

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

## Restroom work



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Portland Park Board on Tuesday approved a project to renovate the restroom/concession building at Runkle-Miller Field in Portland Memorial Park. The renovation will create two family restrooms and install a new sink and hot water heater in the concession area. Plans are to complete the work following the 2023 season.

### Portland Park Board approves project to renovate restroom, concession facility at Runkle-Miller Field

By RAY COONEY  
The Commercial Review

A compromise solution has been found for the restroom facility at Runkle-Miller Field.

Portland Park Board on Tuesday approved a project to renovate the restroom and concession facility at the field at Portland Memorial Park.

The restroom/concession facility at the field has been a topic of conversation on and off for the park board for several years as part of an overall

look at making improvements to the facility that is home to The Portland Rockets. At the board's April 2022 meeting, Rockets manager Randy Miller estimated the cost of expansion and renovation of the restroom and concession stand at \$75,000.

Because of the cost of the project, no action was taken last year other than putting the restroom/concession stand upgrades into the city's five-year master park plan.

On Tuesday, parks department employee Matt Shauver brought an alternate option to the board. He suggested removing the block walls that currently separate stalls inside the men's and women's restrooms, creating two family restrooms with changing tables, putting in new doors and installing a three-bay sink and new hot water heater for the concession area. He noted that those changes would be less costly and would bring the

restrooms into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

He said quotes from Hemelgarn Masonry for doors came in at \$6,500 while Mark Aker Plumbing would handle the plumbing work at a cost of \$6,160. City employees will handle demolition of the walls.

"My goal is to make the best of what we have," said Shauver. "It's to save money, but have an ADA, usable facility." See Restroom page 2

## JCDC reviews bylaw proposal

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

Jay County Development Corporation's board has recommendations to consider.

A study committee on Tuesday presented the JCDC board its recommendations for bylaw changes that would assign permanent seats on the executive committee to several local government officials and also establish a code of conduct for all board members.

The recommendations stem from a discussion at JCDC's October meeting during which county and municipal government officials made a proposal that the county commissioners president, county council president, Portland mayor and Dunkirk mayor be made permanent members of the executive committee. The proposal presented by Jay County Council president Jeanne Houchins would have given local government officials half of the seats on the executive committee. It also suggested that any JCDC board member who misses three consecutive meetings be subject to removal and that the board be reduced — by attrition — from its current 25 members.

In response, JCDC's board formed a special committee to review the request and make recommendations to the full board. Those recommendations are as follows:

- Making permanent seats on the JCDC board for one Jay County Commissioner, one Jay County Council member, the mayor of Portland and the mayor of Dunkirk

- Expanding the executive committee — it is currently five members — to eight, with a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, immediate past president, county commissioner, county council member and one mayor

See JCDC page 5

## President calls for bipartisanship

By COURTNEY SUBRAMANIAN  
Los Angeles Times  
Tribune News Service

WASHINGTON — A feisty and occasionally combative President Biden sparred with Republicans over his legislative record, the federal deficit and border security in a State of the Union address that began as an appeal for bipartisanship.

House Speaker Kevin McCarthy, R-California, at one point appeared to try to quiet hecklers who shouted as the president called on Congress to pass comprehensive immigration reform and help him address border security.

Biden, who spoke for roughly an hour, sought to reassure Americans that he has repaired the economic damage wrought by the COVID-19

### Feisty Beiden seeks to reassure about economy, pledges to work with GOP

pandemic. He reminded his critics that he has repeatedly defied predictions that he would be unable to work across the aisle.

"I don't want to ruin your reputation," Biden quipped to McCarthy early in his speech, "but I look forward to working with you."

The president has yet to announce whether he's officially running for reelection, but aides say he'll make a decision in the coming weeks. His

prime-time speech before a divided Congress and millions of Americans was an opportunity to celebrate the legislation he has signed, explain his efforts to curb inflation and lay out his vision for the next two years.

The address also served as a soft launch for Biden's all but certain 2024 campaign and a chance to hone his pitch that he's a steady hand who's built his career on bipartisanship.

See President page 5



Tribune News Service/Getty Images/Jacquelyn Martin

Vice President Kamala Harris, left, and Speaker of the House Kevin McCarthy (R-California), right, listen as President Joe Biden delivers the State of the Union address Tuesday in the House Chamber of the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C.

#### In review

Mike Felker recently announced his candidacy for Indiana's District 3 seat in the U.S. House of Representatives.

He is vying for the Republican nomination to replace incumbent Jim Banks, who is giving up the seat to run for Senate. Felker, a Warsaw resident, is a maintenance technician.

#### Weather

Jay County's high temperature climbed to 58 degrees Tuesday. The low was 35.

Tonight's low will be 42 with rain expected after 8 p.m. More rain is in the forecast for Thursday with a high of 59 and winds gusting to 55 miles per hour.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

#### In review

The Portland Foundation is seeking a provider/operator for an early learning center to be located in the former Judge Haynes Elementary School building in Portland. A request for proposals is available at portlandfoundation.org, and the deadline is March 15. The foundation's goal is to open the facility in fall 2024.

#### Coming up

**Thursday** — Coverage of tonight's Jay County Council meeting.

**Saturday** — Results from Friday's JCHS boys basketball game against Heritage.



# Restroom ...

Continued from page 1  
Board members Brian Ison, John McFarland, Shauna Runkle and Michael Brewster approved the project, with the money to come from leftover economic development funds passed through the city from the county to the park board from Bitter Ridge Wind Farm.

Miller also informed the board of plans to install a new batting cage at the field. (Because it is being built in the same area as the current batting cage, it does not require park board approval.)

The board also agreed to send Hatzell Bros. Standing Seam Solutions notice that it needs to have standing seam roofs and metal exteriors on the dugouts at Runkle-Miller Field complete by April 1. (The \$10,950 project was awarded to Hatzell Bros. in May.)

Jay County Junior High School baseball teams are scheduled to begin using the facility April 6.

The board also set pay rates and fees for Portland Water Park, with the exception of rental fees.

Members agreed to rates of \$18 per hour for the water park manager, \$15 for the assistant manager, \$14 for lifeguards and \$13 for concession workers.

They also decided to keep pool admission and pass rates the same as they have been since 2020, noting the goal of having the facility well used this year as it has not been open full-time since 2019. (It was open part-time in 2020 because of the coronavirus pandemic and 2021 because of a lifeguard shortage, and was closed in 2022 for tile repairs.) Admission rates will be \$5 before 5 p.m. and \$3 after 5 p.m.

Passes start at \$45 for an individual, \$70 for a family of two, \$95 for a family of three, and continue up to \$180 for a family of seven or more.

The board heard a request from Jenny Bricker, who is leading an effort to relocate the Indiana 26 (Water Street) bridge over the Salamonie River on the eastern edge of the city that will be removed this spring. She asked that the board consider having the bridge placed in Hudson Family Park.

While taking no action on the request, Ison noted that the parks department is already responsible for the upkeep of one such bridge that spans the Salamonie River connecting Weiler-Wilson and Hudson Family parks. He also said he would have to look into stipulations that were put in

place when the Hudson family donated land for the park to the city.

In other business, the board:  
•Elected Ison as board president with McFarland as vice president and Runkle as secretary  
Ison noted that he has identified a candidate who is interested in joining the board and plans to attend its March meeting.

•OK'd several electrical projects to be completed by Copper-smith of Portland — installation of electrical service to the gazebo at Hudson Family Park at a cost of \$5,990, modifications to electricity at each of the baseball/softball diamonds at Weiler-Wilson Park at a cost of \$4,500 and replacement of the main electrical box at Weiler-Wilson Park at a cost of \$10,000. (Ison noted that Portland Junior

League is willing to contribute financially toward the work at the baseball/softball diamonds, though an amount has not been specified.) Shauver said he would work with Copper-smith to minimize the impact of the work on games at the facility.

\*Approved the following: the purchase of two Ferris mowers from K&L Tractor of Fort Recovery at a cost of \$9,200

•Heard from Michele Goldman of Pennville Custom Cabinetry that new cabinets the company built for the concessions building at Portland Water Park are complete. They are expected to be installed later this month.

•Heard Shauver thank U.S. Aggregates for the donation of several boulders that were placed at corners of the drive at Hudson Family Park.

## CR almanac

| Thursday<br>2/9  | Friday<br>2/10  | Saturday<br>2/11  | Sunday<br>2/12   | Monday<br>2/13  |
|--|---|---|--|---|
|  |   |   |  |   |
| <b>43/35</b>   | <b>40/27</b>  | <b>38/24</b>  | <b>46/32</b>   | <b>49/34</b>  |
| There's an 80% chance of rain Thursday before 11 a.m. Winds may gust up to 55 mph. | Friday has a low chance of rain in the afternoon under mostly cloudy skies. | Saturday's forecast shows mostly sunny skies with highs in the upper 30s. | Sunny, with a low near freezing in the low 30s. The high may hit 46. | There's a slight chance of rain at night. Otherwise, mostly cloudy. |

## Lotteries

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Powerball</b><br>Estimated jackpot: \$20 million  | Quick Draw: 2-5-6-7-9-14-23-25-28-37-38-43-45-50-59-62-66-68-77-78<br>Cash 5: 1-11-21-22-28<br>Estimated jackpot: \$816,500   |
| <b>Mega Millions</b><br>9-15-46-55-57<br>Mega Ball: 4<br>Megaplier: 2<br>Estimated jackpot: \$50 million   | <b>Ohio</b><br>Midday<br>Pick 3: 3-4-6<br>Pick 4: 9-2-0-4<br>Pick 5: 4-0-2-7-7<br>Evening<br>Pick 3: 3-2-1<br>Pick 4: 3-9-0-2<br>Pick 5: 4-2-7-1-1<br>Rolling Cash: 3-4-7-18-23<br>Estimated jackpot: \$110,000 |
| <b>Hoosier</b><br>Midday<br>Daily Three: 3-1-7<br>Daily Four: 5-7-4-6<br>Quick Draw: 1-3-6-9-11-13-16-33-40-42-49-51-54-55-61-67-69-70-75-76<br>Evening<br>Daily Three: 3-7-8<br>Daily Four: 9-9-0-3 |   |

## Markets

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b><br>Corn.....6.86<br>March corn.....6.88<br>Wheat.....7.44                                | Wheat.....6.97<br>July wheat.....7.47  |
| <b>POET Biorefining Portland</b><br>Corn.....6.91<br>March corn.....6.93<br>April corn.....6.97                            | <b>Central States Montpelier</b><br>Corn.....6.74<br>Late Feb. corn.....6.74<br>Beans.....15.04<br>Late Feb. beans.....15.07<br>Wheat.....7.47 |
| <b>The Andersons Richland Township</b><br>Corn.....6.86<br>March corn.....6.86<br>Beans.....15.02<br>March beans.....15.12 | <b>Heartland St. Anthony</b><br>Corn.....6.45<br>March corn.....6.50<br>Beans.....14.83<br>March beans.....14.88<br>Wheat.....7.12             |

## Today in history

**In 1587**, The Queen of Scots, Mary, was beheaded at Fotheringhay Castle. At 44 years old, she was killed for planning to assassinate Elizabeth I.

**In 1828**, Jules Verne was born in Nantes, France. Verne wrote the popular titles, "A Journey to the Centre of the Earth," "Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea," and "Around the World in Eighty Days."

**In 1834**, chemist Dmitri Ivanovich Medeleev was born in Tobolsk, Russia. He developed the periodic table of elements.

**In 1915**, "The Birth of a Nation" opened at Clune's Auditorium in Los Angeles. It was the first 12-reel film in America.

**In 1931**, James Dean was born in Marion, Indiana. The actor is most famous for his role in "Rebel Without a Cause" as Jim Stark. Dean died shortly before the movie's release in 1955 from a vehicle accident in California.

**In 1952**, British Queen Elizabeth II took the crown after her father, King George VI, died.

**In 2016**, Jay County High School wrestlers finished in the top four in the regional tournament to earn semi-state berths. —The CR

## Citizen's calendar

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Today</b><br>6 p.m. — Jay County Commissioners and Jay County Council joint session, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.<br>6:45 p.m. — Jay County Council, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. | <b>Thursday</b><br>6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council, park cabin, Morgan Park, 200 S. Mooney St., Redkey.<br>6 p.m. — Jay County Plan Commission, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland. |
|--|--|

# Felony court news

### Drug possession

Several people were sentenced to serve time after pleading guilty to drug possession charges in court.

Clint A. Evans, 37, 5322 W 950 South, Geneva, pleaded guilty in Jay Superior Court to possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony. He was sentenced to one year in Jay County Jail with 185 days suspended and given credit for 100 days. As part of his plea agreement, a Level 6 felony for possession of a narcotic drug was dismissed.

William S. Ogan, 30, 4313 Indiana 32 East, Anderson, pleaded guilty in Jay Superior Court to possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony. He was sentenced to 545 days in Jay County Jail with all but 180 days suspended and given 84 days credit for time served. He was placed on probation for one year, fined \$1 and assessed \$185 in court costs. Ogan was charged a \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction fee. He was also ordered to submit to an evaluation within 30 days of his sentencing for substance abuse counseling. As part of his plea agreement, a Level 6 felony for unlawful possession of a syringe was dismissed.

Jeremy Springer, 20, 117 E. Broadway St., Fort Recovery, Ohio, pleaded guilty in Jay Circuit Court to possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony. He was sentenced to one year in Jay County Jail with all but 18

months suspended and given credit for time served. He was fined \$1, assessed \$185 in court costs and charged a \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction fee. As part of his plea agreement, a Class B misdemeanor for possession of marijuana and a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia were dismissed.

Mindy Weaver, 31, 4337 N. U.S. 27, pleaded guilty in Jay Superior Court to possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony. She was sentenced to one year in Jay County Jail with all but 114 days suspended and given 114 days credit for time served. Weaver was placed on probation for 251 days, assessed \$185 in court costs and charged a \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction fee. Weaver was also ordered to submit to an evaluation within 30 days of his sentencing for substance abuse counseling. As part of her plea agreement, a Level 6 felony for possession of a narcotic drug was dismissed.

Austin A. Moore, 26, 205 East 4th St., Ridgeville, pleaded guilty in Jay Superior Court to possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony. He was sentenced to 256 days in Jay County Jail and given 256 days credit for time served. Moore was assessed \$185 in court costs and charged a \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction fee. As part of his plea agreement, a Class A misdemeanor

for resisting law enforcement was dismissed.

Matthew R. Hicks, 40, 218 Hendricks St., Berne, pleaded guilty to possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony, in Jay Superior Court. He was sentenced to one year in Jay County Jail with all but 60 days suspended and given two days credit for time served. Hicks was placed on probation for 305 days, assessed \$185 in court costs and charged a \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction fee. He was also ordered to submit to an evaluation within 30 days of his sentencing for substance abuse counseling. As part of his plea agreement, a Class B misdemeanor for visiting a common nuisance and a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia were dismissed.

Roy G. Aspy, 42, 2676 Westwind Court, Hilliard, Ohio, pleaded guilty in Jay Circuit Court to possession of methamphetamine, a Level 5 felony. He was sentenced to three years in Indiana Department of Corrections and given credit for time served. He was assessed \$185 in court costs and ordered to pay a \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction fee. Smith was recommended for purposeful incarceration, meaning upon completion of a substance abuse treatment program, the court would consider modifying his sentence.

See page 5

# Felony arrests

### Child pornography

A Redkey man was arrested Saturday for possessing child pornography.

Erik E. Caffey, 41, 4471 S. 1000 West, was preliminarily charged with a Level 5 felony for possessing child pornography.

He was released from Jay County Jail on a \$10,000 bond.

### Dealing drugs

A Portland man was arrested Monday for dealing methamphetamine and other related charges.

Joshua R. Williams, 41, 623 S. Meridian St., was preliminarily charged with a Level 2 felony, as well as a Level 6 felony for maintaining a common nuisance and a Class A misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia.

Williams is being held on a \$50,000 bond at Jay County Jail.

### Failed to appear

A Montpelier woman was arrested Monday for failing to appear in court.

Elizabeth Corwin, 29, 444 W. Henderson St., pleaded guilty in Feb. 2021 in Jay Circuit Court to possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony. She was sentenced to 545 days in Jay County Jail with all but 180 days suspended and given 90 days credit for time served.

### SERVICES

**Thursday**

**Dailey, Richard:** 11 a.m., Downing & Glancy Funeral Home, 100 Washington St., Geneva.

**Hitchens, Dora:** 2 p.m., MJS Mortuaries, 109 S. Meridian St., Redkey.

**May 13**

**Warrick, Clarice:** 11 a.m., West Richmond Friends Meeting, 609 W. Main St., Richmond.

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Photos provided

## Fair students

East Elementary School students were recently honored for demonstrating fairness. Pictured above, front row from left, are kindergarteners Kieara Lambert, River Copeland and Isla Cook. Back row are Eli Edmundson, Cegan Wagner, Logan Mikulski and Parker Brunnemer. Not pictured is Starlynn Roser. Pictured below, front row, are first graders Lucy Nieport, Luke Hopkins and Adalynn Bost. Back row are Emree Spoonemore, Brianna Navarro-Hernandez and Allis Rogers.



## Reveal sets off reaction

DEAR ABBY: I recently gave birth to our second child, a girl. Shortly afterward, my husband called his mother. She lives in a different state hours away and visits only once a year. When he told her the happy news and our little girl's name, which we had kept a secret, she became very upset. It seems the name we had chosen, unbeknownst to us, was that of her husband's mistress from years ago.

For days afterward, she would call my husband crying and pleading with him to change our baby's name, telling him he should never have kept it a secret. She told him she would never speak that name. A week later, we received a generous gift of baby clothes in the mail from her. At this point, she hasn't checked in with me, the one who gave birth. She refuses to acknowledge our baby's name and will refer to her only as "little one."

I don't know how to thank her for her generous gift, as normally I would just call her. But it's clear she doesn't want to hear from me. Could you please advise how we move forward? — WRONG NAME IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR WRONG NAME: It was unfortunate that the name you (and your husband, I presume) chose for your daughter was the same as the woman your father-in-law cheated with. If your mother-in-law's solution to the problem is to refer to her granddaughter as "little one," accept it. It seems very loving, actually. And when you write her a lovely thank-you note for her generous gift, sign it, "With love from (your name) and 'Little One,'" which I think is a sweet nickname.

DEAR ABBY: I am a happily married gay man in

Dear Abby



my 50s. About a year ago, I was contacted on Facebook Messenger by a man in another state, and we have developed what I consider a casual friendship. My new friend has cerebral palsy and is in a wheelchair. He lives with family and requires total care for his mobility and self-care. He has normal cognition, from what I can tell.

I can only imagine how difficult it would be to develop friendships and relationships with a severe disability. I have an active social life and chat here and there with him nearly every day, but I know I'm a much bigger part of his life than he is of mine. He refers to me as his best friend and says he needs his time with me. He doesn't harass me and is always respectful. He is gay, but closeted, and he knows I'm married.

It is apparent that he is very lonely. I don't want to lead him on, but I know this relationship is very unbalanced. Is it OK for me to keep casually texting, saying hello and asking about his day? I feel like I'm his only friend. — UNCERTAIN IN TENNESSEE

DEAR UNCERTAIN: It would be a kindness to continue casually texting, saying hello and asking this extremely isolated individual about his day. But while you are at it, it would ALSO be a kindness to encourage him to open his world and widen his circle of friends by going on the internet and talking to people with similar interests.

## Community Calendar

Notices will appear in Community Calendar as space is available. To submit an item, email [news@thecr.com](mailto:news@thecr.com).

### Today

**PORTLAND ROTARY CLUB** — Will meet at noon each Wednesday at Harmony Cafe, 121 N. Meridian St.

**JAY COUNTY CIVIC THEATRE** — Holds its regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month in the board room at Arts Place, 131 E. Walnut St., Portland.

**CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP** — For caregivers

of persons with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias, the group will meet at 6 p.m. the second Wednesday of each month at Blackford Community Hospital conference room, 410 Pilgrim Boulevard in Hartford City. For more information, call Joni Slentz or Lisa Garrett at (765) 348-1072 or (800) 272-3900.

**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 - BRINNA'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 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.

**INDIANA UNIVERSITY HEALTH JAY HOSPITAL OSTOMY SUPPORT GROUP** — Will meet at 6 p.m. the second Thursday of each month in Indiana University Health Jay Hospital Conference Room B. The group is for ostomy and intestinal diversion patients and their friends and family to offer mutual support and learn about the latest products and information.

**JAY COUNTY TRAILS CLUB** — Will meet at 7 p.m. the second Thursday of each month at Jay Community Center.

**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.

**Sunday A BETTER LIFE - BRINNA'S HOPE** — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Sunday at The Rock Church, 1605 N. Meridian St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 766-2006.

## Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

### Tuesday's Solution

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

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.



Swiss Village

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# Cheese logs were a Super success

*Editor's note: This column is being re-printed from Feb. 9, 2005. The image of Jack muttering curse words under his breath while trying to accomplish a cooking project brings a smile. Whatever your choice of snack — cheese log, nachos, perhaps both — enjoy the game Sunday.*

By JACK RONALD  
The Commercial Review

Sally was on the phone. It was a Sunday afternoon, one week before the Super Bowl.

"So, Dad, what're you doing this afternoon?"

It seemed an odd question.

Nothing much, I answered. Just sort of puttering around. Connie was busy with homework for a graduate course she's taking at Ball State University. I was mostly just trying to stay out of her way so she could study.

Well, said my youngest daughter, do you think you could find

## Back in the Saddle



time to make me a cheese log for our Super Bowl party? In fact, could I find the time to make two of them?

Now, I'm not well known for my culinary skills.

In our kitchen, I always play the role of assistant while my wife gives direction. It's always worked out that way, and I haven't done too much damage yet.

But there are a couple of dishes I've made over the years that have been well received at carry-ins and the like.

One is an apple cake from a recipe given to me by Mildred May. It's unofficially known as "Aunt Mid's Apple Cake" and has gotten rave reviews.

The other is a cheese log that I first made several years ago for our dinner club. Since then — often at Sally's urging — I've made it dozens of times. One year, I was ambitious enough to make several of them for our neighbors at Christmas.

But this was the first time I'd received a long distance request for a Super Bowl event.

When I stopped laughing, I agreed to give it a go, even though I had no idea where to find the recipe.

The next night, with the recipe in hand (Connie knew right where it was, of course), I spread out the ingredients on the countertop. Extra-sharp cheddar cheese, blue cheese, cream

cheese, onion, cayenne pepper (the secret ingredient that gives it kick) and pecans to cover the outside.

For a little over an hour, while my wife watched Antiques Roadshow, I banged around the kitchen, mumbling to myself, swearing under my breath more than once and occasionally shouting out questions when I needed guidance.

But before bedtime, two cheese logs were chilling in the refrigerator, wrapped in wax paper and aluminum foil.

The rest was up to the U.S. Postal Service.

At lunchtime Tuesday, I tucked the logs into a cardboard box, along with a box of crackers, sealed the whole concoction up with tape, and took it to the post office.

"Any perishables?" asked Thurman at the post office.

I shook my head, though I'm not sure why. Maybe I was figuring that the cayenne pepper would act as a preservative. At any rate, before I knew it the package was Bloomington-bound via Priority Mail.

Later I found myself wondering what would happen if the package went astray. Would the package give off a cheesy odor in some postal sectional center?

I remembered a friend from college who had been taking a frozen turkey home for the holidays, only to have it lost by Greyhound. It never surfaced, and we always figured it had defrosted and gone bad in some backwater bus terminal.

I needn't have worried. The package arrived the next day, and the cheese log added to the festive occasion in Sally's dorm.

As for us, we settled for nachos.

## Officers need to be part of process

The Virginian-Pilot  
Tribune News Service

Even before the city of Memphis released video of 29-year-old Tyre Nichols' brutal beating during a traffic stop, the five city police officers involved were given a familiar moniker: bad apples.

So it was in Baltimore following the in-custody death of 25-year-old Freddie Gray in 2015, and in Cleveland after an officer there shot and killed 12-year-old Tamir Rice in 2014, and in Louisville, Kentucky, following the 2020 shooting death of 25-year-old Breonna Taylor during a "no knock" police raid, and even in Los Angeles when video showed officers beating Rodney King in 1991.

It's always the bad apples. So many bad apples.

The full metaphor is "One bad apple spoils the barrel." A moldy fruit infects its companions. The rot only worsens until the whole bunch is a loss.

That risk should be sufficient incentive to root out the bad apples quickly, lest the whole barrel be spoiled. Yet, as the nation has seen time and time again in these excessive force cases, the "bad apples" in American police departments are not removed, not drummed out of service, but allowed to inflict their brutality on more civilians each year.

Black and brown people frequently suffer disproportionately as a result, but they aren't the only victims. White people aren't immune to police violence and the communities where these officers serve face a profound loss of public trust when incidents such as in Memphis occur.

Everyone has a vested interest in getting problematic police officers off the street, no more so than the men and women who wear the badge. They know, better than others, how an extrajudicial killing or other form of unjustified police violence diminishes their profession, erodes trust with their communities and ultimately makes their jobs more difficult.

That is why, before Memphis released the Nichols footage, police chiefs moved to separate their departments from the actions of those officers. Virginia Beach Chief Paul Neudigate released a statement on Friday saying he was "outraged, heartbroken and disappointed" and that "the actions of those involved are not representative of the policing pro-

## Guest Editorial

profession." Other area chiefs expressed similar sentiments.

Neudigate is correct that the vast majority of those who serve in law enforcement do so with good intentions and sincere commitment to the public's safety. But, as in every workplace, those who bend, and break, the rules are known to their colleagues. Officers are aware which of their coworkers are problematic. They know who the bad apples are.

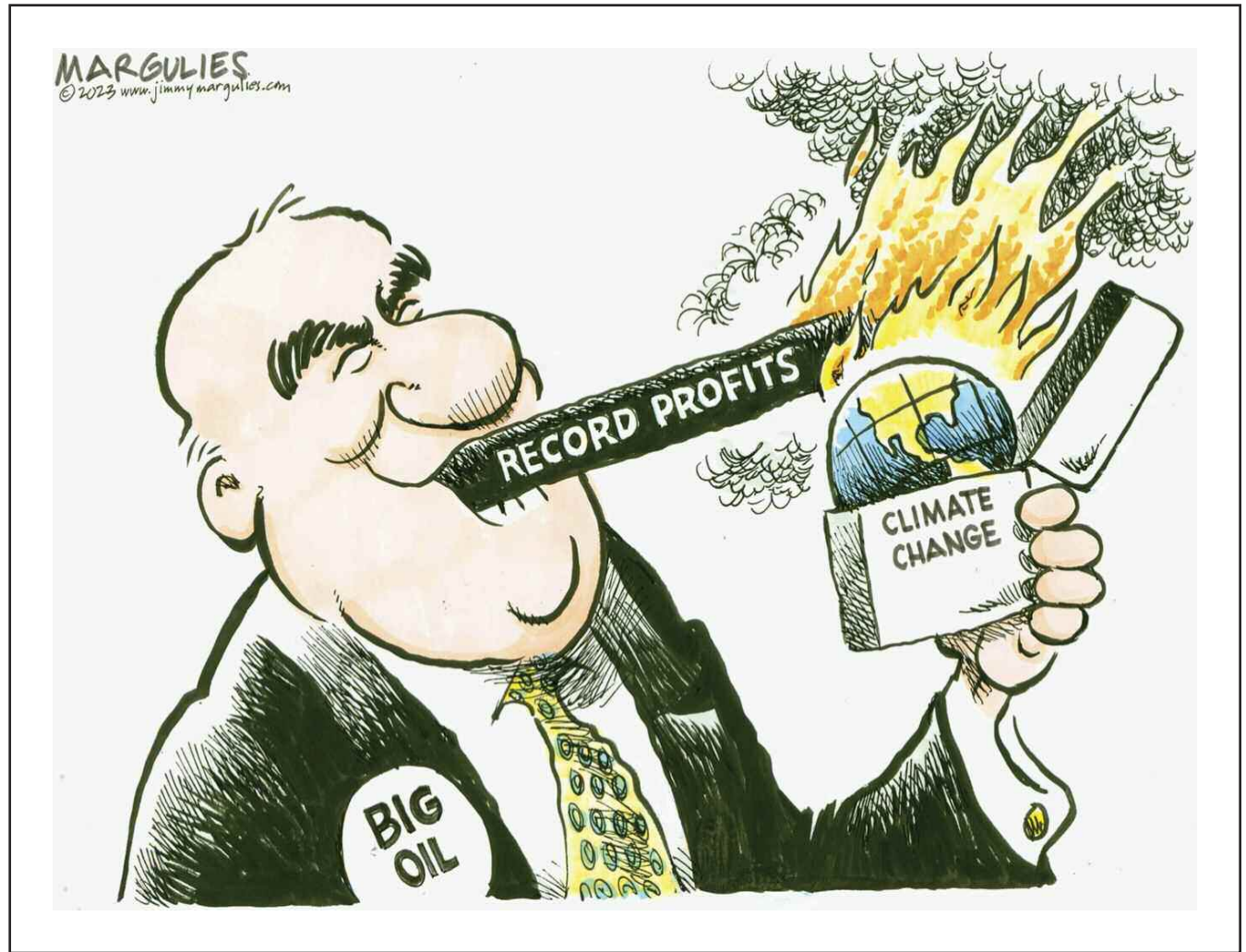
Rooting them out is a different matter entirely. Oftentimes high-ranking officials, front-line officers and unions fiercely resist efforts at reform, even when they would be helpful in separating the dedicated and faithful from those who are unfit to serve.

That's not to say that all reform efforts lack support among those in uniform. Many departments have embraced deescalation training and other strategies to resolve incidents without violence, and nearly everyone in blue agrees that better salaries would attract a higher caliber of recruits.

There is too permissive an attitude toward those who aren't worthy of the uniform. But the risk of inaction contributes to a larger crisis: the erosion of the trust between a community and its law enforcement, which is necessary to effective policing and improved public safety.

Police officials routinely say they are asked to do too much, and communities should assist their work by narrowing their scope of responsibilities. Adding mental health teams to respond to people in crisis is one way to do so, but there are countless more.

Communities, including those in Hampton Roads, need officers themselves to be proponents of reform, to change the culture of policing and to turn their outrage over what happened in Memphis and too many other places into action. To do nothing — to let despicable, malevolent violence like this to stand without self-inspection and concrete proposals to improve — is to condemn the "good apples" to rot alongside the bad.



## Mitch Daniels' exit is telling

By JOHN KRULL  
TheStatehouseFile.com

Words matter to Mitch Daniels.

They always have.

The just-retired Purdue University president and former Indiana governor took pride in penning his speeches and other pieces of writing that bore his name. He wanted to be able to own what he said and have what he said matter.

That's why it would be a mistake to stop reading his statement announcing he would not run for the U.S. Senate in 2024 after the first sentence, which said:

"After what I hope was adequate reflection, I've decided not to become a candidate for the U.S. Senate."

The reason one should keep reading the announcement is that it offers, in polite language, a searing indictment of Daniels' own Republican Party in particular and the current American political scene in general.

Daniels builds his argument by referring to the leader once considered the secular saint of the GOP, Ronald Reagan. Daniels notes that Reagan observed that two kinds of people run for office — those who want to be somebody and those who want to do something.

Daniels makes clear that he sees himself in the latter category — of people who want to get things done.

Then, in an eloquent section, he spells out exactly what he would have liked to accomplish. I'm going to quote from it at length because the words matter.

The truth always does.

"Had I chosen to compete, given my age, I would have done so on an explicitly one-term basis. I would have returned any unspent campaign funds to their donors, closed any

political accounts, and devoted six years to causes I think critical to the long-term safety and prosperity of our country.

"These issues include saving the safety net programs, so that we can keep promises we have made to older and vulnerable Americans and avoid a terrible national crisis of confidence and betrayal; in so doing, to avoid crushing our economy and today's younger citizens with the unpayable debts we are on course to leave them; to confront firmly the aggression of a would-be superpower who holds in contempt the values of personal freedom and individual dignity central to our national success and our view of a just society; to secure our borders without depriving the nation of the talent and energy that grateful immigrants can bring.

"And I would have tried to work on these matters in a way that might soften the harshness and personal vitriol that has infected our public square, rendering it not only repulsive to millions of Americans, but also less capable of effective action to meet our threats and seize our opportunities."

Several things stand out about these paragraphs.

The first is that the issues Daniels prioritizes are ones upon which Americans used to agree. Likely, most of us still do. We want to care for and protect the vulnerable, defend free-



John Krull

dom and the human spirit and establish a sane and just path for good people eager to build better lives for themselves and their families to pursue the American dream.

Our disagreements in the past generally have been about how we should reach these goals, not about the goals themselves. We have quarreled about means, not ends.

That's no longer the case.

The second thing is that Daniels believes the social contract that holds this country together is imperiled. When he talks about keeping promises and avoiding crises of confidence and betrayal, he's making a case — an irrefutable one — that the political games we're playing with the debt ceiling and other fundamental commitments to the American people are undermining the foundations of the nation.

The last point is more implied than overtly stated.

Daniels isn't running because he doesn't think his political party and this nation's political culture are interested in solving, rather than exploiting, problems. Therefore, serving in the U.S. Senate would be a waste of his time.

When one looks at the candidate most Republicans are lining up behind — U.S. Rep. Jim Banks, R-Indiana, who rarely has found a conspiracy theory he didn't embrace or a national divide he didn't want to widen — it's difficult to argue that Daniels' implication is mistaken.

The fact is we now live in an era in which too many of our leaders prefer fights to solutions.

That Mitch Daniels chose not to run for the Senate says a lot about both today's Republican Party and America as it stands.

None of it good.

# The Commercial Review

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

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VOLUME 149—NUMBER 202  
WEDNESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 8, 2023

[www.thecr.com](http://www.thecr.com)

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—Thomas Jefferson

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# JCDC ...

Continued from page 1  
•Creating a code of conduct for all board members, based on the JCDC employee code of conduct, to address not only attendance but also criminal activity, conflicts of interest, detrimental behavior and a variety of other topics

The committee that worked on the recommendations suggested they be reviewed by legal counsel before being implemented.

The board spent most of its hour-long meeting discussing the recommendations from the committee, with member Mark Leavell asking what decision-making power lies with the executive committee. None, JCDC executive director Travis Richards responded, unless assigned by the full board.

Several board members

questioned the inclusion of the immediate past president on the executive committee. Board member Tabby Sprunger, though, noted it can be helpful to have a historical perspective from the past president, especially if several committee members are new.

There was also discussion about why only one of the mayors was included on the executive committee. Study committee members explained it was a compromise. (Dunkirk Mayor Jack Robbins served on the special committee and Portland Mayor John Boggs on Tuesday said he would be OK with moving forward with that part of the recommendations.)

Board member Josh Atkinson also questioned why other municipalities — Pennville, Redkey,

Bryant and Salamon — are being left out.

Special committee members also provided clarification that attendance rules would include all executive committee meetings and regular board meetings.

That led to a question from Leavell regarding who is in charge of enforcing the code of conduct. All such decisions would be up to the full board.

Harkening back to objections he voiced following the local government officials' initial proposal in October, Atkinson referred to the entire process as "ridiculous" and said he finds it "idiotic" to seek to appease them.

He also expressed concern about overloading the executive committee with elected officials.

Eventually, a motion was made to approve the

changes to the bylaws, but after some discussion about procedure it was determined that plans to vote on any such changes requires advance notice. The board agreed to vote on the proposals at its next meeting.

The board also approved JCDC's 2023 budget, with Brian McGalliard abstaining, at \$266,650, down \$20,000 from last year. (The budget is typically approved in October, but the board held off at that time because the county's budget process was not yet complete. Ultimately the county cut funding to JCDC by \$20,000.)

The budget included 6% raises for JCDC employees, matching the raise given to most county employees, and moves dollars for the vacant Jay County Community Development

position to a restricted fund.

JCDC executive director Travis Richards explained that he plans to have a meeting of board members and local government officials to discuss the direction of the organization moving forward as part of a launch to a new strategic planning process. (The organization's current strategic plan runs through the end of this year.) That planning process would include the future of the JCDC position and if it will be filled.

In other business, the board:

- Was reminded by Mary Adair of Jay County Visitor and Tourism Bureau that the Jay County Fiber Arts Festival is scheduled for 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 10 and 11 at Jay Community Center.
- Appointed Cindy Bracy

and Bryan Alexander to the JCDC board. Alexander fills a seat that was not filled during last year's process while Bracy will represent Jay County Council on the board after council president Jeanne Houchins resigned from JCDC. Bracy's term runs through 2024 while Alexander's runs through 2025.

\*Heard from Jay County Chamber of Commerce executive director Tabby Sprunger that voting is open for the Jay County Community Awards at [form.jotform.com/230025403392141](http://form.jotform.com/230025403392141).

\*In regard to monthly reports, heard Keesling ask that information about requests for proposals — how many are forwarded from Indiana Economic Development Corporation and how many are responded to — be included.

# President ...

Continued from page 1

"We're often told that Democrats and Republicans can't work together. But over these past two years, we proved the cynics and the naysayers wrong," he said in the House chamber. "To my Republican friends, if we could work together in the last Congress, there is no reason we can't work together in this new Congress."

The speech also offered Biden, who turned 80 in November, an occasion to show voters and members of his own party that he is able to endure another four years.

But the public is pessimistic about the country's future and the prospect of a second Biden term. About three-quarters of U.S. adults say the country is not headed in the right direction, compared with a quarter who say things are on the right track, an Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research poll released Monday found. Just 37% of Democrats said they want

Biden to seek a second term, a notable drop from the 52% who said the same in the run-up to the midterm elections in November.

A State of the Union address "is an impossible speech to give for any president," said William Howell, an American politics professor at the University of Chicago. "It's a speech that has to politically attend to a lot of competing claims, and it comes at a time when there's acute uncertainty about the state of the world and the state of the economy."

Despite the occasional jeers, members of both parties rose to their feet as Biden urged Congress to revisit long-stalled talks on police accountability in the wake of the fatal assault of Tyre Nichols at the hands of five Memphis police officers. Biden acknowledged RowVaughn and Rodney Wells, Nichols' mother and stepfather, as he called for officers to be held accountable.

"Imagine what it's like to lose a child at the hands of the law," he

said, but added that police officers needed more resources and training.

The president renewed his plea to reinstate an assault weapons ban in the aftermath of two mass shootings in California. He honored Brandon Tsay, who disarmed the Monterey Park gunman.

"He saved lives. It's time we do the same as well," Biden said of Tsay. "Ban assault weapons once and for all."

The president also called for a cap on insulin costs for privately insured patients and urged lawmakers to close the coverage gap in GOP-led states that have refused to accept billions of dollars in federal money to expand Medicaid to more poor and middle-class people.

The majority of the president's speech focused on amplifying his economic message as he tries to ensure Americans feel the impact of his policies. The president urged Congress to pass a minimum tax on billionaires and pro-

posed guidance that would require most federal infrastructure projects to use construction materials made in the U.S.

"Reward work, not just wealth," Biden said. "Because no billionaire should pay a lower tax rate than a school teacher or a firefighter."

Biden pointed to January labor data, which showed employers added more than half a million jobs and the unemployment rate fell to the lowest level in more than half a century, as evidence that his economic plan is working.

But despite those job gains and indicators that inflation is abating, the president's approval rating remains stubbornly at 42%, largely unchanged from when he last delivered his first State of the Union a year ago (41%).

Since he took office, Biden has urged members of his party to apply lessons learned from the Obama years by effectively communicating their achievements to voters — a strategy he said his

former boss was hesitant to use after the passage of the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

But the Biden White House has also struggled to convince voters that he's delivered on his promise to make their lives easier. A Washington Post-ABC News poll released Monday found 62% of Americans say Biden has not accomplished "very much" or "little or nothing" during his first two years in office, compared with 36% who say he accomplished "a great deal" or "a good amount."

One of the biggest threats to Biden's agenda was seated behind him on the dais Tuesday night. McCarthy is locked in a standoff with Biden over the federal deficit and has refused to raise the debt limit unless the president commits to unspecified cuts on future spending. If the two leaders are unable to reach a deal, the U.S. would default on its debt, rattling financial markets and wreaking economic havoc.

## Zelenskyy hails UK support

By KITTY DONALDSON  
Bloomberg News  
Tribune News Service

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy made a surprise visit to the UK, only his second confirmed trip outside the country since the war began, as Prime Minister Rishi Sunak announced more training for Ukrainian troops and new help for fighter jet pilots.

Addressing lawmakers in English in Westminster Hall, Zelenskyy praised the UK for backing Ukraine from the very start of the war.

"London has stood with Kyiv since day one," he said. "The United Kingdom is marching with us towards the most important victory of our lifetime. ... After we win together, any aggressor, it doesn't matter, big or small, will know what awaits him if he attacks international order."

## Felony courts

Continued from page 2

As part of Aspy's plea agreement, his charge was lessened from a Level 4 felony, and the following charges were dismissed: a Level 5 felony for possession of a narcotic drug, a Level 6 felony for unlawful possession of a syringe, a Class A misdemeanor for carrying a handgun without a license, a Class B misdemeanor for possession of a narcotic drug and a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia.

Bradley Nunn, 28, 2609 E. Summerview Drive, Muncie, pleaded guilty in Jay Circuit Court to possession of methamphetamine, a Level 4 felony. He was sentenced to eight years in Indiana Department of Correction and given credit for time served. Nunn was assessed \$185 in court costs and charged a \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction fee. He was recommended for purposeful incarceration, meaning upon completion of a substance abuse treatment program, the court would consider modifying his sentence.

Joshua L. Clayman, 48, 207 High St., New Paris, Ohio, pleaded guilty in Jay Circuit Court to possession

of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony. He was sentenced to 18 months in Jay County Jail with all but 90 days suspended and given credit for time served. Clayman was placed on probation for 15 months, assessed \$185 in court costs and charged a \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction fee. As part of his plea agreement, a Level 6 felony for obstruction of justice and a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia were dismissed.

Briah D. Burnsworth, 28, 203 West South St., Bluffton, pleaded guilty in Jay Superior Court to possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony. She was sentenced to 545 days in Jay County Jail with all but 42 days suspended and given 42 days credit for time served. Burnsworth was placed on probation for 503 days, fined \$1, assessed \$185 in court costs and charged a \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction fee. She was also ordered to submit to an evaluation within 30 days of his sentencing for substance abuse counseling. As part of her plea agreement, a Level 6 felony for unlawful possession of a syringe was dismissed.

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## Capsule Reports

### Fell asleep

Damage is estimated between \$2,500 and \$5,000 after a Farmland man fell asleep at the wheel, causing the vehicle he was driving to go off U.S. 27 about 4:13 a.m. Tuesday.

Caleb M. McKinney, 18, was driving north on the highway just north of county road 700 South when he fell asleep. The 2007 Hyundai Sonata went off the west side of the road into a wooded area, according to a Jay County Sheriff's Office report.

The vehicle he was driving is registered to Christine Adkins of Muncie, and it was towed.

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SPEED BUMP

Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Big swing on a small deal

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

Declarer then collected the rest of the tricks. He cashed the A-K of trump and the K-J of clubs, then crossed to dummy with a trump and discarded both his hearts on the A-Q of clubs to finish with 10 tricks and a score of 170 points.

At the second table, the defense functioned far more efficiently. Here East played the deuce of diamonds on the king to discourage West from continuing the suit, so West shifted to the jack of hearts at trick two.

East cashed the A-Q of hearts and reverted to diamonds by returning the nine. West won with the jack, cashed the ace and continued with the seven. When dummy ruffed with the nine, East over-ruffed with the queen.

Then — as if declarer had not already suffered enough — East heartlessly returned a heart, promoting West's jack of spades into another trump trick.

So, the declarer at this table went down two — 200 points — which was four tricks and 370 points worse than his counterpart had done at the first table. It was not that South had done anything wrong — he didn't. It was simply that his opponents did everything right.

Tomorrow: A futile gesture. ©2023 King Features Syndicate Inc.

The bidding: South West North East 1♣ Pass 2♣ All Pass

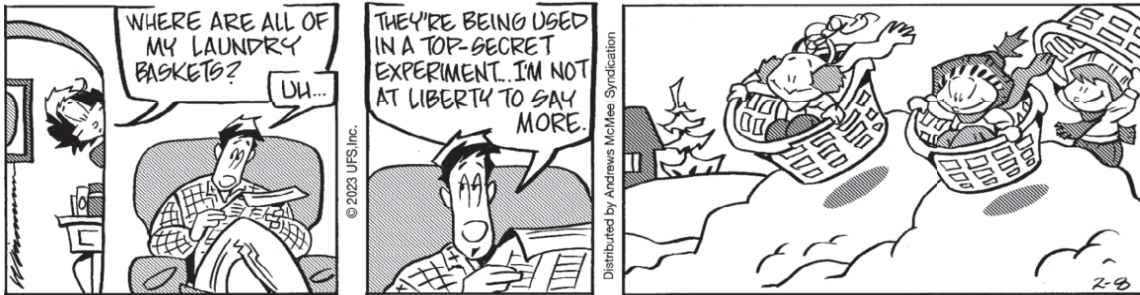
Opening lead — king of diamonds. Consider this deal from a team-of-four match. Only a partscore was involved, but even so, the hand is highly instructive.

At the first table, West led the diamond king, East signaling with the nine to indicate a doubleton. West continued with the ace and another diamond, which East ruffed. East could now have saved a trick by cashing the ace of hearts, but instead he returned a trump.

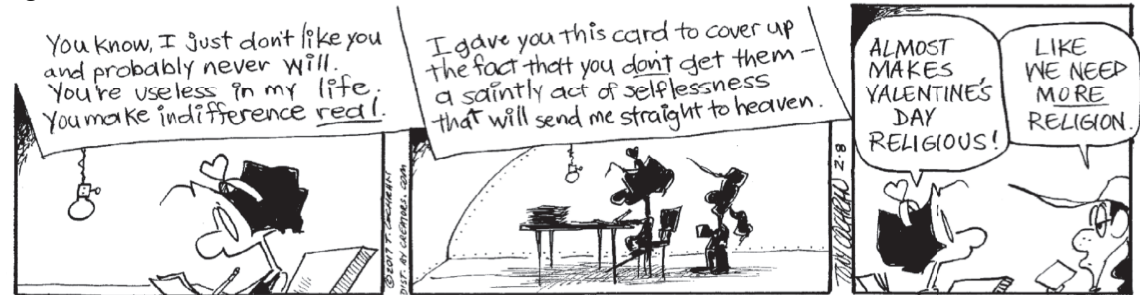
Peanuts



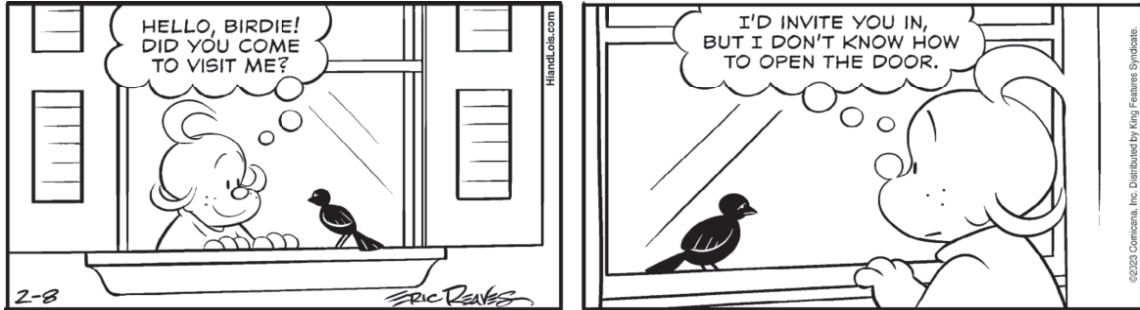
Rose is Rose



Agnes



Hi and Lois



Between Friends



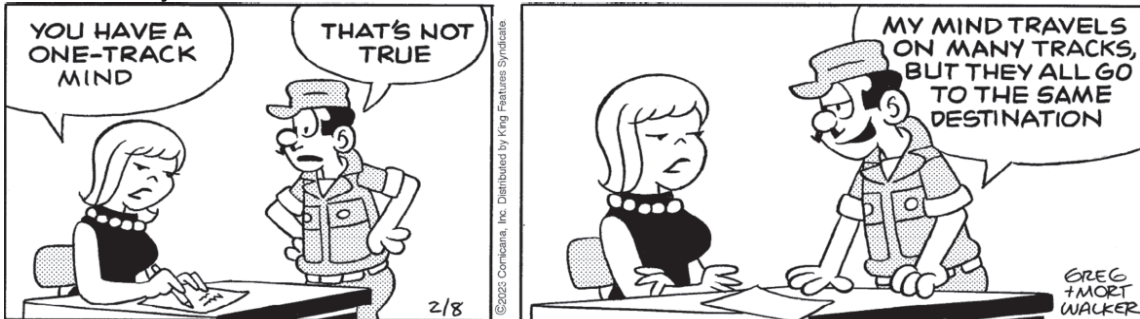
Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



CRYPTOQUIP

F J L F W D I I S G L Y F J V X
X L D B A V F W U R L S F X F A U S O L O
I S F J L A I I Y . J L O V O S ' F Z U S F
F I G L F J V X R B U A O O I Z S .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF THEY PRODUCED A SERIES OF ADS FOR BUBBLY WHITE WINE, THAT WOULD BE A CHAMPAGNE CAMPAIGN.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: I equals O

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS: 1 Rapsalions, 5 — alai, 8 Wild guess, 12 Shopper's dream, 13 Author Fleming, 14 Columbus' home, 15 Classic Billy Joel hit, 17 Antitoxins, 18 More cagey, 19 Smoothing undergarment, 21 Ancient Brit, 24 1501, in old Rome, 25 Former larva, 28 Twistable treat, 30 Wood-shaping tool, 33 Blackbird, 34 Diarist Nin, 35 Actress Long, 36 Goat's plaint, 37 Israel's Golda, 38 Sound from Big Ben, 39 "The Matrix" character, 41 Rip, 43 "Quantum Healing" author Deepak, 46 Showy parrot, 50 Vagabond, 51 Kid's keyboard, 54 "If — a Hammer", 55 World Cup cheer, 56 Sketched, 57 Apple center, 58 Rx writers, 59 Scatters seeds, 20 Med. plan options, 22 Unraveled, 23 Characteristic, 25 Grier of "The L Word", 26 Italian article, 27 Venue for cocktails and music, 29 Green land, 31 Cacophony, 32 Abrupt turn, 34 Roman god of love, 38 Plaits, 40 Lyric poem, 42 Pump up the volume, 43 Stylish, 44 Jolly laugh, 45 Teensy bit, 47 LBJ biographer Robert, 48 Fresh, 49 Amazes, 52 Vintage, 53 Thumbs-up.

Solution time: 23 mins.

Crossword grid with letters filled in.

Yesterday's answer 2-8

Crossword grid with numbers indicating starting positions.

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# Record ...

Continued from page 8

While the record chase was plenty of entertainment for the sellout crowd on hand — many of whom shelled out extra hundreds and even thousands on the secondary market for a chance to witness history — the backdrop of the 133-130 loss was a blow for the Lakers' diminishing chances to make the postseason. James made just one basket in the fourth quarter, finishing with 38 points — his team scored just 28 points in the final frame after scoring more than 30 in each of the previous three. And their 133 points allowed to the 12th-place Thunder was one of their worst defensive games of the season.

The Lakers (25-30) have only 27 games remaining and are still in 13th place in the Western Conference, and with a looming trade deadline Thursday afternoon, the team could be retrofitted before its next game against Milwaukee. One of the Lakers in incessant trade rumors, Russell Westbrook, scored 27 points, had eight assists and six turnovers in what could be his final game as a Laker, a turbulent year-and-a-half.

"The guys, they wanted to see Bron do what he did tonight," Coach Darvin Ham said. "And I think the focus was about LeBron getting to the record rather than play actual basketball. ... It sucks that we didn't get the win on a night like this. ... I'm happy that Bron was able to accomplish what he was able to accomplish, and now we can move on."

The night got off to an inauspicious start for the record-watchers: James missed his first two attempts from the field, a floater and a step-back jumper. Three of his teammates had scored before he got on the board at the 7:03 mark, with a step-back 3-pointer from the corner.

But he kicked into gear soon after, and his intent was clear by early in the second quarter, when he made and-one baskets on back-to-back possessions.



Tribune News Service/Pasadena Star-News/Keith Birmingham

LeBron James of the Los Angeles Lakers celebrates after breaking Hall of Fame and former Los Angeles Lakers Kareem Abdul Jabbar's scoring record (38,387 points) in the second half Tuesday against Oklahoma City Thunder at the Crypto.com Arena in Los Angeles.

A TNT microphone caught James talking to Bronny, his oldest son who is wrapping his senior year at Chatsworth's Sierra Canyon High, at half-time: "Go ahead and get it?" the elder LeBron asked.

"Go ahead," his son said. James — who already held the NBA record for career postseason points (7,631) — got within single digits of the regular-season mark midway through the third quarter with back-to-back 3-pointers, one of the parts of his game that has been more hit-or-miss this season.

The record continued to run down as the Lakers unlocked their transition game — he

scored his next three baskets on layups, whittling the chase to two points. A scoreboard high above the crowd counted off the points remaining that he needed to pass the record in all capital letters.

"He gave the people what they wanted in true LeBron fashion," Ham said. "The biggest thing is to try to congratulate him. We love him."

Abdul-Jabbar watched his nearly 40-year stewardship of the scoring record wane from a baseline seat near the Lakers' bench. Abdul-Jabbar, who has always shied from the public eye, wore a black letterman's jacket with his No. 33 and his

nickname "Captain" on the right breast.

"I know what Kareem meant to this league," Ham said. "He was one of the pillars that built this league."

James also dressed for the occasion, donning a white headband. It was striking since James has largely eschewed headbands in recent years — but he wore a red one in his first NBA game in 2003.

Former Lakers and NBA veterans were everywhere: James Worthy, Dwyane Wade, Michael Cooper, Bob McAdoo, A.C. Green and Richard Jefferson. A number of VIPs from the Grammy Awards, held two nights ear-

lier in the same building, came back for the game: Jay-Z, Bad Bunny, Usher and LL Cool J. James' immediate family — his wife Savannah, his children Bronny, Bryce and Zhuri and his mother Gloria — sat courtside, and so did other key figures in James' life, like Nike founder Phil Knight, business partner Maverick Carter and agent Rich Paul.

Several congratulatory videos played in the arena, and while the well-wishers included President Joe Biden, they also included pre-recorded messages from James' family members, who had joined him on the court to celebrate the moment.

## Sports on tap

### Local schedule

**Thursday**  
Jay County — Junior high boys swimming at Norwell Invitational — 5 p.m.

Fort Recovery — Girls basketball at New Knoxville — 6 p.m.; Eighth grade boys basketball in Midwest Athletic Conference Tournament at New Knoxville — 6 p.m.; Seventh grade boys basketball in Midwest Athletic Conference Tournament at Coldwater — 5 p.m.

### TV sports

**Today**  
6:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Nebraska at Michigan (BTN);

Creighton at Seton Hall (FS1)  
7:30 p.m. — NBA basketball: Philadelphia 76ers at Boston Celtics (ESPN); Indiana Pacers at Miami Heat (Bally Indiana)

8:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: DePaul at Villanova (FS1); Wisconsin at Penn State (BTN)

8:30 p.m. — NHL hockey: Minnesota Wild at Dallas Stars (TNT)  
10 p.m. — NBA basketball: Dallas Mavericks at Los Angeles Clippers (ESPN)

**Thursday**  
6:30 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Iowa at Indiana (FS1)  
7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Iowa at Purdue (ESPN2)

7 p.m. — NHL hockey: Colorado Avalanche at Tampa Bay Lightning (ESPN)  
7:30 p.m. — NBA basketball: Chicago Bulls at Brooklyn Nets (TNT)

8 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Northwestern at Ohio State (FS1)  
8:30 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Maryland at Northwestern

(BTN)  
9:30 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Stanford at Arizona (ESPN)  
10 p.m. — NBA basketball: Milwaukee Bucks at Los Angeles Lakers (TNT)  
10 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Arizona State at Stanford (FS1)  
11 p.m. — Men's college basketball: USA at Oregon (ESPN2)

**Friday**  
6 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Kent State at Buffalo (ESPN2)

7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Xavier at Butler (FS1)  
7 p.m. — NBA basketball: Phoenix Suns at Indiana Pacers (Bally Indiana)  
7:30 p.m. — NBA basketball: Charlotte Hornets at Boston Celtics (ESPN)  
9 p.m. — Men's college basketball: New Mexico at Air Force (FS1)  
10 p.m. — NBA basketball: Cleveland Cavaliers at New Orleans Pelicans (ESPN)  
11 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Fresno State at Nevada (FS1)

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### 90 SALE CALENDAR

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# Sports

## Snow 13th at regional

FISHERS — Maddy Snow beat both of the divers who finished in front of her in the sectional.

It wasn't quite enough to get her through to the finals.

Snow, a Jay County High School sophomore, saw her season come to an end Tuesday as she finished 13th in the regional diving meet at Hamilton Southeastern.

The top eight competitors from each regional advance to Saturday's state finals.

Snow finished with 214.35 points, finishing 0.95 points ahead of sectional champion Grier Backus of Delta. Ava West of Delta, who finished second ahead of Snow in the sectional, was 17th at 189.15.

The effort was a big step forward for Snow, who was the last diver cut as the field was trimmed from 20 to 12 after the semifinals (eight dives). Her score was 36.3 points higher than in the regional tournament last season at Homestead.

Amelia Rinehart, who placed fourth in the state last season, ran away with the regional title as she scored 471.65 points for 11 dives. Joining her as state qualifiers were Gretchen Osmun (397.1) of Fishers, Melaina Munson of Carmel, Eryn McMahon of Noblesville, Ella Penny of Hamilton Southeastern, Grace Whitfield of Zionsville, Abby Sneed of Oak Hill and Elizabeth Murotani of Homestead.

### Three honored

Jay County High School had three players named to the All-Allen County Athletic Conference Team, with seniors Renna Schwieterman and Gabi Bilbrey named to the first team and junior Sophie Saxman to the second team.

Schwieterman, who finished her career as the No. 2 scorer in conference history behind 1998 Bluffton graduate Abby

### Jay County roundup

Salscheider (1,917 points) with 1,754 points, averaged 21.2 points, 6.5 rebounds, 3.3 steals and 2.5 assists per game this season. Bilbrey had averages of 13.3 points and 7.6 rebounds for the Patriots (23-2, 6-0 ACAC), who swept their way to the conference regular-season and tournament titles.

Joining Schwieterman and Bilbrey on the first team were Avah Smith and Taylor Kneubuhler of Woodlan, Macy Pries of South Adams and Claire Bickel of Heritage.

Saxman finished the year at 6.4 points, 5.3 rebounds, 2.3 assists and 2.3 steals per game.

### JH girls fourth

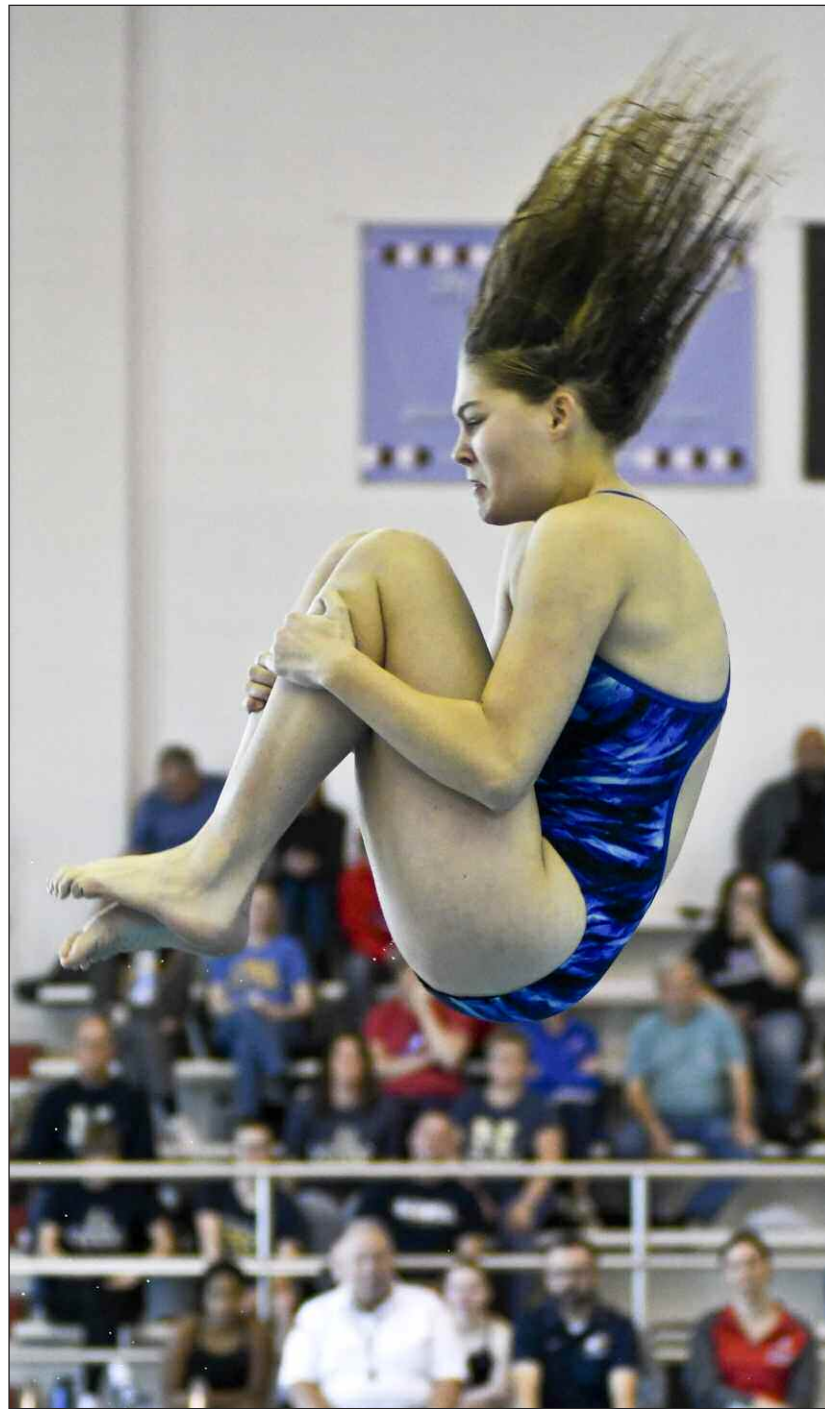
OSSIAN — The Jay County junior high swim team placed fourth with 211 points Tuesday in the eight-team Norwell Invitational.

The Patriots were 19 points ahead of fifth-place Belmont. Indian Springs (466) won ahead of the host Knights (449) and Bluffton (437).

Jay County had its best success in the long-distance events, with Elly Byrum second in the 200-yard freestyle in 2 minutes, 26.35 seconds, and Gabby Gibson following in fourth place. Kaitlyn Fisher was second in the 400 freestyle at 5:24.36.

Other top-four finishes came from Ariel Beiswanger (third — 100 freestyle, fourth — 50 freestyle), Kali Wendel (fourth — 100 backstroke) and Fisher (fourth — 100 individual medley).

Byrum, Fisher, Gibson and Beiswanger also teamed to place third in the 300 freestyle.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Jay County High School sophomore Maddy Snow spins above the pool during a dive at Saturday's sectional meet. Snow's season came to an end Tuesday as she finished 13th in the diving regional at Hamilton Southeastern.

## James breaks career record

By KYLE GOON

The Orange County Register Tribune News Service

LOS ANGELES — Pass first? Not this night.

Not with nearly 20,000 eyes watching him in a packed, breathless Crypto.com Arena, and millions more watching at home. They wanted LeBron James to shoot — clapped their hands and raised their voices. A roar erupted every time James touched the ball.

So James — the 18-year-old who stormed into the NBA in 2003 and smashed every expectation put in his path for 20 years — gave them what they wanted.

With 10.9 seconds left in the third quarter, after a rampage on the rim that had made the anticipation skyrocket, James bumped Oklahoma City's Kenrich Williams with his right hip, then spun around into a turnaround fadeaway jumper — one of his signature shots — for his 12th field goal, his 36th point and into a place in NBA history no man has ever gone before.

James is now the NBA's all-time leading regular-season scorer, a place in the record books it seemed inevitable that he would occupy for years now — even though the Akron native has so often been lauded for his passing in addition to his ability to get the ball in the bucket.

Twenty years and 1,410 games of his NBA career seemed to suddenly weigh down on James' shoulders. After briefly running back toward the Lakers' bench with his arms raised, James put his hands on his knees and began to weep. The tears flowed as his well-wishers came to greet him — including the woman who has been there from the beginning, his mother Gloria James.

The fastest man to every thousand-point plateau became the first NBA player to score 38,388 — a staggering figure, but one made all the more special by the man who had scored 38,387 and held the record for nearly 40 years, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar.

A prearranged timeout was called, and the 75-year-old Abdul-Jabbar took halfcourt to meet James and NBA commissioner Adam Silver. Silver officially declared James the NBA's all-time leading scorer — but it felt somehow more official when Abdul-Jabbar raised a ceremonial basketball into the air, then turned to hand it to James. The two men, who have sometimes had a rocky relationship, shook hands and embraced.

"I thank you guys so much for allowing me to be a part of something I've always dreamed about," James said while addressing the crowd. See Record page 7

## Indians top host Bulldogs

CELINA, Ohio — The Indians won just twice in their first 14 games.

In their last six, they have four victories.

Fort Recovery High School's girls basketball team continued its strong run against non-conference foes, defeating the Celina Bulldogs 36-28 Tuesday night.

The Indians have won four in a row against non-conference rivals, topping Franklin Monroe 40-34, Indian Lake 51-45, Troy Christian 50-25 and Celina.

FRHS (6-14) trailed by four after the opening quarter but outscored the Bulldogs in each of the final three quarters. It had 11 points apiece in the third and fourth en route to the win.

Cali Wendel's 17 points led the way for the Indians, 15 of those coming in the second half. She hit three 3-pointers.

Karlie Niekamp added six points and Maddie Guggenbiller scored five.

The Indians close the regular season Thursday

### FRHS roundup

at New Knoxville. They will then play Coldwater in the opening round of the sectional tournament at 6 p.m. Feb. 15.

### Freshman boys roll

CELINA, Ohio — The Fort Recovery freshman boys basketball team dominated the first three quarters and cruised to a 48-34 victory over the Celina Bulldogs.

The Indians led by four after the opening quarter and outscored Celina 16-6 in the second. A 15-8 advantage in the third period gave them a 23-point lead.

Alex Gaerke's 10 points led the way for Fort Recovery. Douglas Bihn added eight points, and Colson Post and Dylan Klenke added seven points apiece.

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