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MONDAY, JULY 22, 2024

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**Saturday at the lake**

Kunkel Lake at Ouabache State Park was a popular place for water activities over the weekend. There were kayaks and paddle boats in the water, people sunning on the beach fishing from the banks. (Photo by Barbara Barbieri)

## Court denies trial postponement in fifth conference

By SYDNEY KENT

The Wells Circuit Court denied a continuance for a Montpelier man facing felony-level charges for child molesting and child exploitation on Wednesday.



**Joshua Daniel Huffman**

Joshua Daniel Huffman, 42, is charged with two count of child molesting, both Level 1 felonies, two counts of child molesting, both Level 4 felonies, one count of child exploitation and one count of possession of child pornography, both Level 5 felonies.

During his fifth pretrial conference in the matter, Huffman's public defender, Patrick Miller, requested another continuance. Similar to prior hearings, Miller explained that Huffman is facing similar charges in Blackford County. His family is reportedly in the process of hiring a private attorney.

Judge Kenton Kiracofe denied the request, noting that the case has been pending since September.

"This is the fifth pretrial conference," Kiracofe stated. "I think, from my notes, the state believed three days (for trial) is necessary?"

Prosecutor Jeffrey Steinburg confirmed that three days would be sufficient for the charges involved and the number of witnesses that are needed to testify.

Huffman is scheduled for a trial in the matter from Oct. 15-17 in the Wells Circuit Court.

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## What to know about Kids Online Safety Act and chances of passing

By BARBARA ORTUTAY  
AP Technology Writer

The last time Congress passed a law to protect children on the internet was in 1998 — before Facebook, before the iPhone and long before today's oldest teenagers were born. Now, a bill aiming to protect kids from the harms of social media, gaming sites and other online platforms appears to have enough bipartisan support to pass, though whether it actually will remains uncertain.

Supporters, however, hope it will come to a vote later this month.

Proponents of the Kids Online Safety Act include parents' groups and children's advocacy organizations as well as companies like Microsoft, X and Snap. They say the bill is a necessary first step in regulating tech companies and requiring them to protect children from dangerous online content and take responsibility for the harm their platforms can cause.

Opponents, however, fear KOSA would violate the First Amendment and harm vulner-

able kids who wouldn't be able to access information on LGBTQ issues or reproductive rights — although the bill has been revised to address many of those concerns, and major LGBTQ groups have decided to support of the proposed legislation.

Here is what to know about KOSA and the likelihood of it going into effect.

### What would KOSA do?

If passed, KOSA would create a "duty of care" — a legal term that requires companies to take reasonable steps to prevent harm — for online platforms minors will likely use.

They would have to "prevent and mitigate" harms to children, including bullying and violence, the promotion of suicide, eating disorders, substance abuse, sexual exploitation and advertisements for illegal products such as narcotics, tobacco or alcohol.

Social media platforms would also have to provide minors with options to protect their information, disable addictive product

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**Tree across the Wabash**

Navigating the Wabash River between Bluffton and the White Bridge has been presenting a challenge for the canoe and paddle boaters as a large tree has crashed across the entire river. (Photo by Barbara Barbieri)

## Biden drops out of 2024 race after inflamed age concerns

By ZEKE MILLER,  
COLLEEN LONG  
and DARLENE SUPERVILLE  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Joe Biden dropped out of the 2024 race for the White House on Sunday, ending his bid for reelection after a disastrous debate with Donald Trump that raised doubts about the incumbent's fitness for office. The unprecedented announcement, delivered less than four months before the election,

immediately upended a campaign that both political parties view as the most consequential in generations.

The president — intent on serving out the remainder of his term in office — quickly endorsed Vice President Kamala Harris to take on Trump and encouraged his party to unite behind her, making her the party's instant favorite for the nomination at its August convention in Chicago.

The announcement is the latest

jolt to a tumultuous campaign for the White House, coming a week after the attempted assassination of Trump at a Pennsylvania rally.

A party's presumptive presidential nominee has never stepped out of the race so close to the election. President Lyndon Johnson, besieged by the Vietnam War, announced in March 1968 that he would not seek another term after just a single state's primary. Biden's July decision comes after more than 14 million Democrats

cast votes supporting him through the primary process.

Harris, in a statement, praised Biden's "selfless and patriotic act" and said she intends to "earn and win" her party's nomination.

"I will do everything in my power to unite the Democratic Party — and unite our nation — to defeat Donald Trump and his extreme Project 2025 agenda," she said.

Biden's decision to bow out came after escalating pressure

from his Democratic allies to step aside following the June 27 debate, in which the 81-year-old president trailed off, often gave nonsensical answers and failed to call out the former president's many falsehoods.

"It has been the greatest honor of my life to serve as your President. And while it has been my intention to seek reelection, I believe it is in the best interest of my party and the country for me

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**Outside**



**Small chance of showers and storms this week**

Today	Tuesday	Wed.
High 81	High 83	High 82
Low 64	Low 65	Low 63

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## Kinds Online Safety Act

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features, and opt out of personalized algorithmic recommendations. They would also be required to limit other users from communicating with children and limit features that “increase, sustain, or extend the use” of the platform — such as autoplay for videos or platform rewards. In general, online platforms would have to default to the safest settings possible for accounts it believes belong to minors.

“So many of the harms that young people experience online and on social media are the result of deliberate design choices that these companies make,” said Josh Golin, executive director of Fairplay, a nonprofit working to insulate children from commercialization, marketing and harms from Big Tech.

### How would it be enforced?

An earlier version of the bill empowered state attorneys general to enforce KOSA’s “duty of care” provision but after concerns from LGBTQ groups and others who worried they could use this to censor information about LGBTQ or reproductive issues. In the updated version, state attorneys general can still enforce other provisions but not the “duty of care” standard.

Broader enforcement would fall to the Federal Trade Commission, which would have oversight over what types of content is “harmful” to children.

### Who supports it?

KOSA is supported a broad range of nonprofits, tech accountability and parent groups and pediatri-

cians such as the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Federation of Teachers, Common Sense Media, Fairplay, The Real Facebook Oversight Board and the NAACP. Some prominent tech companies, including Microsoft, X and Snap, have also signed on. Meta Platforms, which owns Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp, has not come out in firm support or opposition of the bill, although it has said in the past that it supports the regulation of social media.

ParentSOS, a group of some 20 parents who have lost children to harm caused by social media, has also been campaigning for the bill’s passage. One of those parents is Julienne Anderson, whose 17-year-old daughter died in 2022 after purchasing tainted drugs through Instagram.

“We should not bear the entire responsibility of keeping our children safe online,” she said. “Every other industry has been regulated. And I’m sure you’ve heard this all the time. From toys to movies to music to cars to everything. We have regulations in place to keep our children safe. And this, this is a product that they have created and distributed and yet over all these years, since the ‘90s, there hasn’t been any legislation regulating the industry.”

KOSA was introduced in 2022 by Senators Richard Blumenthal, D-Conn., and Marsha Blackburn, R-Tenn. It currently has 68 cosponsors in the Senate, from across the political spectrum, which would be enough to pass if it were

brought to a vote.

### Who opposes it?

The ACLU, the Electronic Frontier Foundation and other groups supporting free speech are concerned it would violate the First Amendment. Even with the revisions that stripped state attorneys general from enforcing its duty of care provision, EFF calls it a “dangerous and unconstitutional censorship bill that would empower state officials to target services and online content they do not like.”

Kate Ruane, director of the Free Expression Project at the nonprofit Center for Democracy and Technology, said she remains concerned that the bill’s care of duty provision can be “misused by politically motivated actors to target marginalized communities like the LGBTQ population and just politically divisive information generally,” to try to suppress information because someone believes it is harmful to kids’ mental health.

She added that while these worries remain, there has been progress in reducing concerns.

The bigger issue, though, she added, is that platforms don’t want to get sued for showing minors content that could be “politically divisive,” so to make sure this doesn’t happen they could suppress such topics — about abortion or transgender healthcare or even the wars in Gaza or Ukraine.

Sen. Rand Paul, R-K.Y., has also expressed opposition to the bill. Paul said the bill “could prevent kids from watching PGA golf or the Super Bowl on social media

because of gambling and beer ads, those kids could just turn on the TV and see those exact same ads.”

He added he has “tried to work with the authors to fix the bill’s many deficiencies. If the authors are not interested in compromise, Senator (Chuck) Schumer can bring the bill to the floor, as he could have done from the beginning.”

### Will it pass Congress?

Golin said he is “very hopeful” that the bill will come to a vote in July.

“The reason it has it has not come to a vote yet is that passing legislation is really hard, particularly when you’re trying to regulate one of the, if not the most powerful industry in the world,” he said. “We are outspent.”

Golin added he thinks there’s a “really good chance” and he remains very hopeful that it will get passed.

Senate Majority Leader Schumer, D-N.Y., who has come out in support of KOSA, would have to bring it to a vote.

Schumer has backed the legislation but has not yet set aside floor time to pass it. Because there are objections to the legislation, it would take a week or more of procedural votes before a final vote.

He said on the floor last week that passing the bill is a “top priority” but that it had not yet moved because of the objections.

“Sadly, a few of our colleagues continue to block these bills without offering any constructive ideas for how to revise the text,” he said. “So now we must look ahead, and all options are on the table.”

## Weather

Monday, July 22, 2024

(24-hour observations at 10:30 p.m. Sunday at the Fort Wayne International Airport)

**High:** 80; **Low:** 61; **Precipitation:** None  
**Wabash River Level** (at the Main Street bridge): 1.32 feet at 8:45 p.m. Sunday

### Wells County forecast

**Today:** A 20% of showers and thunderstorms after 2 p.m. Partly sunny, with a high near 81. Calm wind.

**Tonight:** A 10% of showers and thunderstorms before 8 p.m. Partly cloudy, with a low around 64. Calm wind.

**Tuesday:** A 20% of showers and thunderstorms after 2 p.m. Mostly sunny, with a high near 83. Calm wind becoming west around 5 mph.

**Tuesday Night:** A 10% of showers and thunderstorms before 8 p.m. Partly cloudy, with a low around 65. Calm wind.

**Wednesday:** Showers and thunderstorms likely, mainly after 2 p.m. Mostly sunny, with a high near 82. Chance of precipitation is 60%. New rainfall amounts between a tenth and quarter of an inch, except higher amounts possible in thunderstorms.

**Wednesday Night:** Showers and thunderstorms likely, mainly before 8 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 63. Chance of precipitation is 60%.

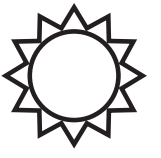
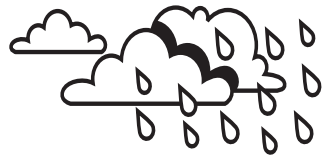
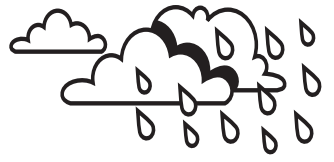
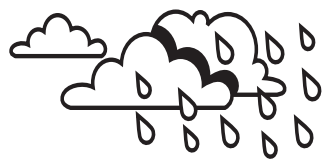
**Thursday:** A 20% chance of showers and thunderstorms before 2 p.m. Mostly sunny, with a high near 79.

**Thursday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 60.

**Friday:** Sunny, with a high near 80.

**Friday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 59.

**Saturday:** Sunny, with a high near 83.



## Ernest Hemingway fans celebrate the author’s 125th birthday in his beloved Key West

By DAVID FISCHER  
The Associated Press

KEY WEST, Fla. (AP) — Ernest Hemingway spent the 1930s in Key West, Florida, and more than six decades after his death, fans, scholars and relatives continue to congregate on the island city to celebrate the author’s award-winning novels and adventure-filled life.

Hemingway Days started in 1981 with a short-story competition and a look-alike contest. This year’s celebration concluded Sunday on the 125th anniversary of Hemingway’s birth on July 21, 1899.

As a novelist, short-story writer and journalist, Hemingway’s spot in the pantheon of American literature is undeniable and his legacy permeates the culture and character of Key West.

Hemingway’s great-grandson, Stephen Hemingway Adams, was born nearly three decades after Hemingway died. Adams said working with his grandfather, Patrick Hemingway, who was Ernest Hemingway’s second son, helped him gain a deeper understanding of his famous ancestor.

“I got to work with my granddad, and we put out a book called ‘Dear Papa,’ which was all of the letters between Ernest and my grandfather,” Adams said.

The difference between the public perception and the documented reality of Hemingway can be fuzzy. He loved big-game fishing in the Caribbean and hunting in Africa. He loved bullfighting, baseball, boxing and barhopping. But he also was a serious artist who won Pulitzer and Nobel prizes. He put so much of his life experiences into his writing that it can be tricky to separate the man from the myth.

Adams said he’s fine with some people loving the adventurer more than the writer.

“I think it’s a split, and I think that’s what’s fun,” Adams said of the throngs of look-alikes who visit Key West every year.

The Key West that Hemingway first visited in 1928 was a rustic fishing village, not a bustling tourist destination. Hemingway and his second wife, Pauline, had only planned a brief stop to pick up a car during their move from Paris to Arkansas, where Pauline’s family lived. But the car wasn’t ready and they had to wait several weeks.

Hemingway quickly made friends with local business owners and fishermen. The couple made frequent visits to the island, and Pauline’s uncle eventually bought the couple a French Colonial home on a 1.5-acre lot in 1931.

After spending most of his 20s in Paris, Hemingway embraced the vastly

different island lifestyle, according to Cori Convertito, a curator at Key West Museum of Art & History at the Custom House.

“He doesn’t come here to act like a recluse and just write,” Convertito said. “He’s out at the bars all the time. He’s out fishing with people. He’s interacting in boxing matches.”

Convertito pointed out that Hemingway was in his 30s for most of the time he lived in Key West, not the white-bearded “Papa Hemingway” most look-alike contestants emulate. “A Farewell to Arms” was finished shortly after he began visiting Key West and that book’s reception, along with his coverage of the Spanish Civil War in the late 1930s, increased his fame.

Much of Hemingway’s time in Key West was devoted to big-game fishing with friends. Convertito said Hemingway began to pioneer new techniques after getting his own boat, the Pilar, in 1934.

“He was desperate to land a fully intact marlin,” Convertito said.

The slow process of reeling in a trophy fish left them vulnerable to sharks, similar to the giant marlin caught in Hemingway’s 1952 novel, “The Old Man and the Sea.”

Hemingway focused on catching fish and removing them from the water quickly. He was an early member of the International Game Fish Association and named a vice president in 1940.

He also became an advocate for the Florida Keys and the people who lived there. “To Have and Have Not,” which was published in 1937, is set in a Key West ravaged by the Great Depression.

Hemingway was a vocal critic of how the federal government responded to the 1935 Labor Day hurricane. The official death toll was 423, but more than 250 of the fatalities were World War I veterans hired through a federal jobs program to build the Overseas Highway, which connects the Florida Keys to mainland Florida.

Hemingway drove an ambulance during World War I and felt a particular kinship with the veterans. Corey Malcom, a historian with the Florida Keys History Center, said Hemingway joined the recovery efforts and used his own boat to pull bodies out of the ocean.

Michael Morawski, CEO of the Hemingway Home & Museum, credits his great-aunt, Bernice Dixon, as one of the first people to help preserve Hemingway’s legacy in Key West. The local jewelry store owner bought the house for \$80,000 in 1961, shortly after Hemingway’s death. The home

became a museum in 1964 and eventually was designated a National Historic Landmark.

“The only reason that she did it was to create a living memorial to Ernest Hemingway,” Morawski said.

Besides the historical and literary significance of the home, the museum also is famous for housing the Hemingway cats. About 60 polydactyl cats with a genetic mutation for extra toes continue to live at the estate. Some of these cats are descendants of the original white, six-toed cat that Hemingway was gifted from a ship’s captain.

The Hemingway Days festival started as a promotional stunt for Sloppy Joe’s Bar, one of Hemingway’s favorite hangouts. Michael Whalton was working as a manager at the bar in 1980 when he read about a Bad Hemingway Contest, where writers parodied Hemingway’s sparse, blunt style.

Whalton decided a look-alike contest and other activities around Hemingway’s July birthday might be a great way to attract customers during the island’s slow season, when hot and humid weather scares many tourists away.

“I really didn’t know what to expect,” Whalton said. “I was getting nervous because we didn’t have anybody signed up for the look-alike contest, so I called everybody I knew in Key West who had a beard.”

The turnout was better than expected. The author’s younger brother, Leicester Hemingway, contacted Whalton and agreed to judge the look-alike contest with his wife and daughters. Whalton convinced another granddaughter of Ernest Hemingway, Lorian Hemingway, to judge a short story contest.

David Douglas, president of the Hemingway Look-Alike Society, began attending the competition in 2000 and won in 2009. The 70-year-old Houston resident continues to return every year as a judge.

“I love the contest, I love the camaraderie all the contestants,” Douglas said.

David “Bat” Masterson, of Daytona Beach, became the newest “Papa” on Saturday. The retired pilot beat out 121 others in this year’s look-alike contest.

The look-alike group has evolved over the years into a service organization with hundreds of members around the world that has funded more than \$350,000 in scholarships for Florida Keys students. The organization also sponsors a youth baseball team in Cuba, where Hemingway moved after leaving Florida.

## Trial postponement

(Continued from Page 1)

“If you’re attempting to hire your own counsel, it is imperative you do so sooner rather than later,” Kiracofe concluded. “The closer we get to the trial date, the less likely I am to grant you a continuance because of a new attorney in the case.”

According to a probable cause affidavit, between May 2021 and September 2023, Huffman is alleged to have repeatedly molested two minors who were children of the woman he was dating. Both victims reportedly disclosed that Huffman

would threaten them if they wouldn’t comply with various forced sexual acts. One child told police that Huffman made them believe their mother owed him money.

Several months later in Blackford County, Huffman was charged with two counts of child molesting, both Level 1 felonies, and two counts of child molesting, both Level 4 felonies.

Both cases involve the same victims. A final pre-trial conference is scheduled at 1 p.m. on Sept. 11 in the Wells Circuit Court.

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OBITUARIES

William “Bill” R. Heign, 87



William “Bill” R. Heign, 87, of Bluffton, passed away Saturday evening, July 20, 2024, at Ossian Health and Rehabilitation Center.

Bill was born in Kendallville on Mar. 3, 1937, to Paul and Evelyn (Smith) Heign. Both parents preceded him in death, along with his stepmother, Mildred Heign. Bill married Patricia “Pat” A. Schisler in Fort Wayne on June 8, 1968; she survives.

A 1955 graduate of Kendallville High School, Bill went on to serve in the United States Army for two years. He retired from International Harvester in Fort Wayne after 34 years of service as an electrical engineer.

Bill was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Bluffton and was an avid IU basketball and Bobby Knight fan. Above all else, he loved his family, and especially enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Aiden Andrew Nunley, 19

Aiden Andrew Nunley, 19, of Bluffton, passed away early Friday morning, July 19, 2024, as a result of an automotive accident.

In addition to his wife, Bill is survived by two daughters, Stacie (Brian) Randol and Marcie Walburn, both of Markle; seven grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren; along with a sister, Beverly Stonebraker of Kendallville.

Aside from his parents and stepmother, Bill was preceded in death by his son, Todd William Heign in 1987, and a sister, Nancy Kohlhoff.

Per Bill’s wishes, private family services will be held at Elm Grove Cemetery in Bluffton. Goodwin – Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel in Bluffton has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Memorial donations in Bill’s memory may be made to the organization of the donor’s choice and mailed to Goodwin – Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel, 3220 East State Road 124, Bluffton, IN 46714.

Online condolences may be made at [www.goodwincaleharnish.com](http://www.goodwincaleharnish.com).

Funeral arrangements are pending at this time with the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton.

Biden drops out

(Continued from Page 1)

to stand down and to focus solely on fulfilling my duties as President for the remainder of my term,” Biden wrote in a letter posted Sunday to his X account.

Nearly 30 minutes after he delivered the news that he was folding his campaign, Biden threw his support behind Harris.

“Today I want to offer my full support and endorsement for Kamala to be the nominee of our party this year,” he said in another post on X. “Democrats — it’s time to come together and beat Trump.”

Harris faces a staggering political to-do list in the coming days: securing the votes of delegates to claim her party’s nomination, picking a running mate, and pivoting a massive political operation that had been built to reelect Biden to boost her candidacy instead.

There were early signs that the party was moving to coalesce around Harris, who scored the endorsements of the Congressional Black Caucus and former President Bill Clinton and former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton even before she had commented on Biden’s decision to quit the race. But notably, former President Barack Obama held off, pledging support behind the eventual party nominee.

“We are honored to join the President in endorsing Vice President Harris and will do whatever we can to support her,” the Clintons said in a statement.

But Obama, who had privately shared doubts about Biden’s reelection chances, stopped short of endorsing Harris even as he praised Biden for his decision to leave the race.

“I have extraordinary confidence that the leaders of our party will be able to create a process from which an outstanding nominee emerges,” he said in a statement.

Biden’s decision came as he has been isolating at his Delaware beach house after being diagnosed with COVID-19 last week, huddling with a shrinking circle of close confidants and family members about his political future. Biden said he would address the nation later this week to provide “detail” about his decision.

Harris found out about Biden’s plans on Sunday morning and senior campaign and White House staff were notified just minutes before the letter went out, according to people familiar with the matter who commented on the private discussions on condition of anonymity. Biden had been reflecting on his future for the past couple days and the decision was closely held.

Now, Democrats have to urgently try to bring coherence to the nominating process in a matter of weeks and convince voters in a stunningly short amount of time that their nominee can handle the job and beat Trump. And for his part, Trump must shift his focus to a new opponent after years of training his attention on Biden.

The decision marks a swift and stunning end to Biden’s 52 years in electoral politics, as donors, lawmak-

ers and even aides expressed to him their doubts that he could convince voters that he could plausibly handle the job for another four years.

Biden won the vast majority of delegates and every nominating contest but one, which would have made his nomination a formality. Now that he has dropped out, those delegates will be free to support another candidate.

Harris, 59, appeared to be the natural successor, in large part because she is the only candidate who can directly tap into the Biden campaign’s war chest, according to federal campaign finance rules.

Biden’s campaign formally changed its name to Harris for President, reflecting that she is inheriting his political operation — a sign of the advantage she has in the race for the Democratic nomination. Democratic groups, including the Democratic National Committee, also filed paperwork changing the names of their joint fundraising committees to reflect Harris’ candidacy.

The Democratic National Convention is scheduled to be held Aug. 19-22 in Chicago, but the party had announced it would hold a virtual roll call to formally nominate Biden before in-person proceedings begin.

It remained to be seen whether other candidates would challenge Harris for the nomination. California Gov. Gavin Newsom, who had been discussed as a possible replacement for Biden last year, and Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg, who challenged both Biden and Harris for the Democratic nomination in 2020, threw their support behind her Sunday.

The Democratic National Committee’s chair, Jaime Harrison, said in a statement that the party would “undertake a transparent and orderly process” to select “a candidate who can defeat Donald Trump in November.”

West Virginia Sen. Joe Manchin, who left the Democratic Party earlier this year to become an independent, is considering re-registering as a Democrat to vie for the nomination against the vice president, according to Jonathan Kott, a longtime adviser to Manchin.

Harris was spending Sunday afternoon calling Democratic elected officials and

delegates as she works to lock up the nomination.

Harris received her first delegates for the Democratic presidential nomination on Sunday. The Tennessee Democratic Party posted on X that its delegation voted during a meeting Sunday to back Harris after Biden’s departure from the campaign.

Pennsylvania Gov. Josh Shapiro, North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper and Arizona Sen. Mark Kelly — each from a swing state and mentioned as a possible running mate for Harris — also endorsed Harris Sunday evening.

Trump reacted to the news in a post on his Truth Social site, in which he said Biden “was not fit to run for President, and is certainly not fit to serve.”

“We will suffer greatly because of his presidency, but we will remedy the damage he has done very quickly,” he added. “MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN!”

While Trump and his team had made their preference for facing Biden clear, his campaign had nonetheless ramped up its attacks on Harris as pressure on Biden to step down intensified.

Democratic officials, including many who were behind the effort to push Biden from the race, quickly released statements praising Biden’s decision.

“His decision of course was not easy, but he once again put his country, his party, and our future first,” said Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y. “Joe, today shows you are a true patriot and great American.”

House Democratic leader Hakeem Jeffries of New York praised Biden as “one of the most accomplished and consequential leaders in American history.”

Republican House Speaker Mike Johnson said Biden should immediately resign if he is not fit enough to run for office. In a statement, Johnson said, “November 5 cannot arrive soon enough.”

In addition to his planned address to the country, Biden still intends to host Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu at the White House this week, according to a person familiar with the president’s schedule who was not authorized to comment publicly.

Indiana politicians, delegates react to the Biden withdrawal

By MIA HILKOWITZ and CASEY SMITH  
Indiana Capital Chronicle

Indiana politicians from both sides of the aisle were quick to weigh in on the seismic shift in the presidential race following President Joe Biden’s decision on Sunday to end his reelection campaign and endorse vice president Kamala Harris for the role.

Biden’s decision to withdraw from the race comes weeks after his debate against former President Donald Trump, where his performance sparked criticism and pressure from other Democratic leaders.

Indiana is sending 88 delegates to the Democratic National Convention in August, and some of them also reacted to the stunning news. Many declined to comment, however.

“I’m absolutely going to support the Democrat ticket, and it’ll be fun to find out who’s running for vice president,” said former state senator Karen Tallian of Porter County. She also said she is supporting Harris for president.

Derek Camp, a delegate who serves as the Allen County Democratic Party, emphasized that delegates “still have a few weeks” to decide on their nominees. Camp said support for Harris seems more decided, but he plans to “let the process play out over the next few days and weeks” before casting his vote.

“I think what we’ll see is probably a party that’s nationally unified behind Vice President Harris, moving forward,” Camp said. “She’s been there with (Biden) the last three-plus years doing that work with him, so she’s certainly more than capable of stepping into that role.”

He said the president’s announcement “goes to show who Joe Biden is as a person.”

“He’s dedicated his lifetime to serving this country — in the senate, as vice president, and then president — and he’s done a lot to move this country forward, including the all the stuff that he passed the last three years ... the rescue plan, the infrastructure plan, the CHIPS Act,” Camp continued. “All of that goes towards his legacy as someone who will go down in history as one of the most consequential presidents, I think, in our modern times.”

Party apparatus speaks

Indiana Democratic Party Chairman Mike Schmuhl thanked the President for leading the country and his work in office and endorsed Harris as Biden’s successor. He highlighted Biden’s efforts to pass several key pieces of legislation, including the Infrastructure and Jobs Act, the American Rescue Plan, Inflation Reduction Act and the CHIPS and Science Act.

“More than anyone, President Biden understands the importance of this election and this moment,” he said. “That’s why after deliberation and thought, he has decided to leave the presidential race and endorse Vice President Kamala Harris to defeat Donald Trump and stop Project 2025.”

“Americans are hungry for a new generation of leadership from the White House to local offices to move America forward with liberty and justice for all,” Schmuhl continued. “Now is the time to unite behind Vice President Kamala Harris to defeat Donald Trump and continue the progress of the last three-plus years.”

Several other Indiana Democrats — including U.S. 7th District Congressman André Carson and Pete Buttigieg, former mayor of South Bend and current U.S. Transportation Secretary — also thanked Biden for his leadership on X.

“I’m proud of the work we’ve accomplished under President Biden, like setting our economy on the right path after COVID-19,” Carson said in a post on X. “Democrats stand for reason and justice, and we stand on the right side of history. Onward.”

“Joe Biden has earned his place among the best and most consequential presidents in American History,” Buttigieg said in his own X post. “I am so proud to serve under his leadership, and thankful for his unwavering focus on what is best for our country.”

Former U.S. Ambassador and Indiana Senator Joe Donnelly said in another X post he worked with Biden to pass the Affordable Care Act and support Chrysler workers’ jobs in Indiana.

“President Biden devoted his whole life to our country. I am so grateful for his service and friendship. God bless you, Joe Biden. We owe you a big thank you and debt of gratitude,” Donnelly said.

GOP reaction

Indiana Republican politicians have also shared their thoughts on Biden’s decision to drop out of the race.

“If Biden ending his campaign is in the best interest of his political party and the country,” it raises legit questions about his ability to continue to serve as president,” Ethan Lawson, a Republican candidate for the Indiana House, said in an X post.

U.S. Rep. Jim Banks, R-District 3, also weighed in on X.

“Every Democrat knew Joe Biden couldn’t run for office,” Banks wrote in the post. “They set him up to embarrass himself at the debate with Trump. Now they’re robbing their voters of a choice in the nominee so their party elites can choose! Hijacking

democracy!”

He added in another post that “If Joe Biden is unfit for campaigning, he’s unfit for office. If Joe doesn’t resign, the 25th amendment must be invoked!”

Other Democratic reaction includes from Democratic gubernatorial nominee Jennifer McCormick and Attorney General candidate Destiny Wells.

“Respecting and appreciating the legacy of President Biden’s service, I support his decision to not seek re-election to another term,” McCormick said. “President Biden has been a steadfast patriot and leader for our country. His decision to withdraw from the presidential race is yet another act of service in a long and distinguished career dedicated to the betterment of the United States. President Biden’s tenure in public service has been marked by kindness. We should honor President Biden’s legacy, patriotic devotion, and service to our country as we move forward. It is time for the Democratic Party to build on the myriad accomplishments of the Biden administration and strive to uphold the values of integrity, justice, and unity that he has exemplified.”

Wells said she is “forever grateful for the direction President Biden has led our country—let’s continue due north and get to work. Anything is possible and I am anxious to seize the opportunities ahead,” stated Destiny Wells. “I join all Americans in rallying to continue President Biden’s work by supporting Vice-President Kamala Harris.”

Financial Focus

PSA: Look for different ways to borrow and use credit

Like most Americans, you’ll probably be dealing with some type of debt throughout your life. And by managing debt wisely, you can improve your saving and spending habits and possibly even your ability to invest for the future.

So, consider your borrowing and credit options. For starters, look for a credit card that offers the best interest rate and rewards program.

Next, you might want to think about a home equity loan or home equity line of credit. If you use this loan or credit line for home improvements, your interest may be deductible.

You could also look at securities-based lending, which lets you borrow against the value of your securities in a brokerage account. Many people draw on these loans to purchase more investments, but you can use the money for any purpose. You’ll want to be careful not to borrow too much, though, as you might be forced to replenish your account to bring it up to the required maintenance level.

With careful thought and planning, you can make your debt work for you — and not the other way around.

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## DEI bullying assumes people didn't earn their jobs

One of the most disheartening things I saw following the failed attempt to assassinate Donald Trump was a concentrated, days-long social media flogging of a female U.S. Secret Service agent.

Social media users clipped shots of her from video, spread them and commented on her hair, height, weight and nerves.

It was a pile-on like I have rarely seen.

But the biggest comment in the posts has been about "DEI," which stands for diversity, equity and inclusion. Commenters wrote that the agent got her job only through efforts to diversify the Secret Service.

I don't know her name or any of her qualifications. And neither does anyone else. The assumption that she isn't qualified simply because she is a woman is wrong and upsetting.

She ran up on that stage amid gunfire to protect Trump with her life. She did her job and she — not the shooter — has become a target for hurtful rhetoric.

Yes, she fumbled while holstering her gun as the motorcade pulled away. But I can't even imagine the adrenaline coursing through her veins moments after protecting a presidential candidate from violence that claimed the life of another.

And it's just the latest example of pushback on DEI. Take a stroll through social media, columns and other commentator quips. Essentially if you aren't white or a man, the first response is to throw DEI around.

It's a hurtful assumption that these people haven't earned their positions through qualifications and hard work.

I, for one, am heartened to see women in leadership positions. It's easy to tell someone anything is possible. But it is far more realistic if a child can see a person that looks like them doing just that.

For instance, Indiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Loretta Rush recently announced she will seek another term leading Indiana's court system and I couldn't be happier.

No one better say DEI about her.

Rush has led with distinction, serving the cause of justice for more than 40 years as both an attorney and jurist.

When she was appointed to the Indiana Supreme Court, Indiana was one of only two states without a woman on the court. That is despite being half the population. Additionally, she is only the second woman to ever hold a position on the state's top court.

Rush's position means something to women — that they can reach the top of their chosen fields despite challenges that men don't face.

The National Center for State Courts reports that this year, 21 states have female chief justices; in 2019, 16 did. The number of states with over 40% female justices increased from 34 in 2023 to 35 in 2024, and those with over 50% increased from 13 in 2023 to 15 in 2024.

Women have served as governor in 32 states but not here in Indiana. So far, the position of lieutenant governor seems to be the ceiling.

Diversity isn't a bad thing, and it doesn't mean a person isn't qualified. And, here's a crazy thought, often the person is even better. Not because of their sex or race but because of their skills. We are giving them an opening and they are seizing it. They aren't DEI hires. They are hires. Period.

Of course, standards should not be lowered to make that happen. But reaching out to encourage people of all genders, race, religion and age to apply for positions is simply giving more people a chance.

Expanding the pool of candidates is the best way to get to diversity. And once there let a person's work ethic, talent and credentials win the day.

*Niki Kelly is the editor of the Indiana Capital Chronicle, a non-profit newsroom. nkelly@indianacapitalchronicle.com*



Niki Kelly

## Hoosier Opinions



## GOP's convention unity may be contrasting with a mirage

It's been nine years since Donald Trump arrived on the American presidential scene, prompting me to finish a number of columns by simply saying, "Anything can happen."

And so it goes. Republicans, gathered at their national convention in Milwaukee this past week, are united and feeling exuberant about their chances in November.

U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, Indiana's Republican nominee for governor, told me on Wednesday, "As long as we stay on point showing how the policies of the last three and a half years have not made sense and that they've got their own political issues, we've got a golden opportunity to be happening at the national level. I feel we're in about as good a spot as we can be in."

And U.S. Rep. Jim Banks, in his Tuesday night RNC address, said, "My friends, I can't wait for Nov. 5 at 6:01 p.m. Eastern Time when the great state of Indiana is once again the first state on the board to give our Electoral College votes to the greatest president of my lifetime, my friend Donald J. Trump."

But Braun was cautionary, adding, "You take nothing for granted. You never put the cart before the horse, especially in politics."

What they are contrasting with — 81-year-old President Joe Biden — could be a mirage. Watching him haltingly stagger up the Air Force 1 lower stairs before departing from Las Vegas on Wednesday was a revealing and sad optic. The Trump campaign and Republicans may be peaking too soon against what could be a phantom opponent.

A series of national and battleground state polls show Biden's path to victory is closing. An Associated Press-NORC Center Poll revealed two-thirds of Democrats believe he should withdraw from the race, while only three in 10 Democrats are confident he has the mental capacity to serve another term.

But the latest model by American University Prof. Allan J. Lichtman, which he has used to successfully predict presidential election winners since 1984 (with the exception of 2000's Bush v. Gore which essentially ended up in a tie), still has Biden leading in nine of 13 "keys to the White House."

A series of post-debate polls show Biden trailing in key battleground states while Democratic senatorial candidates have healthy leads. This prompted Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer and House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries to convey to Biden personally over the past week a loss of support by the party rank and file.

U.S. Rep. Adam Schiff, a close ally to Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi, called for Biden to step aside. "While the choice to withdraw from the campaign is President Biden's alone, I believe it is time for him to pass the torch," Schiff said in a statement. "And in doing so, secure his legacy of leadership by allowing us to defeat Donald Trump in the upcoming election."

Last year, Pelosi and her House leadership team stepped aside, passing the torch to the next generation. They took a lesson from Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who died in 2020 just months before Biden won that election, allowing President Trump to nominate Judge Amy Coney Barrett, a former Notre Dame law professor. It dramatically shifted the power to the conservative wing.

Last Saturday (July 13) at the state convention, I asked Indiana Democratic Chair-



Brian Howey

## Politicking

man Mike Schmuhl whether he still supports a Biden nomination. "I do," he said. "We all know that President Biden was unopposed in our primary. He received 100% of our primary vote, so he will have 100% support from our delegates in Chicago unless something changes."

But Schmuhl, who managed then-South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg's strong 2020 presidential campaign, then added, "I can safely say — like many Democrats across the country who do share concerns and are worried that the campaign can get a strong message out — [we] can build a narrative to take on Donald Trump, but I think we're working through that right now. We'll just have to see where we end up."

Since his debate disaster in a series of interviews, Biden has suggested he might exit the race if word came from the "Lord Almighty" or if his health gave way (he was reported to have COVID on Wednesday), or if polling showed Vice President Kamala Harris had strength against Trump.

If Biden steps away, this sets up the "coronation" scenario for Harris, who polls even worse than Biden has. Others have suggested a truncated "primary" heading into the Democratic National Convention Aug. 19-22 in Chicago. Oh, to be a fly on the wall during conversations between Secretary Buttigieg and Schmuhl these days. Or in the war rooms of Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer or Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear.

Should Biden bow out and Harris, a former prosecutor, ascend to a Democratic nomination, it would jolt the dynamic of the race. The age and fitness questions surrounding Biden would dissipate. It would thrust the Supreme Court's repeal of Roe Vs. Wade (an unpopular decision with the broader electorate) to the forefront, particularly with the Heritage Foundation's 2025 blueprint for a second Trump presidency taking aim at contraception and abortion drugs.

And it would feature a former DA against Trump, who was convicted on 34 felonies last spring.

The next week will reveal many of these compelling secrets. And it means ... anything can happen. Anything.

*Howey is a senior writer and columnist for State Affairs/Howey Politics Indiana. Follow him on X @hwypol.*

## Repeat, repeat, repeat

Repetition while teaching children is a necessary tool that allows them to absorb information and to build on it for future understanding. It is why my teachers required repeating times tables and words in language class.

When it comes to the Middle East, repetition has been unsuccessful in causing Europeans and many in America to accept certain truths.

To repeat. Hamas and Iran, and every other terror organization, are on record by their words and deeds about their goals: the complete destruction of Israel; a one-state solution with themselves in control and either expelling or killing as many Israelis as possible; that no diplomatic efforts will deter them from their objective and the reason is they believe they have a mandate from Allah to do what they are doing; if they are killed, their reward is an immediate transport to Heaven and all those virgins who await them.

Former Israeli diplomat Yoram Ettinger gets to the heart of the matter when he writes: "The diplomatic option assumes that the Ayatollahs are amenable to good faith negotiation and peaceful coexistence. It dismisses the regime-change option and resists the option of a viable military option hovering above the head of Iran's rogue Ayatollahs. The State



Cal Thomas

Department's detachment from Middle East reality has been underscored by the suspension of economic (and especially oil export) sanctions, which has yielded to the Ayatollahs' anti-US rogue machine more than \$100 (billion) since February 2021."

Despite these recent and previous examples that Israel's enemies are serious about their objectives and the unseriousness and denials of reality by the secular West, President Biden has decided to ramp-up pressure on Israel to order an immediate ceasefire. He thinks this will get the remaining hostages released. Even if it did, a temporary ceasefire (which the UN and others will demand be made permanent) would serve as a lifeline to Hamas, allowing them to regroup and rebuild because they have said they have no intention of abandoning their goals. Suppose they decide to do another Oct. 7 attack on Israel (as they have threatened) taking more hostages and repeating the cycle? It doesn't take a modern prophet to predict that it will if Hamas is not destroyed and security is established to protect both the residents of Gaza and Israel.

There are many sermons by Islamic clergy, many textbooks that teach hatred of Jews and Israel and many

media stories (sadly, they are not only from the Muslim world, but also in the Western press) that appear more on the side of Hamas than Israel. Here is an excerpt from one of many sermons delivered a decade ago at the al-Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem. The speaker, identified as Ali Abu Ahmad, calls for Jerusalem's liberation from "the Jews, the most vile of creatures" and for the destruction of America and the international coalition against Islamic State.

"Oh Allah," he prayed, "annihilate America and its coalition. Oh Allah, enable us to cut off their heads. Oh Allah, help our brothers, the mujahideen in the land of Iraq and Syria..."

There have been numerous statements of this kind before and after that sermon. Why would anyone need them repeated to understand their goal and why must the West endlessly repeat support for policies that have not and cannot work?

Back in April, the Jerusalem Post reported that Defense Minister Yoav Gallant announced "the IDF withdrew from Khan Yunis after Hamas ceased to function in the area, adding that the troops left in preparation for a coming Rafah operation."

Winston Churchill said it best and his words bear repeating: "Victory at all costs, victory in spite of all terror, victory however long and hard the road may be; for without victory, there is no survival."

*caeditors@tribpub.com*

## Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, July 22, the 204th day of 2024. There are 162 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On July 22, 1933, Aviator Wiley Post landed at Floyd Bennett Field in New York City, completing the first solo flight around the world in 7 days, 18 hours and 49 minutes.

Also on this date:

In 1862, President Abraham Lincoln presented to his Cabinet a preliminary draft of the Emancipation Proclamation.

In 1934, bank robber John Dillinger was shot to death by federal agents outside Chicago's Biograph Theater, where he had just seen the Clark Gable movie "Manhattan Melodrama."

In 1937, the U.S. Senate

rejected President Franklin D. Roosevelt's proposal to add more justices to the Supreme Court.

In 1942, the Nazis began transporting Jews from the Warsaw Ghetto to the Treblinka concentration camp.

In 1943, American forces led by Gen. George S. Patton captured Palermo, Sicily, during World War II.

In 1975, the House of Representatives joined the Senate in voting to restore the American citizenship of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee.

In 1991, police in Milwaukee arrested Jeffrey Dahmer, who later confessed to murdering 17 men and boys.

In 1992, Colombian drug lord Pablo Escobar escaped from his luxury prison near Medellin.

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# Events at the Creative Arts Council of Wells County

428 S. Oak Street in Bluffton  
260-824-5222

www.wellscocreativearts.com  
creativeartscouncil@gmail.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/wellsco-creativearts

Instagram: @creativeartscouncil

Creative Arts office hours — Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday (by appointment only).

### Fall Registration for Creative Arts Dance Academy

Information regarding our dance schedule, tuition, and performance opportunities can be found on our website at: <https://www.wellscocreativearts.com/creative-movement>

If you would like to receive a fall dance packet or have specific questions, please call (260) 824-5222

Fall dance classes begin September 3rd!

### \*\*\*Audition Announcement\*\*\*

We are eager to announce that our Fall Theater Production will be Mark Twain's "Tom Sawyer!" This is a play adaptation of the classic story that is sure to draw in actors and audiences, both young and old! Register for auditions at: <https://www.wellscocreativearts.com/other-yearly-productions>

For more information please visit: <https://www.facebook.com/events/373432615684636>

#### Auditions:

Thursday, August 1 from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Friday, August 2 from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 3 from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

### Enrolling for Summer Choir Camp this August!

Who: This camp will be directed by Alyssa Plisco and is for students 8-12 years old.

When: August 19-22 and 26-28 with a performance on August 29 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Rehearsals will be 5:30-7:30 p.m. and are mandatory.

Where: Creative Arts, 428 S Oak St, Bluffton

Tuition: \$85 per student

Registration at: <https://www.wellscocreativearts.com/summer-choir-camp>

### New\*\* Beginner Drum class (8 weeks)

When: Mondays, August 19th - October



14 from 6:00 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.  
Tuition: \$25 for 45 minute lesson  
Registration and more information at: <https://www.wellscocreativearts.com/drum-lessons>

### Parlor City Shakespeare presents "Much Ado About Nothing"

Friday, September 13 at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, September 14 at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, September 15 at 6:30 p.m.

Free Admission

Parlor City Plaza

### Ongoing Activities

**Creative Crew:** Tuesdays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. All forms of creativity welcome: painting, drawing, needlework and more.... spend the morning working on your craft and socialize with other artists. Enter Door 1 or Door 10 at Life Community Church, the creative crew meets in the cafe.

**Readers' Brown Bag Luncheon:** Meeting the last Tuesday of the month at noon at Life Community Church, enter door 10. All readers are welcome. Feel free to call the office for more information.

\*\*\*Important Scheduling Note: Changes can occur after the Creative Happenings column has been published. Please confirm dates and times before planning to participate in programs and activities\*\*\*

Creative Arts Council activities are supported by memberships, sponsors and grants from funders including Arts United, a regional agency; the Indiana Arts Commission, a state agency; and the National Endowment for the Arts, a national agency.

## Programs at the 4-H cabin



### Dulcimer concert

The Standing Room Only Dulcimer Quartet was rained out of the 4-H Cabin area and headed inside the 4-H Community Building to present their concert Sunday afternoon. Members of the group from the Leo area are Linda Eager, Janet Eger, Tom Jones and Kathy Jones. It was learned that the group plays every Tuesday morning from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Perk's Peak Coffee Shop, 9715 St. Joseph St., in the Leo-Cedarville area. (Photos by Barbara Barbieri)



### Spinning and needle felting

Also taking shelter in the 4-H Community Building Sunday evening were the Pioneer Crafters who were busily demonstrating spinning and needle felting. Left to right are Shelby Kipfer and Janel Frank, both spinning, and Rachel Baumgartner who was creating an animal by the needle felting method.

## Free concerts at the Indiana State Fair

- All of the free concerts will be held in Celebration Park at the fairgrounds and will begin at 7:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted. Seating is first come, first served.
- Aug. 2: Three Dog Night
  - Aug. 3: Hard Days Night (2 p.m.) and Live & Let Die (Paul McCartney music)
  - Aug. 4: Gladys Knight
  - Aug. 6: TBA
  - Aug. 7: Buddy Guy
  - Aug. 8: Dogstar
  - Aug. 9: Bell Biv Devoe
  - Aug. 11: Blessing Offer (2 p.m.), Sonora Dynamita (6 p.m.) and Newsboys
  - Aug. 12: Swift Tribute
  - Aug. 13: Fearless (Taylor Swift Tribute)
  - Aug. 14: Happy Together Tour
  - Aug. 15: Sublime with Rome
  - Aug. 16: Gary Allan
  - Aug. 17: TBA
  - Aug. 18: Gospel Music Festival (3 p.m.) and Yolanda Adams
  - Aug. 19: Fearless (Taylor Swift Tribute)
- Please note that all visitors to the fairgrounds may be subject to bag search and magnetometer screening. The fairgrounds open daily at 9 a.m. and close at 10 p.m. (11 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays). Admission is \$16 and free to those 5 and younger. Parking is \$10.

# Zanesville News

by Melba Edwards

This is the final column that includes some changes to the happenings on Festival Day Saturday, July 27. Parade begins at 10 a.m. Call Tara to enter at 760-6070.

The car show will take place as announced in the flyer with registration from 8:30 a.m. to noon at the Tower Life Center parking lot. Awards will take place at 2 p.m.

Sis's Diner will be on hand at the car show with biscuits and gravy, and some sandwiches and maybe ice cream. She may also be open downtown.

At the ballpark you can have pancakes and sausage and bratwurst and onion rings. After 11 a.m. there will be root beer floats, apple dumplings, pop and ice cream inside the clubhouse where you can sit down and eat any food you buy elsewhere.

Framed pictures of all sizes will be on sale at the Lions Clubhouse from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

There may be a ballgame at the park. Camelot Carriages will take you for a free ride compliments of the Zanesville Churches. Just watch for them as they will

probably have a couple of pick-up spots.

The town will be full of garage sales on Friday and Saturday.

On Friday you can get breakfast or lunch at the Zanesville Church of God during their sale.

County Line Pizza & Pub will also be open.

Pray for a great day and fine weather!

Lafayette Central's graduating class of 1950 has lost a classmate recently. Kathryn Johnson Ponsot passed away at the age of 91 on July 6. She and her husband Tom were well known in Zanesville before her moving to Ossian. Tom is also deceased. Our condolences to the family and friends.

Wendy Bailey sends us news about Wells County Alive & Well:

Dear Friends, Because of you, we had an amazing school year in 2023-24. Over 3,200 fifth through 12th grade students were impacted in our area. Through our anonymous surveys, we learned that a large number of students struggle with anxiety, depression and low self-esteem. Too many of them

also admitted that they do not want to live. We taught them about their value as human beings, methods of improving their brain health, tips for stress reduction and skills for coping with difficulties. We also provided them with contact information for sources of help. If you would like to support us contact 650 N. Main St. Suite B, Bluffton, IN 46714, 855-425-4832, wendy@aliveandwellteens.com, aliveandwellteens.com.

Do you see the LifeWise Academy signs? Here is some information: The non-profit's program, LifeWise Academy, provides religious instruction to public school students off campus during school hours. The concept is protected by a 1952 U.S. Supreme Court ruling.

LifeWise has programs in Adams, DeKalb, Noble, Wells and Whitley counties. The website indicates LifeWise is aligned with historic, orthodox Christian beliefs as expressed in the Nicene Creed. LifeWise believes the storyline of scripture that climaxes in the central gospel message that Jesus Christ died for people's sins and was raised from the dead.

## Swiss Days at Swiss Heritage Village, July 26-27

Berne's Swiss Heritage Village will be celebrating during Berne Swiss Days with a variety of events on Friday and Saturday, July 26-27.

### Friday events

Indoor museum and 12 historical buildings open.

Horse Pull: 10 a.m.-4

p.m.

### Saturday events

Site open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. with events to include a tractor pull, antique engine and tractor show, car show, vendors and apple dumplings served in the barn.

The village is open Mon-

day through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. through Oct. 31, closed Sundays and holidays. More information at [swissheritage.org](http://swissheritage.org) or call 260-589-8007.

## Guitar Fest at Sweetwater Sound

On Saturday, Aug. 10, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sweetwater Sound will host a free Guitar Fest in Fort Wayne.

Offered will be one day deals, meet and greet with artists, demos of new prod-

ucts, free restringing event, check out Rock & Roll Hall of Fame displays and pop-up performances by YouTube Artists Davydas and Sean Daniel. More information at [Sweetwater.com](http://Sweetwater.com).

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# Sports

MONDAY, JULY 22, 2024 • The News-Banner • Page 1a

## James hits go-ahead shot, U.S. avoids upset vs. South Sudan

By **TIM REYNOLDS**  
**AP Basketball Writer**

LeBron James saved the U.S. from what would have been a stunning loss.

James' layup with 8 seconds left was the go-ahead basket Saturday, and the U.S. Olympic team that'll soon head to the Paris Games escaped with a 101-100 win over South Sudan in London, rallying from a 16-point deficit to avoid perhaps the biggest upset in the program's history.

LeBron James

South Sudan, the African nation that gained its independence just 13 years ago and is about to play in the Olympics for the first time, led for more than half the game and had a chance to win at the end. But Carlík Jones' runner off the glass missed with about 4 seconds left, and the Americans survived.

"I'm going to be honest: I like those better than the blowouts," James said as he walked off the court. "At least we got tested."

Oh, they got tested — by a team that came into the game as 43.5-point underdogs, according to BetMGM Sportsbook.

"A good reminder that when we play

against teams, it's the biggest game of their lives," U.S. coach Steve Kerr said. "We have to expect everyone to play like that."

Down by 16 at one point, the Americans dug out of that hole with an 18-0 run in the second half — then needed heroics at the end anyway. JT Thor's 3-pointer with 20 seconds left gave South Sudan a 100-99 lead, then the Americans called timeout and put the ball in James' hands.

He made it look easy: He waited, waited, then drove and laid it in with ease to put the U.S. back on top, and the Americans got the stop they needed at the end.

James finished with a game-high 25 points, six rebounds and seven assists for the U.S., which improved to 4-0 with one game left — Monday vs. World Cup champion Germany — on its pre-Olympic exhibition tour. Anthony Davis added 15 points and 11 rebounds for the Americans.

Marial Shayok had 24 points for South Sudan and Jones had a triple-double — 15 points, 11 rebounds and 11 assists.

The teams will meet in group play in the Paris Olympics on July 31.

"It's basketball. It happens," U.S. guard Stephen Curry said. "You want to play perfect every game; it doesn't happen. But can



you dig deep and do the little things that help you win? Offense can come and go, but defense is the thing that helps you win championships, medals, all that stuff."

It should have been a mismatch, and for the first half, it was — just not in the way anyone would have expected.

The U.S. roster has 12 players, all of them All-Stars or NBA champions or both, with a total of 189,038 points in their regular-season careers, with 7,832 combined starts. South Sudan has four players who have appeared in an NBA game. They've scored a combined 1,228 points and started 19 games.

Didn't matter. It was 8-0 U.S. after 2 1/2 minutes. The rest of the half: South Sudan 58, U.S. 34. The Americans allowed South Sudan to shoot 61% in the first half and got outscored 21-3 from 3-point range in the first 20 minutes.

"I did not do a great job preparing our team," Kerr said. "We did not focus enough on what they're capable of, and that's on me. I think that really allowed South Sudan to gain confidence early. ... They were great. They played a wonderful game and the ending was good for us, just to feel that, to feel what it's going to be like in Paris and Lille."

An 18-0 run in the second half — James

involved in most of it — was what really saved the U.S., turning a 76-65 deficit into an 83-76 lead.

South Sudan led by 16 late in the first half — 58-42 — before the Americans got the last basket to cut the deficit to 14 at the break.

But the 18-0 run was key. James had four assists during the spurt and Curry, from about 35 feet, connected on a 3-pointer late in the third that gave the U.S. its first lead since the first quarter at 79-76.

Wenyen Gabriel banked in a 3-pointer to get South Sudan within 85-84, but James — his former teammate with the Los Angeles Lakers — connected on a 3 on the ensuing U.S. possession, and the Americans would eventually pull through by the slimmest of margins.

"Today we were able to represent our country with pride and we put up a good fight and showed the potential of our country," Gabriel said. "I think it was a proud moment for a lot of people."

Davis said the team got to the arena late, thrown off by standstill London traffic, and that routines going into the game were disrupted. Maybe so, but South Sudan showed the U.S. that nobody at the Olympics will concede anything to the four-time defending gold medalists.

"Doesn't matter when it comes to how close the game is," James said. "We went out there to get better."

## Hoerner's walk in extras gives Cubs win over Dbacks

By **GAVIN DORSEY**  
**Associated Press**

CHICAGO (AP) — Nico Hoerner doubled and scored the tying run in the ninth inning, then walked with the bases loaded in the 10th to give the Chicago Cubs a 2-1 victory over the Arizona Diamondbacks on Sunday.

Chicago entered the ninth with just one hit before Hoerner sparked the late rally as the Cubs avoided the sweep.

"I don't like to change my at-bats too much in the late opposition, but you do know that if you get on base, you've got the guys on our team who have had our best at-bats right behind you, and I have a lot of trust in them," Hoerner said. "(Michael) Busch has been so consistent for a long time now, Seiya (Suzuki) as well, so a lot of trust in them and I felt like they had a great chance to try and win the game."

Cubs All-Star pitcher Shota Imanaga had a career-high 10 strikeouts and gave up two hits over seven innings, including a home run to Eugenio Suárez.

"He's always staying calm, he's always stable, he always creates a really good game," Suzuki of Imanaga through an interpreter. "We've had a couple games where we weren't able to hit in those situations, but he pitched amazing today."

The Cubs prevailed after Brandon Pfaadt's dominant day on the mound. The Arizona ace struck out seven and allowed just one hit.

Hoerner doubled down the first-base line to lead off the bottom of the ninth and scored on Suzuki's one-out single.

Héctor Neris (8-2) picked up the win for Chicago with a scoreless 10th, while Joe Mantiply (3-2) took the loss.

Imanaga opened the game by striking out all three batters in the first and didn't allow a hit until Randal Grichuk's single with two outs in the sixth. In the fifth, Imanaga got his eighth strikeout on a low splitter that fooled Arizona's Jose Herrera, who swung so hard that his bat flew down the third-base line.

"During spring training, I talked with Dansby (Swanson), (Craig) Counsell, (Justin) Steele about how to deal with pressure," Imanaga said through an interpreter. "I didn't really feel pressure out there and talking to my teammates, talking to my coaches about it, I think that helped."

Suárez broke the tie in the seventh, sending a 2-1 pitch over the wall in left field.

### UP NEXT

Diamondbacks RHP Yilber Diaz (1-0, 1.50 ERA) is set to make his third career start Monday at Kansas City. The Cubs will host the Brewers in a three-game series beginning Monday and plan to start RHP Javier Assad (4-3, 3.27).

## U.S. women's Olympic hoops team knows it has work to do

By **DOUG FEINBERG**  
**AP Basketball Writer**

PHOENIX (AP) — There is no panic in the U.S. women's Olympic team. The Americans have been in this spot before.

The U.S. lost to the WNBA All-Star team on Saturday night 117-109 and are headed on a flight to London to continue their prep for the Paris Olympics. Breanna Stewart said it felt like déjà vu and she wasn't wrong.

The 2021 Olympic team also lost to the WNBA All-Star team in a tune-up to the Tokyo Games. They went on to cruise to a seventh consecutive gold medal.

Just like in the 2021 exhibition game, the Americans had

(Continued on Page A2)

## Xander Schauffele wins the British Open for his 2nd major this year

By **DOUG FERGUSON**  
**AP Golf Writer**

TROON, Scotland (AP) — Xander Schauffele went from the most nerve-racking putt of his career to the coolest walk toward an 18th green he ever imagined.

He won a nail-biter at the PGA Championship in May. He delivered a masterpiece Sunday in the British Open. Two different finishes, two different feelings.

One major conclusion. Schauffele has more than enough game and all the confidence in the world to win the biggest championships. Questioned at the start of the season whether he could win a major, he now has two of them.

Schauffele closed with a 6-under 65 with a final round that ranks among the most memorable in British Open history, particularly the 31 on the back nine. It matched the best score of the week at Royal Troon with nothing less than the claret jug riding on the outcome.

He played bogey-free in a daunting

wind and turned a two-shot deficit into a two-shot victory for his second major of the year.

It also gave the Americans a sweep of the four majors for the first time since 1982.

"It's a dream come true to win two majors in one year," Schauffele said. "It took me forever just to win one, and to have two now is something else."

He won the PGA Championship at Valhalla by making a 6-foot birdie putt on the final hole for a 65. In a final round set up for high drama at Royal Troon — six players one shot behind, nine players separated by three shots — Schauffele made a tense Sunday look like a nice walk along the Irish Sea.

"I think winning the first one helped me a lot today on the back nine," he said. "I had some feeling of calmness come through. It was very helpful on what has been one of the hardest back nines I've ever played in a tournament."

It sure didn't show. Standing on the

18th tee, Schauffele said he turned to caddie and longtime friend Austin Kaiser and told him that he had felt calm down the decisive back nine.

"He said he was about to puke," Schauffele said.

In the 90-year history of four majors, Schauffele became the first player to win two majors in one season with a final-round 65. Jack Nicklaus is the only other player to do that in his career.

And he never looked more calm, oozing that cool California vibe even as the wind presented so much trouble at Royal Troon.

Schauffele pulled away with three birdies in a four-hole stretch early on the back nine to go from two shots behind to leading by as many as three.

He won by two shots over American Billy Horschel and Justin Rose, the 43-year-old from England who had to go through 36-hole qualifying just to get into the field. They were among four players who had at least a share of

(Continued on Page A2)

## Larson races to his 1st Brickyard 400 win, making a late charge through the field

By **MICHAEL MAROT**  
**AP Sports Writer**

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Kyle Larson's left Indianapolis in May in the middle of one of the most agonizing days of his racing career.

In his return Sunday, Larson finished one of the most memorable races of his career with one of sports' more revered celebrations — kissing the bricks at Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

The 31-year-old Californian overcame an early, unscheduled pit stop by charging from 12th place into the lead over the final 32 laps. He won battles for the lead off the final two restarts and barely avoiding a third overtime to win his first Brickyard 400 under caution.

"Today was definitely meant to be for us with the way the strategy was working out and all that fell into place," Larson said after jumping on the roof of his car and climbing through the fence to thank the roaring fans. "I just can't believe it. It's just surreal to win here."

Perhaps it will help Larson forget just how miserable he was Memorial Day weekend when rain in Indianapolis and Charlotte, North Carolina, washing away his shot at completing

the full 1,100 miles of the two races. He didn't even turn a lap in the Coca-Cola 600 after scrambling to fly in.

On Sunday, though, he rebounded with brilliant tactical racing and, yes, some good luck.

Larson was running third in the paint scheme he was supposed to have for the 600 when race leader Brad Keselowski ran out of fuel and pulled off the track just before the second-to-last restart. That put Larson in position to pull into the shorter inside lane, next to Ryan Blaney's second-place car, and Larson easily leapfrogged Blaney — just ahead of a five-car crash that brought a red flag and a second overtime.

This time, after needing an assist to get his No. 5 Chevrolet refired, Larson again beat Blaney on the inside and reached the finish line before another caution flag came out.

"I don't know what was driving him today other than he wanted to win the Brickyard 400," said Jeff Gordon, who won five Brickyard 400s before rejoining the Hendricks team as an executive. "You could tell he was driving for a purpose."

Pole winner Tyler Reddick wound up second as Blaney dropped to third.

Larson has now won three of NASCAR's four crown jewel races, all but the Daytona 500, and this one came in the first Cup race held on Indy's historic 2.5-mile since 2020. The last three covered 200 miles on the track's 14-turn road course.

His fourth win of the season also put him atop the Cup standings, ahead

of Hendrick Motorsports teammate Chase Elliott, with four races left before the playoff begins.

The thrilling finish didn't come by happenstance, though.

Keselowski gambled he could run the final 59 laps without pitting for fuel — and he essentially did. What he didn't count on was the race going an extra seven laps. And Blaney had been trying to fend off the hard-charging Larson for several laps, even blocking his low line once, to stay in front.

"That's a heartbreaker. We did everything right today," said Blaney, who finished third after the fateful twist. "He was in prime position to win, and it just didn't work out for us."

But with most drivers in fuel-saving mode, Larson just kept pushing hard — making team owner and pace car driver Rick Hendrick nervous.

"He was coming through the field like a rocket," Hendrick said. "It was hard to pass, but he made it look a little bit easier to pass. Then I was worried when he got up to second or third, I started worrying about fuel. They said we had enough for one overtime, but we were holding our breath. But he put on a show. That's Kyle Larson."

And now, even though Hendrick didn't give his approval Sunday, Larson told the crowd he wants to make amends for what happened in May by trying it all again.

"I wish we could have done both," Larson said. "But, I think everything comes full circle and everything's meant to be."

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# News-Banner Scoreboard

## BASKETBALL

### WNBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
W	L	Pct	GB	
New York	21	4	.840	—
Connecticut	18	6	.750	2½
Indiana	11	15	.423	10½
Chicago	10	14	.417	10½
Atlanta	7	17	.292	13½
Washington	6	19	.240	15
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Minnesota	17	8	.680	—
Seattle	17	8	.680	—
Las Vegas	16	8	.667	½
Phoenix	13	12	.520	4
Los Angeles	6	18	.250	10½
Dallas	6	19	.240	11

**Saturday's Games**  
Team 117, USA8 109

**Sunday's Games**  
No games scheduled.

**Monday's Games**  
No games scheduled.

**Tuesday's Games**  
No games scheduled.

**Wednesday's Games**  
No games scheduled.

## BASEBALL

### MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Baltimore	60	39	.606	—
New York	59	42	.584	2
Boston	53	45	.541	6½
Tampa Bay	50	49	.505	10
Toronto	45	54	.455	15
Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Cleveland	59	39	.602	—
Minnesota	54	44	.551	5
Kansas City	55	45	.550	5
Detroit	49	51	.490	11
Chicago	27	74	.267	33½
West Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Los Angeles	59	41	.590	—
San Diego	52	50	.510	8
Arizona	51	49	.510	8
San Francisco	48	52	.480	11
Colorado	36	64	.360	23

**Saturday's Games**  
Tampa Bay 9, N.Y. Yankees 1  
Detroit 7, Toronto 3  
Oakland 8, L.A. Angels 2  
Kansas City 6, Chicago White Sox 1  
San Diego 7, Cleveland 0  
Baltimore 8, Texas 4  
L.A. Dodgers 7, Boston 6, 11  
innings  
Milwaukee 8, Minnesota 4, 12  
innings  
**Sunday's Games**  
Houston 4, Seattle 2  
**Sunday's Games**  
Toronto 5, Detroit 4  
Milwaukee 8, Minnesota 7  
San Diego 2, Cleveland 1  
Kansas City 4, Chicago White Sox 1  
Tampa Bay 6, N.Y. Yankees 4  
Texas 3, Baltimore 2  
Seattle 6, Houston 4  
L.A. Angels 8, Oakland 5  
L.A. Dodgers 9, Boston 6  
**Monday's Games**  
Tampa Bay (Littell 3-6) at N.Y. Yan-

kees (Rodón 9-7), 1:05 p.m.  
Detroit (Skubal 10-3) at Cleveland (Carrasco 3-7), 6:40 p.m.  
Philadelphia (Suárez 10-4) at Minnesota (Ober 8-5), 7:40 p.m.  
Chicago White Sox (Fedde 7-3) at Texas (Lorenzen 5-5), 8:05 p.m.  
Arizona (Diaz 1-0) at Kansas City (Ragans 6-6), 8:10 p.m.  
Boston (Houck 8-6) at Colorado (Marquez 0-0), 8:40 p.m.  
Houston (Arrighetti 4-7) at Oakland (Harris 1-3), 9:40 p.m.  
L.A. Angels (Anderson 8-8) at Seattle (Miller 7-7), 9:40 p.m.  
**Tuesday's Games**  
Baltimore at Miami, 6:40 p.m.  
Detroit at Cleveland, 6:40 p.m.  
N.Y. Mets at N.Y. Yankees, 7:05 p.m.  
Pampa Bay at Toronto, 7:07 p.m.  
Philadelphia at Minnesota, 7:40 p.m.  
Chicago White Sox at Texas, 8:05 p.m.  
Arizona at Kansas City, 8:10 p.m.  
Boston at Colorado, 8:40 p.m.  
Houston at Oakland, 9:40 p.m.  
L.A. Angels at Seattle, 9:40 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE				
East Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Philadelphia	63	36	.636	—
Atlanta	54	44	.551	8½
New York	50	48	.510	12½
Washington	47	53	.470	16½
Miami	35	64	.354	28
Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Milwaukee	57	42	.576	—
St. Louis	52	47	.525	5
Pittsburgh	50	49	.505	7
Chicago	48	53	.475	10
Cincinnati	47	53	.470	10½
West Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Los Angeles	58	41	.586	—
San Diego	52	50	.510	7½
Arizona	51	49	.510	7½
San Francisco	48	52	.480	10½
Colorado	36	64	.360	22½

**Saturday's Games**  
Atlanta 3, St. Louis 2, 10  
innings  
1st game  
N.Y. Mets 1, Miami 0  
Pittsburgh 4, Philadelphia 1  
Washington 5, Cincinnati 4  
San Diego 7, Cleveland 0  
St. Louis 9, Atlanta 5, 2nd game  
Arizona 3, Chicago Cubs 0  
Colorado 4, San Francisco 3  
L.A. Dodgers 7, Boston 6, 11  
innings  
Milwaukee 8, Minnesota 4, 12  
innings  
**Sunday's Games**  
St. Louis 6, Atlanta 2  
Washington 5, Cincinnati 2  
Milwaukee 8, Minnesota 7  
San Diego 2, Cleveland 1  
Philadelphia 6, Pittsburgh 0  
Miami 4, N.Y. Mets 2  
Chicago Cubs 2, Arizona 1, 10  
innings  
San Francisco 3, Colorado 2  
L.A. Dodgers 9, Boston 6  
**Monday's Games**  
N.Y. Mets (Peterson 4-0) at Miami (Chirinos 0-1), 6:40 p.m.  
St. Louis (Pallante 4-4) at Pittsburgh (Keller 10-5), 6:40 p.m.  
Cincinnati (Greene 6-4) at Atlanta (Fried 7-5), 7:20 p.m.

Philadelphia (Suárez 10-4) at Minnesota (Ober 8-5), 7:40 p.m.  
Milwaukee (Myers 6-3) at Chicago Cubs (Assad 4-3), 8:05 p.m.  
Arizona (Diaz 1-0) at Kansas City (Ragans 6-6), 8:10 p.m.  
Boston (Houck 8-6) at Colorado (Marquez 0-0), 8:40 p.m.  
San Francisco (Snell 0-3) at L.A. Dodgers (TBD), 10:10 p.m.  
**Tuesday's Games**  
Baltimore at Miami, 6:40 p.m.  
St. Louis at Pittsburgh, 6:40 p.m.  
San Diego at Washington, 6:45 p.m.  
N.Y. Mets at N.Y. Yankees, 7:05 p.m.  
Cincinnati at Atlanta, 7:20 p.m.  
Philadelphia at Minnesota, 7:40 p.m.  
Milwaukee at Chicago Cubs, 8:05 p.m.  
Arizona at Kansas City, 8:10 p.m.  
Boston at Colorado, 8:40 p.m.  
San Francisco at L.A. Dodgers, 10:10 p.m.

Midwest League				
High-A Midwest League Glance				
East Division				
W	L	Pct.	GB	
Dayton	14	10	.583	—
x-Lake County	13	10	.565	½
West Michigan	12	11	.522	1½
Lansing	11	13	.458	3
Great Lakes	10	13	.435	3½
Fort Wayne	9	15	.375	5
West Division				
W	L	Pct.	GB	
x-Wisconsin	16	7	.696	—
Cedar Rapids	14	10	.583	2½
Beloit	13	11	.542	3½
Peoria	12	12	.500	4½
Quad Cities	11	13	.458	5½
South Bend	7	17	.292	9½

**Saturday, July 20**  
West Michigan 5, Dayton 0  
Great Lakes 6, Lansing 2, 12  
innings  
Quad Cities 8, South Bend 7, 10  
innings  
Lake County 10, Fort Wayne 4  
Wisconsin 4, Cedar Rapids 3  
Beloit 5, Peoria 4, 10  
innings  
**Sunday, July 21**  
Lansing 1, Great Lakes 0  
Lake County 6, Fort Wayne 3  
Dayton 4, West Michigan 2  
Quad Cities 12, South Bend 2  
Wisconsin 5, Cedar Rapids 3  
Beloit 8, Peoria 1  
**Monday, July 22**  
No games scheduled  
**Tuesday, July 23**  
Lansing at West Michigan, 6:35 p.m.  
Lake County at Great Lakes, 7:05 p.m.  
Peoria at South Bend, 7:05 p.m.  
Fort Wayne at Dayton, 7:05 p.m.  
Cedar Rapids at Quad Cities, 7:30 p.m.  
Wisconsin at Beloit, 7:35 p.m.  
**Wednesday, July 24**  
Peoria at South Bend, 12:05 p.m.  
Lansing at West Michigan, 12:05 p.m.  
Lake County at Great Lakes, 7:05 p.m.  
Fort Wayne at Dayton, 7:05 p.m.  
Cedar Rapids at Quad Cities, 7:30 p.m.

# U.S. women's hoops

(Continued from Page A1)

no answer for Arike Ogunbowale.  
The MVP of Saturday night's game scored all 34 of her points in the second half of the victory. She also had earned MVP honors in 2021.  
"We'll take this one on the chin, keep moving forward," Stewart said. "Don't want to peak too soon. We're excited to get to London and really focus on this team and what our ultimate goal is."  
That goal is continuing one of the greatest Olympic streaks ever. The Americans haven't lost a game in the Olympics since 1992.  
"This is going to help us tremendously. We don't get that many game opportunities," said Stewart, who had 31 points to lead the U.S. "We can go back and watch the film and focus on how we can continue to be better. It was like a little bit of deja vu feeling but just locking in."  
The U.S. women's team is scheduled to play Germany in London in an exhibition game Tuesday before going to France for

the Olympics. The Americans are in a pool with Belgium, Japan and Germany.  
"We have work to do and we know that," U.S. coach Cheryl Reeve said. "Sometimes it's good, adversity, etc. I don't think we needed a game like this to have our attention. We know how hard it is to do what we're trying to do and we have work to do to get there."  
That work starts with getting time together on and off the court. The players had a lot of other responsibilities over All-Star week-end besides the game.  
They only got to practice as a team twice before Saturday's game. Now they'll have some time together with a lot less distraction. That will help them improve and get ready for what matters most — capping the Olympics with another gold medal.  
"It's not time to panic. It's time to learn and grow and figure out how we can be our best together," Stewart said. "We have a group of very unselfish players and everybody wants to succeed here."

# Dreams of contention for Elly De La Cruz and the Reds take a hit with a sweep at Washington

By BEN NUCKOLS  
AP Sports Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Elly De La Cruz predicted before the second half of the season began that the Cincinnati Reds were going to make the playoffs and "win it all."  
That optimistic goal became even more of a long shot on Sunday, when the still-rebuilding Washington Nationals completed a three-game sweep of the visiting Reds.  
The Reds came out of the break three games under .500 but only three games out of the final NL wild-card spot. They fell to 47-53 during their lost weekend at Washington, four games out of the wild card and last in the NL Central.  
"We have so much to play for. So much time left ahead of us that that's the focus now," Reds manager David Bell said. "You have to find ways to improve, especially when things aren't going well."  
De La Cruz, Cincinnati's All-Star shortstop, doubled in the sixth inning Sunday to extend his hitting streak to nine games. He stole two bases in the series to increase his major league-leading total to 48, but the Reds' sparkplug only scored one run in the three losses.  
He tried to take third on a hard grounder to the left side Sunday and was tagged out. With the game tied in the eighth, he walked and stole second but was stranded when Jeimer Candelario popped up.  
Cincinnati got into playoff contention thanks to aggressive baserunning — the Reds lead the majors in steals — and a strong starting rotation led by All-Star Hunter Greene, Andrew Abbott and Nick Lodolo.  
Then they got a huge boost from rookie Rece Hinds, who was recalled from Triple-A Louisville on July 8, homered in his big league debut and went on to hit five homers in his first six games, earning NL Player of the Week honors. He was the first player to receive that designation in his first week in the majors since Houston's Tyler White and

Colorado's Trevor Story in the opening week of the 2016 season.  
The Reds went 5-1 during Hinds' scalding start, but he's 1 for 12 since and got his first day off Sunday.  
Bell said neither he nor Hinds were overreacting to the rookie's brief slump. He tried to ease any pressure on Hinds by chatting with him about baserunning.  
"He's done great since he's been here. You obviously want to keep that going," Bell said. "But there's so many ways in this game to contribute and compete. I haven't talked to Rece specifically about his hitting, but we've talked about other things."  
Any further contributions from Hinds would boost a team that struggles to cash in on its speed. The Reds rank 27th in the majors in batting and 22nd in on-base percentage.  
They knocked Nationals starter MacKenzie Gore out of Saturday night's game after two innings but couldn't put Washington away, leaving nine runners on base as Washington rallied for a 5-4 win.  
On Sunday, they got two solo homers but otherwise did little against Nationals starter Jake Irvin.  
Cincinnati will try to salvage its nine-game trip starting Monday at NL wild card leader Atlanta. After three against the Braves, the Reds play a weekend series at Tampa Bay.  
"There were some missed opportunities and games we could have won this series for sure," said Stuart Fairchild, who homered Sunday. "It's unfortunate, so, yeah. Let's move on."  
Before the Washington series began, Bell took no issue with De La Cruz's prediction of a World Series title.  
"Perfect. I mean, that's the goal. That was the goal in spring training," he said. "We need our improvement to show up, because we know we have to get better. We know we can play better. The way we do that is have the same approach."

# Schauffele wins British Open

(Continued from Page A1)

going the longest time between majors after his 2013 U.S. Open win.  
"Gutted when I walked off the course and it hit me hard because I was so strong out there today," Rose said. "Xander got it going. I hit a couple of really good putts that didn't fall, and then suddenly that lead stretched. I left it all out there. I'm super proud of how I competed."  
Horschel, who started the final round with a one-shot lead in his bid to win his first major, dropped back around the turn and birdied his last three holes for a 68.  
"I'm disappointed. I should feel disappointed. I had a chance to win a major," Horschel said. "I just made a few too many mistakes today when I didn't need to."  
The player Schauffele had to track down was Thriston Lawrence of South Africa, who birdied three of four holes to end the front nine with a 32.  
Schauffele was two shots behind when it all changed so suddenly. Schauffele hit a wedge out of the left rough on the difficult 11th and judged it perfectly to 3 feet for birdie. He hit another wedge to 15 feet for birdie on the 13th, and capped his pivotal run with a 12-foot birdie putt on the par-3 14th.  
Lawrence finally dropped a shot on the 12th and didn't pick up any shots the rest of the day. He closed with a 68 and earned a small consolation — a trip to the Masters next April, his first time to Augusta National.  
Scottie Scheffler, who got within one shot of the lead briefly on the front nine, lost his way with a three-putt from 6 feet for a double bogey on the ninth hole. Scheffler finished his round by topping a tee shot on the 18th and making another double bogey. The world's No. 1 player closed with a 72 and tied for seventh.  
He stuck around to share a hug with Schauffele, the two top players in golf. Schauffele was the only player this year to finish in the top 10 in all four majors.  
He finished at 9-under 275 and earned \$3.1 million, pushing him over \$15 million for the season.  
Schauffele went from the heaviest major trophy at the PGA Championship to the smallest and oldest, the famed claret jug.  
"I just can't wait to drink out of it," he said, smiling as wide as ever.

the lead at one point Sunday.  
They just couldn't keep up with Schauffele. No one could.  
"He has a lot of horsepower," Rose said. "His good with a wedge, he's great with a putter, he hits the ball a long way, obviously his iron play is strong. So he's got a lot of weapons out there. I think probably one of his most unappreciated ones is his mentality. He's such a calm guy out there."  
"I don't know what he's feeling, but he certainly makes it look very easy."  
Even with so many players in contention early, the engraver was able to get to work early on those 16 letters across the base of the silver claret jug.  
Schauffele kept staring at golf's oldest trophy in his press conference, looking forward to gazing at it in private, wondering what kind of drink to pour from it. He said he'd leave that up to his father, Stefan, who missed his son's first major title and was blubbing on the phone with him.  
As to where that final round ranks -- Henrik Stenson shot 63 when he won his duel with Phil Mickelson at Royal Troon in 2016 -- Schauffele left no doubt where it stood in his own career.  
"At the very tip-top," Schauffele said. "Best round I've played."  
Playing in the third-to-last group, he matched the round of the championship with a score that was just over eight shots better than the field average.  
The final birdie was a pitch over a pot bunker to 4 feet on the par-5 16th. The grandstands at The Open are among the largest, lining both sides of the fairway as Schauffele walked through and soaked up the cheers.  
"I got chills," he said.  
The 30-year-old from San Diego became the first player since Jordan Spieth in 2015 to win his first two majors in the same season. And he extended American dominance on this Scottish links as the seventh Open champion in the last eight visits to Royal Troon.  
It was the 11th straight year for a first-time British Open champion, tying a tournament record.  
Rose started one shot behind and closed with a 67. That was only good for second place. He had a chance to set a record by

# Piastri wins first F1 race after Norris obeys team orders in 1-2 for McLaren at Hungarian GP

BUDAPEST (AP) — Australian driver Oscar Piastri won his first Formula One race after teammate Lando Norris handed him back the lead to complete a McLaren one-two at the Hungarian Grand Prix on Sunday.  
That outstanding result came after a long and at times awkward back-and-forth between the British team and its top driver before Norris finally obeyed orders to let Piastri back in front.  
Piastri started second behind pole-sitting Norris and beat him to the first turn. Norris then got ahead after a pit-stop strategy that

favoured him despite being behind his teammate, but he eventually listed to team orders and let Piastri take the victory.  
"This is the day I dreamed of as a kid, standing on the top step of the podium," the 23-year-old Piastri said. "A bit complicated at the end, but I put myself in a good position off the start."  
"I had a lot of trust in Lando, and I think it was a fair decision to swap us back at the end."  
Lewis Hamilton finished third behind the papaya-colored pair for his record-extending 200th career podium.



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 <p><b>Genesis Pest Services</b> genesispestservices.com</p>	 <p><b>MR. KOOL</b> HEATING AND COOLING mrkoolheatingandair.com</p>	 <p><b>DAZEYS SUPPLY</b> dazeys.com/bluffton-in</p>	
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 <p><b>INDIANA FARM BUREAU INSURANCE</b> Bluffton Office   (260) 824-2234 infarmbureau.com</p>	 <p><b>3 RIVERS</b> 3riversfcu.org</p>	 <p><b>Myers FUNERAL HOMES</b> myersfuneralhomes.com</p>	 <p><b>KELLY'S COLLISION CENTER, INC.</b> 820 W. Washington Street, Bluffton kellysautocollision.com</p>
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# Liability concerns and splitting checks

Dear Annie: I run a small bed and breakfast in a very small, rural, up-and-coming town. We have recently had a number of guests who are in their 90s who have had health issues or injuries while staying with us. This has me very much on edge.

Many of these folks have grown up in this town and want to come back to visit family or see the many new developments in our town. While this is lovely, I believe the travel and unfamiliar surroundings can make some elderly people very out of sorts. We do not want to age discriminate, but we are concerned that people might endanger themselves by coming here, especially if not with other family or friends.

What is the kindest way I can determine if a guest can handle the travel? I don't want anyone getting hurt or worse.

Thank you. — The Innkeeper  
Dear Innkeeper: There is no kind way to tell people based on their age that they cannot stay with you; that IS age discrimination. While your concerns are real, a young person or a baby could get injured at your bed and breakfast, too.

If you are that concerned, you could consult an attorney about creating a document that would protect your bed and breakfast from any liability. But what is this town where so many people live to their 90s? No wonder it is up-and-coming!

Dear Annie: For the past 10 years, my husband and I have enjoyed dining out with a couple of our friends, always splitting the check evenly. Recently, we embraced sobriety and no longer consume the expensive drinks

that significantly add to the bill. Despite this, we continue to split the check evenly, which doesn't seem quite fair.

We value our friendship and enjoy our time together, but we are unsure how to approach this topic. We don't want to look cheap, but we also want to be fair. Is it weird, rude or impolite to request that we each pay for our own meals and drinks moving forward? — Sober and Confused

Dear Sober and Confused: How much more are we talking that they drink? If it's one or two drinks, then I would let it go. It's nice to treat your friends. If you really feel like you are being treated unfairly, you could always order an extra side or dessert, but I think that would be petty.

If this really bothers you, why not ask the waiter to give you two bills — one for you and your husband and one for your friends? If they ask why you changed, just be honest and explain the reason. You're not drinking anymore. And congratulations for that!

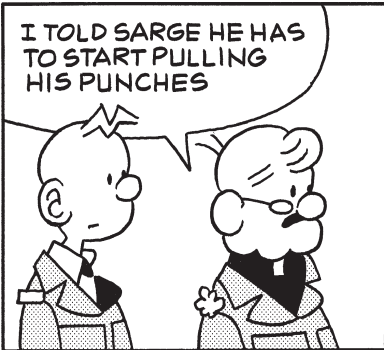
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## Dear Annie



## BEETLE BAILEY



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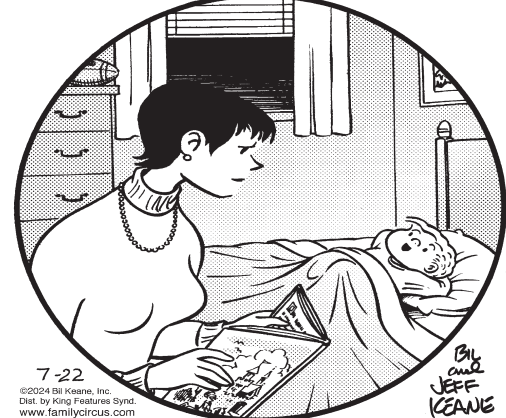
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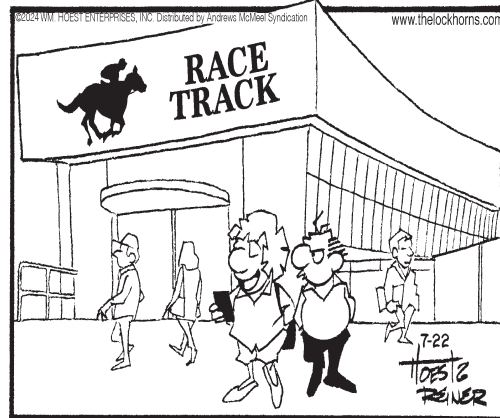
## CRANKSHAFT



## THE FAMILY CIRCUS



## The LOCKHORNS



## My Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham



# The Bible is the bestselling book of all time

Question: As a literature teacher, it is stunning to read the great literary works that society is so proud of, yet the Bible — the bestselling book of all time — is set aside as archaic and culturally outdated. While the Bible contains a great deal of tragedy, it also contains beautiful poetry, amazing history, and biographical intrigue. — B.L.

Answer: The playwright William Shakespeare wrote numerous classics, some of which are called "tragedies." Hamlet, Macbeth, King Lear, Julius Caesar, and Romeo and Juliet, are only some of Shakespeare's more classic tragedies. We seldom wonder why these plays have remained classics. After all, they depict tragedy; the stories are, them-

selves, tragic. In each instance, the characters are victims of their own circumstances and are powerless to free themselves from them.

Not so for the Christian. We have the power to triumph over tragedy, even in situations that might seem hopeless and unredeemable in the world. The key to understanding tragedy is to understand its source. Death and pain and tragedy came into the world because of sin. Many people blame God for tragedy, but it's a result of sin having entered the world. However, Christ has triumphed over tragedy, and He wants us to do the same because in such triumph God is glorified. "Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ" (2

Corinthians 2:14, NKJV). Those who read the Scriptures as magnificent literature, breathtaking poetry, or history — overlooking the story of salvation — miss the Bible's purpose and message.

The Bible that has given consolation, comfort, and salvation to millions in centuries past, is still enduring and speaks to the human heart, because it's the voice of God Himself. It's a living book that works its way into the human heart, mind, and soul.

(This column is based on the words and writings of the late Rev. Billy Graham.)

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Table with columns for date, channel, and program details. Includes sub-sections for Cable Channels and Freeform.

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Includes a solution time of 21 mins and Saturday's answer.

Grid for Saturday's crossword puzzle answer.

