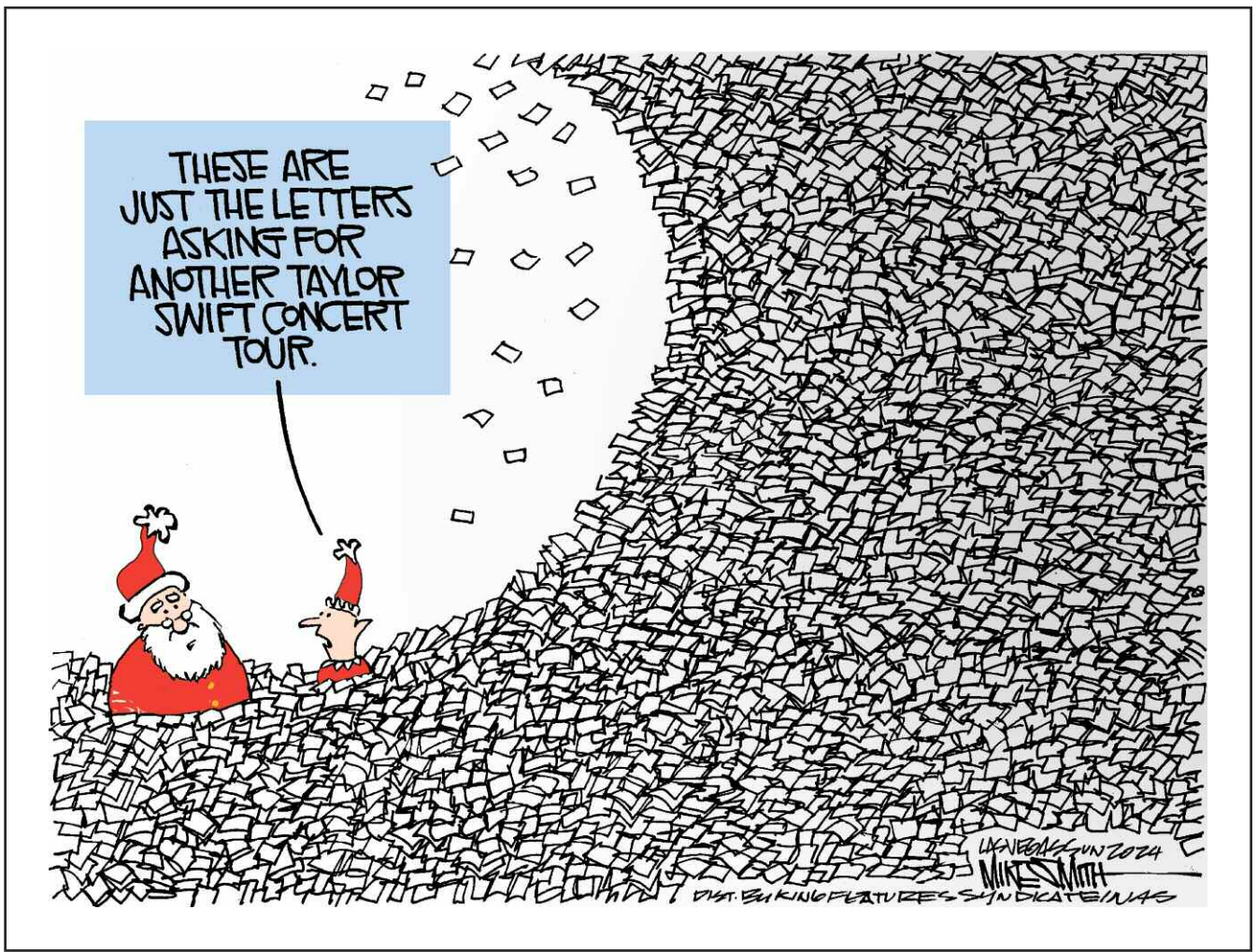
Don't be afraid to speak about your loved ones and your memories of them over the years. Think about the fun things you did, the conversations you shared and the laughs you had.

And to those who have not experienced loss but who have friends who have — please don't be afraid to bring up your friends' loved ones. It will mean so much to hear their names and to know they are not forgotten.

Most importantly, don't forget to keep the faith that you will see your loved ones again.

"The only way to take sorrow out of death is to take love out of life." — Russell M. Nelson

Stultz is the managing editor of the Tribune.



Darkness has fallen on frontier

By JOHN KRULL

TheStatehouseFile.com

BOSTON, Massachusetts — After John F. Kennedy died, my mother pulled me in from playing and made me watch the television coverage of his funeral proceedings.

She held me close as I gazed, not comprehending, at the screen.

"He was a great man," she said between sobs. "You have to watch this. You have to watch this."

She said that over and over again.

I was not yet school age.

I don't recall much of what was on the TV that day.

I just remember my mother holding me as she cried, telling me that I had to understand that something horrible had happened.

For years afterward, even as I was enthralled by the Kennedy mythology, I never could understand why JFK's death affected my mother so personally, so searingly.

I accepted, without fully grasping, why so many adults in those dark days after Dallas walked around stunned. Even my father, who had voted for Richard Nixon in 1960, moved through that sad time like a robot.

It wasn't as if Mom and Dad didn't have problems of their own.

We lived then in a shabby duplex in a working-class neighborhood in Cleveland, Ohio. My parents' marriage was a struggle that would continue for another decade until they finally, blessedly, split. They struggled to pay bills and keep us all fed.

Why, then, did the death of a famous man — a prince of privilege, no less — hit them with the force of a physical blow?

I walk now through the rooms of the John F. Kennedy Museum and Library, searching for an answer to that question.

John Krull



My daughter is with me. She was born more than 35 years after JFK died. For her, Jack Kennedy is nothing but a figure from history, like George Washington and Julius Caesar.

We amble past the displays, stopping to take in the familiar — for me — account of Kennedy's courageous battle to keep himself and the men under his leadership alive after a Japanese destroyer sunk the PT-109 he helmed. We slow-walk through his years in the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate and ease our pace as we contemplate his campaign for the presidency against Nixon.

I find the answer to my question when we stop to watch his 14-minute inaugural address.

I've read the speech, drafted by JFK pen man and alter ego Theodore Sorenson and revised by Kennedy himself, many times.

But I'd never watched it in its entirety, as people in 1961 would have done.

Seeing it made all the difference.

What lingers in modern memory are Kennedy's references to Cold War tensions, the "twilight struggle" imagery.

But watching it afresh I'm struck by something else.

In the quarter-hour he took to deliver it, JFK called for Americans to come together to meet shared challenges, to work in tandem to help make life better for everyone. He set the tone at the outset by saying his inauguration was

"not a victory of party but a celebration of freedom."

His theme was one of making sacrifices for the greater good. His delivery was impassioned but disciplined, his hands shuffling through the pages of his text as he marched to his climax — the famous "ask not what your country can do for you — ask what you can do for your country" crescendo.

After the video ends, my daughter says, "Wow. You wouldn't hear anything like that now."

No, we wouldn't.

In another few weeks, another son of privilege will take the presidential oath of office. The bet here is that Donald Trump's inaugural address won't implore us to "ask not" but instead demand "what's in it for me?"

John Kennedy was a flawed man. A womanizer and, at times, a political trimmer, he often failed to live up to his highest ideals.

As we all do.

But he called for us to be the best versions of ourselves, not the worst.

The tour of the museum ends in a high, glass-encased room with a stunning view of Massachusetts Bay.

Darkness has fallen.

I stare at the water that stretches without end into the night. I think of my daughter and the future before her. I think of my departed mother and father, their hopes, their sorrows.

And I think of JFK and this beloved country — of how far we Americans have come since he lived. How far we have fallen.

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Krull is director of Franklin College's Pulliam School of Journalism and publisher of TheStatehouseFile.com, a news website powered by Franklin College journalism students.

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

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12-14 CRYPTOQUIP

RAVO B MEGXSZOK QGK RZSA
B WBAGKBOF-XVQ HGBS KVSM
HAZDDF, WZKAS ZS RVBX BO
ZXZMA MRVBSVX?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHAT DID THE MAN WHO WORKED AS A COW MILKER SAY EACH MORNING? "AN UDDER DAY, AN UDDER DOLLAR."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals G

Trivial Review

(Answers are printed below, upside down.)

Winter weather

- Where is the coldest place on Earth's surface?
- What are the first and last days of winter in the Northern Hemisphere?

20 Dec. 21 through March 20
1) Antarctica

12-16 CRYPTOQUIP

JWUNDAXKCM L IHBD CVWNK
KZA VHKMZ CXJ ACMBL
UZHBZWWJ WI QWQALA KZA

TCHBWM: "C KCM HT VWMX."
Saturday's Cryptoquip: WHEN A SPORTING DOG WITH A MAHOGANY-RED COAT GETS CHILLY, MIGHT IT WEAR AN IRISH SWEATER?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: I equals F

CRYPTO FUN

Solve the code to discover words related to games and puzzles. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 26 = A)

A. 16 5 25 22 16 13
Clue: Possibility

B. 21 24 23 6 6
Clue: Prowess

C. 11 13 22 1 25 6
Clue: Using the mind

D. 25 16 4 23 1 10
Clue: Keeness of thought, vision or hearing

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to games and puzzles.

ARNBI

Answers: A. chance B. skill C. mental D. acuity

kids' corner

Creative Coloring

Color in this picture to create your own masterpiece.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

DECEMBER 10

1768: The first edition of the Encyclopaedia Britannica is published.

1901: The first Nobel Prize ceremony is held in Stockholm on the fifth anniversary of Alfred Nobel's death.

2021: Deadly tornadoes affect the United States.

GUESS WHO?

I am an actress born in New York on December 12, 1970. I began my career as a child model with the Ford Modeling Agency. I've starred in many movies, including opposite David Bowie and Tom Cruise. I'm married to one of the stars of the "Avengers" film series.

Answer: Jennifer Connelly

Food FACT!

These cookies are made from a stiff dough that is rolled out and cut into shapes.

Answer: Rolled cookies

Double Word Puzzle

Unscramble the words to reveal the sentence.

KEAB 2 1
ISTF 3
RLUFO 5 4
HCSP I 6 7

7 4 1 6 1 2 3 3 6 1 5 1
Answer: Preheat the oven

NEW WORD FOLD

gently mix one ingredient into a batter

GAMES & PUZZLES WORD SEARCH

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

- ### WORDS
- BANANAGRAMS
 - BINGO
 - BRAIN TEASER
 - CHECKERS
 - CHESS
 - COMPUTERS
 - CROSSWORD
 - CRYPTOGRAM
 - DEXTERITY
 - HIDDEN PICTURE
 - JIGSAW
 - LOGIC
 - MATHEMATICAL
 - MAZE
 - PLAYING CARDS
 - PUZZLE
 - SUDOKU
 - SUMS
 - TETRIS
 - UNO
 - VIDEO GAMES
 - WORD SEARCH
 - WORDLE

How they say that in...

English: Flour
Spanish: Harina
Italian: Farina
French: Farine
German: Mehl

Did You Know?

Food historians trace gingerbread back to the ancient Egyptians, who used it for ceremonial purposes. The ancient Greeks came up with the first gingerbread recipe.

Get the PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Jelly thumbprint cookie

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

- 1 "What's the —?"
- 6 Nibbles
- 11 Sushi condiment
- 12 Fesses up
- 14 Biker's headgear
- 15 Bathroom bowl
- 16 Equi-IRAs
- 17 Some IRAs
- 19 Sale rack abbr.
- 20 Siestas
- 22 Court divider
- 23 "Understood"
- 24 Upright
- 26 Busy store in December
- 28 Granola morsel
- 30 Actor Brynner
- 31 Dog's plaything
- 35 Track horse

DOWN

- 10 Sound system
- 11 Complain
- 13 Throat affliction
- 18 Hanoi holiday
- 21 Grumpy look
- 23 Imam's faith
- 25 Bit of ink
- 27 "Uh-huh"
- 29 "Babes in —"
- 31 Fabric
- 32 "Yay!"
- 33 Sun Bowl city
- 34 Even so
- 36 Melon type
- 37 Runs off to wed
- 38 Carnival attractions
- 41 Leafy lunch
- 44 Pt. of U.S.A.
- 45 Make over
- 48 Actress Hagen
- 50 Refusals

Solution time: 26 mins.

W	A	I	S	T	J	I	B	M	O	D
E	M	C	E	E	I	R	A	E	D	U
S	P	I	L	L	C	I	R	C	L	E
M	I	L	C	A	L	A	S	R	O	O
A	V	E	C	D	A	T	E	D		
A	S	S	I	S	I	O	N	I	O	N
G	O	P	R	O	L	E	O	A	N	Y
A	C	A	I	Z	O	D	I	A	C	
M	U	S	C	L	E	S	L	I	L	A
U	L	T	D	R	E	E	R	E	C	T
T	I	S	L	O	S	R	E	S	T	S

Yesterday's answer 12-14

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Silence is golden

West dealer. North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♦ K Q
♥ J 8 6
♦ K 8 5
♠ A K J 10 2

WEST
♦ A 10 9 7 5
♥ K 10 5 2
♦ A Q 4
♠ 3

EAST
♠ 8 3
♥ —
♦ J 10 9 6 3 2
♠ 9 8 7 6 5

SOUTH
♦ J 6 4 2
♥ A Q 9 7 4 3
♦ 7
♠ Q 4

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

Opening lead — three of clubs.

When a defender is reasonably sure he can set an opposing contract, he naturally considers doubling. Before he actually utters that word, however, the defender should consider whether he might be giving away information that will help declarer make a contract that might otherwise fail.

Take this case where West doubled four hearts and led the three of clubs. South had no trouble diagnosing the three as a singleton, since the deuce was in dummy and the bidding marked West with length in spades and hearts.

Declarer won the club with the queen and, utilizing his knowledge of West's hand to the fullest, cashed the ace of hearts, disdaining a finesse. When East showed out, as expected, South led another heart toward the J-8.

West put up the king since declarer would finesse the eight if the heart was ducked. Furthermore, West wanted to lock declarer in dummy and force him to lead a diamond or a club.

So, after taking the heart king, West played the ace and another spade to dummy's king. Declarer cashed the jack of hearts and then made the key play, leading the diamond king from dummy. This rendered the defense helpless. (If declarer had led a low diamond instead, East could have won the trick and given West a club ruff to defeat the contract.)

West took the king of diamonds with the ace, but when he tried to cash the queen, declarer ruffed and drew West's ten of trump with the queen. South then claimed, discarding his fourth spade on one of dummy's good clubs.

It's true that South might have made four hearts without the double by West, but the double left declarer with no doubt about how to proceed.

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Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Famous Hand

East dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♦ K
♥ A 10 9 7 6 2
♦ 4
♠ A K Q 7 5

WEST
♦ A 5
♥ A K 5 3
♦ K Q 8 6
♠ 9 6 3

EAST
♦ J 9 8 6 3
♥ J 8 4
♦ 5 2
♠ 10 8 2

SOUTH
♦ Q 10 7 4 2
♥ —
♦ A J 10 9 7 3
♠ J 4

The bidding:
East 2♠ South 2♠ West 3♦ North Pass
Pass 3♦ Dble Pass

Opening lead king of hearts.

When this writer first began attending national bridge tournaments back in the '60s, virtually all the players were from one of the American Contract Bridge League's four member countries — the U.S., Canada, Mexico and Bermuda.

Today, all that has changed. National tournaments now attract scores of the world's top players from Europe, South America and the Far East — including mainland China. The result has been that many of the ACBL's most prestigious titles lately have been captured by visiting internationalists either independently or in concert with North American players.

One of these successes was a victory in the 2001 Spingold Teams. Americans Ralph Katz and George Jacobs teamed up with four of the 2000 Olympiad champions, Giorgio Duboin, Alfredo Versace, Lorenzo Lauria and Norberto Bocchi of Italy, and scored a 48-IMP victory in the final over an upstart team captained by Mike Moss.

Today's deal from the final shows the Italians in action. Bocchi's opening two-spade bid showed spades and an unspecified second suit. West doubled for takeout, and when East left the double in for penalties, Bocchi retreated to his other suit.

West doubled this for penalties, and Duboin now made an excellent decision to leave his partner in diamonds despite holding a significantly better spade, as East was already known to be well-heckled in spades.

Three diamonds proved impossible to beat. Bocchi ruffed the heart lead and conceded a spade to West's ace, and West could score only his K-Q of diamonds from that point on. So the contract was made with an overtrick for a score of +570. At the other table, the American North played in four hearts, down three, for -150.

The two results combined gave the eventual victors a 12-IMP gain on the deal.

Tomorrow: Anticipating the unexpected.
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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

- 1 Ruckus
- 4 Patient's need, for short
- 7 Research sites
- 11 Third son
- 13 "La-la" lead-in
- 14 "Bearded" bloom
- 15 "Toodle-oo!"
- 16 Sock part
- 17 Fixed look
- 18 Take as one's own
- 20 Prepare potatoes
- 22 Trench
- 24 Like nobles
- 28 Chapel recitations
- 32 English county
- 33 Diana of "The Avengers"
- 34 "You bet!"
- 36 Relaxed state
- 37 Ancient theater
- 39 1972 Liza Minnelli movie

DOWN

- 12 Carefree tags, e.g.
- 19 No-win situation?
- 21 Malia, to Sasha
- 23 Attempt
- 25 Deceitful person
- 26 Gaelic
- 27 Bug spray ingredient
- 28 Item on stage
- 29 Carousel, for one
- 30 Baseball's Tommie
- 31 Moment
- 35 — Paulo
- 38 Volleyball barrier
- 40 Spell-off
- 42 New —, India
- 45 Feeder filler
- 47 Taxi alternative
- 48 Finito
- 49 "May It Be" singer
- 50 Sharp turn
- 51 Texter's "I think"
- 52 Neither mate
- 54 Apr. addressee

Solution time: 21 mins.

C	A	T	C	H	B	I	T	E	S		
W	A	S	A	B	I	A	D	M	I	T	S
H	E	L	M	E	T	T	O	I	L	E	T
I	S	O	R	O	T	H	S	I	R	R	
N	A	P	S	N	E	T	I	S	E	E	
E	R	E	C	T	T	O	Y	S	H	O	P
			O	A	T	Y	U	L			
C	H	E	W	T	O	Y	P	A	C	E	R
L	O	L	L	Y	E	S	M	A	L	I	
O	O	P	A	L	T	A	R	S	O	D	
T	R	A	U	M	A	L	E	N	A	P	E
H	A	S	T	E	N	A	D	O	B	E	S
H	O	A	R	D	D	O	S	A	S		

Saturday's answer 12-16

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						

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90 SALE CALENDAR

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January 9th, 2025
6:00 P.M.

75 Acres-Bearcreek Township
Jay County, IN
Parcel 1-55 acres with 53 acres of tillable ground. Soil types include Blount-Glywood, Pewamo and Glywood clay.

Parcel 2-20 acres of woods.

Parcel 3-Combination of Parcels 1 and 2.
Acreages are subject to pending survey. Farm has access off Highway 27.
For more information contact Gary Loy, Auctioneer (260) 726-5160 or Kim Loy, Real Estate Broker at (260) 726-2700

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PUBLIC AUCTION
Saturday December 19th, 2024
TIME 5:00 P.M.
LOCATED: 1854 W SR 28 Ridgeville, IN.
OPEN HOUSE Sunday Dec. 8th & Sunday Dec. 15th 1-3p.m. or for private showing phone auctioneers.

REAL ESTATE
37 Acres in Section 7, Ward Twp., Randolph County, IN. Offered in 1 parcel. Improvements to include 2 Bedroom brick ranch home with 1124 sq. ft. finished living area. Central air, and 12'x12' all seasons room. 45' x 30' and 50' x 16' and 40' x 36' and 22' x 12' pole buildings complete with cement floors. Stocked pond, some fencing. 18.5 acres tillable, 12.4 acres wood and pond, balance buildings and road frontage.
OWNER: Winingham Family

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LOCATED: 1854 W SR 28. Ridgeville, Indiana
THURSDAY
DECEMBER 19TH, 2024

5:00 P.M.

Open House: Sunday December 8th 1-3pm, Sunday December 15th 1-3pm, or for private showing phone auctioneers.

REAL ESTATE

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Relays rally Patriots



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Jay County High School freshman Cooper Glentzer swims the butterfly leg of the 200-yard medley relay that the Patriots won as part of Thursday's meet against Norwell. While the Patriots fell 169-109, Glentzer was a part of all four of the boys' victories in the meet.

Jay boys win a pair of relays but Norwell takes home victories

By ANDREW BALKO

The Commercial Review

The girls have had more first-place finishes than the boys through the first two dual meets this season.

Maddy Snow got the girls started with a victory in the 1-meter diving.

The boys quickly answered back by claiming the 200-meter medley relay. Two top finishes from Cooper Glentzer and the 400 freestyle relay would give the boys all they would need to beat out the girls, but neither Patriot team could overcome the Knights.

The Jay County High School boys and girls swim teams fell to the Norwell Knights on Thursday, with the boys falling 169-109 and the girls coming up short 183-112.

"I think the boys stepped up a lot against a strong Norwell team," said JCHS coach Matt Slavik. "They're showing their effort's playing off. Every single boy dropped time in their events they swam tonight. The relays looked stronger."

"I'm super stoked with where they're at right now and where their potential is going to take them. As we get further into the season, they're training harder and they're doing a great job."

The Patriot boys (0-3) started on a good note with the 200 medley relay. Matthew Fisher led off



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Avery Wentz of the Jay County girls swim team swims the 100-yard freestyle in the meet against Norwell that it lost 183-112 on Thursday. Wentz finished fourth in the event in 1 minute, 10.39 seconds.

with the backstroke, while freshmen Carson Westgerdes and Glentzer gained an advantage swimming the breaststroke and butterfly.

By the time it got to Peyton Yowell in the freestyle, he just needed to hold a sizable lead. The senior flew to the best time split of the freestylers, earning the Patriots a time of 1 minute, 52.08 seconds, to beat the Knights' top team by 3.1 seconds.

"I knew my teammates could get me in a good

position where I can go and finish the relay for my team," Yowell said. "We've been getting a lot better at practice and all of our team has been getting a lot faster, so really good for our team."

The boys also found success in the 400 freestyle relay. Glentzer led off and got Jay County an early lead. Lincoln Clamme, who replaced Fisher in the relay, held the advantage before Westgerdes built it up even more as the third leg. Again, Yowell just had

to finish it off to earn the first-place finish with a time of 3:49.63. The closest relay team from Norwell trailed by 6.1 seconds.

Along with his key roles in the relay, Glentzer picked up a pair of individual victories. His first win came in the 50 freestyle, where he sprinted out to a 1.26 victory with a time of 24.21 seconds.

The JCHS freshman also competed in the 500 freestyle, with the goal of staying under 15:16.00 time to qualify for midstates.

(The midstates meet is significant for his club team, Jay County Winter Swim, but not to the varsity or IHSAA.)

He achieved his goal, hitting the wall in 5:15.48 to dominate the field — Norwell's Ethan Williamson finished as the runner up with a 5:48.82 — leading to his teammates running over to the edge of the pool to congratulate him.

"My goal was to get a 5:16 (in the 500 freestyle) and it was my last chance to get a cut for a meet called midstates," Glentzer said. "I just kept my head down, focusing on the little things and kept plowing through the water."

Along with the top finishes, the Patriots earned the runner-up spot in three events. The first came from Yowell in the 100 butterfly (1:03.47), followed by Westgerdes in the 100 freestyle (55.88). The final second-place finish came in the 200 freestyle relay (1:51.56).

The sole victory for the girls team (2-1) came from Snow in the diving. Her score of 173.8 beat out Norwell's Emerson Meredith (164.8) by just shy of 10 points.

Outside of Snow, Brooklyn Byrum had the best day for the girls with a pair of second-place finishes. Her time of 1:08.57 came up 1.26 seconds short of Annalise Cornett of the

top spot in the 100 butterfly. While she wasn't in contention to win the 100 breaststroke, a 1:21.55 earned the spot as the runner-up.

"Brooklynn is coming in as a freshman and able to compete across different events," Slavik said, "Kaitlyn Fisher is the same way and some of our older girls swam faster than they were swimming at this point last year. Just at a quick glance, we were 90% over where we were at this time last year."

The only other second-place finish for the Patriots came from Lauren Fisher in the 100 freestyle (1:04.95).

Slavik said he's been impressed with the way his team is gelling and the attitudes they've brought to meets and practices this year. Jay County will have three more meets — at South Adams on Monday, against Delta on Tuesday and against Adams Central on Dec. 23 — to make any tweaks before their 15-day midseason break.

"The hardest two weeks and the best two weeks to shape your season comes over Christmas break, when you're able to come in and refine what you've seen over the first half of the season," Slavik said. "There are a number of things we've got to address, but again, we are ahead of where we were last year at this time with the core group of kids."

Patriots beat fifth-ranked New Haven

Mallory Winner isn't unfamiliar with high-level competition, being a three-time champion.

When wrestling the second-ranked wrestler in the state, Winner proved why she is ranked No. 1.

Top-ranked Winner helped the No. 3 Jay County High School girls wrestling team take down the No. 5 New Haven Bulldogs 51-24 on Thursday.

Winner faced off with No. 2 Heaven Gardner in the 170-pound weight class, handing the Bulldog her second loss of the season in a 1-0 decision.

JCHS and New Haven split another pair of ranked matches. In the 140 contest, No. 9 Emily Manor secured the pin on No. 13 April Laggner in 2 minutes, 18 seconds. On the other side, No. 5 Lina Lingo got upset by 11th-ranked Lanessa Ocampo, getting pinned after 4:33.

Other victories for the Patriots (7-0) came from No. 4 Katie Rowles (100 match), Brenna Ruble (125), Maleah Parsons (145) and No. 5 Amara Crawford (235), who is ranked in the 190 weight class.

Local roundup

Tankers finish eighth

HUBER HEIGHTS, Ohio — Five top-10 finishes for the Fort Recovery girls swim team netted it eight place at the Wayne Invitational on Thursday, while the boys finished in 14th.

The girls earned 107.5 points in total to top 13 teams, while Butler's 501 points put it atop the field.

With just two boys, the Indians secured 42 points to beat out three schools. Bellbrook won the invitational on the boys side with 407 points.

The Indians' top finish came from Joelle Kaup in the 100-yard butterfly. A time of 1 minute, 7.04 seconds, won her the event. Kaup also added a fourth-place finish in the 200 freestyle.

Livy Timmerman added a pair of top-10 finishes for the girls, placing seventh in the 50

freestyle and eighth in the 100 freestyle. The final top-10 finish for the girls came from the 400 freestyle relay (fifth) and 200 medley relay (10th) team of Timmerman, Liza Knapke, Aubrey Shuttleworth and Kaup.

Carson Fullenkamp's 2:13.65 time in the 200 freestyle gave the boys their highest finish at sixth.

Caleb Smith placed seventh in the 100 freestyle and 100 backstroke.

Tribe falls

FORT RECOVERY — The Fort Recovery girls basketball team dropped its Midwest Athletic Conference opener to the Marion Local Flyers 41-26 on Thursday.

The Indians (2-5, 0-1 MAC) struggled in the second and third quarters, only managing to score four points in each. Amidst those struggles, the Flyers (4-0, 2-0 MAC) found some offensive rhythm to score 12 and 13 points, respectively.

Bridget Homan finished as the Indians' leader with 10 points, with a bucket in each period and a pair of fourth-

quarter free throws. Karlie Niekamp followed with nine points. Rounding out the score was Kennedy Muhlenkamp (four), Cameron Muhlenkamp (two) and Makenna Huelskamp (one).

MLHS had six players score in the game, including a pair in double figures. Mya Eckstein led the way with a game-high 13 points, while Chloe Ronnebaum added 10.

JV falls

The Jay County junior varsity boys wrestling team fell to New Haven 48-42 on Thursday.

Both teams won eight matches, but all of the Bulldogs' victories came via fall, while the Patriots only pinned five opponents. The other points came from a decision, major decision and technical fall.

Jay County wrestlers to win by fall were Alex Rivers (126-pound weight class, 4 minutes 56 seconds), Dylan Bolt (138, 5:48), Gabe Ardizzone (150, 5:47), Chandler Murphy (150, 3:24) and Lucas Raines (175, 0:38).

Hayden Ison secured a 30-14

technical fall at the 5:32 mark of the 157 contest. Hayden Richman earned a 13-9 major decision in the 113 weight class and Anthony Campofiore won the 106 match 15-6.

Junior high sweeps

BLUFFTON — The Jay County Junior High School girls basketball teams pulled out victories against Bluffton on Thursday.

The seventh grade team eked out a 23-22 victory in double overtime. Boo Towell led the way with 12 points for the Patriots (7-2), while Brenna Weitzel added four. Emmi Clark had three points, as Bristol Kahlig and Ali Luna had a bucket each.

A 20-point performance by Karsyn Schwieterman fueled a 47-23 win for the eighth grade team (8-1). Charlee Peters also reached double figures, scoring 11 points. A trio of players, Alivya Schweiterman, Kendall Schemenaur and Claudia Dirksen, all added four points. Avery Snow and Weitzel rounded out the score with two points apiece.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Hallie Schwieterman puts up a bunny during the Patriots' 53-50 overtime win against Adams Central on Thursday. Schwieterman finished with a double double, scoring 11 points and dishing out 11 assists.

OT ...

Continued from page 10
Brunswick played a key role in the extra period. The freshman had scored 14 points through regulation and never slowed down.

Adams Central got on the board first in overtime, as Kate Fisher crashed the glass and picked up a foul on Schwieterman that allowed her to knock down a pair of foul shots.

The Patriots came up empty on the next possession, but followed by forcing a turnover. On the ensuing runout, Schwieterman — who had a double double with a game-high 11 assists — found Brunswick wide open under the basket to tie the game at 48 with 2:34 remaining.

Only 20 seconds later, JCHS made another stop and Schwieterman raced down the floor before finding Brunswick just above the right block for a short jumpshot for the lead. Another defensive stand resulted in the Jets fouling Brunswick, who split the foul shots to go up three points.

Finally, Adams Central applied pressure on Schwieterman at the top of the key, forcing her to drive to the hole, where she found a wide open Brunswick for a final layup.

"I mean really, you just have to have the heart for it," Brunswick said. "You have to go for it. You have four minutes left in the game. It could be the last game you're playing so you just have to try your hardest and push for what you want."

The freshman finished the game with 21 points on 10-of-16 shooting (62.5%), while ripping down seven rebounds.

Jay County trailed the Jets 35-31 heading into the final period after giving up a 12-2 run through the back half of the third quarter that sucked the energy out of the team. Determined to flip the momentum back, Schwieterman got to the foul line early in the second half and Brunswick scored in the post assisted

Box score			
Jay County Patriots vs. Adams Central Jets		3-point shooting: Adams Central 10-35 (Fisher 6-15, Stafford 3-11, Hendricks 1-3, Ringger 0-3, Ogg 0-3). Jay County 2-15 (Newton 1-2, Petro 1-2, Brunswick 0-1, Schwieterman 0-2, Sibray 0-6).	
Girls varsity summary		Rebounds: Adams Central 25 (Fisher 7, Hendricks 6, Stafford 5, Ogg 3, Ringger 2, Isch, Team). Jay County 54 (Heath 14, Schwieterman 9, Brunswick 7, Petro 6, Team 6, Newton 5, May 5, Sibray 2).	
Adams Central (1-9, 0-3 ACAC)		Assists: Adams Central 8 (Hendricks 4, Stafford 3, Isch). Jay County 13 (Schwieterman 11, Newton 2).	
	FG-FGA FT-FTA PTS	Blocks: Adams Central 2 (Hendricks, Fisher). Jay County 3 (Sibray, Newton, Heath).	
Hendricks	2-4 0-0 5	Personal fouls: Adams Central 16 (Ellenberger 5, Hendricks 3, Stafford 3, Ogg 2, Ringger, Isch, Bench). Jay County 8 (Petro 3, Sibray, Newton, Schwieterman, Brunswick, May).	
Fisher	7-16 2-2 22	Turnovers: Adams Central 13. Jay County 24.	
Ringger	0-7 2-3 2		
Isch	0-1 0-2 0		
Stafford	5-20 2-5 15		
Ellenberger	0-2 2-2 2		
Ogg	1-7 2-3 4		
Totals	15-56 10-17 50		
	.267 .588		
Def. rebound percentage: .500			
Jay County (4-5, 1-1 ACAC)			
	FG-FGA FT-FTA PTS		
Sibray	1-9 0-0 2		
Newton	1-2 2-2 5		
Schwtrmn	4-13 3-6 11		
Petro	4-9 0-2 9		
Skirvin	0-0 0-0 0		
Brunswick	10-16 1-5 21		
May	0-1 1-2 1		
Heath	2-7 0-0 4		
Totals	22-57 7-15 53		
	.386 .467		
Def. rebound percentage: .844			
Score by quarters:			
ACHS	9 14 12 11	4	— 50
JCHS	9 14 8 15	7	— 53

by Newton to get within a point.

Stafford pushed the lead back to three points after scoring on a line drive to the rim.

Jay County started to find some life again after Newton found Gabi Petro for a triple at the top of the key that tied the game at 37 following a scramble. Ties truly started to run two and a half minutes later when Newton knocked down her own 3-pointer to take a 42-40 lead.

"I just felt good after I hit the shot and everyone went crazy for getting the lead," Newton said. "I was just pushing through it and doing it for my team."

Up three points with 20.9 seconds left, Petro left two points at the line that could have put the game out of reach for Adams Central. Jets coach Rob Earl called timeout with 14.5 seconds left to draw up a play.

Schwieterman took away Fisher, who had hit six threes to that point en route to a team-high 22, forcing the ball back toward the top of the key. With time ticking down, Stafford just got a step-back three off over the

outstretched arm of Amelia Heath, the Patriots' 6 foot, 1 inch center. The ball found the bottom of the net with two seconds left, forcing overtime.

The first two quarters were played evenly, with both teams scoring nine points in the first quarter and 14 in the second. Fisher had 12 points as ACHS hit five triples in the first half, while the Patriots dominated the paint with nine buckets coming at the rim.

This was the first victory of the season with a margin less than 12 points. The only other game the Patriots played within 10 points was a 5-point loss to Muncie Central on Tuesday.

"It's not just huge to come out and win a game again, but to win a tight game," McIntire said. "They kept their composure and their mental focus. A lot of those girls had been playing a lot of minutes. They came back and I told them, 'It's not about being tired right now. You've got to dig in and play with heart,' and I felt like they did."

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County — Boys wrestling ACAC Duals at Adams Central — 9 a.m.; Boys basketball vs. New Castle — 6 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Boys bowling vs. Marion Local — 9:15 a.m.; Girls bowling vs. Marion Local — 1:15 p.m.; Boys basketball at Bradford — 6 p.m.

Monday
Jay County — Swim at South Adams — 5:30 p.m.; Junior high boys basketball at Blackford — 5:30 p.m.; Junior high girls basketball vs. Northside — 6 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Middle school boys basketball at Parkway — 5 p.m.; Middle school girls basketball vs. Memorial — 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday
Jay County — Swim vs. Delta — 6 p.m.; Boys wrestling vs. Norwell — 6 p.m.; Girls wrestling vs. Norwell — 6 p.m.; Girls basketball (varsity only) at Blackford — 6:30 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Girls basketball at Memorial — 6 p.m.; Middle school boys basketball at Memorial — 5 p.m.; Middle school girls basketball vs. Parkway — 5 p.m.

TV sports

Today
10 a.m. — Premier League soccer: Leicester City at Newcastle United (USA)
11 a.m. — College basketball: Memphis at Clemson (ESPN2)
12 p.m. — College football: Jackson State at South Carolina State (ABC); Incarnate World at South Dakota State (ESPN)
12 p.m. — College basketball: Texas A&M at Purdue (CBS)
12:30 p.m. — College basketball: Coppin State at Penn State (BTN)
12:30 p.m. — Premier League soccer: Aston Villa at Nottingham Forest (NBC)
1 p.m. — College basketball: Ohio State at Auburn (ESPN2); Wichita State at DePaul (FS1)
1 p.m. — PGA Tour: Grant Thornton Invitational (NBC)
2:30 p.m. — College basketball: Wisconsin at Butler (BTN)
3 p.m. — College football: Navy at Army (CBS)
3 p.m. — College basketball: UCLA at Arizona (ESPN2); Seton Hall at Rutgers (FOX)
3:15 p.m. — College basketball: N.C. State at Kansas (ESPN)
3:30 p.m. — College football: Mercer at North Dakota State (ABC)
4:30 p.m. — NBA: Atlanta Hawks at Milwaukee Bucks (TNT)
5 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Kentucky at Purdue (BTN)
5:15 p.m. — College basketball: Louisville at Kentucky (ESPN)
5:30 p.m. — College basketball: Tennessee at Illinois (FOX)
7 p.m. — UFC fighting (ESPN2)
7 p.m. — College hockey: Notre Dame at Ohio State (BTN)
8 p.m. — Wrestling: Cdy Rhodes vs. Kevin Owens (NBC)
8 p.m. — NHL: St. Louis Blues at Dallas Stars (FDSN Indiana)
8:30 p.m. — NBA: Houston Rockets at Oklahoma City Thunder (ABC)
9 p.m. — College football: South Alabama at Western Michigan (ESPN)
9 p.m. — NHL: Nashville Predators at Colorado Avalanche (CBS)
9:30 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Utah at Washington (BTN)

Sunday
12 a.m. — UFC fighting (ESPN2)
9 a.m. — Premier League soccer: Crystal Palace at Brighton & Hove Albion (USA)
11:30 a.m. — Premier League soccer: Manchester United at Manchester City (USA)
12 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Iowa at Michigan State (BTN)
1 p.m. — NFL: Kansas City Chiefs at Cleveland Browns (CBS); Dallas Cowboys at Carolina Panthers (FOX)
1 p.m. — Women's college basketball: N.C. State at Louisville (ABC)
2 p.m. — College basketball: New Orleans at Iowa (BTN)
2 p.m. — Women's college basketball: West Virginia at Temple (ESPN2)
2 p.m. — PGA Tour: Grant Thornton Invitational (NBC)
2 p.m. — Premier League soccer: Brentford at Chelsea (USA)
4 p.m. — College basketball: Georgia Tech at Northwestern (BTN)
4:25 p.m. — NFL: Indianapolis Colts at Denver Broncos (CBS); Pittsburgh Steelers at Philadelphia Eagles (FOX)
5 p.m. — NBA: New Orleans Pelicans at Indiana Pacers (FDSN Indiana)
6 p.m. — College basketball: Stephen F. Austin at Oregon (BTN)
8 p.m. — College basketball: Montana State at USC (BTN)
8:20 p.m. — NFL: Green Bay Packers at Seattle Seahawks (NBC)

Monday
3 p.m. — Premier League soccer: West Ham United at AFC Bournemouth (USA)
8 p.m. — NFL: Chicago Bears at Minnesota Vikings (ABC)
8:30 p.m. — NFL: Atlanta Falcons at Las Vegas Raiders (ESPN)

Tuesday
6 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Seton Hall at LSU (FS1)
7 p.m. — College basketball: North Carolina at Florida (ESPN); Michigan State at Oakland (ESPN2)
7:30 p.m. — College basketball: St. Francis at Maryland (BTN)
8 p.m. — NHL: Jew Jersey Devils at St. Louis Blues (FDSN Indiana)
8:30 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Iowa State at UConn (FS1)
9 p.m. — College football: Memphis at West Virginia (ESPN)
9:30 p.m. — College basketball: Prairie View A&M at UCLA (BTN)
8:30 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Oklahoma at Michigan (ESPN2)

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EB controls OT

Brunswick scores seven of her 21 points in overtime to beat the Jets

By ANDREW BALKO

The Patriots fell flat midway through the second half. A spark from Raylah Newton off the bench pulled them out of the mud to tie and eventually regain the lead.

Up three points with 14.5 seconds left, all they needed was a defensive stop to end the game. Hallie Schwieterman hounded the Jets' top 3-point threat, but the ball found its way to Ava Stafford, who sent the game into overtime.

The extra period belonged to Elizabeth Brunswick, as the freshman took over to lead the Patriots to victory.

Brunswick scored all seven overtime points for the Jay County High School girls basketball team on Friday as it snapped a four game losing streak with a 53-50 victory over the Adams Central Jets.

Before beating the Jets (1-9, 0-3 Allen County Athletic Conference), Jay County (4-5, 1-1 ACAC) lost the previous four games. Its last win came against Winchester on Nov. 23.

"I just felt like it showed our mental toughness," said JCHS coach Sherri McIntire. "For (Adams Central) to hit that three and have the momentum swing, with a young team like this, they could have folded easily and we didn't. We bounced back and got some defensive stops when we needed them to finish the game."

"I'm just so proud of them because I wasn't sure how we would handle that. We haven't been in that situation this year. ... The look in their eyes when they came off the floor thinking 'Oh, we're going to overtime. Can we do this?' But boy, they did. They continued to battle and keep it together mentally."

See OT page 9



Elizabeth Brunswick of the Jay County High School girls basketball team powers up through Adams Central's Izzy Isch (12) and Tenley Hendricks (1) for a layup during Friday's 53-50 overtime victory. Brunswick scored all seven of Jay County's points in overtime points en route to a career-high 21.

Cubs trade for Astros' outfielder Kyle Tucker

By MEGHAN MONTEMURRO

Chicago Tribune Tribune News Service

CHICAGO — The Chicago Cubs have landed the superstar hitter their lineup has needed.

The Cubs have acquired outfielder Kyle Tucker from the Houston Astros for third baseman Isaac Paredes, right-hander Hayden Wesneski and their 2024 first-round pick, third baseman Cam Smith, sources confirmed to the Chicago Tribune.

Tucker, 27, is coming off his third consecutive All-Star appearance after hitting .289 with a .409 on-base percentage, .585 slugging percentage and 181 OPS+ in 78 games.

The left-handed slugging right fielder gives the Cubs a proven, consistent middle of the order hitter they've been lacking. Tucker's addition sets up the Cubs to move Cody Bellinger, with the New York Yankees involved in discussions for the outfielder, sources told the Tribune.

The Cubs paid a hefty price for Tucker, who will be a free agent after the season.

But it's a trade they needed to make, even if Tucker decides to test free agency and not sign a contract extension with the Cubs.

Paredes' time with the organization proved to be shorter than the Cubs envisioned when they acquired him for Christopher Morel and reliever Hunter Bigge ahead of the July trade deadline. Wesneski was a valuable swing pitcher on the staff this past season, but the Cubs possess the starting pitching depth to handle dealing the Houston native. Smith, 21, climbed three levels in his first taste of pro ball after the Cubs took him at No. 14 overall. He possesses tantalizing power, slugging seven homers in 32 games.

No big league team could exceed the Cubs' combination of prospects, including eight in the top 100, and big league talent in a trade for Tucker. The Astros and Cubs were ultimately able to match up to swing the biggest acquisition of president of baseball operations Jed Hoyer's tenure.

Joel Embiid exits game vs. Pacers

By KEITH POMPEY

The Philadelphia Inquirer Tribune News Service

PHILADELPHIA — Joel Embiid left Friday night's game against the Indiana Pacers after being struck in the face underneath the Pacers' basket.

The 76ers' center was hit in the face while trying to make a defensive play 12 seconds before the half-time intermission. Embiid fell to court and remained there until the Sixers called a timeout with 6.1 seconds remaining. The Sixers diagnosed Embiid's injury as an impact to right side of his face, and announced that he will not return to the game.

This was Embiid's second game back after missing seven games with left knee swelling and personal reasons. The 2023 NBA MVP has missed 17 games

76er's star was struck in the face during second-quarter defensive stand

this season due to left knee management, knee swelling, personal reasons and serving a three-game suspension.

Embiid had 12 points on 4-for-9 shooting to go along with four rebounds and five assists.

After Embiid was ruled out, Sixers rookie Jared McCain had an injury scare. The rookie guard briefly left the game at the

5:24 mark of the third quarter after he was hit in the back of the head while being fouled. McCain lost his balance and needed help from teammate Paul George while walking to the free-throw line. McCain went to the locker room for further evaluation, but he cleared concussion protocol and returned to the floor with 2:04 left in the quarter.

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