The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

No local restrictions planned

and BAILEY CLINE

The Commercial Review Most state restrictions related to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic will be lifted April 6, but local government units are still allowed to implement their own rules.

Local officials currently have no plans to institute such restrictions.

Holcomb's implementing local rules And Dunkirk Mayor Jack Rob-

Commissioner, mayors say they will continue to follow governor's lead

Following Indiana Gov. Eric County Commissioners presiannouncement dent Chad Aker said although Tuesday about the state he had not yet consulted with restrictions coming to an end, his fellow commissioners, he

cussing it publicly with his city council.

Responses to the lifting of anapolis Mayor Joe Hogsett on place until at least April 8. And

regarding the pandemic. Jay bins indicated he would not Thursday announced his city's take any action before dis- mask mandate and other coronavirus precautions remain in place. Gary Mayor Jerome Prince told The Times Portland Mayor John Boggs does not expect additional coronavirus restrictions have of Northwest Indiana his city said this week he will not be restrictions at the county level. varied across the state. Indi- will keep a mask mandate in

ald reported that Jasper Mayor Dean Vonderheide said his city will follow the lead of Dubois County Health Department, which plans to wait until closer to April 6 before making a

Aker on Thursday said Jay County Commissioners will likely follow Holcomb's guidance, as has been the case since the start of the pandemic last March, and lift COVID-19 restrictions in Jay County. That includes the statewide mask mandate in government buildings and businesses.

See **Restrictions** page 2

Bill would require civics

bill incorporating civics education into Hoosier students' middle school curriculum is headafter House lawmakers voted Thursday to pass the measure.

The legislation requires every student in the state to complete a one-semester course in civics education in either sixth, seventh or eighth

accredited private schools across the state must require each student to successfully complete the course, beginning with students who begin sixth grade during the 2023-24 school

Department of Education and zens,

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — A developing standards for the civics curriculum by July 1,

The bill also creates the Indied to Gov. Eric Holcomb's desk ana Civic Education Commission, a task force that will oversee new civic learning responsibilities in middle schools.

Republican State Rep. Tony Cook, the bill's author, said the legislation is a byproduct of the Civic Education Task Force, which was responsible All public, charter and state- for making recommendations to boost civic engagement.

Cook expressed concern that students in Indiana do not learn enough about democratic governance before they reach high school. That makes students ill-prepared for their The bill tasks the Indiana their responsibilities as citilawmakers argued, State Board of Education with including voting in elections.

President is open to filibuster change

Biden addressesissues in first press conference

By JONATHAN LEMIRE and ZEKE MILLER

Associated Press WASHINGTON — President

Joe Biden at his first news conference left the door open to backing fundamental changes in Senate procedure to muscle key parts of his agenda like immigration and voting rights past Republican opposition there's complete lockdown and chaos.'

Even as his administration navigates the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting economic damage, Biden is grappling with how to deliver on a host of promises despite a razor-thin Senate majority. He teased that changes to Senate rules that would allow bills to pass with fewer votes may be necessary for him to achieve some of those goals.

"If there's complete lockdown and chaos, as a consequence of the filibuster, then we're going to have to go beyond what I'm talking about," he said at the Thursday news conference.

Despite strong poll numbers, Biden faces headwinds in delivering on his legislative agenda. party's congressional majorities are narrow, Republiopposition appears entrenched and not all Democ-

rats are aligned in reforming Senate rules on the filibuster.

Biden at first backed a modification — but not elimination of the procedural tactic. But he then suggested, at least on certain issues, he would go further, saying the filibuster — which requires 60 votes to pass legislation in the Senate — was being "abused in a gigantic way" by Republicans.

"I want to get things done. I want to get them done consistent with what we promised the American people," said Biden, who spent decades in the Senate. "I am going to say something outrageous: I have never been particularly poor at calculating how to get things done in the United States Senate."

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer at his own press conference Thursday declined to lean too heavily into filibuster changes, only saying that "everything, everything is on the table."

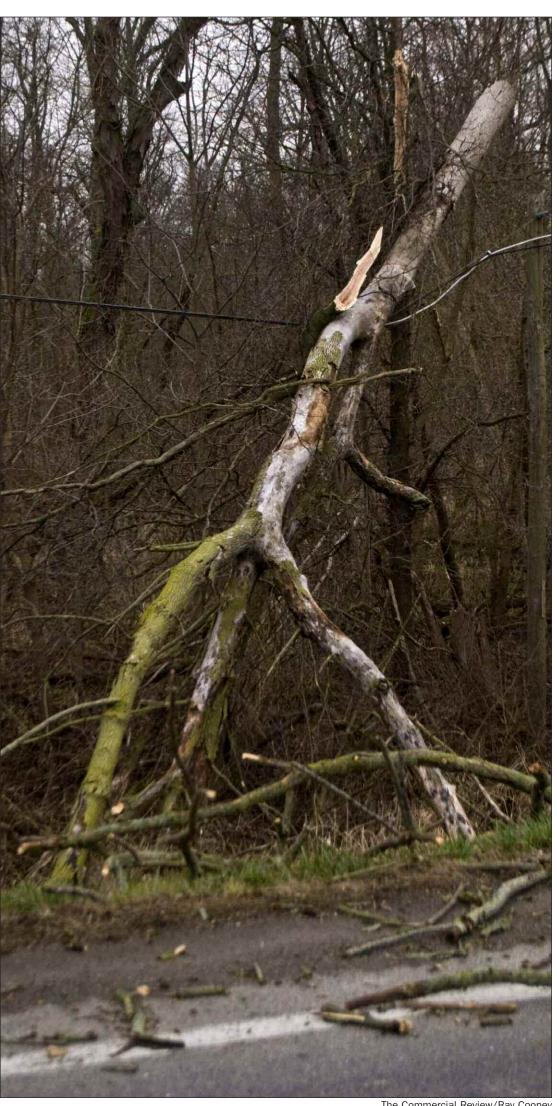
And West Virginia Sen. Joe Manchin, a moderate Democrat whose vote is critical, said he thought the rules were there to make sure "the big guy doesn't pick on the little guy," adding that he was trying to protect "basic civility."

Biden's own political future came up at the press conference as well. The 78-year-old president said for the first time his "plan is to run for reelection, that is my expectation." But he made clear his focus was on the here and now and not a distant election. "I am going to deal with all of

those problems," he pledged.

One key item on the list: Republican efforts to limit voting rights, an effort the president deemed "sick" and "un-American.'

See **President** page 5



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

On the line

Severe winds brought down trees and limbs in Jay County overnight, including this one that was leaning against a utility wire this morning on the south side of Indiana 26 just east of Portland. A tree had also been blocking county road 400 South just east of county road 150 East, but it had been moved off the road as of this morning. The county was under a high wind warning overnight, with gusts reaching 47 miles per hour.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 63 degrees Thursday. The low was 41, and there was about a quarter of an inch of

Tonight's low will be around 40. Expect mostly sunny skies Saturday with the high climbing to near 70. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Jay County Solid Waste Management District will have recycling trailers available Saturday. Trailers will be open from 9 a.m. to noon in the shopping center at 220 Lincoln St., Portland, and Dunkirk City Park.

Coming up

Saturday — A new food truck will be making visits to Jay County.

Wednesday — Looking back at a year of the coronavirus pandemic in Jay Coun-



Local/Indiana

Restrictions

also change the mandate to a sioners' next meeting is April recommendation.

"I think people have seen enough of this that they see the risk involved," Aker explained. "We'll leave it up to the person to decide if they want to wear a mask or not."

lution March 11 to reopen Jay County Courthouse and all county offices and departments. Before that date, the courthouse and other county buildings had been open only to appointments and limited to essential work since Nov. 30. (Facial coverings are still required.)

As of Thursday afternoon, no time in about a year.

amendments or new resolutions Aker said they will probably have been proposed. Commis-

> Similarly, Boggs doesn't envision any restrictions for the City of Portland.

> "I think the big thing about Jay County is all the citizens do what they feel is necessary," he said. "We have a lot of people who wear masks more than they have to. Some people don't, and that's their right, but I believe the majority of people in town use common sense, good judgment."

> Masks will not be required in city hall, which opened to the public last week for the first

> > below freezing

be a good thing to keep restrictions in place for an additional week or two after the state's current April 5 expiration date. But, he said he won't make any such decisions before seeking opinions from council members at their next meeting April

"I've basically followed the governor's guidelines," he said, noting he typically sees patrons wearing masks when visiting various stores and restaurants in Dunkirk. "It's working. ... Everything's going down.'

Hogsett told The Associated Press while Marion County's positivity rate and new case numbers have imporved, "the

behind us." He also noted Indianapolis will continue to have a lot of visitors over the next few weeks as it plays host the NCAA Division I men's basketball tournament.

'While I believe we can continue to handle these changing patterns safely we can only do so with the common sense approach that attracted the NCAA tournament to Indianapolis in the first place, Hogsett said. "Although the light is brighter, we are not out of the tunnel itself. Make no mistake, we have a ways to go."

Local coronavirus numbers have plummeted in February and March as compared to the

Robbins said he feels it might threat of an uptick is not yet peak in November. The county has averaged about two new cases of COVID-19 per day since Feb. 1. That number is down drastically from a high of 22.8 per day in November.

In addition to ending restrictions related to COVID-19 on April 6, Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb announced Tuesday vaccination appointments will be open to all Hoosiers 16 and older beginning Wednesday.
Jay County has vaccination

clinics available at Jay County Health Department and IU Health Jay. To schedule an appointment, ourshot.in.gov or by calling the state's 2-1-1 telephone assistance service.

CR almanac

	<u> </u>				
	Saturday 3/27	Sunday 3/28	Monday 3/29		
•					
	69/44	52/33	64/41	64/45	55/28
	The fore- cast calls for a mostly sunny day with a 40% chance	Skies will be mostly cloudy through- out the day as temperatures	Another sunny day is on the fore- cast for Mon- day. Clear	Mostly sunny skies with a 30% chance of rain at night. Mild	40% chance of rain under mostly cloudy skies. Temperatures

Lotteries

Powerball

of rain at

Estimated jackpot: \$238 million

Mega Millions

jackpot: Estimated \$137 million

Hoosier

Midday Daily Three: 7-1-7 Daily Four: 4-2-2-1 Evening Daily Three: 2-4-0 Daily Four: 7-6-5-4 Quick Draw: 2-4-6-21-26-27-30-32-44-45-46-52-5358-59-62-64-65-66-80 Cash 5: 3-7-29-31-39 Estimated jackpot:

\$75,000

Midday Pick 3: 9-0-8 Pick 4: 0-3-4-2 Pick 5: 2-6-6-8-1 Evening Pick 3: 7-1-4 Pick 4: 3-9-3-6 Pick 5: 2-9-9-0-5 Rolling Cash: 6-10-12-

Estimated jackpot:

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery	
Corn	5.57
Wheat	5.86

POET Biore	fining
Portland	
Corn	5.6
Anril corn	5.0

April corn5.68 The Andersons

Richland Township

Corn	5.55
April corn	5.55
Beans	
April beans	14.36
Wheat	6.10
April wheat	

Corn	5.49
April corn	5.50
Beans	14.25
April beans	14.25
Wheat	5.97
July wheat	5.77
•	
_	

St Anthony

Corn	5.46
April corn	5.55
Beans	14.20
April beans	14.22
Wheat	5.60
July wheat	5.62

Today in history

groundbreaking ceremonies took place in the Vietnam Veterans districts. Memorial.

cas, Venezuela, causing truck he was driving an estimated 26,000 collided with a semi on deaths, according to the U.S. 24 about 5 miles U.S. Geological Survey. In 1827, composer

Ludwig van Beethoven died in Vienna. In 1874, poet Robert

Frost was born in San Francisco.

Whitman died in Camden, New Jersey. In 1917, the Seattle years.)

Metropolitans became the first U.S. team to of 39 members of the win the Stanley Cup as Heaven's Gate technothey defeated the Mon- religious cult who comtreal Canadiens in mitted suicide were Game 4 of the finals by found inside a rented a score of 9-1.

Supreme Court, in

of

mayor's office, city

hall, 321 N. Meridian

April 1

Board

Corn	5.46
April corn	5.55
Beans	14.20
April beans	14.22
Wheat	5.60
July wheat	5.62

On March 26, 1982, Baker v. Carr, gave federal courts the power to

order reapportionment Washington, D.C., for of states' legislative Memorial. In 1971, Dorwin J. In 1812, an earth- Myron, 50, Portland, quake devastated Cara- died when the pick-up

west of Huntington. In 1992, a judge in

Indianapolis sentenced former heavyweight boxing champion Mike Tyson to six years in prison for raping a In 1892, poet Walt Miss Black America contestant. (Tyson ended up serving three

In 1997, the bodies mansion in Rancho In 1962, the U.S. Santa Fe, California.

—AP and The CR

auditorium, Jay Coun-

5 p.m. — Jay School

Board special meeting,

Court St., Portland.

Capsule Reports

Clinics available

Meridian Services will host a pair of drive-thru coronavirus vaccination clinics from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday in Muncie. Clinics will be at Meridian Health Pediatrics, 205 N. Tillotson, Ave. and Southside Middle School, 1601 E. 26th St.

Pre-registration is not required.

Vaccinations are current-

ly available to Hoosiers 40 and older.

Off the road

A Portland teen went off a bridge while driving on county road 800 South about 11:30 a.m. Thursday.

Brenton B. Witt, 17, was driving west on the road near county road 450 West. He was driving across a small bridge when he noticed a van driving drove into a deer on Indi-

toward him. He told Jay County Sheriff's Office he attempted to move his 1980 Ford F150 to the side of his lane and his tire went over part of the bridge, causing the truck to go into a ditch.

Witt's vehicle was towed, with damage estimated between \$2,500 and \$5,000.

Deer struck

A Winchester woman

ana 1 about 6:25 a.m. Tuesday.

Emma G. Collins, 61, was driving north on the highway near county road 400 South when a deer ran in front of her 2016 Ford Escape. She later told Jay County Sheriff's Office she was unable to avoid the collision. Damage — including a broken headlight and dented door panel — is esti-

mated less than \$1,000.

Casino to open May 14 IGC General Counsel Greg Small

By KAREN CAFFARINI

Post-Tribune (Merrillville)

An executive with Hard Rock International announced Tuesday its new land-based casino in Gary will open its doors to the public on May 14, saying he believed "all the speed bumps" surrounding a former executive are behind them.

Hard Rock International Chief Operating Officer Jon Lucas said a Friends and Family event will take place on May 11, with a VIP only opening on May 13.

Prior to the announcement, Indiana Gaming Commission board of directors ratified orders by commission staff calling for Rod Ratcliff, the former chief executive officer and chair of Spectacle Entertainment, to be divested from any ownership in entities associated with licensee Majestic Star Casinos and he permanently relinquish his gaming license in Indiana.

The IGC board also approved a \$530,000 settlement with Spectacle Entertainment for taking more than 50 days to follow the regulating agency's order to remove Ratcliff and replace him with a new manager.

Hard Rock and Spectacle are part- exit.

ners in the \$300 million Gary project and an upcoming casino project to be located in Terre Haute, called Lucy

Spectacle currently operates Majestic Star Casinos in Gary, which will close once the new casino opens. "Never has a casino licensee failed

to comply with an IGC order for more than 50 days," said IGC Executive Director Sara Tait, in calling for the \$530,000 fine. Tait said she felt it was necessary to

follow strict regulations for the integrity of Indiana gaming.

The IGC had filed a complaint with Lake Superior Court in February to permanently revoke Ratcliff's Indiana gaming license, citing numerous examples of alleged wrongdoing, including being part of a scheme to funnel corporate campaign funds to an Indiana candidate for Congress, taking company money to fund his personal horse racing betting account without reporting it and obstructing justice.

The legal matters threatened to postpone the opening of the \$300 million casino complex, located off

said remaining parties involved in the casino are in good standing, and ratifying the orders calling for Ratcliff's divestiture "allows this very important economic development project to move forward." Tait said the transition from boat to

land casino in Gary is important for the City of Gary and its residents.

Greg Gibson, vice chairman of Spectacle Entertainment, said its projects in Gary and Terre Haute have a total value of half a billion dol-

Gary Mayor Jerome Prince said the Gary casino alone generated \$52 million in construction contracts awarded to Lake County companies, \$32 million of which went to Gary contractors. It also is providing 400 to 600

A spokeswoman for the union representing some Majestic Star workers said she and 24 co-workers were laid off and are in danger of losing their jobs. She said they were told they would have to reapply for new positions at Hard Rock. She said part of the agreement called for all Majestic Interstate 80/94 at the Burr Street Star employees to be given the opportunity to move over to Hard Rock.

Felony arrests

Theft

An Ohio man was arrested Thursday for theft.

Brandon A.M. Risner, 31, 5332 Ohio 274 East, Rushsylvania, was preliminarily charged two Level 6 felonies for theft and resisting law enforcement. He was released from Jay County Jail and is being held on \$10,000 bond.

Trespassing A Liberty man was arrested Thursday

for criminal trespassing.

Dakota C. Nicklay, 27, 300 Meadow Lane, was preliminarily charged a Level 6 felony for criminal trespassing and a Class A misdemeanor for resisting law enforcement. He was booked into Jay County Jail and is being held without bond.

Dealing

A Portland man was arrested Thursday for dealing drugs. Cody S. Gierhart, 31, 6769 W. 400 South,

was preliminarily charged a Level 3 felony for dealing cocaine, methamphet-

amine or narcotic drugs. He was also charged a Class B misdemeanor for possession of marijuana and a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia. He's being held in Jay County Jail and is being held on \$32,000 bond.

Possession

A Pennville woman was arrested Wednesday for drug possession.

Stephanie N. McClain, 44, 168 W Maple St., was preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony for possession of cocaine, methamphetamine or narcotic drugs. She's being held in Jay County Jail on \$3,000 bond.

Obstruction

A Portland man was arrested Wednesday for obstruction of justice.

Jason W. Hensley, 46, 3562 E. 300 North, was preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony for obstruction of justice. He was also charged with a Class B misdemeanor for possession of marijuana. He's being held in Jay County Jail on \$4,000 bond.

SERVICES Today

Overla, Nickolas: 2 p.m.,

Wilson-Shook Funeral Home, Dunkirk Memorial Chapel, 317 N. Main St., Dunkirk.

Saturday

Alexander, Joe: II a.m., Antioch Lutheran Church, 14908 Minnich Road, Hoagland.

April 2 Stults, Robin: 2 p.m.,

Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

> Service listings provided by **PROGRESSIVE OFFICE PRODUCTS**

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promo code N7017

6 p.m. — Portland General Shanks, 414 E. Commission, Floral Ave., Portland. Plan

10 a.m. — Portland ty Courthouse, 120 N.

April 5

Works,

Citizen's calendar

Commissioners signed a reso-

skies in the begin to drop temperatures

Ohio

Central State Montpelier	es.
Corn	5.49
April corn	5.50
Beans	
April beans	14.25
1171	

Sunrise

Ju Androny	
Corn	5.46
April corn	5.55
Beans	14.20
April beans	14.22
Wheat	5.60
July whoat	5.62

Brown pelicans can inspire awe

By ANN CAMERON SIEGAL Special To The Washington Post

It's hard not to giggle at the clumsy, clownish walk of a brown pelican. But their graceful flying in precise formations is awe-

Bill Portlock, a retired educator with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. became interested in them years ago when he first saw them "plunge diving" making a headfirst dive from as much as 65 feet up, zooming arrowlike with folded wings into water for food. Their expanding gular (throat) pouches can scoop up to three gallons of water while catching fish.

The quirky birds will soon return to the Chesapeake Bay after wintering on the Southern coast. They are fascinating to observe but even more interesting after learning about their survival story.

were put on the U.S. government's endangered species list. The insectkilling chemical DDT, which had been used for

KidsPost

nated fish, the pelicans' main food source. The chemical harmed the pelicans' abilities to breed.

"Their eggshells were too thin to allow successful incubation by their parents," Portlock said. DDT was banned in 1972.

regularly around the Bay until 1987, there were 63 breeding pairs of brown pelicans in 1993 and more than 900 pairs by the late 1990s. They were taken off the endangered species list in 2009, and today there are more than 2,500 pairs.

"Climate change creates an expanded breeding sea-In 1970, brown pelicans son," said Dave Brinker, central region ecologist with Maryland's Department of Natural Resources.

Warm weather lasts beyond summer. With several decades, contami- islands free of raccoons



For The Washington Post/Ann Cameron Siegal

Brown pelicans used to be an endangered species. Now there are more than 2,500 pairs in the Chesapeake Bay area.

and other pelican-chick treated 16 juvenile brown predators and water full of fish called menhaden to "pelicans found the Bay and liked it," Brinker said.

migrate south for the winter. Even there, sudden cold snaps can happen as they did this year.

On Oak Island, North Carolina, in late February, Sea Biscuit Wildlife Shelter

pelicans having problems moving and eating because of frostbite on their feet and in their gular pouches.

id. "Some young pelicans Most brown pelicans make poor choices," said Mary Ellen Rogers, the shelter's founder. Adult pelicans typically know to head to warmer areas before getting frostbite.

temperatures are consistently above 40 degrees.

"Most of the frostbite issues are mild and healing. Only a couple might lose enough web tissue to (prevent) release," she said.

Brown pelicans also face habitat loss as rising sea levels and more frequent storms flood their breeding

Rogers's patients are "They are constantly being released now that the searching for suitable nest-

ing habitats," said coastal biologist Ruth Boettcher of Virginia's Department of

Wildlife Resources. Five years ago, a storm washed out their usual sandy ground-nesting site on Wreck Island (a barrier island on Virginia's Eastern Shore). Pelicans moved into large shrubs and small

"There is constant competition for higher ground," Boettcher said.

trees typically occupied by

herons and ibises.

That adaptability helps. Forty percent of all water birds in the Bay are declining in population because of habitat loss, but pelicans cormorants increasing," Portlock said.

But scientists need to keep an eye on the birds. which Portlock called "early messengers" of how their environment is doing. A rise or decline in population can indicate environmental changes or the presence of toxins that could also affect humans.

"They're not only fun to watch," he said, "they can give us a window into their world and ours."

Fortunes have followed divergent paths

DEAR ABBY: I used to be a successful working woman until I lost my husband of 30 years. After I became homeless, I met "Tom." We've been good friends for the last five years, hanging out in the woods, sometimes getting hotel rooms. It's a platonic relationship, but we rely on each other.

I receive Social Security survivor benefits now, and I want to move on and get my own place. He says he's fine with it, but I feel terribly guilty. He gets a small disability check but is not wise with money. How can I comfort him? — ĞUILTY IN his life back on track, too. **FLORIDA**

DEAR GUILTY: Tom has

Dear Abby



don't intend to desert him. Believe him and stop flogging yourself for your good fortune. Help him when you can and encourage him to contact an agency that helps the homeless so he can get

DEAR ABBY: I'm in a sametold you he is fine with you sex relationship with a woman **upgrading your living situa-** I love and admire. But five

relationship scares me because I can't imagine a life without

I told her I didn't know if, for several reasons, sex would be a part of our relationship, but that I do love her. She doesn't seem to mind at all. I'm not sure what to do. Please help. LOVING IN LOUISIANA

DEAR LOVING: What you need to do is be honest with your partner. It is possible that you are bisexual and need to explore relationships with men before making up your mind about any permanent relationship. If sex is important to you, then

impossible because I think I'm love and admire, but some-heterosexual. Leaving this one else entirely.

DEAR ABBY: My grandson died by suicide in 2019. My daughter, who lives in another state, hasn't spoken to me since. Why? Because we did not call her on the phone. We were texting her, and she was texting us back. When I did try to call, she wouldn't answer the phone.

It has been more than a year now. She won't respond to other family members, either. Please advise me what to do in this sad situation. WOUNDED GRANDMA IN TEXAS

DEAR GRANDMA: Not knowing your daughter, I am hesitant to guess why she has the person you wind up with isolated herself from everytion. I presume that you months in, sex is becoming may not be this woman you one. She may have felt she was

entitled to more support from you all and didn't receive it.

As many people have pointed out in my column, while texts may be efficient, they are a poor substitute for a human voice. Because she refuses your calls, write her a letter telling her you love her and apologize for letting her down after the tragedy of losing her son. Whether it will help, I can't guess — but at least the olive branch will have been offered.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail

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

Community Calendar

space is available. To sub- munity Center. an item, email news@thecr.com.

Saturday

ALCOHOLICS ANONY-MOUS — Will meet at 10 a.m. upstairs at True Value Meridian Hardware, Street, Portland. For more information, call (260) 729-

Monday

FAST OPTIMISTS — Will meet at 7 a.m. for breakfast at Richards Restaurant.

BRYANT AREA COM-MUNITY CENTER every Monday, Wednesday

PING PONG — Will be Everyone is welcome.

p.m. at West Jay Community Center in Dunkirk. PREGNANCY

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 informa-PORTLAND BREAK tion or to schedule an appointment, call (260) 726-8636. Walk-ins accepted.

BREAD OF LIFE COM-MUNITY FAMILY MEAL Will be served from 5:30 Walking from 9 to 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. at Asbury United Methodist Church, 204 E. Arch St. in Portland.

Notices will appear in played from 9 a.m. to noon TAKE OFF POUNDS Community Calendar as each Monday at Jay Com-SENSIBLY (TOPS) — Will meet for weigh-in at 5:30 EUCHRE — For those 55 p.m., with the meeting at 6 and older from 12:30 to 3 p.m., in the fellowship hall at Evangelical Methodist Church, 930 W. Main St., Portland. New members welcome. For more information, call (260) 726-5312.

NARCOTICS ANONY-MOUS — Will meet at 6 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

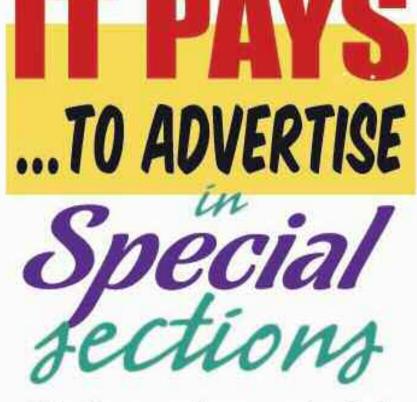
BRYANT COMMUNITY CENTER EUCHRE — Will be played at 1 p.m. each Tuesday. The public is wel-

THE LANDING — A 12step program for those in sixth through 12th grade will meet at 5:55 p.m. each Tuesday at 2nd Chance at Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 703-0777 or (260) 726-5273.

A BETTER LIFE - BRI-ANNA'S HOPE — A faithbased 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 Fellowship Nazarene Building across from the Nazarene church, 249 E. Center St., Dunkirk. For more information, call Amanda Price at (765) 283-

NARCOTICS ANONY-MOUS — Will meet at 7 p.m. each Tuesday at Church of God of Prophecy, 797 N. Creagor Ave. in Portland. For more information, call (260) 766-9334.

JAY COUNTY CANCER SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in conference room C at Indiana University Health Jay Hospital. Open discussion for cancer patients, survivors, family members or anyone interested in helping with the group. For more information, contact Linda Metzger at (260) 726-



We have a busy schedule of special sections and pages coming up.

Mark your calendar so you don't miss them.

Spring Sports

Wednesday, April 7 (ad deadline Mar. 31)

Ag Outlook Friday, April 23 (ad deadline Apr. 16)

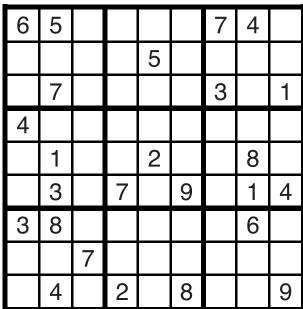
FRHS Graduation

Friday, May 21 (ad deadline May 14)

Summer Festivals Friday, May 28 (ad deadline May 21)

The Commercial Review 260-726-8141 • ads@thecr.com

Sudoku



Level: Advanced

Thursday's Solution

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

				,				
5	1	8	6	3	9	7	4	2
7	3	4	5	2	1	8	9	6
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Quarry proposal raises concerns

To the editor:

In the past few weeks there has been an overabundance of conversation about U.S. Aggregates and its proposed expansion to the north of its present

Most of the discussion has revolved around three major points of contention.

One is the dust created by the crushing of stone, which produces respirable crystalline silica, a deadly byproduct of the crushing

Another is blasting. My first encounter with this problem was 40 years ago. One blast at 1 p.m. knocked a picture from the wall and snapped the picture tube of our brand new TV in two. The insurance company said it was an "act of God" and refused their obligation. At any rate, blasting is a major issue.

The third issues is water. Everyone in the Beacon Heights addition is on their own well. It's understandable that these people are concerned about the possibility of their well going dry. U.S. Aggregates has assured us if a well goes

Letters to the Editor

dry, the Indiana Department of Natural Resources will determine the fault of the well's failure. If a high capacity water user is determined to be at fault, the owner of the high capacity well can, not will, be liable and could, not will, be required to provide an alternate supply.

What are the odds of this happening to home owners in the Beacon Heights addi-

According to U.S. Aggregates, it is pumping 400,000 gallons a day from its existing plant. Granted, this is

ground seepage.

In a new location, how long will it take to reach these numbers.

Water does tend to seek its own level.

Thank you. Respectfully,

Larry Chittum Portland



What is China afraid of? every country, and its chal-

The Washington Post

In a testy exchange kicking off the first high-level talks between Chinese Communist officials and the administration, China's delegation warned the United States not to go all high-and-mighty.

"Many people within the United States actually have little confidence in the democracy of the United States," noted Yang Jiechi, director of the Chinese Office of the Central Commission for Foreign Affairs, "and they have various views regarding the government of the United States."

To which we Americans might respond: Tell us something we don't know. "Various views" surely understates our contentiousness, and whose confidence in American democracy has not been shaken after the past four years?

Yet I couldn't help thinking: If China is so confident in the superiority of its own model — by contrast, "the leaders of China have the wide support of the Chinese people," Yang insisted why do its leaders act so afraid?

Why would a popular government lock up a man such as Wang Bingzhang, for example?

Wang was a democracy advocate living in North America in 2002 when Chinese agents kidnapped him from a meeting in Vietnam and smuggled him across the border into China. They detained him secretly for six months and then, in a closed one-day "trial." sentenced him to life in prison.

Nearly two decades later. Wang is still in solitary confinement in a remote Chinese prison. If China's Communist rulers are so beloved, why are they afraid to let this 73-year-old man out of jail?

And I wondered: Why would such a beloved regime be so afraid of Zhang Zhan?

As The Washington Post's Lily Kuo reported, Zhang, a lawyer-turned-citizen-journalist, was sentenced in a

Fred Hiatt



closed-door trial at the end of December to four years in prison for the crime of "picking quarrels and provoking trouble."

Zhang had traveled in February 2020 to Wuhan, where she filmed overwhelmed hospitals as the city where the COVID-19 pandemic began struggled to cope with the virus. She was detained in May and has been force-fed as she conducts a hunger strike.

If China "has made deciachievements important strategic gains in fighting COVID-19," as Yang declared during Friday's would the summit, WILY Communist Party worry about Zhang's reports?

For that matter, what could China's Communist rulers have to fear from a slight, soft-spoken 24-yearold like Joshua Wong?

Wong was sentenced in December to 13 1/2 months in prison for helping to organize and participating in a protest in Hong Kong in

No one disputes that the protest was peaceful. Wong's true crime was in wanting to put Yang's assertion of popularity to the test: Wong, like Agnes Chow and Ivan Lam and other young people being persecuted in Hong Kong today, favors free and open elections, which the Communist Party has never been willing to risk in China and which now — despite having made promises to the contrary — it has barred in Hong Kong, too.

That is why, when Yang was lecturing Secretary of State Antony Blinken and National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan about the popularity of his regime, the only source he could cite was unspecified "opinion polls."

Polling has its uses in Post.

daunting in a country where respondents know wrong opinion can get them thrown into jail. In China, hundreds of lawyers, journalists and human rights defenders are in prison because they expressed the wrong opinion. Tycoons have lost their businesses for holding wrong opinions. Websites are banned if they do not parrot official Com-

are

lenges, too.

Those chal-

particularly

munist versions of history. Social media apps are not allowed if China's secret police cannot read or listen to every conversation. Many Americans feared deeply for our democracy as President Donald Trump

and his cronies chipped away at the rule of law and flouted the constitutional norms we had always counted on. Yang is right about that. Many of us feel far from sanguine that the danger is past, as Trump lovalists in many states work to make voting more difficult.

And who would disagree, as George Floyd's killer goes on trial in Minnesota and Asian women are gunned down in Georgia, that "the challenges facing the United States in human rights are deep-seated," as Yang put it.

Yet, last fall, Americans were able to organize and rally and vote, and we turned out one leader and installed another.

I can endorse Yang's criticism of U.S. human rights without being sent to prison for "picking quarrels and provoking trouble."

So I would say to Director Yang, you are right about America. If you are just as right about China, let Wang Bingzhang and Zhang Zhan and Joshua Wong out of prison.

Let them speak their minds.

Let your people organize and rally and vote.

Let us see how wide and deep your support really is.

Hiatt is the editorial page editor of The Washington

Columnist grateful to have seen Baylor

By COLBERT I. KING

The Washington Post The tying shot at the buzzer in last week's Virginia Tech-Florida NCAA men's basketball tournament game brought customers at Master's Touch bar-bershop in the District of Columbia to their feet.

I was among them.

But I felt the need to inform the barbershop gathering that the country's greatest basketball player, Elgin Baylor, grew up and played ball in Washington, D.C. It was to remind them that what they had witnessed could never measure up to Baylor on a basketball court.

So I was stunned and saddened by news that Baylor died Monday at 86.

The accolades are pouring in. Wonderful prose about his prowess on the hardwood, his hanging in the air, his repertoire of moves and shots, his total ownership of the craft. Observations based, for the most part, on TV clips, press accounts, basketball lore.

That's not how I got to know about Baylor.

My introduction to him was neither direct nor formal. But I was an eyewitness, present almost at the creation.

My first time seeing him was during the 1953-54 high school basketball season when D.C. public schools were racially segregated. Black schools were in Division 2. You don't have to guess who occupied Division 1.

I was an eighth- or ninth-grader at Division 2 Francis Junior High School, which had a newly built gymnasium. Although it was miles away from the city's Black senior high schools, Francis Junior High was selected to host some extramural basketball

I recall our physical education teacher, Mr. Jackson, telling us that Spingarn High School's basketball team was coming to play (Armstrong High School, I think), and that we were going to see something special.

He said Spingarn had a player named Elgin Baylor who was called "Rabbit."

Now here's where basketball lore gets a little mixed up.

In his column saluting Baylor, my Washington Post colleague Thomas Boswell said Baylor was dubbed "Rabbit" "for his leap**Colbert** I. King



I recall Jackson as saying Baylor was given that nickname because, like a rabbit, he seemed to have eyes on both sides of his head, enabling him to see what was coming from either side. Anyway, that's what I heard, in 1953, and that's pretty much what I saw during that basketball season. On the court, Baylor seemed to see and have total control over everything around

After his game at Francis Junior High, two classmates and I made it a point to travel across town to Spingarn to watch him go to work. In one game against Phelps

Vocational High School, which Baylor had briefly attended, he scored 63 points. We were there - in stunned disbelief.

Of course, he was playing before the free throw lanes were widened. In those days, Baylor could leap and grab a missed free throw off the backboard and put it in the basket before landing on the floor.

I watched him wow the crowd at the now-defunct Joe Turner's Arena where, with his brother Kermit, he played with the Stonewall A.C. Seemed as though everybody on that team could "jam" or "dunk" the ball.

He was a sensation. So you can imagine my surprise when my Dunbar High School classmate Carol Poyner told me sometime around 1956 or in early 1957, when we were about to graduate, that her best friend, Ruby Saunders, also a classmate, was going on a date with a fellow named Elgin Baylor, whom neither one of them knew much about. I told them as much as a spectator and admirer could.

On June 22, 1958, Ruby and Elgin Baylor were married. I was unaware that they divorced 16 years later. Baylor and I never met. But I put in a good word for

•••••

King writes a column — sometimes about D.C., sometimes *about politics* — *that runs in The* Washington Post on Saturdays.

The Commercial Review

HUGH N. RONALD (1911-1983), Publisher Emeritus



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have government without newspapers or newspapers without government I should not hesitate to prefer the latter." – Thomas Jefferson

"Were it left for me to decide whether we should

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Traffic jam at canal grows

More than 200 vessels are stuck behind container ship

By SAMY MAGDY

Associated Press
SUEZ, Egypt — A maritime traffic jam grew to more than 200 vessels today outside the Suez Canal and some vessels began changing course as dredgers worked frantically to free a giant container ship that is stuck sideways in the waterway and disrupting global shipping.

One salvage expert said freeing the cargo ship, the Ever Given, could take up to a week in the best-case scenario and warned of possible structural problems on the vessel as it remains wedged.

The Suez Canal Authority said it welcomed international offers to help free the vessel, including one from the United States, although it did not say what kind of assistance was offered.

The Ever Given, owned by the Japanese firm Shoei Kisen KK, got wedged Tuesday in a single-lane stretch of the canal, about 6 kilometers (3.7 miles) north of the southern entrance, near the city of Suez. The vessel remained grounded this morning, said Leth Agencies, which carries the canal

services the canal.

Tugboats and a specialized suction dredger were trying to dislodge it, as Egyptian authorities prohibited media access to the

In addition to the over 200 vessels waiting near the canal, more than 100

ships were en route to the waterway, according to the data firm Refinitiv.

Apparently anticipating long delays, the owners of the stuck vessel diverted a sister ship, the Ever Greet, to head around Africa instead, according to satellite data.

Others also are being diverted to avoid the canal. The liquid natural gas carrier Pan Americas changed course in the mid-Atlantic, now aiming south to go around the southern tip of Africa, according to satellite data from MarineTraffic.com.

About 10% of world trade flows through the canal, which is particularly crucial for the transport of oil. The closure also could affect oil and gas shipments to Europe from the Middle East.

Capt. Nicolas Sloane, a maritime salvage expert who led the high-profile effort to salvage the cruise ship Costa Concordia in 2012, said extracting the Ever Given is "quite a challenge" and could take five days to a week.

The Ever Given's location, size and large amount of cargo make the operation more complex, Sloane said. The operation should focus initially on dredging the bank and sea floor around it to get it floating again, rather than unloading its cargo, which could take weeks.

That's because the clock is also ticking structurally for the vessel, he added.

"The longer it takes, the worse the condition of the ship will become, because she's slowly sagging," said Sloane, vice president of the International Salvage Union. "So ships are designed to flex, but not to be kept at that position with a full load of cargo for weeks at a time. So it's not an easy situation."



President Joe Biden answers questions from reporters during his first formal news conference as president Thursday. He began by announcing a new pandemic goal of giving out 200 million coronavirus shots in his first 100 days. He also discussed the possibility of eliminating the filibuster in the Senate, immigration issues at the border with Mexico, troops in Afghanistan and gun laws, among other topics.

President ...

Continued from page 1

He argued that even GOP voters believe actions that make it harder for people to cast ballots are "despicable" attempts to undermine democracy.

The president was repeatedly pressed about the situation at the U.S.-Mexico border, where increasing numbers of young migrants have overwhelmed the government's holding facilities. Biden promised better media access to the camps — once his administration has a better handle on things — as well as improvements to the nation's immigration system and U.S. help to improve conditions in the migrants' home countries.

"I can't guarantee that we're going to solve everything, but I can guarantee that we're going to make it better," he said.

And in the aftermath of two mass shootings in a week, Biden was pressed on his plans for new gun violence laws. He responded that legislating is "a matter of timing" and then gave a long-winded answer about his infrastructure plan, which he said will be his administration's next legislative priority.

Biden had held off on holding his first news conference until he could

use it to celebrate progress against the pandemic and passage of a giant COVID-19 relief package.

In his opening remarks, he declared that "hope is on the way," and he doubled his original goal on COVID-19 vaccines by pledging that the nation will administer 200 million doses by the end of his first 100 days in office. The administration had met Biden's initial goal of 100 million doses earlier this month — before even his 60th day in office — as the president pushes to defeat a pandemic that has killed more than 545,000 Americans.

While seemingly ambitious, Biden's vaccine goal amounts to a continuation of the existing pace of vaccinations through the end of next month.

When Biden moved on to fielding questions, the president didn't get a single query about the virus that has rewritten the rules of society for more than a year.

Biden was the first chief executive in four decades to reach this point in his term without holding a formal news conference, where reporters have the opportunity for extended back-and-forth with the president on the issues of the day. That delay produced a surprising level of anticipation for a chief executive who has deliberately tried to turn down the temperature in a city overheated by his predecessor Donald Trump.

Biden, who once proclaimed himself a "gaffe machine," avoided any major stumbles even as he rambled at times and cut himself off at one point, suddenly asking, "Am I giving too long an answer?"

He acknowledged several vexing foreign policy problems he faces immediately, including growing concerns about North Korea's nuclear program, a looming May 1 deadline to withdraw U.S. troops from Afghanistan, and China's rising stature as an economic competitor.

Early Thursday, North Korea launched the first ballistic missile tests of the Biden administration, what some analysts say was a measured provocation to catch the new president's attention.

The Biden administration has sought to restart talks with Kim Jong Un's regime in hopes of persuading the North to give up its nuclear program, but thus far has faced radio silence from the North. Biden was restrained as he admonished the North for the latest tests.



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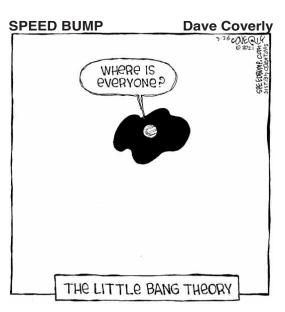
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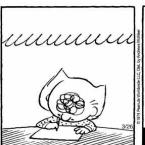
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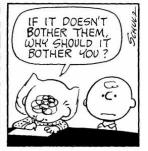


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90 SALE CALENDAR

CONSIGNMENT AUC-TION

Located: Bob Schmit Memorial Hall, Jay Co Fairgrounds, 806 E Votaw St., Port-

land, IN Saturday March 27, 2021.

10:00 AM/10:30 am (Double Ring) Household; Collectibles; Primitives; Furniture; Garage Items: few tools: Misc. 2 cargo trailers full and already packed-not listed yet! Full auction ad & pictures-Auctionzip.com #11389 Mel Smitleyís Real Estate & Auction-

eering 260-726-6215 Office Laci Smitley (260)-729-2281- Cell AU10600051 Gary White AU19800069

PUBLIC AUCTION Located: Bubp Exhibition Hall.

Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 E Votaw St., Portland, IN

Saturday, April 3rd, 2021 9:30 am

Antique-Old & Collector items-Guns-Indian Artifacts: Oak ice box; Oak glass ball square lamp; Edison Standard Phonograph; Dr. Pepper thermometer; Cola Cola trays; Wards Western Model 16M 20ga. bolt action shotgun; 380 semi-auto pistol.

Stoneware & Crocks: #3 Red Wing Jug, #10 crock, #6 crock. Indian Artifacts: 175+ arrowheads in various colors. Union Pacific Railroad spittoon; EZ Bake Flour sign; Dunkirk bottle; Dunkirk tokens. Fiesta; mixing bowls, teapots, pitchers, various trays, Tumblers, Vases, platters. Roseville; Pinecone (Green & Brown Color),

Freesia, Sunflower. Large amount of Raymor pattern.

Auctioneers Note: This is an outstanding auction with a nice collection of quality items. This collection has been packed and stored for the past 5+ years.

Please visit Auction Zip for photos. and contact our office at

(260) 726-2700 with any questions. Gordon & Lucy Kesler, Deceased

Loy Auction AU31600027 260-726-2700 Auctioneers Gary Loy AU01031608 Ben Lyons AU10700085 Travis Theurer

AU11200131 Aaron Loy AU11200112 Troy Foust AU19800068

PUBLIC AUCTION Located: Bubp Exhibition Hall, Jay County Fair-

grounds, Portland, IN Saturday, March 27th, 2021 9:30 am Antique-Old & Collector

items-Guns-Household: Walnut tall ornate bed. Walnut wardrobe, Oak round table with 6 chairs, Standard and Kendall double sided signs, Ohio Farms Ins Co 1924 statue, Indian

Statue, Stevens Bicycle Rifle, Italy 50 cal black powder muzzle loader, Stevens Rolling Block 22, Marlin 22 S/L LR pump, Cross bow, School bells, Mayonnaise churn, Fenton several pieces including

Favrene, Crockery and Stoneware, Model T lights, Weather vane arrows, Mower and Tools, John Deere x540 Multi Terrain riding

mower with 54" deck and 900 hours. Many other items not listed. Auctioneers Note: Al and Janet have sold their

45 A billion

home and are downsizing. The auction offers a great variety of quality items. Auction preview will be held on Friday March 26th from 2:00 to 5:30 p.m. Please visit Auction Zip for photos or contact our office at (260) 726-2700 with any

questions. It is recommended you follow COVID-19 guidelines by wearing a facial

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Sports/Classifieds

Reds' India impresses, ready for breakout

By DAVID BRANDT

AP Sports Writer SCOTTSDALE,

Ariz. Cincinnati Reds infielder Jonathan India might be forcing his way onto the big league roster and even a starting spot in the infield thanks to an impressive spring performance.

The fifth overall pick in the 2018 draft out of Florida is showing why he was such a highly regarded prospect a few seasons ago. Through his first 17 spring games, he hit .333 with four doubles and two homers and is a candidate to start at second base.

The 24-year-old India had a slow start to his professional

spent all of 2020 at the team's alternate training site during the shortened 60-game season and was never promoted to the big leagues.

But now he looks like he belongs.

"It says so much about the difference a year makes in a young player's career," Reds manager David Bell said last week. "Not that he wasn't in a good place last year, but the development has been very significant over the past year.

Here's a look at a few others who are playing well in Grapefruit and Cactus League action:

Josh Rojas, 2B/SS/OF, Diacareer, producing good but not **mondbacks:** The 26-year-old has great numbers during his first 20 exhibition hits, including nals: St. Louis hopes a handful part of the lineup.

two minor league seasons. He three doubles and three homers, of young outfielders can step to solidify his spot on the Dbacks' roster and possibly even earn a starting role at second base. Manager Torey Lovullo has also been impressed with how Rojas handles shortstop defensively, also allowing him to be a potential backup for starter Nick Ahmed.

Maeda was one of the American League's best pitchers last season, finishing second in the Cy Young Award voting after finishing with a 6-1 record and 2.70 ERA. He's back at it this spring, giving up just one run in 14 1/3 innings during four exhibition starts.

Tyler O'Neill, OF, Cardi-

forward, including O'Neill. The 25-year-old won a Gold Glove last year but struggled at the plate, batting just .173 with seven homers. He's been much better this spring, batting .400 with three doubles and two homers.

3B/2B. France. Tv Kenta Maeda, RHP, Twins: Mariners: The 26-year-old split time with the Padres and Mariners last season after a midseason trade and hit over .300 with both teams. So far this spring, France is proving those numbers might be duplicated over a full 162-game season. He's batting .385 with five homers in exhibition games and looks more and more like he'll be a big

Jake Arrieta, RHP, Cubs: The 35-year-old Arrieta wasn't particularly good for the Phillies last season, finishing with a 5.08 ERA and just 32 striketous in 44 1/3 innings. But now he's back with the Cubs — which is where he won the NL Cy Young Award in 2015 — and has had some success this spring. He's got a 2.40 ERA through four spring starts.

Adam Wainwright, RHP. Cardinals: Wainwright will turn 40 years old this summer but has continued his late-career resurgence with a good spring. He was very good for St. Louis in 2020 with a 5-3 record and 3.15 ERA. The three-time All-Star has a 1.83 ERA in five exhibition starts and has struck out 20 batters in 19 1/3 innings.

Remains

Continued from page 8 suer for Lowry, and now many different directions simply may try to add him and this is where we find again as a free agent later this year. But the reigning Eastern Conference champions pivoted in time to add Oladipo — a two-time All-Star, a 21point-per-game scorer this run to the title last season season and someone only three years removed from All-NBA status — from Houston, in exchange for Avery Olynyk, Bradley and a pick swap in 2022.

"The actual day, there's usually a lot more hype and then a lot less action than what is speculated," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "That was probably true this year as well."

Questions swirled around Lowry all the way to the 3 p.m. EST deadline, and there were signs that the Raptors were positioning themselves to make the move. Toronto traded Matt Thomas to Utah and Terence Davis to Sacramento for future draft picks, not long before the deadline to open up roster spots necessary because anyone who obtained Lowry would have had to send multiple players to Toronto in order to make the salary ramifications work.

In the end, though, the Raptors couldn't be Lowry. So, on his 35th as a Raptor free agent when the season ends, and there's no guarantee he returns.

with whatever direction out was finalized Thurswe go," Raptors President day afternoon and the Masai Ujiri said. "Maybe we lost a chance here, but toward one with Drumwe also think we gained a mond; those moves will chance in some other make them free to sign things going forward. with the club of their This team, especially with choosing.

what we've gone through Miami was a major purthis year, could pivot in

ourselves now." The Clippers — who sought point guard help for weeks — got it in Rondo, who was part of the Los Angeles Lakers' and now returns to L.A. The Clippers gave up Lou Williams in that deal with Atlanta, sending him back to his home state and the team with whom he spent two seasons from 2012 through 2014.

Another veteran joined Western Conference contender when New Orleans sent JJ Redick to Dallas Mavericks, along with Nicolo Melli for Wes Iwundu, James Johnson and a secondround pick in this summer's draft. Redick satisfies Dallas' want for more shooting and provides a veteran voice to help younger players — just as JJ Barea did for Dallas in past seasons.

The Heat made another deal prior to the Oladipo one being struck, landing Nemania Bielica from Sacramento for little-used forwards Maurice Harkless and Chris Silva.

The deadline passed without moves getting made for San Antonio's LaMarcus Aldridge and Cleveland's Andre Drumswayed to part with mond, a pair of veteran post players who have not birthday, Lowry woke up been on the court for their — and current — and soon to be remained one. He'll be a former — clubs in several weeks, after decisions were made in both cases for the sides to move on "We are comfortable amicably. Aldridge's buy-Cavaliers were working

Bigs having impact in women's NCAA

By PETE IACOBELLI

AP Sports Writer

Post players are having a big impact on the women's NCAA Tour-

Teams that have reached the Sweet 16 teams are getting major contributions from their "Bigs."

The impressive list includes:

-Aliyah Boston. The South Carolina All-American has had 39 points and 25 rebounds in her first two career NCAA games as the Gamecocks reached the round of 16 for a seventh straight year.

-Sedona Prince. Oregon's 6-foot-7 Prince became the center of attention on sports shows with dunk during warmups before the Ducks' rallied for a second-round win against Georgia to reach the regional semifinals for a fourth consecutive season.

-Olivia Nelson-Ododa. At 6-5, the UConn Huskie has 39 points through

two games. UConn is in the Sweet 16 for a 27th consecutive season.

There will plenty of length on the court this weekend; 13 of the teams start at least one player 6-3 or taller.

"I'll be watching that," said Debbie Antonelli, college basketball analyst and broadcaster.

Boston, one of the Gamecocks talented sophomores, has been a steadying influence as her team dealt with high expectations after their success a season ago. South Carolina spent the last 10 weeks of the 2020 season at No. 1 and won their final 26 straight games before COVID-19 ended what seemed to be a deep tournament run.

During the offseason, Boston worked on improving her fitness and technique under the basket. The results were an All-American season in which she averaged a double-dou-

"The energy that she puts into a game and the preparation, and the duration of the 40 minutes that's being played is unmatched by any player on the collegiate level," South Carolina coach Dawn Staley said. "Take that to the bank on both sides of the basketball.'

Boston and South Carolina, the top seed in the Hemisfair Region, will play Sunday against No. 5 seed Georgia Tech. The Yellow Jackets advanced in part due to 6-4 Lorela Cubaj, who has 35 points and 22 rebounds combined in the Yellow Jackets two tournament wins.

Oregon's Prince has been a focal point both on and off the court this tournament. The Texas transfer who hadn't played in two seasons because of a broken right leg in 2018, has gradually worked her into the lineup. She's third on the team at 10.7 points a game.

Pushes ...

Continued from page 8

"I was talking to a lot of them, but none of them really offered like that," Abmas said. "But coach Springmann (ORU assistant coach Russell Springmann) and the staff here — they just fell in love with (me) from day one and they showed a lot of love. They really wanted me to come in an have an impact on ORU basketball. And so that's what I wanted to do at the end of the day was take the best fit for me and have an impact on the program.'

Obanor, from Houston, drew attention from Arkansas, Wake Forest, TCU, N.C. State and others.

And here they are, on basketball's

biggest stage.

Abmas, dubbed "Midcourt Max" by some fans, introduced himself to Ohio State by hitting a 3-pointer from the logo that gave the Golden Eagles a 7-0 lead and he wound up with 18 points by halftime. Obanor took over with 20 points in the second half and overtime in Oral Roberts' 75-72 win. The two scored 59 points between them.

It was a smiliar story in the second-round win over Florida. Abmas set the tone with 16 points in the first half while Obanor scored 20 in the second. In all, 57 points com-

'Obanor has just got a unique abil-

ity to get it (his shot) off, to create a little space and get it off," Florida coach Mike White said. "Abmas is just phenomenal with his speed, and you crowd him too much, and you want to take away that three, and it's a layup or a drive-and-kick or a foul."

Attention has followed the Golden Eagles, who are just the second 15 seed to reach the second weekend of the tournament after Florida Gulf Coast's Dunk City team. Mills noted the increase in media requests for his two stars and former mid-major star Ja Morant of the Memphis Grizzlies has tweeted about Ambas.

He appreciates the attention, but wants his teammates to get credit.

Sports on

Local schedule Saturday

Fort Recovery — Softball at Delphos Jefferson - 11 a.m.; JV baseball double header vs. Russia - 11 a.m.

Monday

Fort Recovery — Baseball vs. Celina – 5 p.m.; Softball at Ansonia – 5 p.m.; JV baseball at Celina - 5 p.m.

Thursday

Fort Recovery — Softball at South Adams – 5 p.m.; Track at Crestview quad – 5 p.m.; Freshman baseball at St. Henry – 5:30 p.m.; Junior high track hosts quad –

Jay County — Track at Madison-Grant –

TV schedule

7:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Boston Celtics at Milwaukee Bucks (ESPN) 8:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Indiana Pacers at Dallas Mavericks (FSIN) 10 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Atlanta

Hawks at Golden State Warriors (ESPN) 2:40 p.m. — Men's College Basketball:

NCAA Tournament - Oregon State vs. Loy-

ola Chicago (CBS) 5:15 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: NCAA Tournament - Villanova vs. Baylor

7:25 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: NCAA Tournament - Oral Roberts vs. Arkansas (TBS)

9:55 p.m. — Men's College Basketbal II: NCAA Tournament - Syracuse vs. Houston (TBS)

Sunday 2:10 p.m. — Men's College Basketball:

NCAA Tournament – Creighton vs. Gonzaga

(CBS) 5 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: NCAA Tournament - Florida State vs. Michi-

gan (CBS) 7:15 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: NCAA Tournament - UCLA vs. Alabama

(TBS) 9:45 p.m. — Men's College Basketball:

NCAA Tournament - Oregon vs. USC (TBS)

Local notes

Registration is Wednesday Portland Junior League another registration day on Wednesday. The session will be from 6 to 8 p.m. at

Jay Community Center, 115 E. Water St., Portland. Registration forms can be picked up at

JCC, or they're available online at PJL's

Facebook page. The league is open to boys and girls

ages 5 to 15.

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Hope Powell Petitioner

VS

Clifton Powell Respondent

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR

DISSOLUTION OF MAR-

RIAGE

Hope Powell whose mailing

address is PO Box 2 Bryant,

IN 47326, And whose resi-

dence is in Jay County, Indi-

ana hereby gives notice that

Hope Powell Has filed a peti-

tion in the Jay Superior /Cir-

cuit Court Civil Division

1-765-857-1071.

tap," email details to sports@thecr.com.

Contract By Steve Becker

Test your play

and returns a heart. You take the finesse, and the outcome depends on who has the heart king.

who has the heart king.

This line of play succeeds if either opponent has the singleton or doubleton queen of diamonds, if South has the queen of diamonds, or if North has the king of hearts. The overall chance of success is about 78%.

Line No. 3: You play the acc of hearts followed by the queen. If South has the king, it's all over, because he must lead a diamond or

yield a ruft-and-diseard.

If North has the king of hearts, he is forced to return a diamond. If he has either the queen or ten, or both, you make the contract by following low from dummy. Thus, if North has 10-xx and leads a low diamond, both.

South's queen is trapped. If North returns the ten instead, you cover with dummy's jack to make the con-

If North has the queen of dia-

monds, the outcome is the same. You

follow low from dummy, take South's ten with the ace and then finesse the

yield a ruff-and-discard.

You are declarer with the West hand at Six Spades, and North leads the four of clubs. How would you play the hand?

East ♦ Q 9 7 5 2 ♥ A Q • K J 3 • K 8 3 West ↑ A K J 10 8 4 ♥ J 9 ↑ A 9 4 ↑ A 2

This is strictly a percentage prob-lem. There is no way to guarantee the slam, but there is one approach that gives you the best chance for the contract. Three different lines of play stand out, and they all start the same way. You win the club lead with the ace, draw trump, cash the king of clubs and ruff a club.

clubs and ruff a club.

Line No. 1: You take a heart finesse. If the queen loses to the king and a heart is returned, you next lead a diamond to the acc and a diamond back, finessing the jack.

This approach wins if North has either the king of hearts or queen of diamonds. It offers about a 75% chance of success.

Line No. 2: You cash the A-K of diamonds. Assuming the queen does

Jack.
This method of play succeeds if South has the king of hearts or if North has either the ten or queen of diamonds, or both. It offers about an 87% chance of success, failing only the blooth her the heart lives and Line No. 2: 100 cash the Arts of diamonds. Assuming the queen does not fall, you then continue with the jack of diamonds.

If South has the queen, school is out because he must return a heart or include a referred diseased. But if North when North has the heart king and yield a ruff-and-discard. But if North has the queen of diamonds, he wins South the queen and ten of diamonds.

Tomorrow: A self-imposed guess.

3-26 **CRYPTOQUIP**

P C RUDP RJ PHHDOADU

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YIQAROQD HTICANRDJ,

BIDJJ RA'J RCADN-CTARTCPQ. Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SUPPOSING AN ANIMAL HAD WEIRD, ABNORMALLY LONG FRONT PAWS, THEY MIGHT BE FOUR-FEET FOREFEET.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: C equals N

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THE DUNKIRK PARK **BOARD** is accepting applications for the following positions until April 16th pool manager, assistant manager, certified life guards, concessions, admissions, park labor. Applications can be picked up at The City Building is open from 8:00 am - 4:30 pm Monday-Friday EoE

RETAIL SALES days, nights & weekends. Clean work environment, good hourly pay. Must be 21 or older. Apply @ Northside Carry Out, 1226 N. Meridian, Portland, IN. Attn: Ruth

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etarter89@gmail.com

THE JAY COUNTY **COMMISSIONERS** are taking applications for the position of Jay County Retirement Center Maintenance through noon on April 5, 2021. Applications may be at and picked up returned to the Jay County Auditoris Office at 120 North Court Street in Portland, Indiana. Job Description available upon request. Jay County Government is an Equal Opportunity **Employer**

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Room Requesting the marriage of Hope Powell and

Clifton Powell be dissolved. Notice is further given that the hearing will be held on said Petition on the 23rd day of April, 2021 at 2 o'clock pm. Hope Powell

Bryant, IN 47326 CR 3/12,19,26-2021-HSPAXLP Page 8 www.thecr.com The Commercial Review

Deadline passes, Lowry remains with Toronto

By TIM REYNOLDS AP Basketball Writer

Kyle Lowry wound up staying with Toronto after all. Victor Oladipo is finally in Miami, a destination he's eyed in the past. And Rajon Rondo is headed back to Los Angeles, though not with the team he helped win the NBA title last season.

The trade deadline has come and gone. And now, playoff pushes can really begin.

Miami, Denver, the Clippers, Portland, Dallas, Boston and Atlanta were likely among the teams feeling convinced that they improved on deadline day after a flurry of moves Thursday, though the best player — at least this season — might have been landed by the Chicago Bulls. They got All-Star forward Nikola Vucevic from Orlando, a move that ushered in the start of a bigtime rebuild by the Magic.

"Anytime you trade a player like Nikola, it is a tough decision to make," Magic President Jeff Weltman said.

Vucevic is the only player from this season's All-Star Game to be traded at the deadline. It was a steep price; Vucevic and Al-Faroug Aminu went to the Bulls for Otto Porter, Wendell Carter Jr. and two future first-round selections.

"Usually, you don't get too many chances at All-

Former Pacer Oladipo moved for second time this season

Star-level players," Bulls executive vice president Artūras Karnišovas said. "And we were fortunate to get it done.

The Magic traded three of their four leading scorers; in addition to the Vucevic move, Evan Fournier was sent to Boston and Aaron Gordon is headed to Denver. Acquiring Gordon was part of a bold day for the Nuggets, who also got JaVale McGee — part of three of the last four NBA championship teams, two with Golden State and last year with the Lakers through a trade with Cleve-

And Toronto made one move of significance, sending Norman Powell to the Portland Trail Blazers for Rodney Hood and Gary Trent Jr. But Lowry — a free-agent-to-be and considered perhaps the biggest prize on this year's trade market — did not get traded, the Raptors apparently unable to find enough assets to their liking.

See **Remains** page 7



The Commercial Review/Chris Schanz

Dillan delivers

Dillan Evers of the Fort Recovery High School baseball team delivers a pitch during the top of the first inning in the Indians' scrimmage against the Perry Commodores on Monday. The Tribe opens its 2021 campaign by hosting the Celina Bulldogs at 5 p.m. Monday.

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Pursuant to IC-32-34-1-28(a) legal notice is hereby given to the people and entities listed below who appear to be owners of unclaimed property, which is presumed to be abandoned and has been recently reported to Indiana for the year 2020 only. Please visit www.IndianaUnclaimed. gov for complete list of all properties currently held in the protective custody of the Attorney

Unclaimed Property is not physical real estate or vehicles. It is money or safekeeping property from accounts that have registered inactive. Common examples include lost or forgotten bank balances, unpaid wages, insurance proceeds, safe deposit box contents, stocks & dividends, and utility deposits. Safe Deposit box contents can be purchased through public auction at

A person or entity having a legal interest in these properties may obtain more information or calling the Attorney General's Property Division at 1-866-462-5246. All claims must be supported by proof of rightful ownership or legitimate representation and state-approved identification. Searching for and claiming property is a free public service provided by the Indiana Attorney General.



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Duo pushes ORU into Sweet 16

By CLIFF BRUNT AP Sports Writer

INDIANAPOLIS — Max Abmas and Kevin Obanor have pushed each other to greatness.

Oral Roberts' star players room together on traditional road trips and have formed a bond through it, joking around and picking on each other like brothers.

It shows on the court. They have taken the NCAA Tournament by storm, leading 15th-seeded Oral Roberts to upset wins over No. 2 seed Ohio State and No. 7 seed Florida in the East Region. The Golden Eagles could keep defying the odds when they play No. 3 seed Arkansas on Saturday in the Sweet 16.

It starts with Abmas and Obanor.

"Abmas is just so difficult to keep in front of you," Arkansas coach Eric Musselman said. "And then you add in his deep, long-range shotmaking ability. Those two players in particular are playing as good as any combo teammates in the

tournament.' Abmas a 6-1, 165-pound sophomore guard, leads the nation in scoring with 24.5 points per game. But he loves it when Obanor gets cooking, and the 6-8, 225-pound junior forward has in fact led the Golden Eagles in scoring during the NCAA Tournament

with 29 points per contest.

"Players make plays," Abmas said. "And so for Kevin — he's a great player. I know how much work he puts in. That's really for everybody, but I know Kev puts in a whole lot of work and so when the lights come on, he's always going to shine. I always have the confidence in him to knock down big shots, make the big play.'

The two have set the tone for the rest of the team. The way Oral Roberts coach Paul Mills puts it: "If your best players are your hardest workers, you have a

chance. Abmas, from Rockwall, Texas, only got offers from Oral Roberts, Army, Navy, Air Force and Marist. He said other schools showed interest

but didn't follow up. See **Pushes** page 7



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