

Russia, Ukraine talks set to begin

By HENRY MEYER and OLESIA SAFRONOVA  
Bloomberg News  
Tribune News Service

Russia and Ukraine will resume direct peace talks in Istanbul a day after Ukraine staged one of its boldest aerial attacks inside Russia, which destroyed long-range bombers and other aircraft.

Ukrainian Defense Minister Rustem Umerov will lead the talks Monday opposite a delegation headed by Russian presidential aide Vladimir Medinsky. The meeting marks only the second time the two warring sides have held public negotiations since the early days of the conflict and follows a first round of talks in May.

Prospects for peace remain distant despite months of high-profile efforts by U.S. President Donald Trump, who has grown increasingly frustrated with the lack of progress. Moscow didn't accept a U.S. proposal for a 30-day ceasefire and has laid out maximalist demands to end its invasion, now in its fourth year. While Trump has threatened to impose more sanctions on Russia, he's held off on taking that step.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on Sunday revealed details of the attack, which utilized drones hidden in trucks sent deep inside Russia to hit strategic airfields as far away as eastern Siberia. He also said his country would use "active actions" and "diplomacy" to defend itself while demanding an immediate halt to fighting.

See Talks page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Celebrating Class of '25

Jay County High School held its commencement ceremony for its Class of 2025 on Sunday afternoon. Pictured above, Morgan DeHoff (left) and Gretchen Link grin as the move their tassels at the conclusion of the event. Link gave one of the addresses during the ceremony, followed by comments from Daisy Muhlenkamp and Emma Ransom. DeHoff delivered the closing remarks. At right, Jay School Corporation superintendent Jeremy Gulley, who eschewed the microphone because of technical issues and came off the stage to talk directly to the graduates, applauds them as the school's 50th graduating class. For additional photos, see page 5.



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Mandi McIver and Inara Sanderson, performing as Katherine and Ellie Blake, argue over a large hourglass during Jay County Civic Theatre's Thursday rehearsal of "Freaky Friday." Performances are scheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sunday at the Jay County Campus of Arts Place, 131 E. Walnut St., Portland. Tickets are available at bit.ly/JCCTFreakyFriday, by calling (260) 726-4809 or by visiting Arts Place.

Family flips roles

By BAILEY CLINE  
The Commercial Review

Don't freak out.

Jay County Civic Theatre is performing Disney's "Freaky Friday: A New Musical," this week. Shows are slated for 7 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, and at 2 p.m. Sunday at the Jay County Campus of Arts Place.

Based on the 1972 novel of the same name by Mary Rodgers and multiple film adaptations, "Freaky Friday" follows a soon-to-be wed widow, Katherine Blake, and her teenage daughter, Ellie Blake, living together but both misunderstood. A walk in each other's shoes before the wedding makes them see the world from a different viewpoint.

Assistant director Rachel Tebbe — she also served as assistant director in "The Sound of Music" and "The Descendants," and she directed "Frosty the Snow Man" — pointed to the show's overall message.

"It's a very comical, but heart-warming show about, you know, you never know what the other person is walking through, you never know what being in their shoes is like," she said.

**'Freaky Friday' reversal has made an impact, both onstage and off**

Jay County Civic Theatre's production stars duo Mandi McIver and Inara Sanderson as Ellie and Katherine Blake. The pair's chemistry goes beyond the stage — their familial connections as mother and daughter in the real world have brought their characters to life.

"Ellie is very messy and just very like outgoing and sporadic," said Sanderson, who has appeared in various past civic productions including "The Sound of Music" and "The Descendants" in the last few years. "She's a cranky teenager who doesn't want to listen to her mom."

Katherine Blake, on the other hand, is a completely different person.

"(She's) the polar opposite of Ellie," said McIver, who previously performed in "The Descendants" as Maleficent. "She is overbearing, perfectionist, everything has to be perfect, puts a lot of pressure on people, including herself."

After the switch, both characters search for a way to swap back before Katherine Blake says "I do," learning more about each other in the process.

Playing characters with two personas isn't an everyday role. Sanderson and McIver have enjoyed poking fun at each other's mannerisms.

See Roles page 5

Deaths

Bret Masters, 61, Portland  
John Will, 70, Fort Recovery  
Joyce Shively, 86, Celina, Ohio  
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 71 degrees Sunday. The low was 41.  
Tonight's low will be in the upper 60s with winds gusting to 25 mph. Expect partly cloudy skies Wednesday with a chance of showers and storms, continued windy conditions and a high in the upper 80s. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Second Harvest Food Bank will host tailgate food distributions next week.  
Distributions are scheduled for:  
•10 a.m. Wednesday, June 4, at Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 E. Votaw St., Portland  
•10 a.m. at Blackford County Fairgrounds, 409 E. Park Ave., Hartford City.

Coming up

Wednesday — Coverage of Monday's Jay School Board meeting.  
Thursday — Results from Fort Recovery's baseball regional semifinal game.

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# Felony arrests

## Drug possession






A Portland man was arrested Saturday for drug possession and other charges.

Jose S. Jimenez, 18, 522 W. Race St., was preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony for possession of cocaine or a narcotic drug, Class A misdemeanor for operating a vehicle while intoxi-

cated and resisting an officer, a Class B misdemeanor for leaving the scene of an accident, and three Class C misdemeanors for possession of paraphernalia, driving without a license and consuming alcohol as a minor.

He was being held on a \$4,500 bond in Jay County Jail.

# CR almanac

Wednesday 6/4	Thursday 6/5	Friday 6/6	Saturday 6/7	Sunday 6/8
				
<b>83/64</b>	<b>79/65</b>	<b>76/60</b>	<b>74/57</b>	<b>78/59</b>
There's an 80% chance of thunderstorms. Wind gusts may reach 25 mph.	Another 80% chance of thunderstorms. The high may be in the upper 70s.	Friday's forecast calls for rain with a 70% chance of showers.	Saturday looks to be mostly sunny with a slight chance of rain.	Another day of mostly sunny skies. There's also a small chance of showers.

## Lotteries

<b>Powerball</b> Estimated jackpot: \$20 million	18-21-37-39-40-45-48-50-53-59-61-64-66-68-75-76 Cash 5: 17-20-30-38-43 Estimated jackpot: \$110,000
<b>Mega Millions</b> Estimated jackpot: \$202 million	<b>Ohio</b> Sunday Midday Pick 3: 5-6-7 Pick 4: 5-8-4-1 Pick 5: 2-8-8-7-1 Evening Pick 3: 7-9-1 Pick 4: 6-0-9-2 Pick 5: 2-4-3-2-6 Rolling Cash 5: 13-17-25-32-35 Estimated jackpot: \$130,000
<b>Hoosier</b> Sunday Midday Daily Three: 5-2-0 Daily Four: 2-5-6-4 Quick Draw: 2-9-10-14-16-19-21-22-32-33-39-42-44-46-48-50-59-64-73-78 Evening Daily Three: 2-5-6 Daily Four: 8-3-3-9 Quick Draw: 4-5-12-17-	

## Markets

<b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b> Corn.....4.74 July corn .....4.76 Aug. corn .....4.13	July beans .....10.38 Wheat .....4.97
<b>POET Biorefining Portland</b> Corn.....4.76 July corn .....4.79 Oct./Nov. corn .....4.26	<b>ADM Montpelier</b> Corn.....4.60 July corn .....4.62 Beans .....10.56 July beans .....10.51 Wheat .....4.97
<b>The Andersons Richland Township</b> Corn .....4.64 July corn .....4.64 Beans .....10.58	<b>Heartland St. Anthony</b> Corn.....4.71 July corn .....4.76 Beans .....10.33 July beans .....9.67 Wheat .....4.87

## Today in history

In 1880, Alexander Graham Bell sent the first wireless telephone message on his invention, the photophone, at Franklin School in Washington, D.C. His invention is recognized today as a predecessor to fiber optics.

In 1969, Eric Carle published children's book "The Very Hungry Caterpillar." More than 50 million copies of the work have been published since then.

In 1971, Jay County Library Board accepted a proposal for the sale of \$150,000 in bonds for construction of a new facility.

In 1977, Bob Marley & The Wailers released "Exodus," their ninth studio album, through Island Records. Time Magazine named it the

best album of the century 22 years later.

In 1985, "Larry King Live" debuted on CNN. The show aired throughout the week for years until its final show in December 2010.

In 2016, Fort Recovery High School baseball team allowed four unearned runs in a 7-3 loss to the Newark Catholic Green Wave in the Division IV state semifinal at Huntington Park in Columbus, Ohio. The Indians had lost the year prior to the same team in the same game. "It is hard to get here," coach Jerry Kaup said. "We are happy to be here but we are going to be disappointed about this one. We are going to feel like we gave this one away."

— The CR

## Citizen's calendar

**Today**  
4 p.m. — Jay County Development Corporation, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland.  
5:30 p.m. — Portland Park Board, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Meridian St.  
7 p.m. — Salamonias Town Council, School-

house Community Center.  
**Thursday**  
4 p.m. — Portland Board of Works, city hall, 321 N. Meridian St.  
5:30 p.m. — Portland Plan Commission, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland.

# Obituaries

## Bret Masters

Oct. 31, 1963-May 31, 2025

Bret A. Masters, age 61, a resident of Portland, passed away on Saturday, May 31, 2025, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.



Masters

Bret was born on Oct. 31, 1963, in Michigan, the son of Richard and Mildred "Millie" (Leffingwell) Masters. He graduated from Jay County High School in 1982 and worked for many years at Red Gold in Geneva, FCC in Berne, WandM Manufacturing in Portland and Joyce Dayton in Portland.

He married Shirley Middaugh on Nov. 19, 2005.

Survivors include:  
His wife — Shirley Masters, Portland, Indiana

Children — Carl Masters (wife: Fona), Bryant, Indiana, Kristy Twibell (husband: Lynn), Montpelier, Indiana, Nyoka Bowling (husband: Greg), Bargersville, Indiana, and Monica Manley (husband: Marvin), Bluffton, Indiana

Brother — Mark Masters, Bryant, Indiana

Several grandchildren and great-grandchildren

He was preceded in death by his parents; and two daughters, Brett Michelle Eicks and Megan Masters-Grayson.

Visitation will be held on Friday from 2 to 7 p.m. at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland. Funeral services will be held on Saturday at 11 a.m. at the funeral home. Pastor Charles Myers will officiate and burial will follow at Limberlost Cemetery, east of Bryant.

Memorials may be directed to Jay County Humane Society.

Condolences may be expressed at williamsonspencer.com.

## John Will

May 25, 1955-May 30, 2025

John Leo Will, age 70, of Fort Recovery, passed away on Friday, May 30, 2025, at Everheart Hospice Care Center, Greenville.

He was born on May 25, 1955, in Coldwater, Ohio, to the late Viro and Henrietta (Sieftring) Will.

In addition to his parents, John was preceded in death by his grandson, Damon Klenke; brother-in-law, Dave Pottkotter; and sister-in-law, Debbie Pottkotter.

John is survived by his loving wife, Diann (Pottkotter) Will of Fort Recovery, whom he married on March 9, 1974; children Kevin (Angie) Will,

Keith (Kim) Will, Kris (Kylee) Will, Kyle (Carissa) Will, Kelsie (Kirk) Link and Karissa (Nick) Kraft, all of Fort Recovery; grandchildren Whitney, Mason, Riley, Kylie, Chelsea, Davis, Kaden, Alaina, Emma, Lydia, Blake, Taylor, Koda, Mya, Walker, Quinn, Rhett, Brynn, Kagney, Londyn and Landry; great-grandchildren Asher, Bentley, Easton, Lainey, Kyler, Huntley, Dax, Addy, Blakley and Briggs; siblings Dave (Norma) Will of Fort Recovery, Carol (Joe) Frenzer of St. Henry, Ohio, and Kathy Will of Plantation, Florida; and brothers- and sisters-in-law Gary (Norma) Pottkotter, Nancy Mueller, Deb (Joe) Thobe, Karl Pottkotter, Bec (Jerry) Bihn, Al (Chris) Pottkotter, Les (Marilyn) Pottkotter and Roy (Kim) Pottkotter.

John graduated from Fort Recovery High School in 1973. He was a farmer and also worked at Fort Recovery Equity for 20 years. John belonged to the Wendelin Sportsmans Club, Ohio Progressive Sportsmans Club, Knights of Columbus #3324, Sons of the American Legion Post 345 and VFW Post 6515. He was an avid hunter and outdoorsman, and loved his farm. John was active in participating in the Mercer County Fair with his children and grandchildren showing livestock. He also raised sheep for Club Lambs. John enjoyed playing softball and was able to do so until in his 40s. He was very involved in his grandchildren's activities and loved his family more than anything.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, June 5, 2025, at St. Paul Catholic Church. Burial will follow in the church cemetery.

Guests may visit with John's family on Wednesday, June 4, 2025, from 3 to 7 p.m. and again on Thursday from 9 to 9:45 a.m. at Brockman Boeckman Funeral Home, Fort Recovery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Damon Klenke Memorial Fund.

Condolences may be shared with the family by visiting brockman-boeckmanfh.com.

## Joyce Shively

Dec. 14, 1938-May 29, 2025

Joyce Ann Shively, 86, of Celina, Ohio, passed away at her home on May 29, 2025.

She was born Dec. 14, 1938, in New Corydon, a daughter of the late Ralph and Idora (Luttman) Schott.

Joyce married Donald Owen "Doc" Shively on Dec. 14, 1957.



Will

He passed away July 20, 2020. Their daughter, Debra A. "Debbie" Maxwell, preceded them in death June 6, 2003.

Surviving are daughters Diane (Edward) Nearingard of St. Marys, Ohio, Dawn (William) Jagers of Syracuse, and Della Shively of Celina; seven grandchildren, John, April, Adam, Melanie, Tyler, Heath and Sydney; many great-grandchildren; son-in-law Sheldon Maxwell and brother-in-law, Dale Shively of Portland; many nieces and nephews; and special friends she considered as family, Kevin and DeAnna Geiger, Mike and Brenda Robinson and Bob and Julie Vantilburg; and other close friends too numerous to count.

Also preceding her in death were her sister, Clara Schott Luginbill and brother-in-law, Kenny Luginbill; and Doc's sisters Ruth Jenkins, Mary Weisman, Wanda Byrum and Vivian Joan Shively.

Joyce was first of all, a homemaker and mother. Over the years, she held multiple jobs — working for WCSM Radio, the Bi-Rite Store, Celina Truck and Tractor, and Triangle Services. Very loving and caring, Joyce had also taken wonderful care of several people in their last days, and she and her husband had owned and operated DandJ Repair.

She attended Beaver Chapel Congregational Christian Church, Celina, and had helped with the Celina Harvest Festival.

Joyce and Doc attended antique tractor events and flea markets, showing their "hit and miss" engines, antique tractors and sawmill. She also enjoyed antiquing and making jewelry, which she sold, and also gifted to family and friends.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, June 5, at W.H. Dick and Sons- Hellwarth Funeral Home in Celina, with the Rev. Tom Christen officiating. Burial will follow at Swamp College Cemetery near Celina.

Calling Hours are 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, June 4, and 10 to 11 a.m. on Thursday at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions may be made to: St. Rita's Hospice or the American Heart Assn.

Condolences can be expressed at dickandsonshellwarthfh.com.

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

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

# Talks ...

Continued from page 1

"We are doing everything to protect our independence, our state, and our people," Zelenskyy said on the X social media platform.

Ukraine used 117 drones with people operating inside Russia across three time zones, he said, adding that about a third of the strategic cruise missile carriers at the airfields were hit.

More than 40 Russian aircraft, including the Tu-95 and Tu-22 M3 long-range bombers capable of deploying conventional and nuclear weapons as well as the A-50, were damaged in the operation on Sunday, an official in Ukraine's Security Service said on condition of anonymity as the details are not public. Ukraine's Security Service chief Vasyl Maliuk led the operation, the person said.

Russia's Defense Ministry in a statement on Telegram confirmed that attacks occurred at five military airbases across the nation from the Far East and eastern Siberia to locations just several hundred miles from Moscow, but said that only "a few aircraft units" were damaged at two military bases in the Murmansk and Irkutsk regions. The pro-Moscow military blogger Rybar, which has about 1.3 million subscribers on Telegram, estimated that 13 aircraft were damaged and most were long-range bombers.

Also on Sunday, Moscow launched one of its longest-lasting drone and missile attacks against Kyiv with air sirens lasting for more than nine hours, escalating tensions ahead of the crucial peace talks. At least 12 people were killed in a strike on a military training center, prompting Ukraine Ground Forces Command-

er Mykhaylo Drapatyi to announce his decision to resign due to the casualties.

Over the weekend, Russia's military also said it had taken control of several more settlements in Ukraine's northeast Sumy region, after Moscow earlier said it would try to create what it calls a "buffer zone" inside the country.

Some of Russia's more advanced weapons are dependent on foreign components, such as cruise missiles, TU-22 bombers, submarines and anti-aircraft radar, which means replacing the lost bombers will be very difficult because of sanctions.

Separately, Russia's main investigating authority on Sunday initiated criminal probes after two bridges blew up in regions bordering Ukraine, crushing passing trains that caused at least seven fatalities and widespread injury.

## SERVICES

### Today

Linn, Theresa: 11 a.m., Trinity Catholic Church, 7321 Indiana 67, Bryant.

### Thursday

Will, John: 10:30 a.m., St. Paul Catholic Church, 517 Meiring Road, Fort Recovery.

Shively, Joyce: 11 a.m., W.H. Dick & Sons — Hellwarth Funeral Home, 218 W. Market St., Celina, Ohio.

### Saturday

Masters, Bret: 11 a.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

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# Torch must continue shining

By JAMES FULKS  
The Commercial Review

As an honorably discharged veteran of deployed U.S. Navy aircraft carrier Pacific Fleet service, I returned home to east central Indiana a few months before my August 1989 discharge date in May 1989.

Jay County still had four active and fully functional American Legion posts — Portland, Dunkirk, Pennville and Redkey.

I just happened to stop by the Williamson and Smiley American Legion Post 401 in Redkey on that sunny day in May, and the legion guys invited me to stand in with them for their upcoming annual Memorial Day ceremonies.

I say ceremonies plural because Redkey at that time had a spectacular marching unit, with a full firing unit and color guard.

They performed five on-site Memorial Day ceremonies and it was a full day of activity.

We began that morning in Claycomb Cemetery, proceeded

Fulksy  
Mayhem



back to the post and formed up in marching formation and marched from the post to the Redkey War Mother's Memorial Monument and then over to the Redkey Pioneer's Ceremony.

After those two services, we were driven by the late Capt. Arbuckle in a 1920s era fire truck out to the War of 1812 gravesites on Indiana 1 south of Redkey, then back to Hillcrest Cemetery.

At Hillcrest Cemetery, we held our final fifth ceremony of the day.

Our firing line had World War II, Korea, Vietnam and Cold War-era veterans in the lineup.

A few years later, I was elected to the position of post commander and it became my responsibility

to speak to the gathered public at these annual Memorial Day ceremonies.

I began as early as 1996, reminding and admonishing the gathered public to get the stories of the World War II veterans in their families because the day was coming when we would no longer have them with us.

For us here in Jay County, this was that year.

On Memorial Day last year, I still had one World War II veteran in attendance at our annual Memorial Day ceremonies.

This year, I had none.

While there may still be a few out there, there are no longer any who are on the roster at local American Legion posts to the best of my knowledge.

The Greatest Generation, which instilled the sense of duty in me to continue these annual Memorial Day ceremonies, has passed into history.

I only hope that someone can bear the torch and continue the tradition when I can no longer continue.

# Marriage just isn't the same

DEAR ABBY: I have been married for 22 years. It was a normal relationship, and I was very happy. However, over the last 12 years, my wife has changed. There is ZERO affection, no hugging, holding hands and nothing sexual. We are like roommates. She blames it on having been molested when she was a child. Our level of intimacy was normal for 10 years.

I have suggested counseling, but she refuses. Bottom line: Should I stay, or should I go? I am 64 years old, and this is my second marriage. I don't want to start over. — STARVED IN INDIANA

DEAR STARVED: Ask your wife if she ever received counseling after she was molested. If she did, she needs more. However, if she did not, then it's time to explain to her that for the last 12 years she has starved you of affection and human contact, and you do not intend to live the rest of your life this way. Then offer her a choice: counseling to deal with her issue or a divorce. You may not want to start over, but you may have to.

DEAR ABBY: I brought my dad with dementia into my home. My hus-

Dear  
Abby



band has heart issues. We are all at each other's throats all the time. My siblings promised they would help take care of our dad, but they haven't helped much at all. Every once in a while they may take him for a couple hours, but then he's right back. Don't get me wrong, I love my dad. But we really could use more help, though I feel guilty asking for it. Am I supposed to feel this way? I mean, they are his children, too. — OBLIGATED IN KENTUCKY

DEAR OBLIGATED: I hope you realize you may have brought this situation on yourself, and it's up to you to do something about it. You said you feel guilty asking your siblings for more help taking care of your father. Lose that guilty feeling! They ARE his children, too, but they aren't mind readers. Tell them what you need, and if it is more time to yourself and your sick husband, don't be bashful about saying so.

# Super summer reading starts now

Jay County Public Library's super summer reading challenge starts this week.

Reading logs are available at the library for all ages. They include a superhero-themed task to complete. Once finished, forms may be turned in for an entry to prizes and a free hero badge.

There are six hero badges to collect. Infants through children age

12 will receive a free book for each reading log they complete, along with a chance to win a bicycle, a 3D pen or a remote-control robot, among other items.

Teens and adults will have a chance to win prize baskets.

All forms must be turned in by 1 p.m. July 19. A community hero celebration is planned for 5 to 7 p.m. July 10 at the library, with partici-

pants to receive completion prizes while supplies last.

There's also a coloring contest going on this week at the library. Coloring pages are available for two age categories, for children ages 5 through 9 and children ages 10 through 13. Pages are available at the circulation desk, and entries are limited to one per child. Entries must be turned in by 5 p.m. Friday.

# Community Calendar

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

**Today**  
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.

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.

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

SINGLES AND SEPARATES SUPPORT GROUP — For anyone who's lost a loved one or has a spouse living in long-term care or suffering from an illness, the group will meet at 2 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month in the Arthur & Gloria Musel-

man Wellness Pavilion in Berne. For more information, call Sarah Conrad at (260) 589-4496.

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.

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

A BETTER LIFE – BRIANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Wednesday at Redkey United Methodist Church, 122 W. Main St. Come early for a meal. For more information, call Pastor Randy Davis at (765) 369-2085.

**Thursday**  
SMART RECOVERY — A group for those struggling with addiction that focuses on motivation, coping with cravings, managing thoughts, feelings and behavior, and living a balanced life meets at 11 a.m. each Thursday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY — A 12-step Christian recovery program meets at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. each Thursday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

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

FORGET-ME-NOT — A support group for parents, friends and relatives who have lost a baby through miscarriage, birth or illness will meet from 7 to 9 p.m. at St. Vincent Randolph Hospital, Winchester, in community room 1.

**Friday**  
PAST RECOVERY SERVICES — Peer Addiction Support Team recovery support group meets at 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. each Friday at the Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition office at 100 N. Meridian St., Portland. To learn more information, please call (260) 251-3259.

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

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

ROAD RIDERS FOR JESUS — Will meet at 10 a.m. on the first Saturday of each month in the West Walnut Church of Christ fellowship hall, 204 W. Walnut St., Portland.

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# Sudoku

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

Level: Beginner

**Saturday's Solution**

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

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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Run any add 15 column inches or larger in the **News Times**, and run it a **second time** for free!

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# Now is the moment for pressure

**Bloomberg Opinion**  
Tribune News Service

From Istanbul to the Vatican to the Oval Office, everyone seems to want peace in Ukraine — except Vladimir Putin. The Kremlin says it prefers to end the brutal war it launched in 2022 through “political and diplomatic means,” but that’s like a pickpocket claiming to prefer charity: The bluff only works if others fall for it. Ukraine’s Western allies shouldn’t.

Putin’s actions hardly suggest he is looking to end the fighting. A two-hour call with the White House last week yielded only vague promises from the Russian president — followed by several days of some of the fiercest drone and missile strikes against Ukraine since the war began. Meanwhile, Russia’s summer offensive seems to have begun. Satellite images suggest it is also improving its positions along the border of Finland, a member of

## Guest Editorial

the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and tightening its military integration with ally Belarus.

At the same time, Russia’s position is fragile. Its forces are suffering atrocious casualties to make incremental territorial gains. At home, fiscal buffers are thinning dangerously. Oil and gas revenues fell 12% year-on-year in April, according to finance ministry figures. Urals dropped below \$50 per barrel in April and remains well under the nearly \$70 assumed in the federal budget. With almost 40% of government spending going to defense, the Kremlin is draining its National Wealth Fund to plug

gaps. The latter is down to \$30 billion in liquid assets.

To change Putin’s calculus, the U.S. and Europe will have to ensure the costs of the war outweigh its benefits.

While the U.S. has been disinclined to levy additional sanctions on Russia, patience may be running low. The most effective way to gain leverage against Putin would be to lower the Group of Seven price cap on Russian oil exports as European nations are proposing — and enforce it. Every \$10 drop in the oil price shaves an estimated half a percentage point off Russian gross domestic product, depriving the Kremlin of billions of dollars in budget revenues.

Europe can do more on its own as well to keep Ukraine in the fight, in two principal ways. First, it can ramp up economic pressure by more vigorously enforcing all existing sanctions

and further curtailing purchases of Russian fossil fuels (the European Union was the fourth-largest buyer in April). Better yet, the bloc should expand sanctions to include banks, refineries and other entities that support Russia’s illicit trade.

Second, European governments can expand their military support for Ukraine. That includes providing more funding for the country’s growing arms industry, transferring more materiel from European stocks — including the long-range Taurus missiles Germany has been reluctant to offer, but also more artillery, air defenses and tanks — and training more Ukrainian recruits. NATO leaders must press the U.S. to continue supplying intelligence and allowing the re-export of U.S.-purchased weapons.

For their part, well-wishers in Congress should remind the White House how dangerous

it would be to disengage entirely. General Christopher Cavoli, NATO’s commander, told Congress in April that Moscow has deployed more than 600,000 troops in Ukraine — nearly twice the original invasion force — and is racing to build the 1.5 million-strong army Putin has decreed. It is also on track to accumulate an artillery stockpile three times the combined production of the U.S. and Europe.

An emboldened and war-hardened Russia will endanger Europe, strengthen China and undermine America’s strategic position globally. A bipartisan bill with 80 cosponsors in the Senate includes a 500% tariff on imports from countries buying Russian energy exports. If the administration really wants to bring peace, it should consider letting some version of the legislation go ahead — and calling Putin’s cynical bluff.

# Monetization is out of control

By JOHN M. CRISP  
Tribune News Service

Sure, it’s a real story that deserves attention, and the Biden debacle is getting plenty.

The new book “Original Sin,” by Jake Tapper and Alex Thompson, doesn’t mince words in its subtitle: “President’s Biden’s Decline, Its Cover-Up, and His Disastrous Choice to Run Again.”

I take a somewhat more benevolent view of Biden’s failure to recognize and accept his limitations, and “cover-up” is probably too strong a term to describe the unwillingness or inability of those around Biden to confront him with a truth that in retrospect seems obvious: Biden was not capable of effectively competing for or completing a second term.

But hindsight is always 20/20 and, as often as not, it’s only after Grandpa has hit the gas instead of the brake and rammed his car through the front of a convenience store that his family realizes that they should have taken his keys away long ago. But nobody calls this a cover-up.

It’s a common human failing. And I think I could argue somewhat persuasively for this more benign take on the Biden fiasco. After all, it’s one thing to confront Grandpa; it’s quite another to confront the leader of the free world.

But President Donald Trump prefers that we keep talking about Biden. But while we’re talking about Biden, here’s just a little of what we’re ignoring:

Climate change: You can skip this paragraph, if you like. Fact is, neither Democrats nor Republicans are doing much about climate change, which represents the single biggest, slow-burning threat to humankind. It’s the silent backdrop to everything else we talk about. Still, while we ignore it, it continues to get worse; in fact, the Trump administration is largely reversing whatever modest progress we’ve made against climate change.

But what else are we ignoring?

The war in Ukraine: I’m not sure how many voters actually believed Trump when he said he would end the war in 24 hours, even before he was inaugurated. But that unkept promise has encountered reality during the last four

John M. Crisp



months. Trump has failed to end the war, and he appears to have become impatient with the dead-lock.

Can the free world endure the military conquest of an aspiring democracy by a brutal authoritarian kleptocracy? Let’s hope so. A bigger question: Can the rules-based, tolerant, free, democratic paradigm that has thrived since World War II endure if its leader can’t be bothered to distinguish between the belligerents in Ukraine and, in fact, seems to favor Russia?

Finally, the emoluments presidency: Remember when President Dwight Eisenhower’s chief of staff, Sherman Adams, was forced to resign in 1958 because he accepted a fancy overcoat from a textile manufacturer with a case before the Federal Trade Commission? Remember when Republicans exploded with outrage when President Bill Clinton allowed his friends who were donors to spend the night in the Lincoln Bedroom?

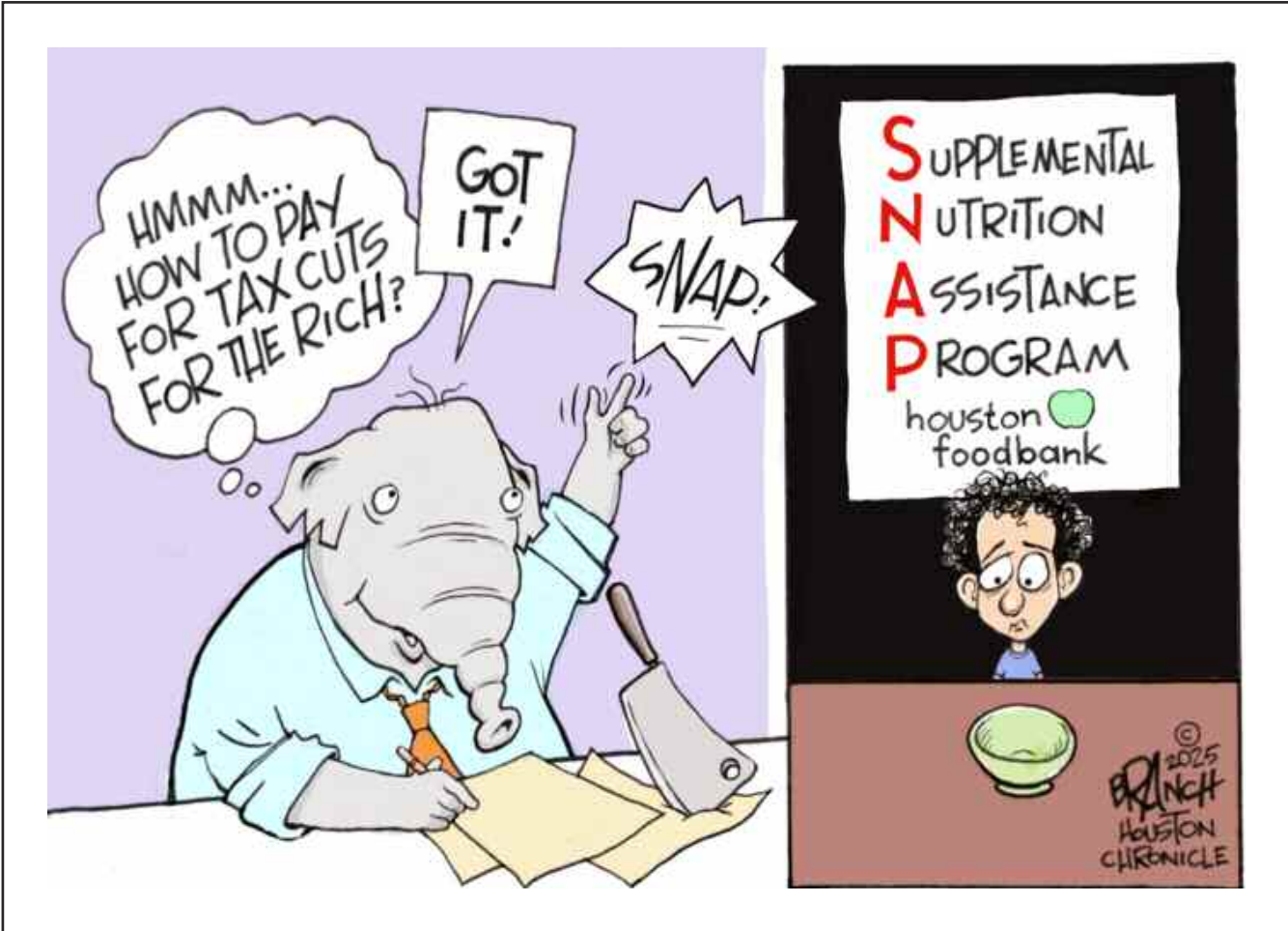
How quaint. The monetization of the current presidency — well-catalogued elsewhere — exceeds by many orders of magnitude the commonplace corruption and graft of the past. Trump’s press secretary, Karoline Leavitt, says Trump is making these windfall millions of dollars during his “personal time.”

But this is patently bogus: Presidents don’t have “personal time,” any more than popes do. Leo is always the pope and Trump is always the president; that’s the price they pay for assuming these exalted offices.

And speaking of the pope: In the Bible, this is called straining at a gnat and swallowing a camel. While Trump’s allies love to keep us focused on the Biden debacle (the gnat), we swallow camel after camel after camel.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Crisp, an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service, lives in Texas and can be reached at jcrisp-columns@gmail.com.*



# Cost-sharing jeopardizes program

By NIKI KELLY

Indiana Capital Chronicle  
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Most people are talking about work requirements for federal assistance like Medicaid and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). But it’s another provision that could have a much bigger impact.

More than 600,000 Hoosiers received \$1.44 billion in financial assistance to buy food in fiscal year 2024, mostly families with children who can’t make ends meet. That cost-sharing language for the federal program threatens to break Indiana’s budget or take out the program altogether.

A key provision in the federal reconciliation bill that passed the U.S. House and now is being vetted in the Senate would require states to have skin in the game for SNAP. Right now, the benefits are 100% covered by the federal government with the state picking up half of the administrative costs.

But the proposal would require some states to cover as much as 25% of the benefits cost starting in 2028, depending on each state’s error rate. States with the highest error rates would pay more as a “state quality control incentive” to crack down on fraud and abuse.

The seven states with error rates below 6% would only need to cover 5% of the tab under the current version of the bill. But Indiana’s 10.5% error rate puts it into the highest tier for a match rate — even though it falls below the national average rate of 11.68%.

That means Indiana could be on the hook for as much as \$360 million a year.

Niki Kelly



Coming off a budget session where state lawmakers had to cut higher education funding, child care aid and economic development programs, any new fiscal obligation will be a burden. But \$360 million would be near impossible.

The Congressional Budget Office estimated the cost-sharing component will save the federal government a little under \$100 billion.

“CBO expects that some states would maintain current benefits and eligibility and others would modify benefits or eligibility or possibly leave the program altogether because of the increased costs,” the analysis found.

Gov. Mike Braun’s administration didn’t provide a comment on the possible ramifications.

It’s important to remember the hungry Hoosiers at the heart of this debate. Despite the error rate — which includes underpayments as well as overpayments — most are desperate families in need of additional assistance to put food on the table.

USDA research from fiscal year 2023 showed Indiana is among the lowest states in the percent of population receiving SNAP — between 8 and 10%. In comparison, six states and Washington D.C. were

above 16% and all of Indiana’s neighbors rank higher.

To be eligible, you must have a monthly net income of less than \$1,255 for a family of one; \$1,704 for a couple and \$2,600 for a family of four. That means if you live alone and make over \$300 a week you are ineligible for SNAP.

The amount you receive depends on your income but the average monthly payment per participant in April 2025 was \$196. That is down slightly from April 2024.

Indiana’s enrollment went up during the pandemic when additional emergency aid was available. But generally, it has been stable and ranks about mid-pack nationally. For instance, in April 2025 281,112 households or 588,184 individuals. Those numbers are a few percentage points lower than April 2024 and slightly down from Fiscal Year 2023.

Other changes being considered nationally include imposing work requirements on those receiving benefits. And some states, like Indiana, will ban using the benefits on candy and pop. I generally don’t have a problem with those proposals.

But the cost-sharing provision will undoubtedly take food from hungry adults and children, and I hope the U.S. Senate re-evaluates the pain it could cause.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Kelly, editor-in-chief of Indiana Capital Chronicle, has covered the Indiana Statehouse since 1999.*

*Indiana Capital Chronicle is an independent, nonprofit news organization. Its website is indianacapitalchronicle.com.*

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—Thomas Jefferson

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The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Esther Crandall (Hannah), Inara Sanderson (Ellie Blake) and Ali McGraw (Gretchen) brace themselves during “Freaky Friday” rehearsal Thursday at Arts Place. “Ellie is very messy and just very like outgoing and sporadic,” Sanderson said. “She’s a cranky teenager who doesn’t want to listen to her mom.”

# Roles ...

Continued from page 1  
“It’s fun trying to be my mom,” Sanderson said. “It’s funny getting to mock my mom and be her and try to get that different side of acting that I’ve never gotten to do before.”

“We’re on the ride home, yelling at each other all the time, trying to get our lines straight,” McIver said, laughing.

McIver pointed out she and her daughter have performed together since Sanderson was 2 years old but never exchanged dialogue on stage until now. Her other daughter, Niyah McIver, is also in the cast as Fletcher Blake.

“It was pretty awesome

when we got that casting call,” said McIver, recalling past shows they’ve starred in including “The Wizard of Oz” and Disney’s “The Descendants.”

Music director Reid Knuth — he and Tebbe also perform as police officers Kowalski and Sitz in the show — talked about the “massive variety” of songs sprinkled throughout “Freaky Friday.”

“Everything from Beach Boys knockoffs to Aretha Franklin knockoffs to, like, ‘90s pop,” Knuth said. “There’s a huge gambit that it runs.”

Tickets are available by visiting [bit.ly/JCCTF-freakyFriday](https://bit.ly/JCCTF-freakyFriday), calling (260) 726-4809 or visiting Arts

Place, 131 E. Walnut St., Portland.

Sanderson pointed out this may be her last show with Jay County Civic Theatre, at least for a while, as she begins attending Ball State University in the fall. She plans to major in elementary education and minor in theatre, with hopes to get involved with Muncie Civic Theatre.

McIver talked about “Freaky Friday” serving as a final hurrah for their time performing in shows together.

“It’s a very heartwarming, bonding story,” McIver said. “It’s kind of been a little bonding experience for us behind the scenes.”



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney



## Grad congrats

Pictured at left, a 2025 Jay County High School graduate gets a big hug following Sunday’s commencement ceremony. Above, graduate Natalie Carreno shakes hands with assistant superintendent Trent Paxson while receiving her diploma. Courtney Harris offered the invocation for the ceremony, with Ella Stockton leading the pledge of allegiance. Principal Chad Dodd presented the graduates.

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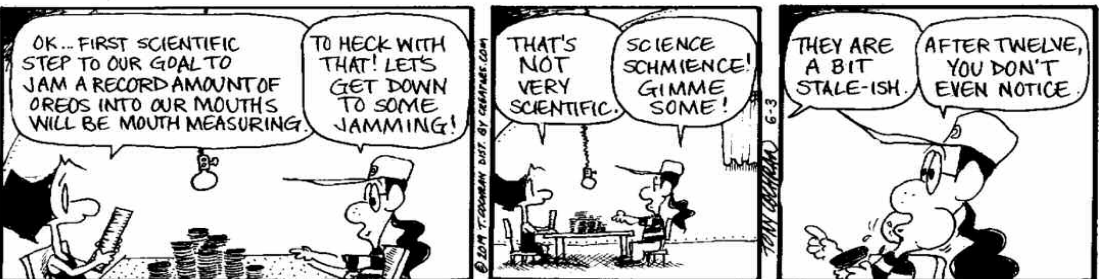
Peanuts



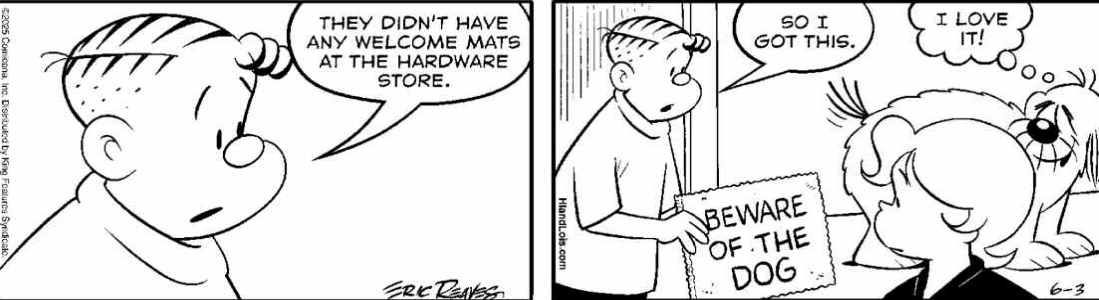
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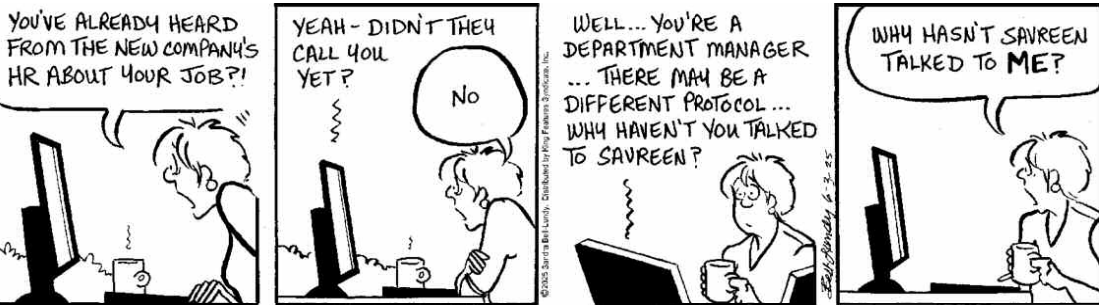
Agnes



Hi and Lois



Between Friends



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

A wing and a prayer

North dealer.  
North-South vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♦ Q 7 2  
♥ A K 10  
♦ K Q 10 8 3  
♣ K Q

**WEST**  
♦ K 6  
♥ J 9 5 4  
♦ A 7 6  
♣ J 10 8 2

**EAST**  
♦ 8 5 4  
♥ 8 7 3  
♦ 9 2  
♣ A 9 6 4 3

**SOUTH**  
♦ A J 10 9 3  
♥ Q 6 2  
♦ J 5 4  
♣ 7 5

The bidding:  
North 1♦  
East Pass  
South 2NT  
West Pass

Opening lead — jack of clubs.

unbeatable.  
Consider this case where East is defending against four spades and wins West's opening club lead with the ace. From East's viewpoint, it seems highly unlikely that the defense can score four tricks. However, he does not allow this to color his thinking.

Instead, East tries to picture a hand his partner must have for the contract to be defeated. Eventually, it becomes clear that he must credit West with the ace of diamonds, as well as either the ace or king of spades. Both of these holdings are certainly possible on the bidding, and East tailors his defense accordingly.

At trick two, he shifts to the nine of diamonds, and from then on, declarer is a dead duck. West wins with the ace and returns a diamond, hoping East's nine was a singleton, which would quickly put an end to South's chances.

This hope does not materialize when East follows suit with the deuce, but declarer is doomed anyway. Whether South elects to take a trump finesse or forgo it, as soon as West gains the lead with the king of spades, he returns another diamond, and East's ruff sinks the contract.

Tomorrow: The fine art of larceny.  
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6-3

CRYPTOQUIP

FD YMHGS KICTYUFC EISI HG

TGFC Y NSGVO GD BVOISQISGIB,

EQYH CYUI UFNQH QI MQGGBI?

KSYHH-UYC.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SPECIAL SET OF LETTERS SPRITES AND LEPRECHAUNS WILL USE AS THE BASIS FOR WORDS: AN ELF-ABET.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals H

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Tiny amounts  
5 Boo camp VIP  
8 Dryer fuzz  
12 Bern's river  
13 Luau dish  
14 Notion  
15 "Downtown Abbey" family  
17 Sci-fi villain  
18 Select, with "for"  
19 Motorist's org.  
20 Adolescents  
21 YMCA class  
22 Peanut product  
23 Notes from the boss  
26 Investigate  
30 Activist Brockovich  
31 Rock's Brian  
32 Nobel Prize subj.  
33 Jack Webb TV show

**DOWN**

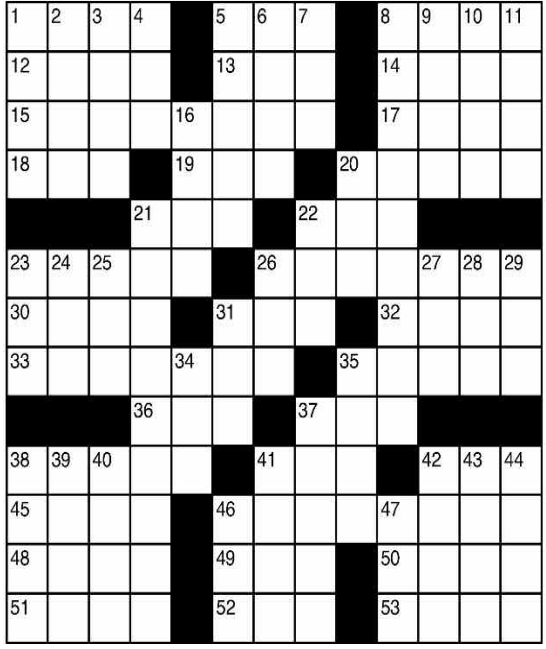
1 Fiesta food  
2 Org. for seniors  
3 "Phooey!"  
4 Stitch creature  
5 Asparagus unit  
6 Maja painter  
7 "— the season ..."  
8 Defamation suit  
9 Not busy  
10 Inert gas  
11 Bar bills  
16 Track circuits  
20 Bit of advice  
21 Brazzaville resident

**22** Tic-tac-toe loser  
**23** Club —  
**24** Mess up  
**25** Ms. Farrow  
**26** Tolkien  
**27** Calendar abbr.  
**28** Computer acronym  
**29** Chemical suffix  
**31** "A mouse!"  
**34** Dundee denial  
**35** Tall and thin  
**37** Tech whizzes  
**38** Parade letters  
**39** "Would — to you?"  
**40** Manhattan's — -Fontanne Theatre  
**41** Prefix for "ten"  
**42** "Monopoly" cubes  
**43** Check  
**44** Fed. food inspector  
**46** Humorist  
**47** Remiss

Solution time: 22 mins.



Yesterday's answer 6-3



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The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

## Locked in

Colson Post of Fort Recovery High School fields a ground ball at shortstop during the OHSAA Division VI Southwest 3 District championship game hosted by Houston against Legacy Christian on Friday. Post delivered the walk-off double on a high fastball that he smashed the warning track to give the Indians a 2-1 win in nine innings.

## TNT ...

Continued from page 8  
The Emmy-winning “Inside the NBA” has featured that same lineup since 2011, when O’Neal joined the show, and is renowned for its blend of analysis and humor.

“Even though the name changes, the engine is still the same,” O’Neal said during Saturday’s postgame show. “And to that new network we’re coming to, we’re not coming to eff around. And since it’s the last show, I’m gonna say it: We’re not coming to f— around. ... We’re taking over, OK? I love you guys and I appreciate you guys.”

ESPN holds the rights to the NBA Finals, making the Eastern Conference finals the last assignment for TNT.

Kevin Harlan, Reggie Miller, Stan Van Gundy and Allie LaForce called the series between the Knicks and Pacers.

“I’m very fortunate,” Miller said Saturday. “I’ve only known two things: 18 years with one franchise in this building with the Indiana Pacers, and 19 years with Turner.”

Harlan and Van Gundy are set to call NBA games for Amazon next season, while Miller is going to NBC.

TNT Sports initially tried to flex a provision in its contract to match one of the other networks’ offers — reportedly Amazon’s. But TNT Sports’ parent company, Warner Bros. Discovery, later agreed to an 11-year contract with the NBA that will allow the network to create, produce and distribute NBA content and to broadcast games outside of the U.S.

That agreement paved the way for TNT Sports to continue to produce “Inside the NBA” through a partnership with ESPN. A live audience at Gainbridge Fieldhouse chanted “TNT” as Johnson, Barkley, Smith and O’Neal bid farewell.

“I just want to thank every single person who’s been at Turner with me the last 25 years,” Barkley said Saturday. “Twenty. Five. Years. ... If you’re with people that long, they are your family.”

# Pascal Siakam stumps Knicks in ECF

By PETER SBLENDORIO

New York Daily News  
Tribune News Service

The Knicks had few answers for Pascal Siakam. That much became increasingly clear as the Indiana Pacers power forward scored basket after basket in the Eastern Conference Finals, culminating in a 31-point performance in the Game 6 win that ended the Knicks’ season.

Siakam was named Eastern Conference Finals MVP after averaging 24.8 points per game on 52.4% shooting, including 50.0% from 3-point range.

“His ability to run the floor, his ability to play in the paint, his ability to face the basket, to put it on the floor, he’s a tough cover,” Knicks head coach Tom Thibodeau said after Saturday’s 125-108 loss at Gainbridge Fieldhouse.

“Sometimes, you can play him well, and because of his size and his release

he can still get a shot up. And it’s always a good shot.”

Indeed, Siakam beat the Knicks in a variety of different ways.

On four separate occasions in Game 6, a surging Siakam beat the Knicks down the court for a layup or dunk. One of those dunks came five seconds after Mikal Bridges made a shot on the other end.

Siakam was similarly deadly on the run in Game 2, when he exploded for 39 points on 15-of-23 shooting.

But he also made tough turnaround jumpers over OG Anunoby on multiple possessions in that Pacers win and hit stepbacks over Mikal Bridges and Karl-Anthony Towns, too.

“He hit some tough shots,” Towns said after Game 6. “He did a great job of pushing his pace and making us have to guard him, and not in a half-court set.

“[Pacers head coach] Rick Carlisle and the team had a game plan to keep it going. Obviously, we did our best to minimize the damage he could do in this series and this game. But sometimes great players can be great players.”

Siakam scored at least 30 points in three games in the series, and Indiana won all three.

He shot at least 50% from the field in four games and made three 3-pointers in three of them.

Siakam finished the series 10-of-24 (41.7%) when guarded by Anunoby, his primary defender, but shot 5-of-10 from 3-point range in that matchup, according to the NBA’s head-to-head tracking.

He shot 13-of-19 (68.4%) against Bridges, 10-of-19 (52.6%) against Josh Hart, and 11-of-28 (39.3%) against Towns.

“It’s been a crazy journey,” Siakam, 30, said after

Game 6. “A lot of ups and downs. I know I’m not the guy everyone’s gonna talk about a lot and all that stuff, and I really don’t care about it. I’m just a young kid from Cameroon that moved to the U.S. when he was 18 years old and gave everything to the game of basketball.”

The Pacers acquired Siakam in a January 2024 trade with the Toronto Raptors for a package that included three first-round picks.

In Siakam, the Pacers added a two-time All-Star with championship pedigree — he won the NBA Finals with the Raptors in 2019 — to an ascendent young roster.

Trading for Siakam “took things to another level,” Carlisle said Saturday.

Siakam helped take the Pacers to the Eastern Conference Finals last year, then signed a four-year,

\$189.5 million extension. He led Indiana with 20.2 points per game in the regular season.

After failing to close out the Knicks in Game 5, the Pacers led by only four points at halftime on Saturday.

But Siakam took over in the third quarter, making a 3-pointer on Indiana’s opening possession and adding a three-point play less than two minutes later to fuel a 9-0 run.

That run kicked off a quarter in which the Pacers outscored the Knicks 34-23 and pulled away for good.

“When you have someone who’s actually been in the trenches, who has actually felt what it feels like, it’s so underrated, just the emotions this time of the year,” Pacers center Myles Turner said of Siakam. “You don’t sleep. You lose hair. It’s just what it is. You can’t explain that if you’ve never been here before.”

## Sports on tap

### Local schedule

**Today**  
Jay County — Boys golf vs. Daleville and West Del — 4:30 p.m.  
Fort Recovery — Baseball regional semifinal vs. Summit Country Day — 2 p.m.

Cincinnati Reds (FDSN Indiana)  
8 p.m. — International Friendly Women soccer: United States at China PR (TNT)  
9:30 p.m. — WNBA: Dallas Wings at Seattle Storm (ESPN)  
10:10 p.m. — MLB: New York Mets at Los Angeles Dodgers (TBS)

3 p.m. — UEFA Nations League: Germany at Portugal (FS1)  
7 p.m. — Major League Rugby: Houston SaberCats at Chicago Hounds (ESPN2)  
7:45 p.m. — MLB: Kansas City Royals at St. Louis Cardinals (FDSN Indiana)  
8 p.m. — NHL Stanley Cup: Florida Panthers at Edmonton Oilers (TNT)  
8 p.m. — NCAA softball tournament (ESPN)

pair of races in June.

The first will be held on June 7, as the Youth for Christ 5K starts at the Ceylon Covered Bridge outside of Geneva at 8:30 a.m. Registration is \$20.

The Fitness Delivered Charity 5K and Fun Run will be held on June 21 at 8:30 a.m. The race will begin at Fitness Delivered located at 141 N. First St. in Decatur. Registration will cost \$20 and includes a t-shirt if done by June 1. The Fun Run is free for anyone 12 and younger.

Registration forms for both races can be found at adamscounty5kchallenge.com.

**Registration open**  
Registration for the 35th annual Flat 50 Plus bicycle ride in Adams County is now open. To register, visit RunSignUp.com.

There are rides ranging from 20 to 100 miles long.

The event will be held at 7 a.m. Saturday, June 21. It will start at Bellmont High School and will have stops in Willshire, Geneva and Monroe with refreshments.

.....

To have an event listed in “Sports on tap”, email details to sports@thecr.com

### TV schedule

**Today**  
7:05 p.m. — MLB: Cleveland Guardians at New York Yankees (TBS)  
7:10 p.m. — MLB: Milwaukee Brewers at

**Wednesday**  
6 a.m. — French Open tennis (TruTV)  
7:45 a.m. — French Open tennis (TNT)  
12:40 p.m. — MLB: Milwaukee Brewers at Cincinnati Reds (FDSN Indiana)

### Local notes

**Challenge continues**  
The Adams County Challenge continues with a

### 90 SALE CALENDAR

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Saturday JUNE 14th, 2025  
TIME 10:00 A.M.  
LOCATED: 1207 N SR 167 DUNKIRK, IN  
REAL ESTATE  
Real Estate sells at 10:00 AM.  
2 bedroom home with Central Air, 30ix40i attached garage, 24ix32i Quonset building. Nicely situated on 2 acres.  
Open House: Sunday June 1st  
1-3 PM or for private showing phone auctioneers.  
RIDING MOWERS ñ ANTIQUES ñ HOUSEHOLD  
Troybilt Riding Mower w/ 42i Deck. Troybilt and Murray Mowers for parts. Iron Bed. Steamer Trunk. Hen on Nest and other collectible Glassware. Roll-top Desk. Bird Cages. Elvis Picture. Fishing Poles and Supplies. Generator. Shop Mate. Large Chicken Feeder. Several Items Not Mentioned.  
OWNER: Mary L Shory  
Estate by Crystal R Suman and Michael Dahlestrom  
Note: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.  
SHAWVER AUCTIONEERING AND REAL

### 90 SALE CALENDAR

ESTATE  
AC31800004  
AUCTIONEERS  
Zane Shawver  
Lic. #AU10500168  
260-729-2229  
Pete D. Shawver  
Lic. #AU19700040  
260-726-5587  
**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
SATURDAY JUNE 7TH, 2025  
TIME 10:00 A.M.  
LOCATED: 127 Rayburn Dr, Portland IN.  
REAL ESTATE  
Real Estate sells at 10:00 AM.  
3 bedroom, 1.5 bath brick ranch style home containing 1,328 sq ft finished living area. Central Air, Sun room, 2 car attached garage.  
Detached garage/ shop building. Home has been well maintained.  
Open House: Sunday May 25th from 1-3 PM or for private showing phone Auctioneers.  
VEHICLE ñ FURNITURE ñ SHOP  
2003 Chevrolet Venture Minivan. Cast Iron Bulldog.  
Grandfather Clock. 8 Track Stereo/ Record Player. Glider Rocker w/ Ottoman. 3 Cushion Sofa. Rocker Recliner. Metal Patio Set. Bird Bath. Lawn Cart. Craftsman 10i Table Saw.

### 90 SALE CALENDAR

Craftsman Router w/ Stand. Craftsman Scroll Saw. Craftsman Grinder/Sander. Shop, Hand, and Lawn and Garden Tools.  
OWNER: Rose Fennig Estate,  
by Dale W Fennig  
Note: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.  
SHAWVER AUCTIONEERING AND REAL ESTATE  
AC31800004  
AUCTIONEERS  
Zane Shawver  
Lic. #AU10500168  
260-729-2229  
Pete D. Shawver  
Lic. #AU19700040  
260-726-5587

### 100 JOBS WANTED

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### 110 HELP WANTED

**PART-TIME BARTENDER POSITION** at Portland Elks. Applications available for pick-up at 126 W. High St., 4-9 pm, Monday-Friday, 8-12 hours per week, competitive pay, flexible shifts and some Saturdays.

### 130 MISC. FOR SALE

**SCRATCH PADS ARE BACK** various bundles sizes and XL pads. \$1.25 plus tax. Pick up at The Commercial Review Tuesday thru Friday 10am to 4pm.

**PAPER END ROLLS FOR SALE** Various sizes and prices. Call The Commercial Review at 260-726-8141 for more information.

**ALUMINUM SHEETS** 23"x30",.007 thick. Clean and shiny on one side..35 cents each or four for \$1.40, plus tax.  
The Commercial Review, 309 W Main, Portland 260-726-8141.

### 190 FARMERS COL-UMN

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### 200 FORFOR RENT

tact Sycamore Group, 419-678-5318, www.sycamorespace.com

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### 250 PUBLIC NOTICE

## Public Notice

STATE OF INDIANA  
COUNTY OF JAY, SS:  
IN THE JAY COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT  
CAUSE NO 38-C01-2503-MI-6  
IN RE THE NAME CHANGE OF:  
Darell Walker,  
Petitioner  
NOTICE OF A PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME  
Darell Walker, whose mailing address is: Portland, IN 47371, in the Jay County, Indiana, hereby gives notice that Darell Walker has filed a petition in the Jay County Court requesting that his name be changed to Darell Simmons. Notice is further given that the hearing will be held on said Petition on July 14, 2025 at 9:30 am  
Darell Walker, Petitioner  
CR 6-3,10,17-2025-HSPAXLP

### 250 PUBLIC NOTICE

## Public Notice

ATTENTION  
Pursuant to IC 4-32.3-4-13, the Jay County Fair Assoc. is publishing notice that an application for annual bingo activities has been filed by:  
Jay County Fair Assoc  
806 E Votaw St  
Portland, IN 47371  
Location of Bingo Activities:  
806 E. Votaw St  
Portland, IN 47371  
Operators:Joey Hall, Jeremy Lewis, Aaron Loy, Katie Loy, Jason McGraw, Dillon Muhlenkamp, Rick Neargarder, Trent Paxson, Vicki Reitz, Josh Stewart, Brandon Swoveland, Travis Theurer  
Officers of Organization:  
Aaron Loy, President; Jeremy Lewis, Vice President; Dillon Muhlenkamp Secretary; Travis Theurer, Treasurer  
Any person may protest the proposed issuance of the annual activity license.  
Protest letters must be postmarked within fifteen (15) days from the date the posting appears. The Commission shall hold a public hearing if ten (10) written and signed protest letters are received.Protest letters should be sent:  
INDIANA GAMING COMMISSIONAttention: Mark Mason-Charity Gaming DivisionEast Tower Suite 1600101 W. Washington St.Indianapolis, Indiana 46204  
CR 6-3--2025-HSPAXLP

### 250 PUBLIC NOTICE

## Public Notice

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES  
SHERIFF'S SALE NOTICE  
By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of Jay Circuit Court of Jay County, Indiana, in Cause No. 38C01-2410-MF-000020 wherein MidFirst Bank was Plaintiff, and Stephanie Byrum and Medalion Bank were Defendants, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and cost, I will expose to public sale to the highest bidder on July 3, 2025, at the hour of 10:00 AM, or as soon thereafter as is possible, at the Jay County Courthouse at 120 N Court Street, Portland, IN 47371 the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Jay County, Indiana.  
Lot Numbered Sixty-three (63) and Sixty-four (64) in Votaw's Addition to the Town, now City, of Portland, Indiana.  
Commonly known address: 239 East North Street, Portland, IN 47371  
Together with rents, issues, income and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal laws.  
Larry R. Newton, Sheriff of Jay County  
Nicholas M. Smith  
MDKLegal  
P.O. Box 165028  
Columbus OH 43216-5028  
Telephone: 614-220-5611  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
CR 6-3,10,17-2025-HSPAXLP

READ THE CR  
THEN RECYCLE

TNT Sports bids NBA emotional sign-off

By PETER SBLENDORIO  
New York Daily News  
Tribune News Service  
Game 6 of the Eastern Conference finals marked more than the end of the Knicks' season. It also marked the end of an era for TNT Sports. Saturday night's 125-108 win by the Indiana Pacers was the final game broadcast by TNT, whose TV deal with the NBA is set to expire. The rights to air NBA games in the U.S. will belong to ESPN/ABC; NBC Sports/Peacock; and Amazon Prime Video next season and beyond. Longtime "Inside the NBA" host Ernie Johnson choked back tears Saturday as he signed off on behalf of TNT for the last time. "If I had written the script, the NBA and TNT would be together forever," Johnson said during the postgame show from Gainbridge Fieldhouse in Indianapolis. "It's not gonna happen. But while I was disappointed and I was sad, I was not bitter. We know how business works. Gratitude is the operative word for me." TNT began broadcasting NBA games in 1989, the same year it launched its "Inside the NBA" show. Next season, "Inside the NBA" will move to ESPN/ABC, with the panel of Johnson, Charles Barkley, Kenny Smith and Shaquille O'Neal remaining intact.

See TNT page 7



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

High snag

Fort Recovery High School first baseman Caden Homan reels in an errant throw from an infielder before tagging out the batter during the OHSAA Division VI Southwest 3 District championship game at Houston on Friday. The 2-1 victory over Legacy Christian earned the Indians a second straight regional appearance, in which they will face Summit Country Day at 2 p.m. today.

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<p><b>Flavored, Fresh Brats</b></p> <p>Hawaiian, Mango, Habanero, Santa Fe</p> <p><b>\$3.69</b></p> <p>lb</p>	<p>Prime to Choice</p> <p><b>NY Strip Steaks</b></p> <p><b>\$14.49</b></p> <p>lb</p>
<p>Boneless</p> <p><b>Pork Chops</b></p> <p><b>\$3.69</b></p> <p>lb</p>	<p><b>Tenderized Boneless Chicken Breast</b></p> <p><b>\$4.99/lb</b></p> <p><b>Swiss Cheese</b></p> <p><b>\$6.99/lb</b></p>

**From Fisher's Smokehouse**

<p><b>Pickle &amp; Pimento Loaf</b></p>	<p><b>\$4.99/lb</b></p>
<p><b>Hard Salami</b></p>	<p><b>\$8.39/lb</b></p>

**\*while supplies last, no rain checks, sale prices reflected at the register**

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Rockets win three

The Rockets split the first doubleheader of the weekend and swept the second.

The Portland Rockets moved to 5-2 on the 2025 season after splitting with the Indy Orioles on Saturday and sweeping the Fort Wayne Devils on Sunday.

Portland beat the Orioles 2-0 in the first game as back-to-back singles by Cameron Pratt and Quinn Faulkner produced runs in the sixth inning. Owen Wanner struck out 10 batters through five innings, while Carson Bennett earned the win by throwing the final two. The Rockets were tied with Indy 2-2 through four innings, but gave up three in the fifth and seventh and two more in the sixth for the 10-6 loss.

The Rockets traveled to Fort Wayne on Sunday, sweeping the Devils 17-8 in the first game and 11-9 in the second. Camden McEldwoney and Jonny Heitkamp led Portland with four RBIs and three hits apiece. Dylan Bramer earned the win after throwing four shutout and hitless innings. The Rockets chipped away at Fort Wayne throughout the game with at least one run in the first six innings. Braeden Jordan led Portland with two runs driven in on two hits. Jayden Simpson earned the win after tossing the final five wins.

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Kaehr leads

PENNVILLE — Ian Kaehr led the Stinger Division in the opening weekend of Pennville Soccer League play on Saturday with five goals.

His five goals, combined with four from Lance Gentis, one by Abram Kaehr and one from Weston Willmann led the Dave's Heating & Cooling Hornets past the Matt Aker Foundation Yellow Jackets 11-1. Blaine Hodson scored the lone goal for the Yellow Jackets. The A Place To Grow Wasps took down the Ernst Concrete Bees 5-1 behind a four-goal effort from Sebas-

Local Roundup

tian Benavidez. Chase Keyes provided the other goal for the Wasps, while the Bees' only score came from Xavier Hall.

Rockets sweep

PENNVILLE — The AgBest Express Rockets won a pair of games 4-1 in the Pennville Soccer League's Space Division on Saturday as Anniston Hammond and Natan Perez combined for the eight goals.

In the win over the WPGW Asteroids, Hammond scored three goals, while Perez found the net once. Owen Ehrhart contributed the goal for the Asteroids.

The two Rockets flipped in the defeat of the Penrod Monuments Galaxy as Perez scored three times and Hammond found the net once. The Galaxy's goal came from Carter Love. The Ohio Valley Gas Meteors also beat the Galaxy 4-0. Williams Gutierrez led the way for the Meteors with two goals, while Audriana Gaucin and Bradley Catterson each scored once.

Ten score

PENNVILLE — Ten players from the Wild Cat Division scored goals in the opening week of the Pennville Soccer League on Saturday.

Liam Thompson led the division with four goals as the Edward Jones Cheetahs split a pair of games. Thompson had three goals, while Levi VanDe-man found the net twice and A.J. Lykins and Zyler each contributed a score in the Cheetahs 7-1 defeat of the Poet Biorefining Jaguars. The lone Jaguar goal came from Raul Martinez. Thompson also had a

goal in the Cheetahs' 2-1 loss to the Crossroads FCU Lions. The Lions' scores came from Blake Jellison and Luke Jellison.

Lyle Beiswanger and Rylan Carpenter each netted a pair of goals in the New Beginnings Holiness Church Cougars' 4-1 victory over the Jaguars. Johnathon Nelson had the lone goal for the Jaguars.

Two ties

PENNVILLE — Carson Cooke led the General Store Griffins to a pair of ties in the Pennville Soccer League Sky Division on Saturday.

Cooke scored three goals and got one more in support from Chase Kirkwood to tie the Vinson Rental Properties Dragons 4-4. Camden Vinson led the Dragons with two goals, while Carter Herman and Angel Perez had one each.

The second game between the Griffins and Dragons also ended in a tie at 2-2. Cooke had both goals for the Griffins, while Vinson and Perez had one each for the Dragons.

POET wins

Offense thrived as POET took down Matt's Garage 14-12 in Portland Junior League Rookie baseball on Saturday.

Seven POET players slashed multiple hits, while three more reached base once. James Bruggeman led the way with two triples and a double. Both Nolan Homan and Logan Mikulski smashed a triple, while the former added three singles while the latter had two.

Marshall Hemmelgarn had a double and two singles, while Mason Pfiefer had a double and one single.

Landon Minnich and Griffin Spoonemore joined the multi-hit club with two singles as well.

Parker Eley and Jack Huelskamp led the offensive effort for Matt's Garage with a home run and a single each. Rowan Ingram supported with three singles.