

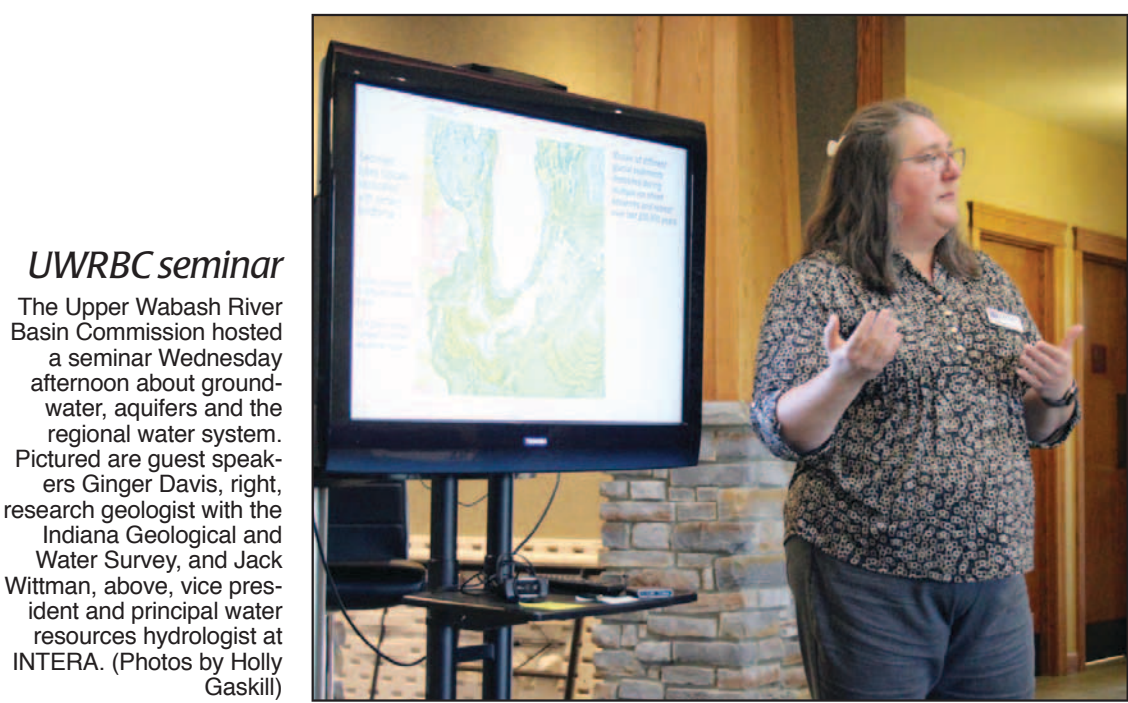
# The News - Banner

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, 2024

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### UWRBC seminar

The Upper Wabash River Basin Commission hosted a seminar Wednesday afternoon about groundwater, aquifers and the regional water system. Pictured are guest speakers Ginger Davis, right, research geologist with the Indiana Geological and Water Survey, and Jack Wittman, above, vice president and principal water resources hydrologist at INTERA. (Photos by Holly Gaskill)

## Nearly \$1B additional needed to maintain local roads, bridges

By WHITNEY DOWNARD  
Indiana Capital Chronicle

A shortfall of \$2.4 billion. That's how much more analysts estimate Indiana would need annually to eliminate poorly rated local roads and bridges across the state over the next ten years.

The annual gap for preserving current conditions or improving conditions is less, at \$987 million and \$1.8 billion, respectively. And none of those numbers include the amount of dollars local units of governments would need to pitch in nor does it include any road projects that would add capacity.

The numbers come from the Local Technical Assistance Program, a partnership with state government and Purdue University. Jennifer Sharkey, a lead research engineer with the organization, presented those findings before the Funding Indiana's Roads for a Stronger, Safer Tomorrow Task Force Tuesday afternoon.

"What we did was to look at what would it take to improve these facilities in the future. These future road funding investments were estimated, but we did not include added capacity projects — projects that add turn lanes, widen the roadway or add travel lanes," Sharkey said. "Also, we did not include new infrastructure. So new road corridors or new bridge structures that might be utilized to facilitate growth and development in our local communities. We only look at the existing network and its existing configuration."

The task force is examining future funding sources for state and local infrastructure as fuel efficiency and electrification of vehicles have eroded the current funding.

Much of Indiana's current road funding model comes from gas taxes, which are expected to fall in the future as more people adopt electric or hybrid vehicles. Addi-

tionally, with better fuel efficiency standards, Americans will need to purchase less gas.

Other states have implemented alternative taxes to make up that difference, such as taxing delivery vehicles, toll roads or annual road use fees.

Sharkey dissected the types of roads across the state — 90% asphalt for cities and towns compared to 56% asphalt for counties — and reported conditions of those roadways. Across 430 cities and towns as well as all 92 counties, the group found that 28% of roads earned a "good" condition rating.

But while 41% of roads were fair in cities and towns, counties reported that 46% of their roads earned that rating — with the latter placing a heavier emphasis on improving the busiest roads while the former concentrated on all road types equally.

In the poor category, 31% of city and town roads earned that rating while 27% of county roads did, meaning that 28% of roads are in poor condition statewide.

Fixing poor roads costs more, between \$150,000 to \$1.5 million per mile compared to \$1,000 to \$7,500 per mile for roads in good condition — according to numbers shared by Sharkey.

### Costs to fix

Road preservation, the cheapest plan of action, would reduce the percentage of roads with a poor rating to 20% statewide, "but falls short of adequately addressing failed road facilities," the presentation said.

"The first strategy we looked at aims to preserve the improvements that have been made since the previous infrastructure influx of funding ... (and) looks to add more years of life to the network than is lost," Sharkey said.

In order to continue improving (Continued on Page 2)

## FSSA exploring relief options for Hoosiers on Medicaid waitlists

By WHITNEY DOWNARD  
Indiana Capital Chronicle

Responding to pressure, state officials are considering whether or not they can tap into a pool of federal dollars to provide relief for a narrow subset of Hoosiers on Medicaid waiver waitlists.

Indiana Medicaid Director Cora Steinmetz described the process during a two-hour Medicaid Oversight Committee Tuesday alongside updates on various Medicaid initiatives.

A combined 13,678 Hoosiers

were on either the Pathways Waiver or the Health and Wellness Waiver waitlist as of last week, though numbers fluctuate day to day. Currently the agency is working to invite 925 Hoosiers off of waitlists to enroll in services each month — 800 from the Pathways waiting list and 125 off of health and wellness.

Steinmetz explained that waitlist enrollees must meet the financial eligibility criteria — which is higher than the financial cutoff for standard Medicaid coverage —

and require "nursing facility level of care," meaning they need assistance with daily living activities such as eating, bathing or dressing.

To qualify for Medicaid coverage — whether through the waiver or health insurance coverage — individuals often "spend down" their assets. But lawmakers in both political parties expressed concerns about someone on the waitlist who had already spent down their assets and was living in an assisted living facility with no

(Continued on Page 2)

## Worker's death highlights questions on remote control trains

By JOSH FUNK  
Associated Press

The CSX worker who discovered his friend run over by a pair of remote-control locomotives in a railyard last year sees a simple solution to preventing similar deaths in the future: two-person crews.

But that idea won't be popular with the railroads that have come to rely heavily on having one person control trains moving around a railyard with a remote control as they take apart and reassemble trains. The tactic that was first approved in 2005 started with two people on the job to watch for hazards, but today one-person remote-control operations are common.

Using remote control operators helps limit costs by using less experienced workers to move locomotives that help assemble trains — a task that once required licensed engineers who are among the highest-paid rail workers. The Brotherhood of Locomotive Trainmen and Engineers and other

unions have been raising concerns about the practice recently, particularly because remote-control trains are now being used in places outside of railyards to make local trips to pick up and drop off cars.

Railroads are confident the practice is safe based on their experience using it for years. But Federal Railroad Administration spokesman Warren Flatau said the agency is scrutinizing the use of remote control after this death and several other recent incidents. The expanded use of remote-control trains outside of rail yards is also attracting attention.

The National Transportation Safety Board provided an update on its investigation into the death of Fred Anderson on Wednesday when it posted transcripts of its interviews with the workers involved and other information. Anderson was killed on September 17, 2023, when he stepped in front of two locomotives in CSX's railyard in Walbridge, Ohio.

(Continued on Page 6)

## Ukraine's offensive intensifies pressure on U.S. to ease cautious approach to war

By ELLEN KNICKMEYER  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Ukraine's daring ground offensive has taken the fight to Russia, but not nearly as much as its leaders would like because, they say, the United States won't let them.

The U.S. restricts the use of long-range ballistic missiles it provides to Ukraine, which wants to aim them at military targets inside Russia. Ukraine's offensive, along with a barrage of drones and missiles that Moscow launched this week, has intensified pressure on

the Biden administration to ease its cautious approach to the use of Western weapons in escalating Ukrainian attacks.

The Biden administration says its careful deliberations, including which advanced weapons it supplies to Ukraine and when, are necessary to avoid provoking retaliation from Russian President Vladimir Putin. Some analysts agree Putin would take a Ukrainian strike by an American long-range ballistic missile as an attack by the U.S. itself.

But other American and Euro-

pean supporters of Ukraine say the White House should see that Putin's threats of attacking the West, including with nuclear weapons, are bluster. Their fear is the U.S. support that has allowed Ukraine to withstand Russia's 2022 invasion comes with delays and caveats that could ultimately contribute to its defeat.

"This war is going to end exactly how Western policymakers decide it will end," said Philip Breedlove, a retired U.S. general who led NATO in Europe

(Continued on Page 4a)

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**Outside**

Sunny and hot today, chance of rain tomorrow

Today	Friday	Saturday
High 85	High 92	High 81
Low 69	Low 68	Low 58

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# Local roads and bridges

(Continued from Page 1)  
 Indiana's roads, the percentage of poor roads would be reduced to 10% after a decade and target failed roads earlier than in the previous strategy. The last plan LTAP analyzed was the cost to completely eliminate such roads throughout the state.  
 Roads alone across the three plans would cost \$1.2 billion, \$2 billion or \$2.7 billion, respectively, with an added \$35 million to address unpaved county roads.  
 Bridges, defined as structures that span 20 or more feet, would add more to the bottom line. Smaller cross-ways and culverts aren't included in this calculation.  
 Sharkey revealed that the average age of a local bridge in Indiana is 46 years but that 16% of the local bridge network is over 70, which is considered to be the end of a bridge's lifespan.  
 Over half, or 55%, of Indiana's bridges are in "fair" condition, while 40% are in good condition. The remaining 5% are in poor

condition.  
 LTAP estimates that 3,109 bridges would need to be replaced while another 598 bridges could be rehabilitated. The remaining bridges could be preserved with something as simple as a thin polymer overlay treatment.  
 Combined, that need comes in at \$580 million.  
 Since 2013, local units of government have received \$575 million in state generated, dedicated funds — with \$225 million attributed to the Community Crossings matching grant program. Municipalities can generate more revenue by adopting cumulative bridge taxes or wheel taxes and excise surtaxes, also known as the Local Option Highway User Tax.  
 In 2022, counties collected \$122 million in these taxes, short of the maximum \$458 million LTAP calculated they could collect.  
 Speaking as a commissioner from Crawford County, committee member John Frey said that increas-

ing taxes on the local end wouldn't be enough.  
 "Maxing out the wheel tax for a small population county is not much money, Frey said.  
 Currently, cities and towns as well as counties fall short with these dedicated funds and dollars from the state. To meet the need, local governments turn to their general funds.  
 "Over half of the reported local street and highway department receipts (\$1.58 billion) in (fiscal year) 2023 came from 'other local funds,'" the report summarized.  
 A future iteration of the report would include a county-by-county breakdown, authors said.  
 The Association of Indiana Counties provided an example, using Elkhart County's fund receipts.  
 According to the organization, the county got a combined \$8 million from the Motor Vehicle Highway Fund and \$2.7 million from the Local Road and Street

fund — all state dollars. The state also gave a grant of \$1 million and the county secured a \$1.1 million federal grant.  
 Local dedicated funding streams for cumulative bridge taxes and wheel taxes came to \$1.1 million and \$3 million, respectively.  
 That combined \$17 million still had to be supplemented with an additional \$10 million in "other local funds," as presented by Ryan Hoff.  
 "While the investment that the legislature provided in 2017 absolutely helped to (improve) road conditions, we have now reached a point where the increased costs are causing counties to have to defer projects," he said.  
 In 2017, the state indexed the gas tax to increase annually, providing stable funding that increased for years and helped municipalities with funding needs. But Hoff said such funding hasn't kept pace with inflation and road conditions in counties like Elkhart are falling.

# Weather

**Thursday, August 29, 2024**  
**(24-hour observations at 10:51 p.m. Wednesday)**  
**High: 85; Low: 69; Precipitation: 0.34 inches of rain**  
**Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 1.08 feet at 8:45 p.m. Wednesday**

## Wells County forecast

**Today:** Partly sunny, with a high near 85. North wind around 5 mph.  
**Tonight:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 69. Northeast wind around 5 mph becoming east after midnight.  
**Friday:** A 30% chance of showers and thunderstorms after 2 p.m. Sunny and hot, with a high near 92. Heat index values as high as 98. Southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.  
**Friday Night:** A chance of showers and thunderstorms before 8 p.m., then showers likely and possibly a thunderstorm between 8 p.m. and 2 a.m., then a chance of showers and thunderstorms after 2 a.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 68. West wind around 5 mph. Chance of precipitation is 70%. New rainfall amounts between a quarter and half of an inch possible.  
**Saturday:** A 30% chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly before 2 p.m. Partly sunny, with a high near 81.  
**Saturday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 58.  
**Sunday:** Sunny, with a high near 83.  
**Sunday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 53.  
**Labor Day:** Sunny, with a high near 75.  
**Monday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 48.  
**Tuesday:** Sunny, with a high near 76.  
**Tuesday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 50.  
**Wednesday:** Sunny, with a high near 80.

# FSSA exploring relief options

(Continued from Page 1)  
 relief in sight.  
 "What happens if that individual qualifies, they've paid down their assets and now the family is beginning to have to draw down their assets ... what's the solution there? Because everything would have been in place for that individual to go forward but now they fall in this gap," said Sen. David Niezgodski, D-South Bend.  
 Steinmetz said the administration is looking at ways to improve the waitlist process by working with providers but also exploring whether it could direct unobligated federal funds to "bridge the gap."  
 "It's really these individuals that we know have experienced challenges who might be over income for traditional Medicaid and need that special waiver to qualify and are waiting for this invitation," Steinmetz said. "In those circumstances, we're working closely

with the assisted living provider association to find some temporary financial resources ..."  
 Steinmetz couldn't say precisely how much money FSSA had left in American Rescue Plan Act dollars, which had spending guardrails. But said a portion of the dollars was earmarked for home and community-based services.  
 "That particular pool is what we're looking to use to assist those individuals who are in the assisted living facilities and are in that spend down situation," Steinmetz told lawmakers. "... we've identified the source of the funds and are just finalizing sort of the process and application format ... for that particular funding pool."  
 FSSA launched a waitlist dashboard earlier this month but one of the complaints from Hoosiers on the waitlist is not knowing when they can expect an invitation to enroll in services.

"We hope to continue to be able to give people a better idea of where they are on the waiver waiting list so that they have an idea and their families can plan," Steinmetz said. "Because we certainly appreciate that it's a challenging situation to be in."  
 The number of Hoosiers who would be impacted by the assistance is unknown.  
 In a joint statement with Indiana Families United 4 Care, disability advocates with The Arc of Indiana flagged ongoing waitlist problems, including Hoosiers on other waiver waitlists.  
 "Indiana now has over 20,000 people on Medicaid Waiver waiting lists. These are people who require the level of care provided in a skilled nursing facility or institution for people with developmental disabilities. While the state plans to bring people off waiting lists each month, waiting lists will continue

to grow as new people will continue to apply for services each month," The Arc of Indiana CEO Kim Dodson said in a statement.  
 "The Arc is extremely concerned that these individuals are not receiving critical services needed to live safely at home and in their communities, and families providing care are increasingly stressed and overwhelmed as they try to provide the care and support needed for their loved ones."  
**Other Medicaid Updates**  
 Implementing the waitlist was one of several "cost containment strategies" FSSA implemented following the news of a \$1 billion Medicaid shortfall in December. Legislation earlier this year required that the agency provide monthly reports to prevent future errors, though Medicaid expenses are difficult to predict.  
 Another cost-saving measure was addressing growing attendant

care costs for just over 1,600 medically fragile children. The program didn't have caps on state payments to parents and some families claimed over 60 hours of care and received over \$100,000 in reimbursement.  
 Most families, 70%, moved from attendant care, which pays an hourly rate, to structured family caregiving, which pays a per diem rate.  
 Tendra Duff, a mom to twin boys with several health complications, urged the committee to provide relief to families who previously used attendant care. Families have said that attendant care paid a living wage and that the reimbursement under structured family caregiving is too low.  
 She noted that two of the children whose families rallied at the Statehouse earlier this year have died, demonstrating how little time some of these children had.

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**OBITUARIES**

**Kevin L. Okey, 68**

Kevin L. Okey, 68, of Bluffton, passed away on Tuesday, Aug. 27, 2024, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne. Kevin was born on Feb. 22, 1956, at the navel hospital at Portsmouth, Virginia to Carl A. and Marilyn (Schlagenhaut) Okey.

After attending Bluffton High School, Kevin worked at Simpson's, later Metaldyne for many years before retiring. He enjoyed spending time outdoors and had a talent for gardening and keeping a perfect yard!

Kevin is survived by a daughter, Tara L. (Frank) Kahn of Fort Wayne; and was a loving grandpa to three grandchildren, Emma, Elaina and Easton. He is also survived by his mother, Marilyn Okey and a brother, Kent (Rose Betancourt) Okey of Bluffton.

He is preceded in death by his father, Carl Okey; and a granddaughter, Elexia Kahn.

As Kevin requested, there will be no formal service. Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Lemler family of Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton.

**Rochelle Elaine (Dunn) Trimble, 85**

Rochelle "Shellie" Elaine (Dunn) Trimble, 85, of Bluffton, passed away on Tuesday evening, Aug. 27, 2024, at her home, surrounded by her family.

She was born on April 7, 1939, in Fort Wayne to Glen Dunn and Rachel (Louden) Dunn Webb. Shellie graduated from Liberty Center High School in 1957. She worked for the U.S. Navy in Morocco, the Red Cross in Fort Buchanan, Puerto Rico, and was part of a Nuclear Plant Inspection Team for the USA. Then, she worked in motel management for 25 years in Connecticut.

Survivors include four grandchildren, Nicole (Jimmy) Radziwon of Oregon, Joshua Speece of Connecticut, Glen (Sabrina) Sprout and Dolan (Frank) Sprout, both of Florida; along with five great-grandchildren, Makayla Pitt and Destiny Speece of Connecticut, and Ella, Brady and Charlie Sprout of Florida. She leaves three sisters to remember her fondly, Glenda Goegelein of Bluffton, Lyn (Mike) McPherson of Albuquerque, New Mexico, and Trudi (Bob) Captain of Bluffton; a daughter-in-law, Tricia Trimble of Chester, Connecticut; many nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews; and extended family in Connecticut, O'dedra and Jody Lynn.

Shellie is preceded in death by her parents, Glen Dunn and Rachel Webb; her son Nicholas Trimble; and a daughter, Antoinette.

Private family burial will take place at Elm Grove Cemetery. A celebration of life will take place at a future date.

Memorials may be made to Wounded Warriors and directed to the funeral home.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Lemler family of Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Friends can send online condolences to the family at [www.thomarich.com](http://www.thomarich.com).



**Tatiana Royal, 29**

Tatiana Royal, 29, of Bluffton passed away on Tuesday morning, Aug. 27, 2024, in Bluffton.

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



Kroger representatives and employees celebrated the opening of its new pharmacy with a ribbon cutting on Wednesday. (Photo submitted)

**Kroger celebrates ribbon cutting on new pharmacy**

Kroger and local community leaders today celebrated the completion of a new pharmacy with a ribbon cutting on Wednesday. The pharmacy is the most prominent feature of a \$750,000 remodeling project at the store.

Colleen Juergensen, president of Kroger Central Division, said, "We love the transformation here and all that it offers to the people of Bluffton. We're grateful for everyone who has relied on us for groceries over the years. Now their faith in Kroger means the

world to us as they visit the new pharmacy for help with their health care needs."

Kroger Health sees the pharmacy opening as especially timely with the approach of flu season. The Bluffton team is available to provide vaccines that fight the spread of common illnesses. Patients may schedule appointments or simply walk in. The new pharmacy team will also help patients save money through the Kroger Health Savings Club and advising about prescriptions that qualify for fuel points.

Bluffton Mayor John Whicker called it a pleasure to participate in the ribbon-cutting. "We appreciate Kroger's investment in making pharmacy services available to the citizens of Bluffton," he said. "It adds another level of one-stop shopping for Kroger's many customers in the Bluffton area. As Mayor of Bluffton, I want to say thank you for the new pharmacy for our community."

Wednesday's ribbon-cutting provided an opportunity to serve families in need and support Zero Hunger | Zero Waste, Kroger's

national hunger relief plan. The grocer presented a \$7,500 check to Hoosiers Feeding the Hungry. Their mission, said executive director Suzie Jordan, "is to accept donations of livestock, deer and funds to provide processed meat to Indiana food banks, food pantries and related organizations" in 60 of Indiana's 92 counties. "Through generous support of foundations, business, and individuals," Jordan said, "this agency takes donations from farm and field to freezer and fork."



Pictured above is the wreckage of the two semis. (Photo courtesy of the Adams County Sheriff's Department)

**Both semi drivers injured in Adams County crash on Wednesday**

A serious collision between two commercial vehicles in Adams County resulted in both drivers being transported to Fort Wayne for medical care Wednesday morning.

At approximately 6:09 a.m. on Wednesday, Paul Twigg, 59, Portland, was driving a 2025 Mack Semi with a grain hopper southeast in the 2900 block of U.S. 33 when, for an unknown reason, the vehicle travelled off the roadway and hit a utility pole. The vehicle returned to the roadway, crossing the center line and colliding with a 2024 Kenworth driven by Carlton Richeal, 65, Fort Wayne.

Both drivers were seriously injured and transport-

ed to Fort Wayne for medical care. A press release from the Adams County Sheriff's Office stated that both drivers were stable but remained under medical care.

The crash is under investigation by the Sheriff's Office. Both Twigg and Richeal have provided blood samples for testing as part of the ongoing investigation. The results of the blood tests are pending and will be reviewed once available.

The Adams County EMS, Decatur Fire Department, Indiana State Police, INDOT and Piqua Repair were all dispatched to the scene to provide assistance and manage the aftermath of the collision. U.S. 33

was temporarily closed, but has re-opened.

**Police Notebook**

**INCIDENTS**

**City:**  
 Tuesday, 2:29 p.m., Dicky's. Report of unwanted party.  
 Tuesday, 3:12 p.m., South Wayne and East Market streets. Report of juvenile with vape.  
 Tuesday, 5:50 p.m., 400 block of Cedar Road. Caller requested subject be removed from residence.  
 Tuesday, 9:03 p.m., All American Airplane Express. Report of man attempting to get money for gas.  
 Tuesday, 11:17 p.m., Dollar Tree. Report of man laying in street.  
 Wednesday, 3:26 a.m., 400 block of West Wabash Street. Report of someone knocking on door.  
 Wednesday, 3:59 a.m., 800 block of West Market Street. Caller reported co-worker was outside their residence looking at vehicle.  
 Wednesday, 8:03 a.m., 700 block of Cedar Road. Caller reported they believed someone poisoned their coffee with cyanide. Advised to dump it out.  
 Wednesday, 8:06 a.m.,

Spring Wayne Apartments. Report of stolen bicycle.  
**County:**  
 Tuesday, 1:01 p.m., Wells County Jail. Warrant served to Kevin Ivan Colon, Sr.  
 Tuesday, 1:03 p.m., Wells County Jail. Warrant served to Juan Luis Ortiz.  
 Tuesday, 5:23 p.m., 6300 Southeast Willow Road, Warren. Report of vehicles driving through caller's yard because of road closure.  
 Tuesday, 8:55 p.m., 4400 West 300 North, Bluffton. Report of ATVs driving down the road with no headlights and taillights.  
**Ossian:**  
 Tuesday, 9:03 a.m., 1100 North and 100 East, Ossian. Report of a tractor that died in the road.  
**ARRESTS**  
 Juan Luis Ortiz, 45, Fort Wayne; probation violation, a Level 6 felony. No bond set.  
 Kevin Ivan Colon Sr., 49, Fort Wayne; probation violation. No bond set.  
 Melinda Gale Zerbe, 54, Decatur; driving while suspended, a Class A misdemeanor. Booked and released.

**Donald D. Myers**  
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## Elections are a dialogue

We're almost to Labor Day and what is traditionally considered the heart of election season. It's the moment, according to political lore, when most Americans start paying attention to electoral contests. This may or may not be true, but here's one thing I think we can count on: This is when politicians seeking office are most eager to understand the mood and concerns of the electorate.



Lee Hamilton

### Hoosier Opinions

There's a widely held belief that campaigning is a one-way street: Candidates for office tell us what they think, and voters either reward or punish them. It's easy to see why so many people see campaigns that way. Candidates give stump speeches, flood the airwaves and online media with advertising, sometimes hold debates during which they try to sway undecided voters, and in general are a ubiquitous presence in the run-up to voting. They fight for the media's attention.

So, campaign coverage often makes it seem as though voters themselves are an after-thought or, at best, a backdrop — unless something unusual happens as a politician is out campaigning. But let me assure you, however voters are portrayed by the media, they are anything but an after-thought to a politician stumping for office.

I'm not just talking about polling here. Yes, an aggregate picture of what's on voters' minds does matter to candidates and their advisers. But so does what they hear from voters as they're out on the hustings — in the VFW or union halls, at community suppers, stopping by diners, walking around county fairs. Good politicians want to know what's on their potential constituents' minds. It helps them calibrate their own thinking, develop campaign strategies, and, in an ideal world, become better representatives.

And there's no question that people have a lot on their minds. Crime, immigration, the border, the economy, education, climate change, abortion, overseas conflicts — most voters possess a broad array of concerns. The best politicians understand that public sentiment is usually nuanced, and that to strike a posture that all is rosy or that all is lost rarely fits with voters' beliefs and experiences. The world is more complicated than that, and so are voters' agendas.

To be sure, there will always be voters who care about a single issue more than any other. This year, as in the past, abortion and abortion rights appear to be big motivators for some people — especially since several states will have measures on the ballot focused on the issue. Similarly, I've no doubt that, after several years of increasingly damaging extreme weather, climate change will be top-of-mind for others.

There will be other important concerns. For some voters, it will be personal safety; for others, a sense that the borders are secure. For still others, it'll be education. I think we can expect voters to pay attention broadly to whether inflation is, in fact, coming down and to any signs of an economic slowdown. And while foreign policy often takes a back seat to domestic concerns, for presidential and congressional candidates this year, I suspect voters will be looking closely at what they say about the US role in a world riven by conflict.

It's true that sometimes, voters care less about public policy than they do about intangibles. I'm convinced, for instance, that likability matters a great deal when voters step into the polling booth, and though it might not override everything else, I'd argue that candidates who are positive, constructive, forward-looking, and make us feel hopeful will always have a leg up over their opponents. Similarly, I'm convinced that Americans on the whole prefer candidates who display a basic sense of decency, who show compassion for others who are struggling, and who show that they understand the concerns of ordinary people.

Yet wherever your own focus lies, this is the time when politicians at every level are listening. Even candidates who might not agree with you are still paying attention — as long as your interactions with them remain civil. So if you have a chance to hear candidates for Congress or your state legislature, give them a chance to hear what's on your mind, too.

*Lee Hamilton is a distinguished scholar with the IU School of Global and International Studies. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.*

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## Today in History

**By The Associated Press**  
Today is Thursday, Aug. 29, the 242nd day of 2024. There are 124 days left in the year.

Today in history: On Aug. 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina struck the U.S. Gulf Coast near Buras-Triumph, Louisiana, breaching levees and spurring floods that devastated New Orleans. The costliest storm in U.S. history, Katrina caused nearly 1,400 deaths and an estimated \$200 billion in damage.

Also on this date: In 1814, during the War of 1812, Alexandria, Virginia, formally surrendered to British military forces, which occupied the city until September 3.

In 1825, the Treaty of Rio de Janeiro was signed by Portugal and Brazil, offi-

cially ending the Brazilian War of Independence.

In 1862, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing began operations at the United States Treasury.

In 1958, the U.S. Air Force Academy opened in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

In 1966, the Beatles concluded their fourth American tour with their last public concert, held at Candlestick Park in San Francisco.

In 2004, marathoner Vanderlei de Lima was attacked by a spectator during the running of the Olympic marathon in Athens; de Lima, who was leading the race at the time, eventually finished third and received the Pierre de Coubertin medal for sportsmanship in addition to his bronze medal.



## It's past time to start doing interviews

CNN has won the "privilege" of conducting the first interview with Vice President Kamala Harris and running mate Tim Walz on Thursday night, beating the promised "end of the month" deadline she had set.

The Harris team had reportedly been "shopping" networks to assess what they believe would be the most favorable one to her. CNN now has an obligation to prove them wrong by asking tough questions about their policies and which ones they are proposing today, given her - and his — recently changed positions.

One question should be about her proposed tax hikes. The New York Times reported last week that Harris' tax increases would amount to \$5 trillion over the next decade. The newspaper acknowledged the tax hikes "may not ultimately be enough to cover the cost of her and other Democrats' ambitions next year."

Notice there are no proposals to cut spending. For Democrats, it's always more spending and taxes are never high enough.

Former President Donald Trump has labeled Harris a socialist and suggested some of her economic proposals resemble those of communist regimes.

CNN and other reporters, if they get the chance and she does more interviews and even a news conference or two before the election, might ask about her father's influence on her economic worldview.

Donald J. Harris was an economics professor at Stanford University. He wrote a book (which he dedicated to Kamala and her sister) that is no longer available on Amazon.com. The website says "Currently unavailable. We don't know when or if this item will be back in stock." Conspiracy theorists take note.

Fortunately, the book — "Capital Accumulation and Income Distribution" (1978) — is available on the Stanford website in PDF form. While it is a scholarly work written in a way that only people with a degree in economics are likely to fully understand, there is enough for the average reader to ask Kamala Harris if she agrees with her father's apparent empathy for, if not his embrace of, the economic policies of Karl Marx. In his analysis of capitalism vs. Marxism, it is fair to say that capitalism seems not to be his preferred economic philosophy. Does his daughter

agree and if she prefers capitalism, can she explain why?

Other possible interview questions might include:

- You want to raise the top tax rate to more than 39%. In some states — notably California, New York and Illinois — some residents are already paying more than half their earned income to federal, state and local governments. Is that fair?
- In reporting on your economic plan, The New York Times says your proposed tax increases won't cover all your proposed spending plans. Would that mean even higher taxes and is there a limit? Would you go as high as 90%, as the rate was between 1944 and 1963?
- Democrats never appear to favor spending cuts, even for outmoded or ineffective government programs. Are there any programs and agencies you would eliminate?
- Social Security and Medicare are projected to run out of money by 2036. There have been many proposals for reforming these programs that would protect current retirees and those nearing the age of retirement. Are you willing to let these costly entitlement programs go bankrupt, or could you favor a public-private scheme that would allow younger people to choose private investments?
- Your father wrote a book comparing capitalism with Marxism. Karl Marx said: "Capitalism is a social system based on the exploitation of the majority by a minority for their private profit." Do you agree with that statement and if not, why do you and other Democrats constantly criticize "the rich" and "big corporations," which seems to imply none worked hard to attain their success?
- Karl Marx also said his philosophy was "From each according to his ability, to each according to his needs." How does your high tax and spending plan differ from his?

Let's see if CNN interviewer Dana Bash will try to redeem the media's credibility after its love fest for Harris by asking tough questions. Curious voters want to know.

tcaeditors@tribpub.com.



Cal Thomas

## The hits and misses of heron videography

Spotting a great blue heron on Angelpond demanded an instant cease to current activity in favor of an observation period. Typically herons fished with such dedication and patience it surpassed the human effort to watch. The ultimate challenge over years of heron viewing came in the attempt to catch on video a heron's catch-of-the-day.

Heron fishing appeared more like a human's form of spear fishing, or gigging for frogs. Herons are adaptable and delighted with any catch of any size fish, frog, or a fat bullfrog tadpole. With a shake of the head the heron can loosen its grip on its catch and spin it between the heron's long dagger-like beak halves until it is aimed for a head-first slide down the long neck's gullet. The traveling neck bulge was viewable from the outside.

For the first time in the two dozen year existence of Angelpond a great blue heron had been witnessed swimming across deeper water. Typical observation came only on dry land, or more commonly as it waded in shore water at various levels up to its belly. The camera rested too far away, in another room, to capture the swimming event on video or snapshot.

The great blue heron glided across the crest with its long neck pulled tightly into the "S" shape and at first notice appeared to be a gray swan. It soon swam to shallow depths, stood, and began fishing. Oh what an underwater sight it would have been to see those long gangly legs paddling away causing the heron to so gracefully mimic the floating buoyant glide of a swan. Angelkeep Journals' description could never duplicate the thrill

### Angelkeep Journals

and awesomeness of witnessing the heron's swan-swim. Video-opp a total miss.

The same day, same heron, moved to an alternate fishing corner with a camera in video mode attempting to capture the stalk and strike. This would have been a continuous video throughout the devouring gulp, culminating the video climax. Video clip after video clip failed as the heron moved, looked, but never jabbed its beak in a strike attempt. Mostly a video fail.

Except for one video, in which the stalk, the looks, and painstakingly slow high-stepping water walking so carefully completed as the movement, made no water crest wake. The desired ending strike had been replaced with the sudden decision by the heron to move from the west bank to the east. It raised its seven-foot wingspan. With a single downward thrust it lifted out of the water and turned directly into the eye of the camera lens. Seeing one of these magnificent monstrous-size fowls lift off with insignificant water disturbance was better than a fish catch.

This became a video worthy of a Facebook post. It went Angelkeep-viral, which for Angelkeep meant six likes.

Angelkeep learned long ago to download all videos and photographs to search carefully, slowly,



Alan Daugherty

completely, on a two foot computer screen. Many a surprise capture had been found. Unusual nature appeared which had not been witnessed via the virtual naked eye. All heron fishing videos holding nothing but the stalking slow movement of the heron were examined. One stood out and became the day's highlight. This Angelkeep day's "pièce de résistance," of sorts.

A video, among several very similar (routine and boring) showed this same heron on the same day striding in knee-high water on Angelpond's western shore moving south. After six steps it paused with its neck stretched ahead. Literally six inches forward of the beak, it poised but two feet over the water, some action on the pond's crest commanded the attention of the video watcher. Likewise it had caused the heron to stop and observe.

Amazingly the heron was in perfect strike stance and mode, but failed to avail itself of the opportunity. It seemed as dumbfounded as the videographer became after a continuous repeated viewing of the 50-second clip.

Directly in front of the heron floated a green apple from one of the pond-side orchard trees. A rather nice sized fish, with its back breaking the pond's crest, repeatedly attacked the little green apple in the summertime. The action ceased This fish ended the attempt, perhaps realizing the threat to its own life lingering and watching. The heron simply stared. "What was that all about," it may have been thinking.

What a rare heron video. Who knew that fish bobbed for apples prior to Halloween?

*Mr. Daugherty is a Wells County resident who, along with his wife Gwen, enjoy their backyard and have named it "Angelkeep."*



Husband has a wandering eye

Dear Annie: I cannot believe I am asking for advice. Here goes! My mom, with whom I was very close, passed away 21 months ago. Annie, my life has never been the same.

I cared for Mom when she became unexpectedly ill. I witnessed her last breath. By all accounts, I should be happy that I was the loving daughter and did right by Mom and the family.

I was attending a hospice grief group; then COVID-19 happened. Since then, my life has spiraled downward and out of control. I no longer find peace, happiness or contentment within myself — or anything else, for that matter. I have dived back into an unhealthy lifestyle of sex addiction, from which I had been in recovery for seven years. I use false intimacy with strangers to mask my pain. I'm married to a wonderful man, but I have taken up with an emotionally toxic man who is also an alcoholic. I'm living in two separate worlds. And yes, I am under the care of a psychiatrist and take medication for my depression and bipolar disorder, to no avail.

How do I stop running and face my mom's death head on? I fear I am stuck in the anger stage of mourning. I read your advice column every day. I am hoping you can give me some sound advice. — Missing Mom

Dear Missing: Please, friend, stop telling yourself that you "should be happy." Honor your grief. You lost your mom. Of course you're devastated. Grief is the natural response when someone we love dies.

You mentioned that you're seeing a psychiatrist. I'd also encourage you to see a therapist who specializes in grief and addiction. It sounds as though the hospice group was helpful to you in the past. While in-person options are still limited, consider exploring online grief support communities, such as the forums at https://www.grieving.com. Depending on your age, you might also like to check out The Dinner Party, which is an online platform that connects people in their 20s and 30s who are grieving the death of a loved one (https://www.thedinnerparty.org).

Also, I encourage you to read the book "It's OK That You're Not OK," by grief counselor Megan Devine. You might also get something out of "Wild," a memoir by Cheryl Strayed, about her journey through addiction and recovery in the years following the loss of her mother. Words can't express how sorry I am for the death of your dear mom.

Dear Annie by Annie Lane



Dear Annie: My husband and I are both in our mid-60s and retired. He has a habit that is really starting to irk and hurt me the last few years. When we're out together and he sees attractive women, he always looks twice at them. He apologizes but then, after a couple of weeks, does it again! I have told him, repeatedly, that it is disrespectful and that if I don't do it for him anymore, he should go get what he is looking for — but that he shouldn't expect to be able to come back afterward. He says that I'm jealous and immature. I say that he should know better. What do you say? — Weary of Watching Him Watch Them

Dear Weary: Leering is one thing; just looking is another. If your husband is merely taking quick second glances at women, let it go. It's normal — healthy, even — to take momentary notice of attractive people. It doesn't mean he finds you any less attractive. As long as he's being faithful to you, physically and emotionally, that's what matters.

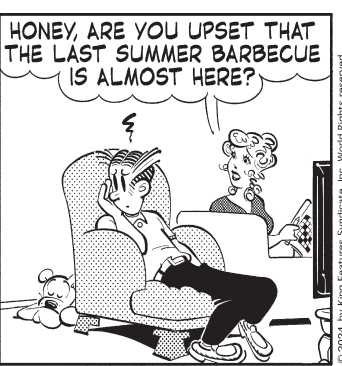
"How Can I Forgive My Cheating Partner?" is out now! Annie Lane's second anthology — featuring favorite columns on marriage, infidelity, communication and reconciliation — is available as a paperback and e-book. Visit http://www.creatorspublishing.com for more information. Send your questions for Annie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

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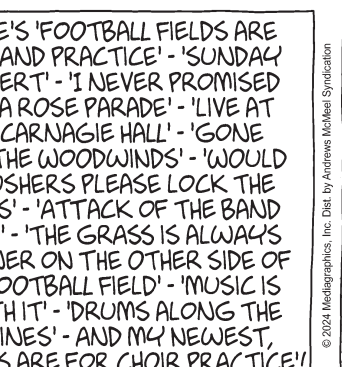
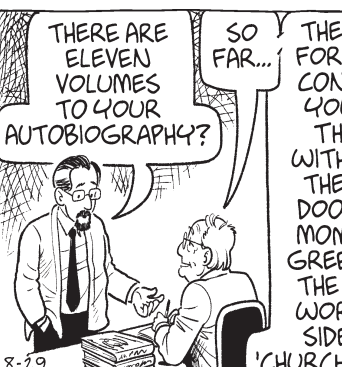
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My Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham



Never fear to give God complete control over our lives

Question: What does it mean to surrender completely to God? — C.S.

Answer: We begin to surrender to God when we first accept Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. The word Lord means just that — "Master." Many people think they could never surrender their will — but it happens all the time. Many who give in to temptation surrender to worldly passions.

It's a grave mistake to think that we can receive Christ's offer of forgiveness and then go out to live our lives as we please. God has a claim on us and we must trust Him to direct us in how we should live — this is the importance of reading and obeying His Word. He shows us how to live life

pleasing to Him. We should never fear to give God complete control over our lives. He loves us more than we love ourselves, and He will only allow what is best for us. When we surrender our all to God, we find that we live with a new confidence and have a new strength of purpose. We can hold nothing back from God. He must control and dominate us wholly. It is a surrender without conditions attached. It is a definite and conscious act on our part in obedience to the Word of God. There is not one verse of Scripture that indicates we can be Christians and live any kind of life we want. When Christ enters into the human heart, He gives us strength to obediently surrender to His Love

and Lordship. The great hymn "I Surrender All" isn't used much anymore in church, but it should be. The Holy Spirit empowers God's Word, and the words of the great hymns of the church speak to the human heart, convicting souls and tenderizing hearts. "I am not ashamed of the Gospel ... for it is God's power working unto salvation ... to everyone who believes with a personal trust and a confident surrender" (Romans 1:16, AMPC).

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

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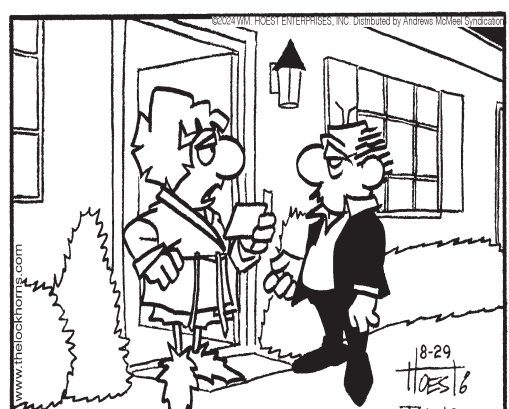
THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"Mommy, could you help me find the other piece to this broken shell?"

The LOCKHORNS



"Sorry, Leroy, but your 'get out of jail free' card doesn't work here."

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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Includes solution time: 24 mins.

Yesterday's answer 8-29 crossword puzzle grid with solution.

TV schedule table with columns for date, time, and channel. Includes programs like Washington Watch, News-at-6, Chicago P.D., and various news and entertainment shows.



# Two sworn enemies hold the key to ending the war in Gaza

Does either want a deal?

By **JOSEPH KRAUSS**  
Associated Press

The latest flurry of Gaza cease-fire talks — the back-and-forth over now-familiar sticking points and appeals from around the world — obscures a grim truth about the monthlong efforts to end the Israel-Hamas war and free scores of hostages.

Any deal requires the signatures of two men: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar.

They are sworn enemies, notoriously tough negotiators and know that the outcome of the talks will profoundly shape their legacies. In Sinwar's case, it could mean life or death.

Both have strong incentives to end the war. But they may also think they stand to gain by holding out a bit longer, and that war is preferable to a deal that falls short of their demands.

Here's a look at the two leaders and the constraints they face.

## What does Netanyahu want?

Netanyahu has promised "total victory" over Hamas and the return of all the hostages held in Gaza — goals that many believe are incompatible.

He has come under tremendous pressure from the hostages' families and much of the Israeli pub-

lic to make a deal to bring them home, even if it leaves a battered Hamas intact. The United States, which has provided key military aid and diplomatic support to Israel, is also pushing for such a deal.

But Netanyahu's governing coalition relies on far-right ministers who want to permanently reoccupy Gaza and have threatened to bring down the government if he concedes too much. That would force early elections that could drive him from power at a time when he is on trial for corruption.

It would also hasten a broader reckoning over the security failures surrounding the Oct. 7 attack in which Hamas-led militants killed some 1,200 people in southern Israel, mostly civilians, and abducted around 250 others — on Netanyahu's watch. Netanyahu has rejected calls for a government investigation until the war is over.

The longer the war drags on, the more likely Israel is to achieve something that looks like victory — the killing of Sinwar, the rescue of more hostages — and the longer Netanyahu has to repair his political standing and reshape his legacy. But it also comes with risks as the number of soldiers killed in action rises nearly every day and Israel becomes increasingly isolated because of the suffering it has inflicted on Palestinians.

Netanyahu has clashed with his own defense minister over the endgame. Israeli media is filled with reports quoting unnamed senior security officials expressing frustration with Netanyahu, especially his demand for lasting control over two strategic corridors in Gaza. Some have gone so far as to accuse him of sabotaging the talks.

Both Israel and Hamas say they have accepted different versions of an evolving U.S.-backed cease-fire proposal in principle, while suggesting changes and accusing the other of making unacceptable demands.

Yohanan Plesner, head of the Israel Democracy Institute, a local think tank, acknowledged the anger directed at Netanyahu in the local press and among segments of Israeli society but said Sinwar bore most of the blame for the impasse because he had shown little interest in compromising.

"If we saw Sinwar was serious about getting a deal, that would force Israel and Netanyahu to expose their cards," Plesner said. The current situation is "almost like negotiating with oneself."

## What does Sinwar want?

Sinwar wants to end the war — but only on his terms.

Israel's offensive has killed over 40,000 people, according to local health officials, displaced 90% of Gaza's population and destroyed its main cities. Hamas

has lost thousands of fighters and much of its militant infrastructure.

Sinwar's only bargaining chips are the roughly 110 hostages still held in Gaza, around a third of whom are believed to be dead. And he needs much more than a temporary pause in the fighting if he hopes to salvage anything resembling victory from the Oct. 7 attack that he helped mastermind.

That begins with assurances that Israel won't resume the war once some or all of the hostages are freed. He also needs Israel to withdraw from all of Gaza to ensure that the lasting impact of the Oct. 7 attack is not a permanent reoccupation of the territory. The release of high-profile Palestinian prisoners as part of a deal is a sacred cause for Sinwar, who was himself a long-serving prisoner freed in an exchange. And he needs assurances that Palestinians will be able to return to their homes and rebuild them.

"Sinwar is very much concerned with bringing negotiations to a conclusion, whether with regard to a cease-fire or an exchange of prisoners, because in both cases, Sinwar will have come out as the winner," said Nabih Awada, a Lebanese political analyst and former militant who spent years in an Israeli prison with Sinwar.

There are risks for Sinwar in

drawing the talks out: More hostages are likely to die or be rescued as the war grinds on. Death, destruction and hardship in Gaza will continue, and could stoke Palestinian discontent with Hamas, with political implications down the line.

Sinwar himself, who sits atop Israel's most-wanted list, could be killed at any time. But given the centrality of martyrdom in Hamas' history and ideology, he may feel that outcome is inevitable — and preferable to a deal that looks like defeat.

## Can any external pressure help?

Egypt and Qatar have served as key mediators with Hamas, but their influence is limited.

Any pressure exerted on Hamas' exiled leadership is unlikely to have much impact on Sinwar, who was appointed the overall head of Hamas after the killing of Ismail Haniyeh in Iran. Sinwar is believed to have spent most of the past 10 months living in tunnels under Gaza, and it is unclear how much contact he has with the outside world.

The United States has provided crucial military support for Israel throughout the conflict and has shielded it from international calls for a cease-fire. Earlier this year, President Joe Biden paused a shipment of hundreds of 2,000-pound bombs to pressure Israel not to invade the southern city of Rafah — which it did anyway.

## Remote control trains

(Continued from Page 1)

Railroad safety has been in the spotlight ever since last year's disastrous Norfolk Southern derailment in East Palestine, Ohio, forced evacuations and left residents with lingering health fears after a cocktail of toxic chemicals spilled and burned.

At the time Anderson was killed, the remote control operator was riding on a ladder on the back of the second locomotive with no view of the front of the train. That practice is perfectly acceptable under federal and railroad rules because earlier in the shift the remote-control operator had cleared the area around the tracks where he was working.

Anderson and the other carman he was working

with, George Olinger, had radioed ahead to get permission to enter the area, but Anderson was still struck by the train. Olinger told investigators afterward that he thinks Anderson's death would have been prevented if the remote-control operator was on the front of the locomotives or if a conductor or engineer were controlling them from the cab. He said a traditional crew would have likely seen Anderson and rang the bell to alert him to the danger.

"What does it cost for an engineer for the night? \$350? If we had two guys on every crew, to spend \$350 to save someone's life or to make our yard a little bit safer, I think that's what we need to do, you know. Like I said if there

had been a two man crew on that crew that night, we wouldn't be talking," Olinger said, according to a transcript of his interview.

It's not clear if anyone would have been able to stop the locomotives in time before they hit Anderson, but if someone operating the train had seen him step onto the tracks, they may have been able to warn him. The locomotives were moving at 10 mph (16 kph) when they struck Anderson, and the remote control operator told investigators that he believes it would have taken the length of an engine to stop them at that speed.

But Randy Fannon, who leads the engineers' union's Safety Task Force, said he thinks, "This tragic incident in Ohio involving a remote-

ly operated train, blindly controlled from behind, would not have happened if there had been a locomotive engineer in the cab."

Fannon said railyard workers are more alert to the risks presented by remote-control trains, but the union is "adamantly opposed to remotely operated trains being used outside fenced-in yard environments where pedestrians or vehicles could come in contact at rail crossings."

CSX and all the unions directly involved aren't allowed to discuss Anderson's death until the NTSB completes its investigation, which the agency has said is focused on CSX's carmen safety procedure training and awareness.

The Federal Railroad

Administration and CSX both put out advisories after Anderson's death reminding all rail workers that they need to be careful when crossing tracks and should always be aware that a train can move down a track at any time. CSX had its managers stress to all its maintenance workers that

they must look both directions before they ever cross tracks.

The railroad said last year that it wasn't planning any changes to its remote control operations after Anderson's death because it appeared that all federal and CSX rules were being followed at the time.

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## Strong second half propels Lions past Knights in NE8 opener

By RYAN WALKER

Right after Norwell worked tirelessly to find the back of the net, No. 15 Leo dropped another goal and took the life out of the game for good.

It was Knights' Division I girls' soccer star, Grace Mann, that slipped a penalty kick perfectly underneath the top right crossbar in the second half. The Creighton Blue Jay's commit netted Norwell a 2-1 deficit and gave it a shot against the reigning 2A state runner-up Leo Lions.

But five minutes later, Leo's Maddie Schwalm drilled her second goal on the night. All of that effort was all gone.

Schwalm's score was the beginning of a five-goal run and gave Leo a conference win on opening night 7-1.

"We come out (in the) second half we played hard," Norwell head coach Dan Batdorff said. "We made a couple of mental mistakes, gave up another goal and we started hanging our heads a little bit ... We're trying our best to stop that kind of stuff — getting down ourselves."

It certainly wasn't goaltender Maggi Neuenchwander's fault. The freshman was not only challenged with a ranked opponent charging ball after ball at her, but it was only her third high school soccer match.

Her final stat line isn't a good indication of what truly happened. The freshman was pelted against 20-plus shots before the fourth goal came through. Point-blank opportunities, rebounds and perhaps some wear-and-tear got the best of Neuenchwander, but in between, she made varsity-level saves.

ty-level saves.

"We lost our two keepers during Blackhawk Christian (on Saturday), and Maggie steps in and taking on this role as a true freshman," Batdorff said. "There's so much she has to learn, and I was so impressed with her. She's really going to be a fantastic goalie."

Normal varsity goaltenders Abby Wagner went down with an injury on a rough field surface against Blackhawk. Her replacement, Emma Garner, went down with a similar injury right after.

"I'm thankful that we have four keepers," Batdorff joked.

For a moment, it seemed that the Knights had a shot at the mighty Lions. After Mann's goal, it seemed to be anyone's game.

Leo was attacking, but Norwell kept putting itself in a position to win. It's with a roster that lost key defensive pieces and two senior forwards.

But Batdorff has been impressed with what he's seen, and is confident things will turn around.

"Those girls go out there and play their hearts out so I'm very impressed with what they're doing," Batdorff said. "I think we're going to continue to improve. I'm looking for good things before the end of the season."

Norwell and Leo tie the junior varsity match 0-0. Emma Garner and Shae Brooks combined for the shutout in net for the Knights.

Norwell will host NE8 foe Columbia City at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 31.

ryan@news-banner.com



Norwell keeper Maggi Neuenchwander absorbs a shot taken by a Leo Lion attacker Wednesday night at Norwell High School. The freshman made numerous saves on a defending state runner-up Lions' team that gave her a handful of kicks to handle. (Photos by Ryan Walker)

## Sports Roundup

### Raiders earn road victory in girls' golf over ACAC foe Jets

Southern Wells beat ACAC opponent Adams Central 201-224 on the road at Wabash Valley on Wednesday.

Callie Ripperger was the medalist and top scorer for the Raiders with a score of 42, followed by Sophie Meeks (45), Erika Beavans (53) and Collena Reeves (61).

Southern Wells will host Bluffton and Delta at Dogwood Glen starting at 5 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 29.

### Norwell defeats East Noble in road NE8 golf competition

Norwell defeated Northeast 8 Conference competitor 179-186 Wednesday night at Noble Hawk.

Savanna Simerman had the best score for Norwell at 41, followed by Ellie Gatton's 45, Jordyn Schroyer (46), Emma Burnau (47) and Jessica Bynum (53).

Norwell also won the junior varsity match 219-225. Kylee Nevius shared medalist honors with a 48, followed by Jacquelyn Mayer (54), Maddie Dean (57) and Emma Miller (60).

Norwell will be at the Bi-County meet at Timber Ridge starting at 8 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 31.

### Knights drop first boys' soccer game of season

Norwell fell for the first time this boys'

soccer season in a 2-0 loss to NE8 Conference rival Leo on Wednesday.

The Knights fall to 4-1 after the four-game win streak to start the season.

Philip Gaier made nine saves for the Knights in goal.

Leo won the junior varsity game 7-0. Norwell will be on the road to Angola at 11:45 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 31.

### IHSAA changes track & field state final location, adds girls' lacrosse to sports list

The IHSAA released that its track and field state finals are moving this season.

North Central High School in Indianapolis will be the new host site beginning in June 2025. Dates for the finals will be June 6 and June 7. This includes boys, girls and unified track.

North Central was the host in 1997 after an 11-year hosting from 1972-1982. The previous site was Indiana University.

Norwell recently sent its 4x100m relay team of Devin Dale, Trevon Stoppenhagen, Ryan Smith and Jase Harmon, and both Stoppenhagen and Dale again in the 200m and Stoppenhagen in the 100m to the state finals last year.

Bluffton's Johnny Cruz also made it for Bluffton in the shot put, similar to the Tigers' discus thrower Lauren Reiff in 2023.

The IHSAA also approved a new sport, girls' lacrosse, for the 2025-26 school year. This addition builds off of girl's wrestling and boys' volleyball to the IHSAA's sports it recognizes.

## High School Calendar

**WEDNESDAY, AUG 28**  
BOYS SOCCER: Norwell at Leo, 7 p.m.  
GIRLS GOLF: Norwell at East Noble, 5 p.m.; Southern Wells at Adams Central, 4:30 p.m.

GIRLS SOCCER: Leo at Norwell, 7 p.m.

**THURSDAY, AUG 29**  
BOYS TENNIS: Norwell at Adams Central, 5 p.m.

GIRLS GOLF: GIRLS GOLF: Bluffton at Southern Wells, 4 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL: Bluffton at Churubusco, 7 p.m.; Woodlan at Norwell, 7:30 p.m.; Mississinewa at Southern Wells, 7:30 p.m.

**FRIDAY, AUG 30**  
BOYS TENNIS: Norwell at Blackhawk, 4:30

p.m.  
FOOTBALL: Bluffton at Manchester, 7 p.m.; Delta at Norwell, 7:30 p.m.; Madison-Grant at Southern Wells, 7 p.m.

**SATURDAY, AUG 31**  
BOYS SOCCER: Norwell at Angola, 11:45 a.m.

CROSS COUNTRY (co-ed): Bluffton at Oak Hill Invitational, 10 a.m.; Norwell, Southern Wells at Taylor University Invitational, 8 a.m.

GIRLS GOLF: Bluffton, Norwell, Southern Wells at Bi-County meet at Timber Ridge, 8 a.m.

GIRLS SOCCER: Columbia City at Norwell, 11:30 a.m.

## Indiana coach Cignetti counts on father's old-school values, new faces to spur turnaround

By MICHAEL MAROT

AP Sports Writer  
INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Curt Cignetti's old-school style runs through his veins.

The new Hoosiers coach expects his players to arrive on time, be prepared to work and ready to win. And in his world, like his father's, there are no acceptable excuses.

Yes, Cignetti learned those values on the football field in western Pennsylvania that now bears the name of his father, Frank Cignetti Sr., the late Hall of Fame coach. Only now, the 63-year-old son finds himself hoping to emulate his father's success at college football's other Indiana.



"Greatest man I've ever known," Cignetti said when asked about his father. "Never coached for him. I played one year, my freshman year at West Virginia, for him. He was my biggest critic early on, and (I) did not tell him I was going to take the IUP (Indiana University of Pennsylvania) job because I knew what he was going to say. I called him the night before and said, 'I'm going to be announced tomorrow.' I was 50. I bet on myself."

Like his dad, the younger Cignetti just kept winning.

(Continued on Page A2)



Knights' defender Emerson Meredith (left) fends off a Lions' player in the first half of the game.

## Guardians rally for victory over Royals, reclaim sole possession of first place in AL Central

By BRIAN DULIK  
Associated Press

CLEVELAND (AP) — Rookie Jhonkensy Noel singled home Josh Naylor with the go-ahead run in the seventh inning and the Cleveland Guardians rallied for a 7-5 win over the Kansas City Royals, reclaiming sole possession of first place in the AL Central on Wednesday.

The Guardians trailed 5-2 entering the seventh and scored four times to take their first lead of the game. Bo Naylor homered off starter Michael Wacha, while Josh Naylor, Will Brennan and Noel had RBI singles against Lucas Erceg (2-4).

Andrés Giménez tacked on a sacrifice fly in the eighth as Cleveland avoided a four-game sweep in the series with its MLB-leading 37th comeback win. The Guardians had been alone atop the division for 154 days until Kansas City pulled into a tie Tuesday.

"We haven't looked like ourselves for a while, but that inning, that was us," Cleveland manager Stephen Vogt said. "It was such a great response by our guys. Erceg has been very good, but Will came up with a big swing and Big Christmas (Noel) again comes through."

Kansas City had its seven-game road winning streak snapped and is 23-14 since the All-Star break. The Royals, who have clinched the season tiebreaker over the Guardians, host Cleveland for three games next week.

Erceg was charged with one run allowed, his first in 12 appearances and 13 1/3 innings since joining Kansas City in a July 30 trade with Oakland.

"Tough way for us to go out, but we came in here and did what we needed to do," said Royals first baseman Vinnie Pasquantino, who had a career-high four hits. "I think we

have their respect and they have ours. It's going to be a fun month."

Eli Morgan (2-0) pitched 1 1/3 scoreless innings for the victory. Emmanuel Clase earned his AL-best 39th save — with his career-high 26th straight conversion — and matched Cody Allen's franchise record with 149.

"The competitive nature Clase attacks the game with and the mentality he goes out with, it's huge having him in the back end of a game," Bo Naylor said. "The vibes today were electric, back to what we've known throughout this year. That was definitely a great step in the right direction."

Bobby Witt Jr., Pasquantino and Michael Massey hit solo homers off Guardians ace Tanner Bibee, who gave up five runs in five innings. Witt went 2 for 5 and continues to lead baseball with a .346 batting average, 185 hits and 114 runs.

Wacha was denied his 100th career win, pitching six-plus innings and allowing five runs.

### TRAINER'S ROOM

Royals: SS Bobby Witt Jr. (right middle finger bruise) has started all 134 games in the second spot in the batting order. The AL MVP candidate was hit by a pitch from Pedro Avila in the seventh inning Tuesday.

Guardians: RHP Alex Cobb (right finger-nail tear) played catch at Progressive Field, one day after throwing three innings of live batting practice. The 36-year-old starter is eligible to be activated on Aug. 31.

### UP NEXT

Royals: RHP Brady Singer (9-9, 3.38 ERA) starts the opener of a four-game series at AL West-leading Houston on Thursday.

Guardians: RHP Ben Lively (11-8, 3.62 ERA) pitches the first game of a three-game home series against Pittsburgh on Friday.



# Indiana coach

(Continued from Page A1)

Whether the family legacy attains new heights at the far more prominent Indiana remains to be seen. Cignetti makes his debut Saturday when the Hoosiers host Florida International.

But the blueprint really is a combination of his father's yesteryear philosophy and today's modern tools that help teams rebuild virtually overnight, such as relaxed transfer rules.

Curt Cignetti has succeeded both ways.

After taking his first head coaching job at the same school his father turned into a Division II powerhouse, Cignetti led IUP to the playoffs twice in six seasons. Then he went to Elon, a program with a 12-45 mark over the previous five seasons, and immediately led it to the playoffs. Cignetti left for James Madison in 2019 and won conference titles each of his first three seasons while making the Football Championship Subdivision final four all three seasons before presiding over one of the most successful transitions from the FCS to the Football Bowl Subdivision in history.

So as he begins his Hoosiers tenure by taking over a squad picked to finish 17th in an 18-team league, the plain-speaking Cignetti isn't changing his expectations — just the names and faces on Indiana's roster.

"We came in and changed the roster and then you have to change the way people think — the mindset, the culture, the identity of your football team," he said after welcoming 54 new players, 30 of them transfers. "I think we've made progress. But you really can't measure it until you play."

Behind the scenes, he's created a noticeably different vibe in the locker room.

Starting offensive lineman Mike Katic opted to stay in Bloomington partly because as a Pittsburgh native, he understood Cignetti's approach and his family.

Running back Justice Ellison, a transfer from Wake Forest, initially rejected a scholarship offer from James Madison but chose Indiana because of "the look" in Cignetti's eyes.

Linebacker Aiden Fisher, one of 13 Dukes players who followed Cignetti to Bloomington, decided he wanted to continue playing for a coach and staff who believe in him.

"You can tell he's a real serious guy. His self-belief is the first thing you see from him," Fisher said. "Why go to another program when you're going to play for a head coach that is going to put in the hours no other coach will? If you look at his track record, it speaks for itself, he wins football games."

That's music to Hoosiers fans who have endured three straight losing seasons and have celebrated only five bowl bids since 1994.

It's not just what Cignetti has done in 13 seasons as a head coach — no losing seasons. Before Cignetti took the IUP job in 2011, Nick Saban made him his first recruiting coordinator at Alabama in 2007, meaning Cignetti hasn't been part of a losing team since 2006 when he was on NC State's staff.

So, naturally, when Cignetti stood at the podium for his first Big Ten media day, he reminded everyone his teams were twice picked to finish second to last in conference play — and wound up in championship contention both times.

While some colleagues may have suggested Cignetti be more diplomatic on the big stage, that's not how Frank Cignetti Sr. raised his son.

No, the man who won 17 games with the Mountaineers while fighting cancer and 182 more at IUP after beating it, who instilled his tenacity and football philosophy into his two coaching sons, also taught them to be brutally honest.

"He was a very direct man, very honest man, had a great work ethic, led by example, helped a lot of people and players in their lives, had a good heart," Cignetti said of his father, who died in 2022. "I threw him off the field one year because he was being too critical, but he was very complimentary of the way we played at the end when I was at JMU."

# News-Banner Scoreboard

## BASKETBALL

WNBA			
EASTERN CONFERENCE			
	W	L	Pct
x-New York	26	5	.839
x-Connecticut	22	8	.733
Indiana	15	16	.484
Chicago	11	19	.367
Atlanta	10	19	.345
Washington	9	22	.290

WESTERN CONFERENCE			
	W	L	Pct
x-Minnesota	22	8	.733
Seattle	18	11	.621
Las Vegas	18	12	.600
Phoenix	16	15	.516
Dallas	8	22	.267
Los Angeles	6	24	.200

TUESDAY'S GAMES			
Dallas 93, Las Vegas 90			

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES			
Indiana 84, Connecticut 80			
Washington 74, Chicago 70			

THURSDAY'S GAMES			
No games scheduled.			

FRIDAY'S GAMES			
Indiana at Chicago, 7:30 p.m.			
Minnesota at Dallas, 7:30 p.m.			

SATURDAY'S GAMES			
Connecticut at Washington, 3 p.m.			

SATURDAY'S GAMES			
Chicago Cubs 14, Pittsburgh 10			
Houston 10, Philadelphia 0			

SUNDAY'S GAMES			
Oakland 9, Cincinnati 6			
Boston 3, Toronto 0			

MONDAY'S GAMES			
Atlanta 5, Minnesota 1			
Texas 4, Chicago White Sox 3, 2nd game			

TUESDAY'S GAMES			
Detroit 3, L.A. Angels 2			
Baltimore at L.A. Dodgers, late			

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES			
L.A. Angels (Kochanowicz 1-3) at Detroit (Montero 4-5), 1:10 p.m.			
Texas (Eovaldi 9-7) at Chicago White Sox (TBD), 2:10 p.m.			

THURSDAY'S GAMES			
Oakland (Ginn 0-0) at Cincinnati (Aguir 1-0), 5:10 p.m.			
Toronto (Francis 7-3) at Boston (Crawford 8-11), 7:10 p.m.			

FRIDAY'S GAMES			
Kansas City (Singer 9-9) at Houston (Brown 11-7), 8:10 p.m.			

BALTIMORE (Povich 1-6) at L.A. Dodgers (Miller 1-3), 10:10 p.m.			
Friday's Games			
Boston at Detroit, 6:40 p.m.			

NATIONAL LEAGUE			
East Division			
	W	L	Pct
Philadelphia	78	55	.586
Atlanta	73	60	.549
New York	69	63	.523
Washington	61	73	.455
Miami	48	84	.364

WEST DIVISION			
	W	L	Pct
Milwaukee	76	56	.576
Chicago	68	66	.507
St. Louis	66	67	.496
Cincinnati	63	70	.474
Pittsburgh	62	71	.466

TUESDAY'S GAMES			
Philadelphia 5, Houston 0			
Washington 4, N.Y. Yankees 2			

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES			
Chicago Cubs 14, Pittsburgh 10			
Houston 10, Philadelphia 0			

THURSDAY'S GAMES			
San Francisco (Birdsong 3-3) at Milwaukee (Civale 4-8), 2:10 p.m.			
San Diego (King 11-7) at St. Louis (Gray 11-9), 2:15 p.m.			

FRIDAY'S GAMES			
Milwaukee at Cincinnati, 12:40 p.m., 1st game			
Milwaukee at Cincinnati, 6:40 p.m., 2nd game			

SATURDAY'S GAMES			
St. Louis at N.Y. Yankees, 7:05 p.m.			
Pittsburgh at Cleveland, 7:10 p.m.			

SUNDAY'S GAMES			
N.Y. Mets at Chicago White Sox, 8:10 p.m.			

MIDWEST LEAGUE			
High-A Midwest League Glance			
East Division			
	W	L	Pct.
Dayton	36	20	.643
West Michigan	30	24	.556
Great Lakes	30	25	.545
x-Lake County	29	25	.537
Lansing	25	31	.446
Fort Wayne	20	36	.357

WEST DIVISION			
	W	L	Pct.
x-Wisconsin	32	23	.582
Quad Cities	30	26	.536
Peoria	29	27	.518
Beloit	26	30	.464
Cedar Rapids	26	30	.464
South Bend	20	36	.357

x - First Half winner  
**Tuesday, Aug. 27**  
Lake County 5, Cedar Rapids 2, 6 innings  
Great Lakes 12, South Bend 7, 8 innings  
West Michigan 11, Dayton 2  
Fort Wayne at Lansing, ppd. to Aug. 28

Beloit 7, Peoria 5  
Wisconsin 10, Quad Cities 4  
**Wednesday, Aug. 28**  
Fort Wayne 9, Lansing 5, 1st game  
Lansing 2, Fort Wayne 1, 2nd game  
**Thursday, Aug. 29**  
Fort Wayne at Lansing, 7:05 p.m.  
**Friday, Aug. 30**  
Fort Wayne at Lansing, 7:05 p.m.  
**Saturday, Aug. 31**  
Fort Wayne at Lansing, 7:05 p.m.

## TRANSACTIONS

**Wednesday's Transactions**  
**BASEBALL**  
**Major League Baseball**  
**American League**  
CHICAGO WHITE SOX — Sent RHP Steven Wilson to Charlotte (IL) on a rehab assignment. Appointed RHP Matt Foster for Charlotte to serve as the 27th player for game 2 of a double-header.

CLEVELAND GUARDIANS — Designated CF Anthony Gose for assignment. Selected the contract of LHP Erik Sabrowski from Columbus (IL).  
NEW YORK YANKEES — Sent RHP Clarke Schmidt to Scranton/Wilkes-Barre (IL) on a rehab assignment.  
**National League**  
CINCINNATI REDS — Transferred OF Stuart Fairchild to the 60-day IL. Optioned RHP Casey Legumina to Louisville (IL). Selected the contract of LHP Evan Kravetz from Louisville.

**National Football League**  
CHICAGO BEARS — Signed LB Micah Baskerville. OL Theo Benedet. TE Stephen Carroll. DL Byron Cowart. OL Jake Curhan. WR Collin Johnson. DB Quindell Johnson. LB Carl Jones. DL Jamree Kromah. DL Dashaun Mallory. DB Tavarius Moore. QB Austin Reed. DB Reddy Stewart. DB Ro Torrence to the practice squad.  
CINCINNATI BENGALS — Signed CB Nate Brooks. WR Cole Burgess. OT Devin Cochran. DT Dominique Davis. CB Jalen Davis. TE Cam Brantley. LB Shaka Heyward. C Trey Hill. WR Sherrick Jackson. S P.J. Williams. WR Kendrick Pryor. QB Logan Woodside to the practice squad. Released RB Trayveon Williams. Claimed DL K.J. Henry off waiver from the Washington Commanders.

CLEVELAND BROWNS — Signed DT Jowon Briggs. CB Tony Brown II. WR Jaelon Darden. S Christopher Edmunds. CB Justin Hardee Jr. T Roy Mbeama Iredi. T Sam Kamara. T Roy McAllester (International Player Pathway Program). WR James Proche II. LB Winston Reid. LS Rex Sunahara. T Lorenzo Thompson. WR Michael Woods II to the practice squad.  
DETROIT LIONS — Signed LB Mitchell Agude. C Kingsley Eguakun. QB Jake Fromm. WR Termer Jefferson. T Jamarco Jones. WR Tim Kennedy. TE James Mitchell. S C.J. Moore. DL Pat O'Connor. WR Tim Patrick. DL Kyle Peko. WR Allen Robinson. DL Chris Smith. DL Isaac Ukwa. TE Shane Zylstra to the practice squad.

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS — Claimed DB Samuel Womack III off waivers from the San Francisco 49ers. Waived DB Darrell Baker Jr. Signed LB Austin Ajakaiye. LB Liam Anderson. DE Ganer Abery. QB Jason Bean. S Marcel Dabo. RB Evan Hull. CB Chris Lammons. WR D.J. Montgomery. CB Jaylin Simpson. CB Ameer Speed. WR Laquon Treadwell to the practice squad.  
**BASKETBALL**  
**National Basketball Association.**  
CLEVELAND CAVALIERS — Signed F Luke Travers to a two-way contract.

# Bethancourt drives in 7, Chicago Cubs rally past Pirates for victory

By WILL GRAVES  
AP Sports Writer

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Christian Bethancourt drove in seven runs, including a go-ahead two-run single in the ninth, as the Chicago Cubs rallied past the Pittsburgh Pirates 14-10 on Wednesday to sweep a three-game series.

The Cubs trailed by seven through six innings before taking advantage of another shaky performance by Pittsburgh's bullpen.

Bethancourt hit a two-run homer in the seventh to start Chicago's surge. The catcher added a two-run double in the eighth and laced a sharp bases-loaded single to left against Pirates closer David Bednar (3-7) to complete the comeback.

"(RBIs are) a big part of the game," said Bethancourt, who is hitting .423 with three homers and 15 RBIs in 11 games with Chicago. "And you get as many as I did today, that's an unbelievable day. That's probably a day I will not forget."

Pete Crow-Armstrong had a career-high four hits to boost his batting average over his last 21 games to .341 (26 of 76). Ian Happ chipped in three hits for the Cubs, who scored 41 runs across three games at PNC Park to improve to 17-8 over their last 25 games to move two games above .500 (68-66) for the first time since May 25 and stay on the fringe of contention for a wild-card playoff spot.

"We're playing really good baseball," Happ said. "The offense is doing its job. We've strung together some good offensive performances. Got to continue to do that."

Porter Hodge (3-1) pitched two scoreless innings to become the unlikely winner.

Chicago's rally spoiled a solid if not spectacular start by Pirates rookie Paul Skenes. The 22-year-old gave up three runs,

two earned, over the first two innings but settled down to retire 11 of the final 13 batters he faced.

Skenes' ERA ticked up to 2.23 after he was removed following 82 pitches with the Pirates seemingly comfortably in front. The team has been giving Skenes an extra day or two of rest in between starts, and his velocity has ticked down — by his standards — of late. None of Skenes' fastballs reached triple digits, though he hit 99 mph frequently.

Yet none of that mattered late in the game as the bullpen gave it away, leading Skenes' girlfriend, gymnast/influencer Livvy Dunne, to share a GIF of Skenes on X afterward that offered an unobscured tweak at Pittsburgh's current plight.

Pirates manager Derek Shelton fumed after the collapse, admitting "I don't know if I've been as (angry) as I am right now."

Bryan Reynolds and Connor Joe both homered and finished with three hits for Pittsburgh. Rowdy Tellez also had three hits for the Pirates.

Oneil Cruz singled and doubled while making his first career start in center field.

The 6-foot-7 Cruz easily handled a fly ball in the sixth but was charged with a questionable throwing error when he unleashed a 103.3 mph throw home on a single by Crow-Armstrong. The ball bounced in front of catcher Yasmani Grandal, who couldn't snag it and rolled to the backstop, allowing Crow-Armstrong to move up a base.

"I felt good," Cruz said. "Not like playing shortstop, but I felt pretty good."

## UP NEXT

Cubs: Start a three-game set against the Nationals on Friday.

Pirates: Are off Thursday, then head to Cleveland to begin a three-game interleague series with the skidding Guardians on Friday.

# Colts counting on Richardson, Taylor pairing for playoff return

By The Associated Press  
INDIANAPOLIS COLTS (9-8)

EXPECTATIONS: The Colts have heard all about the streaks. Yes, they've missed the playoffs each of the past three years. They haven't won a division crown since 2014 and haven't won a season opener since 2013. So this year, Indy wants to silence its critics. To do that, second-year coach Shane Steichen needs second-year quarterback Anthony Richardson to deliver in two key areas — staying healthy and throwing consistently well enough to win. Richardson should have more help this season with all five starting offensive linemen back, 2021 NFL rushing champ Jonathan Taylor happy and healthy and possibly the Colts' strongest receiving groups in years. Defensively, not much has changed. The Colts are deep along the defensive line and are experienced in the front seven. But to change directions and return to the playoffs, Indy needs its young secondary to grow up quickly this season.

NEW FACES: DT Raekwon Davis, QB Joe Flacco, DE Laiatu Latu, WR Adonai Mitchell, OL Matt Goncalves, OL Tanor Bortolini, WR-RS Anthony Gould.

KEY LOSSES: QB Gardner Minshew, RB Zack Moss, WR Isaiah McKenzie, DE Samson Ebukam (torn Achilles tendon).

STRENGTHS: Richardson and Taylor only took two snaps together in 2023. This season, they form a potentially dynamic rushing duo capable of creating nightmares

for opponents and becoming the cornerstone of Indy's offense. Add Michael Pittman Jr., one of the NFL's toughest receivers, to a mix that includes a motivated Mitchell, speedy Josh Downs and third-year receiver Alec Pierce and the possibilities seem endless. The Colts started training camp believing this would be their deepest defensive line rotation in years, too — until Ebukam's injury. But his absence will likely give Latu more playing time.

WEAKNESSES: The most glaring problem last season was the young, injury-depleted secondary. GM Chris Ballard has not added a veteran through free agency or a trade yet, perhaps counting on the development of second-year CBs JuJu Brents and Jaylon Jones and the return of injured CB Dallis Flowers to fill the gaps. Indy also needs to settle on a starting free safety and would like to see one of last year's five tight ends emerge as a go-to option.

CAMP DEVELOPMENTS: The pass-rushing skills that made Latu such a problem the past two seasons at UCLA, and the No. 15 overall draft pick in April, appear well-suited for his pro career. But Latu must also demonstrate he's more than a pass-rushing specialist by showing he's equally strong playing the run. The other significant development is the influence Flacco has had on Richardson, who has frequently praised Flacco for his assistance in team meetings and helping him read defenses more quickly.

# RACING NEWS

## NASCAR CUP SERIES

**Cookout Southern 500**  
Schedule: Saturday, practice, 1:20 p.m.; qualifying, 2:30 p.m.; Sunday, race, 6 p.m. (NBC).

**Last race:** Surprise! Harrison Burton pulled off a stunner at Daytona, winning there to qualify for the NASCAR playoffs. The son of former driver Jeff Burton passed two-time NASCAR champion Kyle Busch on the last lap in overtime for his first Cup Series win.

**Next race:** Sept. 8, Hampton, Georgia.  
**NASCAR XFINITY SERIES**  
**Sports Clips Haircuts VFW Help A Hero 200**  
Site: Darlington, South Carolina.

Schedule: Saturday, practice, 10:30 a.m., qualifying, 11:10 a.m.; race, 3:30 p.m. (USA Network)

**Last race:** Ryan Truex won the Xfinity Series race at Daytona International Speedway last week. He took the checkered flag under caution following an overtime finish.

**Next race:** Sept. 7, Atlanta.

## NASCAR TRUCK SERIES

**Last race:** There was an unexpected winner in the Truck Series' opening playoff race with 22-year-old Layne Riggs winning his first ever race at the Milwaukee Mile last week. Riggs was not part of the 10-team playoff chase. But he held off championship contender Ty Majeski for the victory.

**Next race:** Sept. 19, Bristol, Tennessee.

## FORMULA ONE

**Italian Grand Prix**  
Schedule: Friday, practice, 7:30 a.m.; practice, 11 a.m.; Saturday, practice, 6:30 a.m.; qualifying 10 a.m.; Sunday race, 9 a.m. (ESPN).

**Next race:** Sept. 15, Baku, Azerbaijan.

## INDYCAR

**Hy-Vee Milwaukee Mile 250 (two races)**  
Schedule: Friday, practice, 3:35 p.m.; Saturday, qualifying, 2:15 p.m.; race, 6 p.m. (Peacock); Sunday, race, 2 p.m. (USA Network)

**Next races:** Sept. 15, Lebanon, Tennessee.

## NHRA DRAG RACING

**Toyota NHRA U.S. Nationals**  
Aug. 28-Sept. 2.

**Next event:** Sept. 12-15, Mohnton, Pennsylvania.

## WORLD OF OUTLAWS

**Huset's Hustle, Huset's High Bank Nationals, Brandon, South Dakota**  
Next events: Sept. 6, Stockton, California; Sept. 7, Hanford, California.

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## EMPLOYMENT

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## Lottery Numbers

### Wednesday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY

Cash 5 — 03-08-18-23-25  
 Lotto Plus — 03-05-17-26-32-34  
 Cash4Life — 04-09-34-38-42. Cash Ball: 01  
 Quick Draw Midday — 02-03-10-13-14-15-31-34-35-38-39-40-47-50-61-62-66-67-75-78, BE: 34  
 Daily Three-Midday — 06-00-08, SB: 09  
 Daily Three-Evening — 04-07-05, SB: 01  
 Daily Four-Midday — 03-05-09-03, SB: 09  
 Daily Four-Evening — 03-02-08-06, SB: 01  
 Quick Draw Evening — 06-07-09-12-28-31-40-41-48-49-51-53-55-58-60-65-70-71-75-78, BE: 71  
 Hoosier Lotto — 02-14-16-23-39-45  
**MEGA MILLIONS**  
 Estimated jackpot (for Friday): \$627 million  
**POWERBALL**  
 05-33-47-50-64 Powerball: 20; Power Play: 2X

## SUDOKU

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

### King Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty: ★★★

8/29

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## Public Sale Calendar

**AUGUST 31 - 10 a.m. - (Onsite) - Aaron & Lydiann Schmucker, owners.** 9036W 800S, South Whitley. 50±A, tillable land, home, Whitley County. Offered in 4 Tracts. Tract 1: 20±A tillable productive farmland, Pewamo, Blount, Shoals, Sloan loam, Morley Clay soils. Tract 2: 20±A tillable productive farmland, Coesse, Sloan loam, Glynwood, Blount, Shoals soils. Tract 3: 4±A w/ approx. 3,184 sq. ft. 2-story home w/full walkout basement, 6 bedrooms, open concept layout, in-floor heat, outside deck, barn w/stalls, calf barn, straw shed, small utility type buildings. Tract 4: 6±A "Swing Tract", tillable, mostly Pewamo, Blount soils. Must be purchased w/another tract or by adjoining land owner. Sale manager Ritter Cox, 260-609-3306. *Schrader Real Estate and Auction Company, Inc., SchraderAuction.com, 800-451-2709.*

**BIDDING ENDS SEPTEMBER 1 - Online Only Personal Property - Spaulding, seller.** John Deere X304 riding lawn mower, household, modern furniture, vintage collectibles & Christmas, machinist tools, vintage patio furniture, machinist tool boxes, vintage boat motors, power tools, much more. Sale manager Nick Huffman, 260-827-8255, *The Steffen Group Inc., 260-426-0633, steffengrp.com.*

**SEPTEMBER 7 - 9 a.m. - Various consignors, sellers.** Lehman Feed Mill, 5111 S 000 Rd., Berne, IN. Farm Machinery Consignment Auction. Tractors, hay wagons, grain carts, discs, planters, plows, trucks, trailers, semis, livestock trailers, tools, lawn & garden equipment, shop equipment, livestock equipment & more! Consign anytime Sept. 4, 5, or 6 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Call Heartland to advertise your items! *Heartland Auction & Realty, Inc., 260-724-3499, heartlandauctionrealty.com.*

**SEPTEMBER 8-SEPTEMBER 15 - (Online Only Auction) - Private Collector, seller.** Outstanding collection of 2,000-plus comic books, large assortment of 8-Tracks, cassettes, CD's & DVD's, Star Wars figures, DJ lighting, vintage books, dolls, large Nativity set, toys, collectibles. Previews: Sept. 5 and Sept. 12 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., 117 W. Craig St., Ossian. Pat Carter, sale manager, 260-273-8294, *The Steffen Group Inc., 260-824-3006, www.steffengrp.com.*

**BIDDING NOW OPEN & STARTS CLOSING SEPTEMBER 9 - 6 p.m. EST - Susan Pollock estate, owner.** Two bedroom, 1 full bath, 1,264 sq. feet, basement, 8'x12' utility shed, Root Township, Section 34, Adams County, Indiana, North Adams Community Schools. *Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC, 260-724-7402, kjauction.com.*

**SEPTEMBER 10 - 10 a.m. EST - (Live and Online) - Norman & Norwin Bauermeister.** 815 Adams Street, Decatur, IN. Bauermeister Brothers retirement farm equipment auction! Tractors, tillage & grain handling equipment, skid loader, JD 5320, JD 6300, JD 4240, JD 7820 FWA, JD 980 23' field cult., 24' UM dual wheel single rolling basket w/harrow, 1965 Dodge D600 & 1974 Chevy C60 grain truck, J&M 425 hopper wagon, 8'x52' Mayrath swing auger, 3 point attachments & much more! For questions on equipment please call Butch, 260-246-3656. Preview Sept. 3, 4-6 p.m., 7845 N 650 E, Ossian, IN. Check-out and pick up Sept. 10, 3-5 p.m. Sept. 11, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. *Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC, 260-724-7402, kjauction.com.*

**SEPTEMBER 15 - SEPTEMBER 22 - 2 p.m. - (Online Only) - The Estate of Jeffrey W. Brown, seller.** Collectible vehicles, Dune Buggy, Chop Top Baja Beetle, Allis Chalmers tractor, pull type mower, riding lawn mowers, automotive parts, name brand shop & power tools, air operated tools, automotive shop supplies, chain saws, log splitter, antique furniture, collectibles, beer signs, much, much more. Preview Sept. 12, Sept. 19 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., 7271 N 300 W-90, Markle, IN. *The Steffen Group Inc., www.steffengrp.com 260-824-3006.*

**SEPTEMBER 17 - 2-6 p.m. ET - Online - Greenbush, Inc., farm.** Property location: 1231 N 740 E, Marion. 242.9±/- acres, classified forest, barns, quality farmland, timber, Van Buren Twp., Grant Co. Tract 1: 80±/-A, barns. Tract 2: 55.5±/-A. Tract 3: 18.3±/-A. Tract 4: 7.1±/-A, potential building site, 42'x56' barn, 30'x31' barn. Tract 5: 63±/-A. 55.28±/- classified forest. Tract 6: 19±/-A, 18.7±/- classified forest. Timber value appraisal available. Open house Sept. 7, 1-4 p.m., Steve Goodwin (forester) present. Rick Johnloz, 260-827-8181, Emma Barr, 260-494-0992, Jason Johnloz, 260-273-9177, *Halderman Real Estate & Farm Management, 800-424-2324, halderman.com.*

**SEPTEMBER 24 - 2 p.m. - 6 p.m. ET - Online - Don A. Heckber, farm.** Property location: 11648 N SR 1 Ossian, IN. 31.63±/-total acres, agriculture prime farmland, 31.5±/- tillable, 0.13±/- non-tillable, Topography: Level, Zoning: Agricultural, School District: Norwell Community Schools. Rick Johnloz, 260 827 8181, rickj@halderman.com, Jason Johnloz, jasonj@halderman.com, 260-273-9177, *Halderman Real Estate & Farm Management, halderman.com, 800-424-2324.*

**SEPTEMBER 24 - 6 p.m. - Online Only - The Estate of Jeffrey Brown.** Two story country home situated on 2.41±/- acres with outbuildings. This 1,876 SF home features 3 bedrooms, large living room, eat-in kitchen, utility room and 1 car garage. Open houses: Sept. 12 and 19 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., 7721 N. 300 W. Markle, IN. *The Steffen Group Inc., steffengrp.com 260-824-3006.*

**SEPTEMBER 25 - 8 p.m. - Online Only - The Estate of Jeffrey Brown.** Land location: 1/4 mile west of Marzane Rd on Wells County Rd 1200 N (Scott Street), Zanesville. 9.27±/- acre prime building site in Union Twp., Northern Wells County. Property features open land, wooded acreage, a 24'x48' pole building. Perfect home site, country estate. "Explore the potential of this property." Open houses: Sept. 12 and 19 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. *The Steffen Group Inc., 260-824-3006, steffengrp.com.*

**SEPTEMBER 27 - 9 a.m. - Huntington University, owner.** Civic Center, 339 S. Main St., Montpelier. Online bidding available. Property: From Montpelier, 1 mile east to CR 600E, north 3 miles to CR 1000S, 3 miles east. 256±A productive land, buyer will have 2025 farming rights, Wells County, Nottingham Township. Offered in 5 tracts, any combinations, tracts. Tract 1: 40±A mostly tillable, CR 1000S, CR 100E road frontage. Tract 2: 88±A mostly tillable, CR 1000S road frontage. Tract 3: 7±A mostly tillable, CR 1000S road frontage, potential building site! Tract 4: 104±A mostly tillable w/7±A woods, CR 1000S, CR 200E road frontage. Tract 5: 17±A mostly tillable, CR 200E road frontage. Inspection Aug. 29, 4-6 p.m., Sept. 7, 10 a.m.-noon, Tract 1. Auction managers Al Pfister, 260-760-8922, RD Schrader, 800-451-2709, *Schrader Real Estate and Auction Company, Inc., schrader auction.com.*

**NOVEMBER 14 - 6 p.m. - Becher Family Farms LLC, sellers.** Auction location: Adams Co. 4H Expo Hall, 160 W. Washington St., Monroe, IN. Four tracts, Washington Township, Adams County. Tract 1: 82.88 acres, County Rd. 200 West, Sec 18. Tract 2: 80.2 acres, County Rd. 450 North, Sec 8. Tract 3: 35.05 acres, County Rd. 450 North, Sec 9. Tract 4: 39.97 acres, County Rd. 400 North, Sec 9. *Heartland Auction & Realty, Inc., heartlandauctionrealty.com, 260-724-3499.*

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**SAT., AUG. 31**, only, 1526 Ridgewood Ln., Bluffton, 9-3 p.m. Dog fencing silver panels (9) 6', 16x16x2 square patio cement pavers (70), sm. pavers (21), furniture, round garden hose holder, queen bedding, quilts, blankets, books, purses, lge. picture, 2 cat beds, pet car seat, flower pots, vases, birdhouses, houseplants.

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



# Ukraine's offensive intensifies pressure

(Continued from Page 1)  
 from 2013 to 2016 and is among the retired U.S. military leaders and diplomats, Republican lawmakers, security analysts and others pushing for a loosening of restrictions on how Ukraine uses Western-provided weapons.

"If we keep doing what we're doing, Ukraine will eventually lose," Breedlove said. "Because right now ... we are purposely not giving Ukraine what they need to win."

Lifting such restrictions "would strengthen Ukrainian self-defense, save lives and reduce destruction in Ukraine," European Union foreign affairs chief Josep Borrell wrote Monday on the social platform X after Russia launched more than 200 missiles and drones at Ukraine. The next day, Russia launched 91 more.

The push and pull is playing out during Ukraine's surprise offensive into Russia's southern Kursk region, the first ground invasion of Russia since World War II.

Throughout the war, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has balanced copious thanks for U.S. support with frustrated appeals for more arms and ammunition. Upping the pressure this month, he again said Ukraine must fight the war as it sees fit with all

the weapons at its disposal and appealed for the U.S. to drop a ban on using American long-range ATACMS missiles to strike deeper into Russia.

"A sick old man from the Red Square, who constantly threatens everyone with the red button, will not dictate any of his red lines to us," Zelenskyy said recently of Putin.

The Biden administration this year allowed Ukraine to fire shorter-range U.S.-provided munitions across the border in self-defense, but not ATACMS.

Ukraine's defense minister, Rustem Umerov, and presidential adviser Andriy Yermak were coming to Washington this week to discuss the specific long-range military targets that Ukraine would like to hit in Russia, according to a person familiar with the plans. The person spoke on condition of anonymity to share the officials' plans.

Security analysts say Ukraine is using U.S.-provided HIMARS rocket systems in its offensive. Ukraine also announced it has used a U.S.-supplied glide bomb against Russian forces and deployed its own prototype of a long-range drone-missile hybrid.

Zelenskyy's military appeared

to have launched the ground offensive on Aug. 6 without consulting American leaders.

As Ukraine has claimed hundreds of square miles of Russian territory, it has taken a message from another U.S. ally that receives military support, said Roman Kostenko, a Ukrainian lawmaker and military commander.

"Israel once stated that it is quite respectful of the advice of its partners, but as an independent state, it makes decisions independently," Kostenko told the Ukrainian Prava news outlet. "I believe we can mirror this."

The U.S. has deliberated at length before eventually approving a succession of advanced weapons that Ukraine has pleaded for: modern tanks, precision medium-range rocket systems, Patriot missile batteries, ATACMS for use inside occupied Ukrainian territory and F-16 aircraft.

The Biden administration condemned Russia's attacks this week on Ukrainian energy infrastructure and is helping bolster its ally's air defenses, but has not changed its policy on long-range weapons, national security spokesman John Kirby told reporters this week.

A U.S. official, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss

the government's internal discussions, said the Biden administration believes there's no strategic advantage to ATACMS strikes within Russia.

There are too few ATACMS overall to allow Ukraine to hit a significant number of targets within Russia, the official said, adding that Ukraine is using the long-range missiles it has to challenge Russia's hold on the strategically important Crimean Peninsula.

Russia also has moved many of its aircraft away from what the Institute for the Study of War research group says are 16 Russian airbases within potential range of the ATACMS. That includes aircraft launching the hard-to-intercept glide bombs that Russia is using in Ukraine, the official said.

Many outside the administration disagree. More than 200 other Russian military targets are within ATACMS range in what appear to be carelessly guarded areas along 620 miles of border, said George Barros, a security analyst focusing on Ukraine and Russia for the Institute for the Study of War, which provides closely watched battlefield analysis of the conflict.

Those targets include large military bases, communications stations, logistics centers, repair facilities, fuel depots, ammunition

warehouses and permanent headquarters, Barros said.

While tech-savvy Ukraine is pioneering aggressive new ways of using armed drones and electronic warfare against Russia, hardened targets like bases need the bigger punch that ATACMS can provide, Barros said.

A few selective strikes against some Russian targets would force Putin to shift manpower and resources to protect those targets, he said.

"That is the kind of strain that drastically reduces an attacker's ability to successfully logistically support their front-line forces," Barros said.

Ukraine, fighting a far bigger military, needs the battlefield momentum that it hopes surprise offensives, demoralizing attacks within Russia and advanced weapons can provide. While it's pulled off a feat by deploying armed and uncrewed drone boats to bottle up Russia's navy in the Black Sea, its biggest battlefield successes were in the first dramatic months of the war.

A 2023 Ukrainian counteroffensive ended without major gains, and then U.S. political deadlock stalled military support for months and allowed Russian forces to gain territory.

# What a new indictment means for Trump's federal election interference case

By ALANNA DURKIN RICHER and ERIC TUCKER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Special counsel Jack Smith is pressing forward with his 2020 election interference case against Donald Trump, with a new indictment that aims to salvage the prosecution after the Supreme Court slammed the door on the possibility of a trial before the November election.

The new indictment, filed Tuesday in Washington, includes the same criminal charges, but narrows the allegations in an attempt to comply with the Supreme Court's ruling that former presidents have broad immunity from prosecution.

Here's what to know about the case and what happens next:

## Why file a new indictment?

In its ruling last month, the Supreme Court's conservative majority said former presidents are absolutely immune from prosecution for official acts that fall within their "exclusive sphere of constitutional authority."

Furthermore, former presidents are at least presumptively immune for other official actions, the Supreme Court said, but prosecutors can try to make the case that those allegations remain part of the indictment. But former presidents do not enjoy immunity for unofficial, or private, actions, the justices said.

As a result, the Supreme Court said Trump is immune from prosecution for conduct involving his interactions with the Justice Department, effectively stripping those allegations from the indictment. The justices sent the case back to U.S. District Judge Tanya Chutkan to analyze what other allegations could potentially proceed to trial.

In rewriting the indictment now, Smith's team aims to make that job easier for Chutkan by removing references to allegations it believes could be considered official acts for which

Trump could be entitled to immunity.

## What's different?

The new indictment does away with any reference to Trump's interactions with Justice Department officials, whom prosecutors alleged he tried to enlist in his failed effort to undo his election loss. Prosecutors alleged Trump tried to use the Justice Department to conduct sham election fraud investigations and send a letter to states falsely claiming that significant fraud had been detected.

The new indictment also deletes details about Trump's communications with certain other federal government officials, like the Director of National Intelligence and senior White House attorneys, who prosecutors say told Trump that his election fraud claims were false.

It also adds language designed to back up prosecutors' contentions that the actions that form the basis of his case were taken by Trump in his personal capacity as a candidate rather than his professional capacity as president.

For example, the new indictment says Trump "had no official responsibilities" related to Congress' certification of the 2020 election, "but he did have a personal interest as a candidate in being named the winner of the election."

The first page of the old indictment refers to Trump as the 45th U.S. president. The new indictment says only that Trump "was a candidate for President of the United States in 2020."

It also deletes references to certain Trump statements made from the White House, like the video Twitter message he had taped from the Rose Garden in which he asked his supporters at the Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021, to go home but reassured them, "We love you, you're very special." But comments Trump made during his speech near the White

House before the riot remain in the indictment. That was a "campaign speech at a privately-funded, privately organized political rally," the indictment says.

Smith's team noted that a new grand jury that had not previously heard evidence in the case brought the indictment. That move was likely designed to prevent Trump's lawyers from arguing that the entire case was tainted because the grand jury that brought the original indictment heard evidence the Supreme Court now says must stay out.

## What stayed the same?

Trump remains charged with four counts: obstruction of an official proceeding, conspiracy to obstruct an official proceeding, conspiracy to defraud the U.S. and conspiracy against the right to vote. While the Supreme Court ruled in a different case in June that the Justice Department applied the obstruction charge too broadly against Trump supporters who stormed the Capitol, prosecutors kept that charge against Trump, suggesting

they believe it will survive review in his case.

The indictment maintains a slew of allegations against Trump, including that he pressured state officials to subvert the results of the election and participated in a scheme orchestrated by allies to enlist slates of fraudulent electors in battleground states who would falsely attest that Trump had won in those states. Trump "had no official responsibilities related to the convening of legitimate electors or their signing and mailing of their certificates of vote," the new indictment says.

It also retains allegations that Trump sought to pressure Vice President Mike Pence to reject legitimate electoral votes and that Trump and his allies exploited the chaos at the Capitol on Jan. 6 in an attempt to further delay the certification of President Joe Biden's victory.

## What's Trump saying?

Trump acted with predictable fury, railing against the new indictment on his Truth Social platform as an act of "desperation" that has

"all the problems of the old Indictment and should be dismissed IMMEDIATELY!"

He also asserted that Smith had revised the original indictment to "circumvent" the Supreme Court

ruling, but the exact opposite is true: in paring down the case and the allegations, the special counsel's office was clearly trying to comply with, rather than get around, the spirit of the opinion.

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## Public Notices

STATE OF INDIANA  
 COUNTY OF WELLS

IN RE THE NAME CHANGE OF  
 MINOR:  
 KEIGAN THOMPSON  
 Name of Minor  
 CAMERON BUCKHARDT

**NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME**

Notice is hereby given that Petitioner, CAMERON BUCKHARDT, as a self-represented litigant, filed a Verified Petition for Change of Name on KEIGAN THOMPSON to change the name of, to KEIGAN MICHAEL RAY BUCKHARDT.

The Petition is schedule for hearing in the Wells Circuit Court on SEPTEMBER 16, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., which is more than thirty (30) days after the third notice of publication. Any person has the right to appear at the hearing and to file written objections on or before the hearing date.

July 22, 2024  
 Date

Beth Davis  
 Clerk, Wells Circuit Court  
 nb 8/15, 8/22, 8/29  
 hspaxip

90C01-2408-EU-000027  
 STATE OF INDIANA )  
 ) SS:  
 COUNTY OF WELLS )  
 ) IN THE WELLS )  
 ) CIRCUIT COURT )  
 ) PROBATE DIVISION )  
 ) IN THE MATTER OF THE )  
 ) ESTATE OF )  
 ) STEVEN D. EICHEL, Deceased. )  
 ) **NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION** )  
 ) For Publication in Newspaper )  
 ) Notice is hereby given that )  
 ) Daniel P. Blanchard was, on )  
 ) August 15, 2024, appointed Personal )  
 ) Representative of the estate of )  
 ) Steven D. Eichel, deceased, )  
 ) who died on the 4th day of June )  
 ) 2024. )  
 ) All persons who have claims )  
 ) against this estate, whether or not )  
 ) now due, must file the claim in the )  
 ) Office of the Clerk of this Court )  
 ) within three (3) months from the )  
 ) date of the first publication of this )  
 ) Notice, or within nine (9) months )  
 ) after the decedent's death, which- )  
 ) ever is earlier, or the claims will be )  
 ) forever barred. )  
 ) Dated at Ossian, Indiana, )  
 ) August 15, 2024 )  
 ) Beth Davis )  
 ) Clerk, Wells Circuit Court )  
 ) Mark E. Witmer #16554-02 )  
 ) BECKMAN LAWSON, LLP )  
 ) 201 West Wayne Street )  
 ) Fort Wayne, IN 46802 )  
 ) 260-422-0800 )  
 ) Attorneys for Estate )  
 ) nb 8/22, 8/29 )  
 ) hspaxip )

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