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Bluffton surveyed for citywide marketing efforts

Firm hopes to reveal new logos during Street Fair

By JONATHAN SNYDER

Reusser Marketing reported over 700 Bluffton residents responded to its survey for the city's new marketing and rebrand-

Bluffton contracted Reusser on March 5 to rebrand the city, including making a new logo and

color set, and bringing the core values of Bluffton together into one comprehensive document. Surveys for the plan were sent out July 16 with various Common Council members sharing the surveys on their Facebook pages.

The overarching theme of the plan focuses on the local community. Reusser's Senior Product Designer Joe Beste, who grew up in Uniondale, stated Bluffton is unique because so many parts of Wells County call the city home. While cities in other areas sometimes have their own separate ideologies, the people of Wells all have some stake in Bluffton,

according to Beste.
"So many residents of Wells County call Bluffton home," Beste said. "Everyone kind of migrates to Bluffton. It was really cool just thinking about that. How many people in southern Wells will travel to Bluffton on a daily basis and same with people in northern Wells, how ... everything they need is down in Bluffton too. It's not just Bluffton residents that call

this place home. I think everyone in Wells County is connected to Bluffton in some way."

The amount of public feedback amazed Director of Creative Tommy Moore. Moore stated that similar projects have yielded around 300 responses on average. Moore noted that more responses means a better idea of what the people want to see in the

(Continued on Page 2)



Curbs for Interurban Trail installed

Recently, workers have installed ADA compliant curbs for the Interurban Trail leading to Lancaster Park. Parks Department Superintendent Brandy Fiechter stated that work to fix the parking lot at Lancaster Park is completed. Crews are set to re-mobilize Monday. (Photos by Jonathan Snyder)





Feedback on Indiana's diploma overhaul plan continues to pour in

By CASEY SMITH **Indiana Capital Chronicle**

As state education officials pump the brakes on a plan to overhaul Indiana's high school diplomas, concerns from Hoosier teachers, students and families are mounting over the proposed grad-

uation requirements.

With the deadline fast approaching for the State Board of Education to finalize the changes, state leaders are asking for more statewide feedback — including what's expected to be a lengthy public forum scheduled for next

Although the original plan was for the state board to vote on the new diplomas in September, Indiana Secretary of Education Katie Jenner said at a board meeting last week that — in response to feedback received already — the process is slowing down, at least somewhat.

Jenner said the board will hear a revised draft proposal at the August meeting, followed by a second round of feedback, including a public hearing, before the board releases a final proposal.

Under a law passed by Indiana legislators in 2023, the state must adopt new diploma requirements by December.

Schools could choose to opt in and start offering the new diplomas as early as the 2025-26 academic year. The new diplomas will take effect for all Hoosier students beginning with the Class of 2029, who are entering eighth grade this

Paramount to the new plan. according to state officials, is maximized "flexibility" for students to personalize learning pathways and experiences, including with college courses taken while still in high school, as well as the ability to count internships, apprenticeships, military experience and other work-based learning toward their graduation requirements.

While the plan answers repeat-

ed calls for the state's curriculum to better prepare students for posthigh school employment and boost the state's declining college-going rate, the draft plan has garnered increasing criticism for its exclusion of certain course requirements, like those in history, foreign language and fine arts.

Some educators are also worried about plans to eliminate the current Academic Honors diploma, linked to college-going.

What's proposed, so far? Currently, Hoosier students can work toward one of numerous diploma designations, including the general, Core 40, academic honors, or technical honors options. Some schools additionally offer the International Baccalaureate diploma, which is dependent on successful completion of specific assessments and examina-

tions during grades 11 and 12. State education officials conceded that the existing diploma system is outdated and confusing for both parents and students. Jenner previously said it especially lacks options for students to get hands-on training or earn high-value credentials, given the various course requirements. The move now, however, is to be less 'course-obsessed."

As laid out in the proposal. Indiana's future diplomas would include the "Indiana GPS Diploma" — a more flexible, personalized version of the current Core 40 diploma — and the "Indiana GPS Diploma Plus."

Three transcript seals added to their diplomas would allow students to show they're ready for enrollment, employment or enlist-

Ron Sandlin, the state education department's senior director of school performance and transformation, said the proposed seals would focus on readiness — but not eligibility. Each seal track would have required courses, and

(Continued on Page 2)

Chinese, Russian bombers patrolling off Alaska raise concerns

By LOLITA C. BALDOR and DIDI TANG **Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Russian and Chinese bombers flew together for the first time in international airspace off the coast of Alaska, in a new show of expanding military cooperation that Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin said Thursday raises concerns.

The flights Wednesday were not seen as a threat, and the bombers were tracked and intercepted by U.S. and Canadian fighter jets.

But it was the first time that Chinese bomber aircraft have flown within the Alaskan Air Defense Identification Zone. And it was the first time Chinese and Russian aircraft have taken off from the same base in northeast Russia.

'This is a relationship that we have been concerned about throughout - mostly because we're concerned about China providing support to Russia's illegal and unnecessary war in Ukraine," Austin told reporters.

The North American Aero-

space Defense Command, or NORAD, detected, tracked and intercepted the two Russian Tupolev Tu-95 long-range bombers and the two Chinese H-6 bombers. The aircraft, said Austin. didn't enter U.S. airspace and only got within about 200 miles of the coast.

They were, however, within the ADIZ, which begins where sovereign airspace ends, and aircraft must be easily identifiable and file flight plans for authorization in order to meet national security requirements.

China and Russia both acknowledged what they called a joint patrol over the Bering Sea, which divides Russia and Alaska.

Their growing military relationship has triggered concerns both among NATO allies and with nations in the Asia-Pacific. NATO allies have called China a "decisive enabler" of Russia's war against Ukraine through its "no-limits partnership" with Russia and its large-scale support for Russia's defense industrial base.

The allies issues a sternly worded statement, approved by the 32 members at their summit in Washington earlier this month.

The Russian Defense Ministry said the patrol also flew over the Chukchi Sea, which is on the north side of the Bering Strait, and that the exercises lasted more than five hours.

The joint patrol tested and improved coordination between the two air forces, said Zhang Xiaogang, a spokesperson for

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Also...

Diversions 5



Today has a pocket full of sunshine and sunscreen

Today	Saturday	Sunday
High 80	High 83	High 84
Low 55	Low 62	Low 69

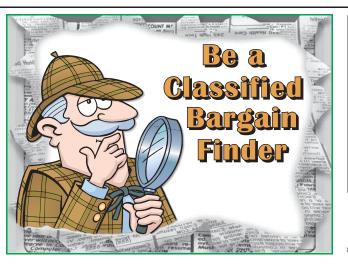
More Weather on Page 2

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Marketing efforts

(Continued from Page 1) plan, making for a brand that more people can rally behind.

"(We have seen) A massive amount of responses. which is kind of unheard of, honestly, with some of those surveys," Moore said. "But you see a lot of really good feedback, which we're processing now, of people excited about opportunities, even marketing the city for new jobs, new residents, new things (like that). I think it's been really, really fun."

Both the community and city officials worked together on finding out what makes Bluffton unique. Council members Chandler Gerber and Blake Fiechter attended a meeting with Reusser where important pieces of Bluffton's community were brainstormed and put together, giving Reusser an overall picture of the city.

One of the main goals of the rebrand is to tie together some historical sites and events of the city to showcase the community's perseverance. Beste cited the community's efforts to help during major floods and the Trenton Oil Boom as hallmarks of the community's

resiliency and willingness to help others.

"When we (Reusser) were digging into Bluffton, there is a really cool timeline of perseverance through the city that kind of keeps ringing up," Beste said. "We wanted to bring that into the logo."

In particular, Bluffton's current nickname, "The Parlor City" is something that will be kept in the rebrand. Beste liked that the nickname was given to the city by traveler's passing through, not by the city itself. He hopes that shedding light onto why the city was given that nickname will build a closer community.

"I think sounds really good," Beste said "We (Bluffton) are the only one here with this nickname, and we should lean into that more. Then I think if we can somehow tell that story through branding, it kind of helps people ... come together and rally under these logos, or these flags, or these colors and just drives a sense of hometown pride."

Another intriguing part of the plan has been the color scheme, according to Reusser. A color scheme of primarily red and black could alienate others who go to Norwell or Southern Wells schools, something that Beste cited as something to avoid.

The new brand comes with a possible effort to make city equipment uniform in appearance. While it will be the council's decision if they choose to spend the money on new items such as painting the water tower and new vinyl wraps for utility trucks, Fiechter noted that the council's more conservative financial policy could see these items delayed should they choose to go for them.

The hope for Reusser and Bluffton is that the new brand will unify the values the community prides itself on. Beste stated that having community values come together in one place gives the community and its officials a firm reference on what the community cares about, so they can keep those values in mind when making decisions.

"Most of the times when we do these things for cities, you hear a lot of like, We have more important issues to face, rather than a logo and flag design,'

Beste said. "But I like to think that if we have a good logo, we have a good brand, that's something that the city can rally under to face those larger challenges.'

'We've got a lot of activities. We've got a rich heritage. We've got a vibrant, thriving community that we just need to tie together,' Gerber said. "There is so much happening and so much activity that oftentimes it feels like you get lost in the dust cloud of all the activity. If we could just get everybody rowing in the same direction, we can go a long ways."

"If we want to be appealing for future residents that are going to live here, future businesses that are going to relocate here or invest here ... I think we have to have a very appealing first appearance and I think that branding is the start of it," Fiech-

Gerber stated that the goal is to unveil the new logo and colors at the Bluffton Free Street Fair. If that timeline is missed, however, Gerber stated that the plan will be released before the end of the year.

ionathan@news-banner.com

Weather

Friday, July 26, 2024 (24-hour observations at 11:11 p.m. Thursday at the **Fort Wayne International Airport)** High: 60; Low: 81; Precipitation: None

Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 1.32 feet at 7:45 p.m. Thursday

Wells County forecast

Today: Sunny, with a high near 80. Calm wind becoming east around 5 mph in the morning.

Tonight: Clear, with a low around 55. East wind around

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 83. Calm wind. **Saturday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 62.

Calm wind.

Sunday: A 30% chance of showers and thunderstorms after 2 p.m. Partly sunny, with a high near 84.

Sunday Night: A 40% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 69.

Monday: Showers likely and possibly a thunderstorm. Partly sunny, with a high near 82. Chance of precipitation

Monday Night: A 50% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 69.

Tuesday: A chance of showers and thunderstorms, then showers likely and possibly a thunderstorm after 2 p.m. Partly sunny, with a high near 84. Chance of precipitation is 60%.

Tuesday Night: Showers and thunderstorms likely. Partly cloudy, with a low around 67. Chance of precipitation is

Wednesday: A 30% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 85.

U.S. economic growth increased last quarter to 2.8% annual rate

WASHINGTON (AP) — The nation's economy accelerated last quarter at a strong 2.8% annual pace, with consumers and businesses helping drive growth despite the pressure of continually high interest rates.

Thursday's report from the Commerce Department said the gross domestic product — the economy's total output of goods and services picked up in the April-June quarter after growing at a 1.4% pace in the January-March period. Economists had expected a weaker 1.9%

annual pace of growth. The GDP report also showed that inflation continues to ease, while still remaining above the Federal Reserve's 2% target. The central bank's favored inflation gauge rose at a 2.6% annual rate last quarter, down from 3.4% in the first quarter of the year. Excluding volatile food and energy prices, so-called core PCE inflation increased at a 2.9% pace. That was down from 3.7% from January through March.

The latest figures should reinforce confidence that the U.S. economy is on the verge of achieving a rare "soft landing," whereby high interest rates, engineered by the Fed, tame inflation without tipping the economy into a recession.

Helping boost last quarter's expansion was consumer spending, the heart of the U.S. economy. It rose at a 2.3% annual rate in the April-June quarter, up from a 1.5% pace in the January-March period. Spending on goods, such as cars and appliances, increased at a 2.5% rate after falling at a 2.3% pace in the first three months of the year.

Business investment was up last quarter, led by a 11.6% annual increase in equipment investment. Growth also picked up because businesses increased their inventories. On the other hand, a surge in imports, which are subtracted from GDP, shaved about 0.9 percentage point from the April-June growth.

Fed officials have made clear that with inflation edging toward their 2% target level, they're prepared to start cutting interest rates soon, something they're widely expected to do in September.

"The Fed will be reassured" by Thursday's GDP report, said Bill Adams, chief economist at Comerica Bank. "With inflation trending lower ... the Fed thinks that it's getting close to the time to cut interest

Rate reductions by the Fed would, over time, reduce consumers' borrowing costs for things like mortgages, auto loans and credit cards.

The state of the economy has seized Americans' attention as the presidential campaign has intensified. Though inflation has slowed sharply, to 3% from 9.1% in 2022, prices remain well above their pre-pandemic levels.

This year's economic slowdown reflects, in large part, the much higher borrowing rates for home and auto loans, credit cards and many business loans resulting from the Fed's aggressive series of interest rate hikes.

The Fed's rate hikes 11 of them in 2022 and 2023 — were a response to the flare-up in inflation that began in the spring of 2021 as the economy rebounded with unexpected speed from the COVID-19 recession, causing severe supply shortages. Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 made things worse by inflating prices for the energy and grains the world depends on. Prices spiked across the country and the

Diploma overhaul plan

(Continued from Page 1) students could earn multiple seals and apply seals to both diploma types.

Students, parents, teachers push back

But students and parents expressed worries about the model during last week's SBOE meeting, which lasted more than four hours.

That included a trio of Hamilton Southeastern High School students who pleaded for state education leaders to keep fine arts courses as part of the diplomas' foundational skills require-

All rising seniors and members of the high school's marching band, each highlighted the benefits of music education and asked that marching band, jazz band, symphony, orchestra, drama and choir be considered co-curricular classes — which could count towards foundational graduation requirements rather than extracurricular activities.

"I can vouch that the skills I learned through playing my instrument every day during marching camp actually gave me more resources and time to grow my abilities compared to my classmates that did not participate in those extra activities," said Kayla Wease, a 17-year-old senior at Hamilton Southeastern.

Dylan Balka, another of the students, further asked the board to count band activities as work-based learning experiences under the new diploma requirements for juniors and seniors.

Without the fine arts program," he said, "I wouldn't have as strong of a dedication for anything else in my life."

Separately ,numerous foreign language teachers have spoken against the lack of credits awarded to students who take foreign language courses under the new proposal. Many colleges require foreign language credits or entry.

And parents like Leslie Wells, whose two children attend Perry Township schools, said they're concerned that requirements under the "GPS Diploma Plus" won't be attainable for many students.

"Dual credit AP honors courses require more work inside and outside the classroom," Wells said at last week's SBOE meeting. "Adding workbased learning requirements on top of that makes it impossible. ... If there's concern about forcing non-collegebound students to take college-ready courses, we should have an equal concern about forcing college-bound students to fulfill these workplace learning requirements."

Rep. Sheila Klinker, D-Lafayette, additionally called for board members to create diplomas that prepare noncollege-bound students, but still offer an equivalent to the current academic honors diploma for those who want to pursue higher education.

Doing so, she said, ensures those students are "competitive applicants for university admissions and prospective scholarships.'

'Our state desperately needs wellrounded, comprehensive diplomas that encourage our youth to be critical thinkers. Students who want to work after graduation must be introduced to skilled trade apprenticeships and employment opportunities. However, we must continue to foster excitement about the arts," Klinker, a former teacher, said in a statement.

"I fear our smaller, public high schools will be forced to cut some severely underfunded, and if these classes are not required, they are on the cutting block," she continued. "Let's give our Hoosier youth the best chance in life by inspiring them to be professionally ambitious and passionately creative.

How Hoosiers can weigh in

Hoosiers are invited to offer a first round of online feedback through July 30. So far, the state has received more than 6,300 digital feedback submis-

An in-person public hearing is scheduled for 10 a.m. the same day in Conference Rooms Four and Five of the Indiana Government Center South in Indianapolis.

SBOE officials emphasized earlier this month that all comments given online will be reviewed and weighed equally as those provided in-person.

Rep. Sue Errington, D-Muncie, has additionally scheduled a town hall meeting for Friday to discuss the restructuring of Indiana's high school diploma system.

The meeting, open to the public, will run from 6 to 8 p.m. at Kennedy Library, located at 1700 W. McGalliard Road in Muncie.

In a news release, Errington said the proposed plan "would completely erase" the state's existing diplomas and reduce requirements for multiple subjects — "entirely restructuring high school education as we know it.'

She cautioned that there is no academic honors diploma under the plan and said neither of the proposed diplomas' baseline requirements meet admissions requirements for Ball State University — located in her district or other in-state universities.

"I have received an outpouring of concern from House District 34 parents and educators about the proposed diploma redesign," Errington said in a statement. "I hope to see you at a public listening session so you can get vour questions answered and share your thoughts on the proposal with stakeholders.

Rep. Victoria Garcia Wilburn, D-Fishers, is also holding two public listening sessions for district constituents to learn about and discuss the proposal. One focused on Carmel Clay Schools and Washington Township Schools took place Monday evening, and another — from 6:30 to 7:30p.m. on July 29, in the Hamilton East Public Library in Fishers — will center around the Hamilton Southeastern School Corporation.

"I have received an outpouring of concern from House District 32 parents and educators about the proposed diploma redesign," Garcia Wilburn said in a news release. "People move to House District 32 for our great public schools that set students up for success in life, success in higher education and success in their careers. The focus of this plan on career training at the expense of rigorous academic coursework is threatening to derail our district public high schools' track record of success."

combat readiness training

and said that China would

Chinese, Russian bombers

(Continued from Page 1) China's Defense Ministry. He said it was the eighth joint strategic air patrol since 2019. He declined to comment when asked if it was the first such patrol over the Bering Sea.

While Russia's military has long been active in the north Pacific, China has emerged as a new actor in recent years as its growing navy and air force expand their presence farther from the country's shores. Shen Yi, a professor

of international politics at Fudan University, wrote in his column that the Chinese flights were to "tell certain countries our strategic deterrence strength" and had symbolic significance in the U.S.-China rivalry.

"China's boosting its capabilities to carry out effective strategic gaming with the United States and to maintain strategic stability," Shen wrote. "As this system continuously improves, it can effectively deter the U.S.'

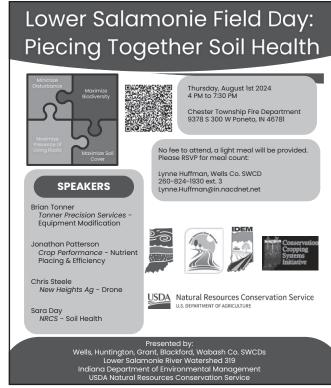
A photo released by the Russian Defense Ministry showed a Russian Su-30 fighter jet escorting a Chinese bomber. Another photo posted online by the military channel of China's state broadcaster CCTV showed Russian and Chinese long-winged bombers flying in parallel formation against mostly blue skies.

The Japanese military has grown increasingly concerned about joint China-Russia drills and the potential threat they pose to the security of Japan and the region.

A fleet of Russian and Chinese warplanes including Tu-95s and H-6s was seen flying together last December over the waters between Japan and Korea, Japan's Defense Ministry said. At the time, China's Defense Ministry called it the seventh joint strategic air patrol with Russia.

Chinese naval ships have showed up in international waters near Alaska, most recently in mid-July when the Coast Guard spotted four ships in the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone, which extends 200 nautical miles from the

continue to conduct far-Zhang described the seas training to improve the naval activity as routine capabilities of its troops.



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TUESDAY, AUGUST 6th (5:00pm - 6:00pm)

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Police Notebook

City:

Wednesday, 2:24 p.m., 1500 block of Greenfield Lane. Report of people fish-

ing on private property.
Wednesday, 3:04 p.m., West Dustman Road and Ridge Plane. Driver cited for no financial responsibility.

Wednesday, 3:16 p.m., 300 block of South Liberty Street. Report of couch left on sidewalk.

Wednesday, 5:48 p.m., 400 block of South Indiana Street. Report of fraud.

Wednesday, 5:55 p.m., Pak A Sak North. Report of loose dogs.

Wednesday, 6:36 p.m., Wells County Annex. Officer jump started vehicle.

Thursday, 7:48 a.m., UTZ Quality Foods. Report of terminated employee refusing to leave.

Report of domestic issues.

County:

Wednesday, 1:22 p.m., Wells County Jail. Warrant served to Kodi Hamilton.

Wednesday, 1:35 p.m., S.R. 124 and North 300W, Bluffton. Driver attempted to evade officer by pulling into residence. Got cited for speeding anyway.

Wednesday, 1:40 p.m., North 600E and East 100N, Bluffton. Caller reported goats on the road in the intersection. Electric fence stopped working, goats took advantage of the technological failure.

Thursday, 6:18 a.m., North 450E and East 300N, Bluffton. Driver cited for speeding 69 in a 55 mph

Thursday, 10:47 a.m., set at \$1,500.

Thursday, 1:05 p.m., 1100 Clean Fuels National. Caller block of West South Street. reported a license plate was stolen in another state.

ARRESTS

Kodi Jo An Hamilton, 27, Bluffton; criminal conversion, a Class A misdemeanor. Bond set at \$1,500.

Jason Boyd Cook, 46, New Haven; false informing, a Class B misdemeanor. Bond set at \$1,000.

Noah James Turner, 25, Angola; probation violation, a Class A misdemeanor. No bond set.

Ashlen Jade Ramer, 24, Bluffton; probation violation, a Class B misdemeanor and probation violation, a Class C misdemeanor. No bond set.

Gregory Tyrone Paul Marshall, 25, Ossian; leaving the scene of a crash, a Class A misdemeanor. Bond



Indiana University released an independent review with recommendations on future "expressive activity." (Niki Kelly/Indiana Capital Chronicle)

IU releases review of April protest activity and enforcement

BY MIA HILKOWITZ **Indiana Capital Chronicle**

Almost three months after police arrested 57 protesters at a pro-Palestine encampment at Indiana University-Bloomington, a new independent review released Thursday found the university's inconsistent enforcement of its own policies created "confusion and frustration"

and made governing the campus difficult. In a 77-page report, law firm Cooley LLP presented new findings about the events leading up to and following these arrests, IU's campus climate and its

administration's response. In a press release, Rebekah Donaleski, a lead investigator for Cooley LLP, said the recommendations will help the uni-

versity and its community move forward. "We found that the university's actions were driven by a focus on campus safety and free speech in a challenging and rap-

idly evolving situation," Donaleski said. According to an IU press release, Cooley LLP had "unrestricted access" to IU during its investigation and interviewed campus representatives including administrators, students, faculty and IUPD officers - along with the Monroe County prosecutor and ISP officers. The law firm also reviewed more than 10,000 internal documents and emails and 100 hours of video footage related to the events.

The report also found that an IU ad hoc committee decision to change a decades-long expressive policy — a change that prohibited the use of temporary structures in Dunn Meadow without prior approval — the day before the start of the encampment, was made in "good

"However, doing so the night before the planned encampment caused a number of unintended negative consequences," the report continues.

The report also states that IU asked protestors to remove the structures and continue the protest without them, but some protestors refused.

"Ultimately, using the Indiana State Police's assistance was the safest option available to remove the encampment," the report said.

Additionally, Cooley LLP found IUPD's understaffing caused "a myriad of negative effects."

Recommendations

The law firm presented eight recommendations for the university.

The first recommendation was to approve a new expressive activity policy before the start of the fall semester, which kicks off Aug. 26.

IU administration shared a draft of a new expressive policy with students and faculty in late June. The policy regulates and protects most forms of protest - but explicitly does not allow overnight encampments. It also would allow university or law enforcement officials to enforce the policy. Some campus stakeholders — including leadership for the IU Student Government and the Bloomington chapter of the American Association of University Professors — have criticized the policy for vague language and a lack of student and faculty involvement in decision making, among other concerns.

The IU Board of Trustees convene for a special meeting at 1 p.m. July 29 at IU Bloomington. The meeting will take place in the Peterson Room at the IU Foundation, 1500 N. State Road 46

Trustees will use this meeting to discuss the proposed policy on expressive

Similarly, the group also recommends IU establish a plan to implement the new expressive activity policy, and start new training, communication and audit procedures to ensure it consistently applies the policy.

Get Ready

Check Up Today!

INDOT to launch camera speed enforcement pilot for construction zones

By LESLIE BONILLA MUÑIZ **Indiana Capital Chronicle**

The Indiana Department of Transportation will begin piloting camera speed limit enforcement in Hoosier highway construction zones next month, the agency announced Wednesday.

It'll target speeding of 11 miles per hour over the speed limit and greater.

In 2023, Indiana recorded more than 8,000 crashes in work zones — injuring 1,750 people and killing 33. About 270 people have died in work zone crashes over the last decade, per INDOT.

"The goal of the Safe Zones program is to slow drivers down, reduce crashes, and most importantly, save lives," INDOT Commissioner Mike Smith said in a news

"Speed continues to be a factor in work zone crashes and changing driver behavior is crucial to making work zones safer for drivers and road workers," he continued. "For everyone's safety, I urge drivers to wear their seat belts, avoid distractions and follow the posted speed limit."

Lawmakers authorized the five-year pilot during the 2023 session.

The agency will kick its pilot off August 14, in Hancock County's Interstate 70 construction zone, but plans to add other sites to the program "over time," according to the release.

House Enrolled Act 1015 authorizes INDOT to use the camera systems in up to four sites per year.

The law requires the agency to post signs at worksite entrances notifying drivers that an automated speed control system

The camera system, which must be calibrated annually by an independent laboratory, will use speed timing devices to monitor vehicle speeds.

When it determines a vehicle is traveling 11 miles per hour or more above the speed limit, it'll take a picture of the rear license plate. Under Indiana law, the pictures can only be used to enforce traffic offenses under the pilot, can't be publicly disclosed and must be destroyed within two years.

'After the data is validated, violations will be certified and issued to the owner of the vehicle by mail," the release reads.

INDOT will begin the pilot with a preenforcement period. It'll sent out courtesy notices, but won't fine drivers.

Once that ends, a first violation will result in a zero-fine warning. A second violation will lead to a \$75 civil penalty and a third to a \$150 penalty. The money will go to the state's General Fund. Because they're civil penalties, drivers will see no points added to their driver's licenses.

Drivers can contest the violations by submitting proof that they didn't own the vehicle, weren't driving it, or that it was reported stolen — and was unrecovered at the time of the alleged speeding. They can also dispute the system's accuracy, or argue that workers weren't present at the

However, the Indiana Safe Zones' answers to frequently asked questions indicate that just because drivers can't see construction workers doesn't mean they're not there. Crews behind barriers are also considered active workers.

INDOT will collect data for the program, but can't use it for surveillance or other law enforcement programs under state law. Instead, the agency will report its findings in public annual reports.

The agency is responsible for building and maintaining interstate highways, U.S. routes and state roads in Indiana, including overpasses, ramps, signs and traffic

Mistrial declared in case of Indiana man accused of fatally shooting 5, including pregnant woman

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) A judge declared a mistrial in the case of an Indianapolis man accused of fatally shooting five people, including a pregnant woman, after a witness verbally confronted the defendant in front of

the jury. Marion County Superior Judge Chris Miller declared the mistrial Tuesday in the trial of Raymond Ronald Lee Childs III, who faces six counts of murder in the January 2021 slayings in an Indianapolis home.

Childs, 20, was arrested a day after the attack and accused of killing his father, stepmother, two teenage relatives, a woman nearly due to give birth, and her unborn son.

The mistrial came after a key witness in the case, Elanso Valez, testified that in the hours after the killings, he had picked up Childs and drove him around Indianapolis. He said Childs later covered his eyes and wept while laying on a bed at Valez's home in Plainfield, just west of Indianapolis.

"Y'all remember that?" Valez asked Childs from the witness stand, WXIN-TV reported.

The defense and pros-

ecution teams quickly sought to cut Valez off, and the judge tried to intercede from the bench, but Valez continued, asking: "Why did you do it, Raymond?"

The judge admonished Valez for his comments in front of the jurors and sent them from the courtroom so he could speak with attorneys and then each juror individually. Miller then declared

a mistrial, saying he's "firmly convinced that Mr. Childs cannot get a fair trial." He set a status conference for Monday with the attorneys.

The killings followed an argument over Childs, who was 17 at the time, staying out late, according to court records. Prosecutors said Childs methodically went from room-toroom, shooting the victims.

The attack killed Childs' father, Raymond Childs Jr., 42; his stepmother, Kezzie Childs, 42; the couple's daughter, Rita Childs, 13; son Elijah Childs, 18; and Elijah's 19-year-old girlfriend Kiara Hawkins, who died at a hospital along with her unborn son.

Childs' 15-year-old brother also was shot but survived after fleeing the house to escape the gun-



Calling: 3 - 7 p.m. Sunday, July 28 at the funeral home.

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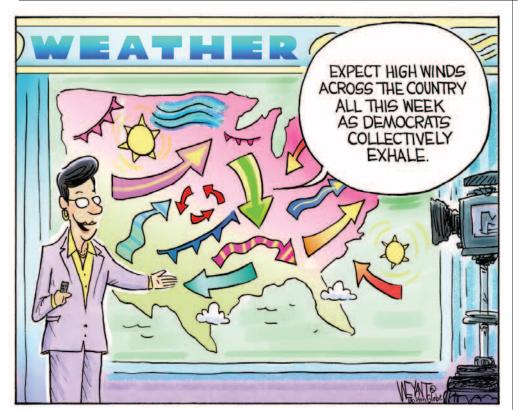
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The 2024 Election Cometh, Vol. 2 - a look through cartoonists' eyes...









Dems and Joe Biden: A classic lesson in modern betrayal

One of the most famous phrases in history is one that my high school Latin teacher Sister Mary David intoned with deep solemnity as we were studying Caesar: Et tu, Brute?

Literally it translates into "And you, Brutus?," words spoken by a dying despot who, bleeding from many stab wounds, was likely killed by the final blow from his adopted son. But over the centuries it has taken on a more universal meaning, namely, the cry of ultimate betrayal.



Christine **Flowers**

I thought of what Sister Mary David would say about the Democrats ultimately successful but tortured campaign to remove Joe Biden from the presidential race. The diminutive Mercy nun would have likely looked me directly in the eye and said "that was a bloodless assassination."

It may be tasteless to invoke virtual assassination only days after someone tried to commit an actual assassination against Donald Trump. But we cannot ignore the parallels between what happened to Caesar and what the triumvirate of Pelosi, Obama and Schumer-along with their lesser accomplices-did to Joe Biden.

Let's dispense with the obvious differences first: Joe Biden is not a despot, nor was he killed. While I find his character and politics anathema, no honest person would call him a dictator. Crazy-in-the-head conspiracy theorists can blather on about forced vaccination plots, and more reasonable folk can legitimately condemn his positions on abortion and Title IX, but he is not Caesar. For that matter, neither is Trump. The rhetoric from the insane wings of both parties is dangerous, and should be ignored.

And, although his cadence, pallor and ability to communicate in an articulate manner would suggest otherwise, he

is not actually dead. The Democrats employed everything short of physical intimidation to get him to step down from the race. They pretend their efforts began in earnest only after they saw his horrific debate performance in June. But they knew, and we knew they knew, for many months. Independent reports and comments made on deep background ,as well as a few on the record, indicate that Biden's diminished capacity was obvious to everyone inside his inner circle for a long time. They only appear to have started the campaign to unseat him when what they knew was televised for every-

Which brings us to the central question: did the Dems push for Biden's withdrawal because they care about the nation, or about their own power? In the case of Brutus, a Republican in the ancient sense, his treachery was motivated by a desire to resurrect the Roman Republic and neutralize a dictator. The fact that the dictator was his beloved adopted father made it a deeply difficult task, and a great betraval.

It's hard to see the nobility in what the Dems have done. If they cared about the country, they would have demanded Biden's withdrawal when the signs of age-related dementia became obvious to them. Instead, they waited until it became obvious to us. There is no honor in desperation.

Some might argue they are trying to save the country from Trump, who they consider a fascist. But what do you call people who thwart the will of the electorate by essentially coercing the primary winner to step down? Are they patriots? Traitors? Or something in between?

So the deed is done. We wait for the fallout. We wait to see who will succeed to the throne, so to speak. We will see if there is a bloodless but bitter battle between Octavian and Antony, or Kamala and whoever.

In the meantime, we come neither to praise Biden, nor to bury him. We come to mourn the state of our nation and its flawed and unworthy leaders.

Christine Flowers is an attorney and a columnist. cflowers1961@gmail.com.

So much for civility. Harris vs. Trump will be as ugly as it gets.

Brace yourself, America. And be prepared to

We don't need a fortune teller to know that this presidential election is going to get really ugly or that it's all going to happen in a hurry.

Now that Vice President Kamala Harris has emerged as the likely Democratic presidential nominee, and with Donald Trump already having been named the Republican nominee, it's not difficult to imagine what it's going to look like when these two finally square off.

To say that Harris and Trump don't like each other would be a massive understatement.

In fact, both are already drawing contrasts with one another. For Harris — who hasn't picked her running mate yet but has racked up scores of endorsements and nailed down commitments from most of the Democratic delegates — this election is a choice between a felon and a former prosecutor. And she's confident that she is in the stronger position because of her life experience.

'Before I was elected as vice president, before I was elected a United States senator, I was elected attorney general ... to California. Before that I was a courtroom prosecutor. In those roles I took on perpetrators of all kinds," Harris told staffers just one day after President Biden exited the race and endorsed her to take his place. "Predators who abused women. Fraudsters who ripped

off consumers. Cheaters who broke the rules for their own gain. So hear me when I say: I know Donald Trump's type."

Clearly, the vice president isn't pulling any punches, and she is just getting warmed up. According to media reports, Harris' campaign is also likely to flip the age script on the Republicans and argue that, at 78, Trump is too old to serve another term in the White House. Expect Democrats to bring up Trump's age and mental acuity often, in fact.

Harris is 59, and Trump's running mate, J.D. Vance, is 39. Voters have eyes, and they're going to draw contrasts between the candidates — even those on the same ticket. Trump will not fare well in the

Meanwhile, Trump is starting to zero in on Harris. He challenged her intelligence in a post on Truth Social this week, as he continued to pivot away from attacking Biden and toward bashing the person who is most likely to take his place — the vice president.

"Wow, just watching the Fake News, and they're doing their very best to turn the Worst President in the History of our Country into a "Brilliant and Heroic Leader" (He was heroic because he quit!), and to turn "Dumb as a Rock" Kamala Harris from a totally failed and insignificant Vice President into a future "Great" President. No, it just doesn't work that way!" he wrote with indignation.

The Harris campaign is going to hit Trump on what he might do if elected, such Navarette as implement Project 2025 — a wish list of far-right policies drafted by the ultraconservative Heritage Foundation with input from former Trump staffers. The Trump campaign will counterpunch by looking backward and criticizing Harris for something she didn't do: alleviate the border crisis by addressing the "root causes" of migration — as she was tasked to do by Biden.

You can bet that conservatives are going to dedi-

cate their best efforts to caricature the former district attorney and attorney general as "anti-law enforcement" and favoring an open border

This is a fool's errand. Reality is more complicated. Living in Southern California, one of the epicenters of immigration into the United States, I know a lot of people in the proimmigrant movement. They can't stand Harris, who - although she is from California, and

she is the daughter of immigrants — has never shown much interest in the immigrant community or done much to make their lives better.

Sadly, Harris' idea of a solution was to tell desperate migrants with few options to stay home. During a quick visit to Guatemala in June 2021, the vice president appeared at a news conference with Guatemalan President Alejandro Giammattei. She told those who might be thinking of going north: "Do not come. Do not come. The United States will continue to enforce our laws and secure our borders." To that end, she warned: "If you come to our border, you will be turned back."

Such odd behavior for someone who, according to Republicans — who have a long track record of telling whoppers about immigration — wants to open the border and welcome even more migrants.

That reminds me. You know what's really ugly? Dishonesty.

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Grandma struggles with guilt and boundaries

Dear Annie: I'm a 58-year-old else takes care grandmother to two grandchildren: a 7-year-old boy and a 13-year-old girl. I've been their primary caregiver (besides their parents) since they were born. I still play a significant role in their lives, visiting often on weekends and staying for a couple of nights at a time since I live an hour away.

Here's where my guilt comes in. ronment. I enjoy staying home more than they like me to. My grandson calls crying a couple of times a week, and my daughter often texts on weekends begging me to come over. While I love my family dearly, the visits are overwhelming. They have several animals, and I end up cooking and cleaning the entire time I'm there. It feels nonstop, and I don't get to enjoy my time with them.

I've tried talking to my daughter about it, but she doesn't seem to understand. I think she's a narcissist (a whole 'nother issue), which complicates things further. How can I ease my guilty feelings? — Grandma's Guilt

Dear Grandma's Guilt: By pretending not to understand, your daughter can act like a child with her own children and make you feel guilty for not parenting them. You need to keep talking to her about this. As for the grandchildren, growing up with a narcissistic parent is incredibly difficult for them. Could it be that your grandson's crying phone calls are really a cry for help? Your first responsibility is to make sure your grandkids are growing up in a loving, healthy environment. If you suspect otherwise, it is important to tell your daughter that if she doesn't make changes, you would consider alerting the authorities.

Safety issues aside, continue your visits but with some firm boundaries in place. For example, you could tell your daughter that you will watch the kids for the weekend provided someone

of the animals. Additionally, you could offer to have your grandkids over to your house, where you have better control over the envi-

Dear Annie: I argued via text

message with my best friend's husband. After what was a very insignificant incident, I moved on. It wasn't anything that serious. However, afterward, he was still mad at me and told that to my best friend.

Dear

Annie

by Annie Lane

My best friend and her husband recently moved to a new home, and she keeps inviting me out to see their house. How can I politely tell her that I don't want to go because of her husband? — Uncomfortable Friend

Dear Uncomfortable: Be sensitive but honest with her - she's your best friend after all. Let her know that you're still feeling a little awkward after your disagreement with her husband but that you appreciate the invites and hope she understands. With a little time and space, I'm sure the uneasiness you feel will die down. In lieu of a physical visit, a houseplant or bouquet of flowers would be a thoughtful housewarming gift and gesture toward them

"How Can I Forgive My Cheating Partner?" is out now! Annie Lane's second anthology — featuring favorite columns on marriage, infidelity, communication and reconciliation — is available as a paperback and e-book. Visit http://www.creatorspublishing. com for more information. Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com.

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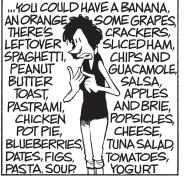






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My Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham

Question: I learned in catechism that it is wrong to claim to be righteous, but in a Bible study I am attending, the materials often give Bible verses about being righteous. This is troubling me. How can this be explained? -

Answer: Some people confuse living righteously with being self-righteous. To be self-righteous is claiming to be better than others and proud of it. Jesus told the story of the proud Pharisee who stood up and prayed about himself, saying, "God, I thank You that I am not like other men ... or even as this tax collector" (Luke 18:11, NKJV). But Jesus condemned his self-righ-

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True righteousness comes only from God

teous attitude, commending instead the tax collector for his humble prayer for mercy.

True righteousness the kind of righteousness the Bible urges us to have comes only from God. By nature we are unrighteous and sinful, but when we come to Christ, our sins – like filthy garments - are cast aside and we become clothed with the perfect righteousness of Christ. Now God counts us as righteous in His sight, because He has imparted to us "the righteousness which is from God by faith" (Philippians 3:9, NKJV).

To live righteously is impossible in our own power, but as we submit to the control of God's Holy Spirit, we find strength to live the way we should.

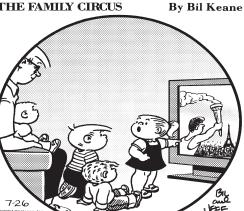
The Bible says, "For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all ..., teaching us that ... we should live ... righteously ... in the present age" (Titus 2:11-12, NKJV).

God's will is that we would be righteous in our living. God is holy, and the plan of redemption has holiness as its goal. This is not a pious pose. Christian living flings open the windows to real joy. Those who have been saved know the meaning of abundant life.

(This column is based on the words and writings of the late Rev. Billy Gra-

ham.) ©2024 Billy Graham Literary Trust. Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Is that the torch from the Statue of Liberty?'

The LOCKHORNS



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Dylan Cease throws second no-hitter in Padres history, gets win over the Nationals

By PATRICK STEVENS **Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) - Hoping for a chance to stay in the game and pitch the second no-hitter in San Diego Padres his-



Dylan Cease

tory, Dylan Cease received some help from the man who

threw the first. Cease was at 94 pitches through seven innings when Padres manager Mike Shildt glanced at Joe Mus-

"Joe is like, 'His stuff is pretty good," Shildt recalled. "Well, he's thrown one. He

knows what this looks like. We let him ride."

Cease needed only nine pitches in the eighth and 11 in the ninth in a 3-0 victory over the Washington Nationals on Thursday that completed a three-game sweep.

After falling one out short of a no-hitter two years ago when he gave up a single to current teammate Luis Arráez, Cease retired Ildemaro Vargas and Jacob Young on a groundouts for the first two outs of the ninth, then got CJ Abrams to hit a flyout to right on a 1-0 slider.

"My thought was I'm going to throw a slider and I'm going to get it down, and if it's down he's either hopefully going to beat it into the ground or he can't put in play," Cease said. "I didn't like it off the bat. It looked very hitterish, but fortunately fate's on my side today.'

Cease (10-8) struck out nine and walked three in the 28-year-old right-hander's third complete game in 145 big league starts. He threw a career-high 114 pitches in a game that included a 1-hour, 16-minute rain delay in the first.

"The first inning, he comes in and says 'I'm not quite there," Shildt recalled. "The second inning, 'Getting there.' Then the third inning, he just hit his stride."

Musgrove pitched the Padres' first nohitter against Texas on April 9, 2021. Houston's Ronel Blanco threw the only other nohitter this season, against Toronto on April

Cease was within one out of a no-hitter for the Chicago White Sox against Minnesota on Sept. 3, 2022, when Arráez lined a single to right-center on a 1-1 slider over the middle of the strike zone.

"I've been close and to finally get it done, it's one of those things that feels so remarkable and hard to believe," Cease said. "To be able to do it and go out and experience it, I really don't even know how to feel. Just happy.'

He worried about the pitch count causing an early end to his outing.

'Thankfully, we were able to talk it out," Cease said. "I just said 'I feel really good right now. Next inning, if I'm kind of erratic or use up too many pitches, pull me then. But give me a shot, at least.' Thankfully, we worked it out."

Shildt said he wasn't going to allow Cease's pitch count to rise into the high 120s. He said there was no further conversation after Cease breezed through the

"I just love the conviction," Shildt said. "I think it's important in my chair to be able to be open-minded and listen to your athletes. He felt good. He felt convicted. He made a really strong case. I want him to go out, too, but looking at the big picture and the factor (of the rain delay) before, and once I cleared that with him, he was good.

The closest Washington came to a hit was when Juan Yepez lofted a fly to shallow center in the fifth inning. The ball popped out of second baseman Xander Bogaerts' glove, but center fielder Jackson Merrill was there to snare the ball before it hit the ground.

"I was just playing keepy-ups, making sure it didn't hit the ground," Merrill said. "As soon as he calls me off, I'm there and I'm ready for anything that happened --- if it bounces off him, goes the other way, I'm ready for anything.

Bogaerts also bobbled a ball after making a diving stop of Keibert Ruiz's grounder with one out in the eighth but recovered in time to throw out the slow-footed catcher

"It feels like every no-hitter, there's a couple plays like that are just remarkable,"

Cease threw 60 sliders against the Nationals along with 39 fastballs averaging 98.3 mph - 1.4 mph above his season average — and 10 knuckle-curves. Cease induced 12 groundouts. The Nationals swung and missed 18 times, including six

His previous complete games also were shutouts: a seven-inning three-hitter against Detroit on April 29, 2021, and the win over

Cease allowed only three baserunners. Lane Thomas walked with one out in the first inning and was caught stealing, then reached on another walk in the fourth but was erased on Jesse Winker's double-play grounder. Abrams walked leading off the seventh and was stranded at second base.

Cease has pitched 22 shutout innings over his last three starts, and earlier threw seven innings of one-hit, shutout ball against Washington on June 26.

"He kept our hitters off balance all game and never really gave us much to hit," Nationals manager Dave Martinez said.

Washington was no-hit for the second straight season. Philadelphia's Michael Lorenzen achieved the feat last Aug. 9. San Diego has won five in a row and

earned its third series sweep of the season and first on the road. The Padres swept Oakland and Washington at home last

Washington was swept for the sixth time this season and finished 0-6 against San Diego. It was the first time the Padres went undefeated against the Nationals/Montreal Expos franchise since both teams joined the National League in 1969.

San Diego loaded the bases in the first with a single and two walks against Patrick Corbin (2-10) before the delay after the first pitch to Ha-Seong Kim. When the game resumed, Kim worked a full count before poking a single to left-center that scored all three runners.

UP NEXT

Padres: Open a series Friday at Baltimore and RHP Grayson Rodriguez (12-4,

Nationals: LHP MacKenzie Gore (6-8, 4.20 ERA), whose two-inning outing Saturday against Cincinnati was his shortest start of the season, starts in the opener of a threegame series at St. Louis.

U.S. viewers' Olympic interest is down, poll finds, except for Biles

PARIS (AP) - On the heels of low ratings for the coronavirus pandemicmarred Tokyo and Beijing Olympics, Paris may not do much better among U.S. viewers, a poll from Gallup released Thursday found.

Simone Biles and women's gymnastics are poised to be a bright spot, with those surveyed selecting it as their most anticipated sport.

But according to the poll, 30% of respondents said they will not watch any of the Games, 34% said they will not watch much and 35% said they would watch at least a fair amount. That last figure is down from the 48% measured before the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro. Gallup did not measure viewing intentions for the Tokyo Olympics, which were delayed a year.

NBC's prime-time coverage of the Tokyo Olympics mostly drew about half the audience of its Summer Games predecessor. The Beijing Olympics had the lowest-ever U.S. audience for a Winter Games. Both Games were held under severe restrictions, limiting spectators and dampening the typical fanfare. NBC, which holds the U.S. broadcasting rights through 2032, is trying to turn around that trend by enlisting a slew of entertainers and non-Olympian athletes in its coverage.

The last three Olympics, including the 2018 Pyeongchang Games, were held in time zones that limited how much live action NBC could air in prime time.

The network did not immediately respond to The Associated Press' request for comment on the poll. Biles and the rest of the U.S. gymnastics squad could bring in high ratings, though, with Gallup finding in general that women's sports were as anticipated as men's. Forty-two percent chose women's gymnastics as their most anticipated sport, while around two-thirds of respondents ranked it in their top three. That competition begins with qualifying on Sunday.

Báez hits a 3-run homer, Tigers blank Guardians

By BRIAN DULIK **Associated Press**

CLEVELAND (AP) — Javier Báez hit a three-run homer in the second inning and six pitchers combined on a four-hitter, sending the Detroit Tigers to a 3-0 victory over the AL Central-leading Cleveland Guardians on

Báez homered for the first time since April 14, belting a 409-footer into the left-field bleachers in his second game at the bottom of the batting order. It was his second home run in 217 at-bats this season and raised his aver-

"The numbers aren't there -- I'm hitting ninth for a reason -- and I need to work my way back to where the team needs me to be," said Báez, who had gone a career-long 183 plate appearances between homers. "When I hit it out, it felt weird, like it was the first home run of my career. But it was great."

The Guardians, who have the best home record in the AL at 33-15, lost for the eighth time in 12 games and had their lead in the Central cut to 4 1/2 games over Minnesota. They were shut out for the fourth time in a 10-game span.

"I wouldn't call it a funk, I would just say we've lost more games than we've won the last couple of weeks," Cleveland manager Stephen Vogt said. "I like our bats. I like where we are. Everybody needs to relax and

Easton Lucas (1-0) picked up his first major league win with two perfect innings of relief, while Shelby Miller earned his second save. Tyler Holton, Alex Faedo, Jason Foley and Andrew Chafin also pitched on a bullpen

day.
"Mission accomplished," Miller said. "We were needed, and all came in knowing we were needed, and everyone came out and got the job done.'

Bligh Madris and Jake Rogers scored on Báez's blast off Guardians starter Gavin Williams (0-3). The right-hander threw a careerhigh 105 pitches in six innings and struck out a season-high nine, but has lost all three of his home appearances. Holton started for the second time in the

series and went two innings, two days after pitching 1 2/3 scoreless. Lucas followed him on the mound. "The first win is awesome," Lucas said,

smiling. "I got the (beer) shower in the locker room and everything. It was fun.' Steven Kwan of the Guardians went 0 for 4, lowering his average to .341 and dropping

him out of the major league batting lead. Kansas City's Bobby Witt Jr. is now first at .344. Guardians prospect Travis Bazzana -- the top-overall pick in the MLB amateur draft --

will make his professional debut Friday for Single-A Lake County. The Australian second baseman signed his first professional contract

F1 driver Ocon to join **American Haas team** from next season

KANNAPOLIS, North Carolina (AP) — Frenchman Esteban Ocon will drive for Haas from next season as a replacement for Kevin Magnussen, the American Formula 1

team said on Thursday.



Esteban Ocon

CHRYSLER-I

Details of the deal were not announced, with Haas only saying that the 27-year-old driver committed to a "multi-year contract starting with the 2025 FIA Formula 1 World Championship.'

Ocon, the only driver to win a race for Alpine since it rebranded from Renault at the end of 2020, has picked up just three points this season and had already announced he was leaving the French-owned team. His Alpine con-

tract is expiring at the end of the season. Ocon made his F1 debut in 2016 with Manor and joined the then-Renault team for 2020. His sole career win came at the Hungarian Grand Prix in 2021 for Alpine after a crash in wet conditions took out much of the field.

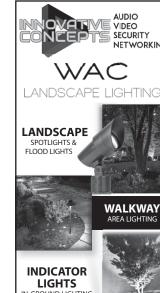
"I am thrilled to embark on this new chapter in my Formula 1 career," Ocon said.. "I'll be joining a very ambitious racing team, whose spirit, work ethic, and undeniable upward trajectory has really impressed me.' Haas announced last week that Magnussen would leave

Haas at the end of the season when his contract expires.

On the eve of the Belgian Grand Prix, team principal Avao Komatsu said Ocon will bring crucial experience to the team after 19-year-old Oliver Bearman also joined. The British driver will take the seat vacated by German driver Nico Hulkenberg, who is joining Sauber at the end of the year ahead of its

rebranding to Audi for 2026. "I think we have a

hungry, dynamic driver pairing," Komatsu said.



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BASKETBALL

WNBA EASTERN CONFERENCE W L Pct New York 21 .840 6 15 .750 .423 2½ 10½ Indiana .417 10½ 13½ Chicago 14 17 19 Atlanta WESTERN CONFERENCE Pct .680 W 17 17 16 8 8 12 18 Seattle .680 Las Vegas .520 .250 Phoenix 13 6 Los Angeles Dallas 6 19 .240 Sunday's Games No games scheduled. Monday's Games No games scheduled Tuesday's Games No games scheduled Wednesday's Games
No games scheduled. Thursday's Games No games schedul

BASEBALL

No games scheduled. Sunday's Games

MLB

Friday's Games mes scheduled.

Saturday's Games

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Colorado 20, Boston 7

Houston 8, Oakland 1 L.A. Angels 2, Seattle 1 Cleveland 2, Detroit 1

Miami 6, Baltimore 3 Toronto 6, Tampa Bay 3 N.Y. Mets 12, N.Y. Yankees 3 Texas 10, Chicago White Sox 2 Arizona 8, Kansas City 6 Thursday's Games

Baltimore 7, Miami 6, 10 innings Detroit 3, Cleveland 0 Texas 2, Chicago White Sox 1 Tampa Bay 13, Toronto 0 Oakland at L.A. Angels, late

Oakiand at L.A. Angeis, late Friday's Games Cleveland (Lively 8-6) at Philadel-phia (Sánchez 7-5), 6:40 p.m. Minnesota (López 8-7) at Detroit (Montero 1-3), 6:40 p.m.
Cincinnati (Lodolo 8-3) at Tampa Bay

Cincinnati (Lodolo 8-3) at Tampa Bay (Baz 0-1), 6:50 p.m.
San Diego (Mazur 1-3) at Baltimore (Rodriguez 12-4), 7:05 p.m.
Texas (Heaney 4-10) at Toronto (Kikuchi 4-9), 7:07 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (Cortes 4-9) at Boston (Bello 10-5), 7:10 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Hendricks 2-8) at Kansas City (Singer 6-6), 8:10 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers (Stone 9-3) at Houston (Valdez 8-5), 8:10 p.m.
Seattle (Kirby 7-7) at Chicago White Sox (Thorpe 3-1), 8:10 p.m.
Oakland (Estes 4-4) at L.A. Angels (Fulmer 0-2), 9:38 p.m.

(Fulmer 0-2), 9:38 p.m

Saturday's Games
Texas at Toronto, 3:07 p.m.
San Diego at Baltimore, 4:05 p.m. Cincinnati at Tampa Bay, 4:10 p.m. Cleveland at Philadelphia, 6:05 p.m. Minnesota at Detroit, 6:10 p.m. Chicago Cubs at Kansas City, 7:10

L.A. Dodgers at Houston, 7:10 p.m. N.Y. Yankees at Boston, 7:15 p.m. Seattle at Chicago White Sox, 7:15

p.m. Oakland at L.A. Angels, 9:38 p.m. **NATIONAL LEAGUE**

64 54 54 47 37 38 47 48 .627 .535 .529 56 66 .359 **Central Division**

Atlanta New York Washington Miami L Pct 43 .578 49 .520 Milwaukee St. Louis Pittsburgh 50 .510 53 .480 55 .471 Cincinnati .471 **West Division** Pct W Los Angeles

rado 38 65 .369 Wednesday's Games

Pittsburgh 5, St. Louis 0

GB Philadelphia 10 17½ 27½ GB 6 7 10 11 **L** 42 50 GB 62 55 .596 .524 7½ San Diego San Francisco 49 55 .471

Cincinnati 9, Atlanta 4, 1st game Minnesota 5, Philadelphia 4 Milwaukee 3, Chicago Cubs 2 Colorado 20. Boston 7 Colorado 20, Boston 7 Miami 6, Baltimore 3 San Diego 12, Washington 3 N.Y. Mets 12, N.Y. Yankees 3 Arizona 8, Kansas City 6 San Francisco 8, L.A. Dodgers 3 Cincinnati at Atlanta, ppd., 2nd game

Thursday's Games
San Diego 3, Washington 0
Baltimore 7, Miami 6, 10 innings
L.A. Dodgers 6, San Francisco 4 N.Y. Mets 3, Atlanta 2, 10 innings Friday's Games Cleveland (Lively 8-6) at Philadel-phia (Sánchez 7-5), 6:40 p.m. Cincinnati (Lodolo 8-3) at Tampa Bay

Cincinnati (Lodoilo 8-3) at Tairipa Da (Baz 0-1), 6:50 p.m. San Diego (Mazur 1-3) at Baltimore (Rodriguez 12-4), 7:05 p.m. Atlanta (Morton 5-5) at N.Y. Mets (Senga C-0), 7:10 p.m. Chicago Cubs (Hendricks 2-8) at Kansas City (Singer 6-6), 8:10 p.m. L.A. Dodgers (Stone 9-3) at Houston

(Valdez 8-5), 8:10 p.m. Miami (Rogers 1-9) at Milwaukee Miami (Rogers 1-9) at willwaukee (Peralta 6-5), 8:10 p.m. Washington (Gore 6-8) at St. Louis (Gray 10-6), 8:15 p.m. Pittsburgh (Ortiz 5-2) at Arizona (Gallen 7-5), 9:40 p.m. Colorado (Freeland 2-3) at San Francisco (Harrison 5-4), 10:15 p.m.

Francisco (Harrison 5-4), 10:15 p.m. Saturday's Games
San Diego at Baltimore, 4:05 p.m. Atlanta at N.Y. Mets, 4:10 p.m. Cincinnati at Tampa Bay, 4:10 p.m. Cleveland at Philadelphia, 6:05 p.m. Colorado at San Francisco, 7:05

p.m., 1st game Chicago Cubs at Kansas City, 7:10 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers at Houston, 7:10 p.m.
Miami at Milwaukee, 7:10 p.m.
Washington at St. Louis, 7:15 p.m.

Colorado at San Francisco, 10:35

Midwest League **High-A Midwest League Glance**

Wednesday's Games Dayton 5, Fort Wayne 4 Thursday's Games Daayton 4, Fort Wayne 3 West Michigan 5, Lansing 4 Peoria 5, South Bend 3 Lake County o, Ground Friday, July 26 Lansing at West Michigan, 6:35 p.m. Lake County 8. Great Lakes 2 Fort Wayne at Dayton, 7:05 p.m.
Saturday, July 27
Fort Wayne at Dayton, 7:05 p.m.
Sunday, July 28

Fort Wayne at Dayton, 1:05 p.m.

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01-04-11-18-19-20-24-26-

27-32-34-40-43-46-48-49-

Daily Three-Midday —

Daily Three-Evening -

Daily Four-Midday —

Daily Four-Evening —

Quick Draw Evening

09-10-11-13-17-24-29-

Hoosier Lotto — Esti-

33-34-39-40-41-53-54-58-

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61-63-69-70-76, BE: 39

day): \$18.2 million

Friday): \$306 million

Saturday): \$131 million

52-60, Cash Ball: 03

54-60-72-79, BE: 48

00-01-00, SB:01

00-05-08, SB: 09

03-08-09-03, SB: 01

03-08-02-01, SB: 09

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HUGE MULTI-FAMILY SALE 1639 E 300 N, Bluffton, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Getting rid of kids toys clothes, jewelry, shoes, home decor, furniture, DVD/CD/VHS.

ANNUAL GARAGE SALE Fri. -Sat., July 26, July 27, 8:30-4:30, 922 South Main Street, Bluffton, Coins, hunting & fishing items, hardware & household items, men's & women's clothing, tools, stamps & col-

29 WESTGATE ROAD Thursday and Friday, July 25 and July 26, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Lots of stuff.

lectables, antiques, and more.

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Public Sale Calendar



JULY 27- 10 a.m. - Elmer J. Jr. & Delila Mae Graber, owners. 8350S 850W, South Whitley. Productive, tillable land, home, outbuildings, Whitley County. Offered in 4 Tracts, 38±A. Tract 1: 12.5±A farm-land, soils: Pewamo, Blount loam, Glynwood loam. Tract 2: 5.5±A, 7 bedroom home, outbuildings. Tract 3: 2±A, 40'x90' pole building. Tract 4: 18±A farmland, soils: Pewamo, Glynwood loam, Blount loam. Purchase individually or combination. Sale manager, Ritter Cox, 260-609-3306, Schrader Real Estate and Auction Company,

Inc., SchraderAuction.com, 800-451-2709.

JULY 28 - 4 p.m. - Online Only - Multiple consignors, owners. 1,000+ lots! 50+ firearms, long guns & hand guns, large selection of ammo, gun safe, Honda generator, hand tools, household items, lawn & garden, 300 lots of collectable vintage dollhouses, mini dollhouse furniture sets with accessories and much more! Pick up July 29, 1-6 p.m., July 30, 9 a.m.-noon, 812 Elm Street, Decatur. Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC, 260-724-7402, kjauction.com.

AUGUST 8 - BIDDING OPEN FROM 9 A.M. TO 6 P.M. -Online only - Estate of Richard W. Stultz. 1,920 SF tri-level home in desirable Old Creek Neighborhood. Featuring 2 possible 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, oversized 4-car attached garage, 60'x23', large lot, close to Bluffton schools. Property offers prime location and offer 'Renovation Opportunity". Explore the possibilities. Open houses: July 30, Aug. 6 from 5-6 p.m., 1420 Brookhaven, Bluffton, IN. Sale managers Brandon Steffen, 260-710-5684, Rod Fetters, 260-557-8451, The Steffen Group Inc., 260-824-3006, www.steffengrp.

BIDDING STARTS CLOS-ING AUGUST 11 - 6 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. EST - Jeanette Furhman & Robert Furhman estate, owner. 6 p.m.: Cape Cod style, 3 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath, 3,093 sf, full basement w/Hitzer stove, Geothermal w/ backup LP furnace, Generac 11 kw whole house generator, pole barns, 2-car attached garage, sitting on 10+/- wooded acres! 6:30: John Deere Gator, Gehl Track loade, John Deere mower, Chevy Silverado, 51k miles, Massey Ferguson tractor, 3 point attach-ments, tilt bed trailer, outdoor items, large selection of hand & power tools, long & hand guns, antiques, primitives, furniture, household, more! Preview July 29, 5-7 p.m., 4182 W 900 N, Decatur. Pick up Aug. 12, 2-6 p.m. Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC, kjauction. com, 260-724-7402.

BIDDING ENDS AUGUST 18 AT 2 P.M. - Online only -Various Consignors, sellers. Huge 900+ lot. 2003 Polaris 4 four wheeler, Honda motorcycle, 2008 Lazer EXmark zero turn riding lawn mower, antiques, collectibles, primi-tives, modern furniture, fishing equipment, vintage toys, farm toys, musical instruments, very early wood canoe, early high school score board, complete in working condition, more. Preview: Aug. 13, Aug. 15, 3-6 p.m., 102 S. Jefferson St., Ossian. Sale managers Rod Fetters, 260-557-8451, Patrick Carter, 260-273-8294. The Steffen Group Inc., 260-824-3006, steffengrp.com.
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Public Notices

NOTICE

In accordance with Indiana Code 5-15-6-3 requiring prior

notification to individuals when

Notice to any individuals born in the year 2002, who received special education services in Adams and/or Wells Counties.

Please contact Adams Wells Special Services no later than August

9, 2024 if you wish to receive

copies of your special education records. All records requested for

pick-up and not picked up and non-requested records for persons born

in the year 2002 will be permanent ly destroyed after August 16, 2024.

If you wish to request records, you must call (260)824-5880 to do so.

Records must be picked up by

the person who received services unless otherwise legally designated.

IN THE WELLS

90C01-2405-AD-000011 IN RE: THE ADOPTION OF:)

Petitioner

NOTICE OF ADOPTION

All interested parties herein are

that a petition for adop-

notified that a petition for adoption of a child, named PRESTON

BARNES, born to Jenna Diane Huffman (Barnes) on August 4,

2015, was filed in the office of the Clerk of Wells Circuit Court, 102

W. Market St., Suite 201, Bluffton,

the adoption of the child, he or

she must file a motion to contest

the adoption in accordance with IC 31-19-10-1 in the above named

court not later than thirty (30) days

after the date of service of this

motion to contest the adoption within thirty (30) days after service

of this notice the above named court will hear and determine the

petition for adoption. The consent

to adoption will be irrevocably

implied and he or she will lose the

right to contest either the adoption

or the validity of his or hers implied

consent to the adoption.

No oral statement made

relieves a person's obligations under this notice.

This notice complies with IC 31-19-4.5-3 but does not exhaus-

tively set forth a person's legal obli-

gations under the Indiana adoption

statutes. A person being served

with this notice should consult the

nb 7/19, 7/26, 8/2 hspaxlp

If a person does not file a

If a person seeks to contest

Indiana.

notice

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COUNTY OF WELLS

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