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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2024

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## Township talks leaving Ossian Fire Department

**By SYDNEY KENT**  
For the first time, the Jefferson Township Advisory Board considered a financial and personnel plan for splitting its fire services from the Ossian Fire Department.

Board members AJ Springer, David Haiflich and Tim Baker were scheduled to meet on Thursday to discuss two items on the agenda: the 2025 budget, and the 2025 fire agreement.

During the over two-and-a-half-hour meeting, many minutes were spent shifting responsibility and reiterating complaints that have been tossed back and forth since April.

While discussing the budget, Haiflich and Baker repeatedly insinuated or referenced that they were

beginning a new fire department. As Baker spoke, audience members read the budget — changed in pen — and questioned the board. The pair deflected the issue to be discussed only after the budget was finalized.

Springer's response indicated that he was unaware of the sudden change.

"Leave the budget as it was," Springer yelled. "Not this (expletive) that you're doing now. You're a (expletive) moron. You need to resign Tim, you're not doing anything but hurting this community. I am sick and tired of this."

"Everyone's taxes are going to go up," Springer continued. "You're not going to get anyone to work for you, Tim —"

Multiple audience members attempted to intervene, many asking why this idea was proposed at the last minute.

"We are discussing this now because this was the first time we were able to," Haiflich yelled at a resident. "This is our meeting. We have a right — did you not hear? We have a right to change (the budget) how we want."

"We can't," Baker said flatly. "We're out of time."

Several attendees then laughed, as there have been repeated accusations that the board would wait until the last minute.

"Ever since those (expletive) radios," Springer yelled to Haiflich, refer-

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Pictured left to right, Ossian police officer Russ Mounsey intervenes during the advisory board meeting with AJ Springer, David Haiflich and Tim Baker (Photo by Sydney Kent)

## Wells County Health Department discusses grant applications

**By HOLLY GASKILL**  
The Wells County Health Department has received over \$300,000 in grant requests for Health First Indiana funding.

Through HFI, the department has allocated \$135,000 for grants to local groups already addressing health needs in Wells County. The application period closed on Sept. 27, with reportedly eight local groups requesting roughly \$309,000 in total.

The health board met with the department on Thursday morning to discuss the next steps for the application review. Administrator Sahara Wall and Public Health Nurse Lynn Blevins said they have some follow-up questions for applications, particularly those that requested large amounts.

Blevins said that ideally, every group would receive a grant amount, but that it

would be very difficult to do so. He noted some requests do fit the key performance indicators listed by the state, but may be difficult to track data for the department's reporting.

Subsequently, the board said they would consider awarding partial grant amounts and offering either a second round of grant applications or a second installment contingent on reporting metrics.

To discuss this more in-depth, the board ultimately agreed to form a three-person subcommittee to meet with department heads and Health Officer Dr. Brandon Huggins. The board's next meeting is slated for Dec. 19, when the grants would tentatively be approved.

The board also agreed 4-0 to change

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## State lieutenant governor nominees talk, priorities, controversies and duties

Get to know the trio of candidates

**By LESLIE BONILLA MUÑIZ**  
*Indiana Capital Chronicle*  
Indiana's lieutenant governor doesn't helm the state like the governor or control spending like lawmakers, but officeholders still wield significant power — and are on the ballot.

A lieutenant governor is first in line to lead the state if a sitting governor can't fulfill the top spot's duties, and presides over the Senate, casting tie-breaking votes.

The role also includes oversight of agencies dealing with farmers, rural affairs, housing and tourism, and influence over mental health and disability policy.

Republican pastor Micah Beckwith, Democrat and former rural development officer Terry Goodin and Libertarian real estate broker Tonya Hudson hope to be Indiana's next lieutenant governor.

Early voting has started. Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 5.

They each sat down with the Capital Chronicle — by phone, over Zoom and in person — to re-introduce themselves and outline how they'd handle the role's duties and opportunities.

Hoosiers will vote for lieutenant gov-

ernor as part of a ticket. Each candidate is tied to their party's gubernatorial nominee: Beckwith to Republican U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, Goodin to Democrat Jennifer McCormick and Hudson to Libertarian Donald Rainwater.

**The Republican nominee**

Beckwith, a Michigan native, moved to Indiana in the early 2000s to attend a private Christian university — and stayed.

He and his wife, Susan, have two young children.

Beckwith is a pastor at Life Church's Noblesville campus who hosts a podcast called "Jesus, Sex and Politics" with another pastor and teaches constitutional history at a Carmel Christian school.

He made his first foray into politics in 2016, when he ran for party delegate and became a vice-precinct committeeman. Beckwith also launched a long-shot 2020 congressional campaign but lost the primary election to sitting Rep. Victoria Spartz.

GOP delegates narrowly chose him in June over Braun's preferred choice for a running-mate, after an unusual yearlong campaign for the convention nod.

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### Statebound Knights

Norwell High School's Marching Knights will compete at the ISSMA state finals in Indianapolis on Saturday. In preparation, the group hosted a community performance Thursday night. The performance is named "Nocturnal," and includes pieces ranging from classical to indie rock under a nighttime theme. Above, the group stands at the end of the performance. Kiera Whitaker is pictured with the color guard at right, Jacob Kettring on trumpet below left, and Lucille Thompson begins the performance below right. The group will also honor its seniors during halftime of the football game tonight. (Photos by Holly Gaskill)



## Israel says it has killed Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar in Gaza

**By JOSEF FEDERMAN, MELANIE LIDMAN and WAFAA SHURAF**  
*Associated Press*

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israeli forces in Gaza killed Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar, a chief architect of last year's attack on Israel that sparked the war, the military said Thursday. Troops appeared to have run across him unknowingly in a battle, only to discover afterwards that a body in the rubble was Israel's most-wanted man.

Israeli leaders celebrated his killing as a settling of scores just over a year after Hamas-led militants killed some 1,200 people in Israel and kidnapped 250 others in an attack that stunned the country. They also presented it as a turning point in the campaign to destroy Hamas, urging the group to surrender and release some 100 hostages still in Gaza.

"Hamas will no longer rule Gaza. This is the start of the day after Hamas," Prime

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**Outside**

A little warm today with Mr. Freeze visiting tonight

Today	Saturday	Sunday
High 68	High 70	High 73
Low 37	Low 39	Low 43

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## Ossian Fire Department

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encing an unnecessary process that occurred for the purpose of providing radios to the fire department. "You have a personal vendetta against (the town of Ossian)."

Springer and Haiflich began to scream louder, their conversation largely unintelligible.

Officer Russ Mounsey with the Ossian Police Department walked up to the table, approaching the board members after they failed to respond to his verbal intervention.

"Let's act like men here," Mounsey said sternly.

Both members thanked him and lowered their voices.

Trustee Larry Heckber stated that he did not have the proper time to review the sudden budget change and wanted a continuance meeting. Baker and Haiflich carried on their conversation as if he was not speaking, however, this did not stop Heckber's comments.

"I have never seen such underhanded stuff trying to be shoved down the public's throat at the last minute," Heckber admonished the pair. "You should both resign."

"Hey Larry, sometimes let the results show themselves," Mounsey interjected from behind the room. "Let's quit bickering. If they're going to do it, they're going to do it."

The board continued to reiterate its issues with the town that they have cited over the last 10 months. Problems frequently discussed include providing line items in the budget, paying vendors directly, receiving receipts, and board members "not having a voice" in the contract.

Several residents pointed out that the board members asked for two revisions to the contract at a public meeting with the town last month. Town treasurer Angie Ealing even left the meeting to make the revisions and returned in order for the budget to be signed the same night. Ealing also offered to provide additional receipts and any infor-

mation requested whenever the board asked.

Baker eventually introduced the person he intended to hire as a fire chief to begin a new department, Justin Fryback. Fryback stood from his seat in the last row of the audience.

"I was in the Ossian Fire Department for nine years," Fryback began. "The only reason I am considering this is because we were given an ultimatum. I don't want to see them split up but neither one of them are moving. I'm not going to wait until December until I do something. I have talked to surrounding fire departments and I have their support."

Fryback, who said he has not been an active firefighter since 2016, stated that he had more than five people showing interest. However, he ultimately hopes his time is wasted and the parties work it out. Springer pointed out that the departments offering support — Markle, Chester, and Liberty — would likely not be able to help provide protection.

"The biggest asset is the training," Fryback responded, adding an idea for a mutual aid agreement.

"Mutual aid means mutual," A resident said. "If you guys don't have any one, you can't provide help."

Springer also pointed out the logistical difficulties with Fryback working in Decatur.

"So my home insurance on my house will go up to \$2,000," Gene Donaghy added, estimating that collectively with all of Jefferson Township, insurance rates alone could go up by millions. "And we are worried about \$122,000?"

Another resident suggested the board members "plug their nose and sign it," referring to the contract.

"We can't lose the war with this battle over receipts," He said. "I know you don't like it, and I don't either, but I think the ramifications of having nothing — even if (Fryback) gets something going — it's nothing close to if

we don't have an agreement ... Plug your nose, sign the agreement, and let's make a plan with time and our ability to make informed decisions."

This elicited a round of applause.

Baker said he wasn't ready to sign the agreement at the moment due to certain language needing to be adjusted. Primarily, language that would ensure any unspent funds from the township would remain in the fire department's budget.

Heckber confirmed the required attorneys could draw up the agreement and finalize it before the continuance. Springer suggested the board agree with the continuance and stop the meeting.

"That gives us time to talk, get to Tony with the tweaks made, and present it to Ossian," Springer said.

"The first thing I encourage you to do is to not say you're going to leave until you know the cost," Roger Thornton said. "Until you try to recruit firefighters, I think you're going to underestimate the cost. And when you get a good one, they're going to steal him. To find competent firefighters with the level of training involved is extremely expensive."

He continued, "Before firemen should go into a burning fire, you have two men go in and two men standing by to get them. I'm not an expert on fire protection, but what I am trying to say is that the challenge of finding adequate people is so severe that I urge you to take care in plotting the course until you know the cost."

Thornton also urged the board to look for a person skilled in mediation.

"You have strong feelings, and you're strong-willed people," he said. "I can't observe a weak person in this leadership group, which means you're not going to compromise easily without understanding."

A continuation of the meeting is scheduled at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday. [sydney@news-banner.com](mailto:sydney@news-banner.com)

## Weather

Friday, October 18, 2024

(24-hour observations at 9:33 p.m. Thursday)  
**High:** 63; **Low:** 30; **Precipitation:** None  
**Wabash River Level** (at the Main Street bridge): 1.04 feet at 6:45 p.m. Thursday

### Wells County forecast

**Today:** Sunny, with a high near 68. South wind around 5 mph.

**Tonight:** Clear, with a low around 37. Southeast wind around 5 mph becoming calm.

**Saturday:** Sunny, with a high near 70. Calm wind.

**Saturday Night:** Clear, with a low around 39. Calm wind.

**Sunday:** Sunny, with a high near 73.

**Sunday Night:** Clear, with a low around 43.

**Monday:** Sunny, with a high near 76.

**Monday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 46.

**Tuesday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 74.

**Tuesday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 52.

**Wednesday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 73.

**Wednesday Night:** A slight chance of showers. Partly cloudy, with a low around 41.

## Grant applications

(Continued from Page 1)

its regular meeting time to accommodate Huggins' work schedule in 2025. Huggins, who was absent, has not been able to attend the board's Thursday meetings due to his surgery schedule.

The health board meets on the third Thursday of every other month at 6:30 a.m. but will meet on the third Monday at the same time in 2025. Its February meeting, however, will be on Thursday, Feb. 20, due to a conflict with President's Day. Board members Chris Esterling, Molly Hoag, Tamara Troutt and Dr. Mary Donley voted in favor of the

schedule change; Dr. Bart Hott, Steve Bales and Ann McNabb were absent.

Department updates were brief, as vital records and septic permits have all been lower recently. That said, flood shots have been busy and there was an influx of food inspections for Ossian Days and the Bluffton Free Street Fair.

Wall said the department received great feedback on the community baby shower, which she hopes to make an annual offering. She registered 85 attendants in total, who were able to hear from 15 different vendors.

[holly@news-banner.com](mailto:holly@news-banner.com)

## Lieutenant governor nominees

(Continued from Page 1)

The conservative often courts controversy, sparking a firestorm earlier this month for likening the Democrat ticket to the "Jezebel spirit," an insult with biblical roots.

"Anything I say, by the far-left media, will tend to get blown out of proportion," Beckwith told the Capital Chronicle. "... I don't go into any situation saying, 'Oh, I'm gonna say something that's controversial or make news.' I think I speak very plainly, and I think I address the issues that people want addressed."

He made national headlines recently while answering questions at Monroe County Republican Party Dinner this month. Beckwith said he'd fire state employees working against elected officials' agendas — and would start by scrutinizing those with pronouns in their email signatures, according to footage from The Bloomingtonian.

While agencies are led by the gubernatorial administration's appointees, Beckwith noted that middle- and lower-tier employees often "outlive" political transitions — and may resist changes.

He said Hoosiers have voted in conservatives to run Indiana's government, but accused liberal "unelected bureaucrats" of attempting to "skirt the will of the people." Beckwith cited the Indiana Department of Health as an example; the agency has fought to avoid disclosing individual terminated pregnancy reports to an anti-abortion group.

**Terry Goodin**  
 Goodin, an Indiana native, still raises cattle at the farm on which he was raised. He has three children with his wife, Darcie.

Goodin spent much of his

career in education — as a public school teacher, assistant principal and superintendent — while serving two decades in the House.

He left in 2020 as one of the Democratic caucus' most conservative members. Goodin says he was wrong about his earlier views on same-sex marriage and abortion rights — he's now supportive — but maintains a "strong" belief in gun rights.

President Joe Biden appointed him to lead Indiana rural development efforts at the U.S. Department of Agriculture in 2022. Then, he got a phone call from McCormick.

Goodin recounted traveling the state while working at the USDA, saying, "What I saw really disturbed me. Once you got past the McDonald's and the dollar store, and you started getting into these downtowns of these communities, they were pretty desolate."

Goodin said the idea of helping "lift these communities back up" motivated him to leave a job he liked and agree to McCormick's offer.

He knocked the state's Republican supermajority — adding, "They're my friends, but their ideas are old" — and promised the ticket would bring in experts and a "proactive," "holistic" approach.

**Tonya Hudson**  
 Hudson, also from Indiana, is on her third bid for office after joining her party just five years ago. She unsuccessfully ran for Congress in 2020 and 2022.

"I was a lifelong Republican before I became a Libertarian," she told the Capital Chronicle. "What happened was I got just so fed up with the party."

Hudson said she had considered herself an Abraham Lincoln- and Ronald

Reagan-style Republican, but felt unmoored. Being an independent, she said, was "lonely."

She joined the Libertarian Party in 2019 after coming across its platform and agreeing with what she saw.

Hudson has a son and grandchildren, alongside an American Staffordshire Terrier named Independence.

She's worked as a real estate broker for 18 years, with a soft spot for first-time buyers and sellers moving on to their next stage in life — and a strong distaste for property taxes.

She pledged to meet with leaders of agencies under the lieutenant governor's office to ensure "they have what they need to run ... efficiently."

But, she added, "I have no intention of micro-managing. That's not the job."

**Farmers and rural affairs**  
 The lieutenant governor oversees the Indiana State Department of Agriculture and the Office of Community & Rural Affairs.

Asked what changes he might make to benefit farmers and other rural residents, Beckwith boosted his ticket's property tax reform plan. He also spoke of the need for balance between farmers' property rights, neighbors' property values and state energy needs in siting renewable energy installations. Such developments have roiled Hoosier communities.

Beckwith pushed for a "free market approach" that shields the state from "crazy nonsense" but otherwise lets local governments, developers and landowners find

their own solutions.

He also wanted to examine how OCRA awards grants. He'd heard complaints on the campaign trail that communities "that really don't need the money" were applying and winning funds.

Beckwith promised to sit down with county leaders, listen to their goals and needs, and direct them to other agencies or programs for assistance, if needed.

Goodin, meanwhile, said the state's incentive packages are structured for cities and have impacted county population growth versus decline. He added that he didn't believe rural farmers have access to the same levels of incentives as suburban and urban businesses.

"Those are small businesses," he said of farms. "Small businesses in the state of Indiana are the number-one job creator here. ... How do we allow folks to be able to take a jump, take a risk, and help them get across the line there to be successful?"

Hudson promised to focus on young Hoosiers, outlining ideas for farm-related internships and food-awareness programs featuring school-grown produce served in cafeterias.

She also criticized the "heavy burden of rules and regulations."

"Farmers and ranchers should be able to do what they want to do on their own land," she said. Loosening hemp restrictions, she added, could allow farmers to profit off related biodiesel and concrete innovations.



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## Hamas leader

(Continued from Page 1)

Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said.

U.S. officials expressed hopes for a cease-fire with Sinwar out of the picture. But eliminating him may not end the devastating war, during which Israel has destroyed much of the Gaza Strip and killed more than 42,000 Palestinians. The Gaza Health Ministry does not distinguish between civilians and combatants but says more than half of those killed were women and children.

Sinwar's death is a crippling blow to Hamas, but the group, which receives support from Iran, has proven resilient to past losses of leaders. There was no immediate confirmation from Hamas of Sinwar's death.

Netanyahu has said Israel will keep fighting until all the hostages are free, and that it will keep control over Gaza long enough to ensure Hamas does not rearm — an effective occupation that raises the possibility of months or even years of continued fighting.

Earlier this month Israel opened a new front in its war with Hezbollah, stepping up bombardment in Lebanon and launching a ground campaign against the Iran-backed militia after a year of trading cross-border fire.

In his speech about Sinwar's death, Netanyahu

said, "Our war is not yet ended."

President Joe Biden said Sinwar's death opens the way for "a political settlement that provides a better future for Israelis and Palestinians alike." He said he would talk with Netanyahu "to discuss the pathway for bringing the hostages home to their families, and for ending this war once and for all."

Sinwar has been Hamas' leader inside the Gaza Strip for years. He was elevated to the group's top leadership position in July after his predecessor, Ismail Haniyeh, was killed in an apparent Israeli strike in the Iranian capital, Tehran.

In the past months, Israel has eliminated a string of senior figures from Hamas and Hezbollah with airstrikes. Israel has claimed to have killed the head of Hamas' military wing, Mohammed Deif, but the group has said he survived.

But in Sinwar's case, troops found him by chance.

Israel military spokesperson Rear Adm. Daniel Hagari said that Israeli forces identified three Hamas militants running from building to building in Gaza's southernmost city, Rafah. The troops attempted to shoot them before they ran inside a building.






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OBITUARIES

June (Brown) Stoffer Booher, 95

June A. (Brown) Stoffer Booher, 95, of Montpelier, passed away on Tuesday, Oct. 15, 2024, at Heritage Pointe of Fort Wayne.



Born on July 5, 1929, in Marion, she was the daughter of the late Frank G. and Pearl (Poe) Brown. June graduated from Marion High School in 1947 and worked various jobs before retiring as a secretary from the Marion Rich Plan in the early 1980s.

She was an active member of Asbury United Methodist Church in Montpelier and, along with her husband, Dwight L. Booher, volunteered for 16 years at Helping Hands at the Rome City United Methodist Church while living at Waldron Lake in Rome City. While a proud member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, General Francis Marion chapter, June was also a beautiful singer, a lover of Hallmark movies, and, perhaps most impressively of all, served as the source of the apple-cheeked smiles carried by her surviving family — and there were always reasons to smile around her. She cherished every opportunity she had with her grandchildren (all lovingly nicknamed Henry and Henrietta when she lost track of names as their numbers grew), and they cherished her in turn.

June married Dwight L. Booher on December 27, 1974. He preceded her in death.

She is survived by her children, Gary (Kay) Stoffer, Larrie (Rhonda) Stoffer, Cathy (John) Shaffer and Lorrie (Dick) Arnold; stepchildren, Brenda Howard, Shelia (Mike) Mosley and Dennis (Dixie) Booher; brother-in-law, Jerry Peterson; sister-in-law, LaVonne Brown; 20 grandchildren; 44 great-grandchildren; and nine great-great-grandchildren.

June is preceded in death by her husband, parents, son, Steven Stoffer, grandson, Doug Cox, and siblings, Hugh, Melvin, Don, Delmer, and Norman Brown, Janice Rice, and Norma Peterson.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Colledge Park Chapel of Armes-Hunt Life Celebration Funeral Home and Cremation Service, located at 4601 S. Western Ave. in Marion.

The family will receive friends and family from 5-8 p.m. on Friday, October 18, 2024, and again on Saturday, October 19, 2024, from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., with the funeral service beginning at 10 a.m. Interment will follow immediately at Asbury Cemetery in Montpelier.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Asbury Cemetery for maintenance care, addressed to Melody Dollier, 11133 S. 900 W-90, Montpelier, IN 47359.

Condolences and memories may be shared at [www.armeshuntfuneralhome.com](http://www.armeshuntfuneralhome.com).

William "Bill" James Huston Jr., 75

On Saturday, Oct. 12, 2024, we bade farewell to the remarkable William James Huston, Jr, better known as Bill Huston.



Born and raised in Bluffton to his beloved late mother, Velma Landis (Smith) on June 24, 1949, Bill was the eldest of six children. As a Child of Deaf Adults (CODA), he grew up immersed in Deaf Culture with American Sign Language (ASL) as his first language and the lens through which he experienced his environment.

After graduating from Southern Wells High School in 1967, Bill enlisted in the Marine Corps and was deployed to Vietnam. As he has recounted, he should have died on April 17, 1968, when he was wounded 19 times and received a Purple Heart and other accolades for his valor. He was a proud veteran and the experience broadened his perspective, sending him on a quest to learn more about the world, theology, and education.

The first person in his extended family to attend college, Bill ultimately completed a bachelor of science and master of science in rehabilitation services from Boston University in 1980. He went on to become a certified interpreter and sign language instructor and was a long-time

resident of Massachusetts.

From 1982-2002, Bill was a dedicated curriculum coordinator at Northern Essex Community College in Haverhill, where he designed and administered a deaf studies program and was honored as Professor Emeritus in 2003. Bill was also the creator and trainer of a visual gestural communication (VGC) intervention model and had a gift for communicating

with deaf and hard of hearing persons with barriers for conventional communication models.

Above all, Bill was a patient, devoted, and loving father to his two daughters, Emily Saade (Huston) and Kara Huston, and proud grandfather to Evan Saade. His daughters were with him through his final moments.

Bill leaves behind two younger siblings, Walter (Walt) Huston and Catherine Huston, who both reside in Indiana. He is predeceased by his mother, Velma, sisters, Martha and Carolyn, and brother and fellow Vietnam veteran, George.

He passed away in Charleston, South Carolina, where he moved in 2012 to enjoy his retirement. A memorial to honor Bill's life will be held at a later date. May his memory be a blessing and his impact eternal.

John C. Reusser, 71

John C. Reusser, 71, passed away Wednesday evening, Oct. 16, 2024, at Stillwater Hospice Home in Ft. Wayne following an extended battle with cancer.



John was born in Bluffton on Nov. 10, 1952, to C. Robert and E. Jane (Chenoweth) Reusser; both parents preceded him in death. He married Kayleen J. (Brewer) on Aug. 2, 1980; she survives in Bluffton.

He was a 1971 graduate of Bluffton High School. Following graduation, John joined the United States Air Force where he served from Oct. 1972 until Dec. 1973. John continued his service with the Air Force Reserves at Grissom Air Force Base and 122nd Fighter Wing in Ft. Wayne, retiring in 2006 after 21 years of service. He worked in commercial building maintenance at Taylor University-Ft Wayne in the aviation field and was a lifelong farmer. John was a loyal follower of God and attended St. Luke Church in Decatur.

John volunteered as a guardian with Honor Flight of Northeast Indiana and studied WWII. He was an avid hunter and outdoorsman and a commercial pilot. He enjoyed traveling.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by three children, Amanda Reusser of

Bluffton, Christopher (Erica) Reusser of Norfolk, Virginia, and Lindsay Reusser of Charlotte, North Carolina; three brothers, Timothy Reusser of Brownsburg, David (Cindy) Reusser of Bluffton, Brian (Julie) Reusser of Indianapolis; and three sisters, Carol (Gary) Foltz of Indianapolis, Nancy Halstead of California and Donna (Boyd) Penrod of Bluffton.

Visitation will be held on Monday, Oct. 21, 2024, from 3:00 until 7:00 p.m. at Goodwin — Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel in Bluffton. Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 22, 2024, at St. Luke Church, 4960 W. 100 N. Decatur, IN., with visitation one hour prior at the church. Pastor Mike Wertenberger will officiate. Burial will take place at 1:00 p.m. at the Marion National Cemetery with Military Honors to be conducted by the United States Air Force Honor Guard and American Legion Post 111 of Bluffton.

In lieu of flowers and gifts, the family requests that memorials be made to Honor Flight of Northeast Indiana or St. Luke Church Building Fund.

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

Police Notebook

INCIDENTS

**City:**  
Wednesday, 2:40 p.m., West Lancaster Street and Westgate Road. Driver cited for no insurance.

Wednesday, 6:45 p.m., 800 block of Creek Drive. Report of domestic issue.

Wednesday, 7:32 p.m., 400 block of West Wabash Street. Caller reported subject yelling and threatening, verbal dispute only.

Wednesday, 8:23 p.m., 400 block of West Wabash Street. Report of battery, Joey Hinton arrested.

Wednesday, 10:35 p.m., 800 block of Cari Drive. Report of juvenile disobedience.

Thursday, 12:03 p.m., Bluffton High School. Driver cited for speeding.

**County:**

Wednesday, 1:20 p.m., 3100 East S.R. 124, Bluffton. Report of a civil issue regarding vehicle.

Wednesday, 4:12 p.m., S.R. 124 and North 300 West, Bluffton. Ryan Warmoth arrested for driving while suspended — prior, and cited for speeding and operating a vehicle without insurance.

Wednesday, 5:53 p.m., 5900 North Main Street, Uniondale. Report of an animal problem.

Wednesday, 7:02 p.m., 170 block of East Linn Road. Report of kids riding on bikes being reckless.

Thursday, 7:21 a.m., 7900 North Meridian Road, Uniondale. Driver missed T in roadway and drove into yard.

ARRESTS

Joey Dominic Hinton, 42, Ossian; battery, a Class A misdemeanor. Bond set at \$25,000.

Wendy Rashel Guiracocha, 21, Fort Wayne; operating without ever obtaining license, a Class C misdemeanor. Booked and released.

Jaymie Leigh Foy, 44, Pennville; theft, a Class A misdemeanor. Bond set at \$1,500.

Joel E. Ferrer Morales, 37, Bluffton; operating without ever obtaining license, a Class C misdemeanor. Booked and released.

Ryan M. Warmoth, 40, Lebanon; driving while suspended — prior, a Class A misdemeanor. Booked and released.

Bluffton-Harrison Middle School announces first quarter honor roll

Bluffton-Harrison Middle School has released the names of its students on the high honor roll and honor roll for the first quarter of the 2024-25 school year.

5th Grade High Honor Roll

Lenore Aschliman, Madison Braatz, Brytzamar Carmona, Zoe Draper, Kairi Fritz, Oliver Geisel, Eleanor Hale, Kaleb Hartman, William MacNeill, Raven Markley, Lucas Mills, Henry Moser, Dante Naselaris, Zavier Patterson-Cook, William Platt, Hudson Reimschisel and Sadie Vines.

Honor Roll

Oliver Andrews, Trace Andrews, Owen Aschliman, Kaylynn Bennett, Alivia Chacon, Jett Chism, Paul Crull, Rylee Donovan, Kalyiah Ehrman, Sarahira Exantus, Easton Gentis, Elsa Gerber, Callie Glover, Ruby Hansen, Nikolii Hilliard, Hadley Hohe, Kobi Isch, Paisley Jellison, Charlotte Jessup, Camden Kauffman, Jaiden Kistler, Landon Kruijs, Emma Lesh, Vivian Littell, Ahlexie Lothamer, Alexander Martin, Giovanna Martinez, Gabrielle McClelland, Hayden McElveen, Myles McFarren, Eli Miller, Carter Morey, Judah Owen, Zayne Patterson-Cook, Boston Reiff, Case Reineck, Hadley Reinhard, Wesley Sills, Branson Smith, Hudson Smith, Clayton Sonnigsen, Boone Sprunger, Abigail Stahly, Kambree Stoller, Jacob Truelove, Willow Tudor, Carly Turnbull, Treyton Uptgraft, Tucker Wellman and Brinley Zeis.

6th Grade High Honor Roll

Amalia Ali, Blaze Archer, T.J. Borabo-

Hower, Amelia Burman, Remington Claghorn, Callie Craig, Ethan Donovan, Naomi Fry, Brynlee Gaskill, Grace Gillette, Reid Harris, Landon Heer, Hunter Holloway, Kyla Isch, Hunter Johnson, Griffin Kaehr, Evelyn Mae Meyer, Karli Miller, Mal-lori Miller, Roman Mills, Lakyne Neuen-schwander, Brynn Reinhard, Eric Rincken-berger, Titan Robles, Samuel Roush, Stella Schroeder, Brooklyn Stoller, Roman Vasquez, Mackenzie White, Aldan Wood, Liam Yates and Trace Zoda.

Honor Roll

Skylar Bass, Alexandria Beard, Harvey Bedwell, Juan Marcos Beltran-Devis, Amerikus Brubaker, Trace Donahoe, Daryna Dudina, Mason Englehardt, Kendall Gaskill, Averie Gavilanez, Aria Graham, Mianna Hall, Trevor Hall, Ariana Hamer, Finlay Herrold, Sean Kelly, Clare Lambert, Maelynn Langel, Jaclyn McFarren, Ryan McPherson, Rylan Michael, Lev Mounsey, Deborah Nolan, Averie Penrod, Aiden Pfister, Colton Purvis, Graham Renner, Addisyn Roehm, Brayden Smith, Kayde Smith, Mia Smith, Nicholas Stanley, Paige Steffen, Willow Todd, Connor Traynor, Kaben Tullis, Landry Villanueva, Cameron Walker, Gabbit Walton and Carson Wellman.

7th Grade High Honor Roll

Abram Atkins, Kriegh Ault, Eli Brooks, Olivia Brown, Alaina Coleman, Mercedes Diaz Sanchez, Rowan Drayer, Cooper Dun-nuck, Collin Ewart, Molly Frauhiger, Abigail Garrett, Clive Gerber, Parker Grandlienard,

(Continued on Page 8)

Bluffton-Harrison Middle School receives robotics STEM 2024-25 grant

The Indiana Department of Education has announced that Bluffton-Harrison Middle School has received one of 137 K-12 robotics competition grants for 2024-25.

This competitive grant opportunity supports schools and other eligible entities in providing opportunities to increase interest and improve STEM skills through participation in competitive robotics programs, according to an IDOE news memo. Awarded through funds appropriated by the Indiana General Assembly, this grant aligns with the mission of Indiana's Priorities for STEM Education to provide Indiana students with engaging STEM learning experiences that prepare them for emerging careers and educational opportunities.

"Tiger Tech is a growing

robotics club with 28 students attending. This year we have two teams competing in the FIRST Lego League robotics competition," says Tiffani Tonner, BHMS computer science teacher and the robotics club sponsor. "This grant has allowed us to register a second team this year, allowing additional students to participate. We were also able to buy more robotic Spike Lego equipment. Along with these two teams, we also have 14 students learning soft skills like communication, presentation, teamwork and gracious professionalism while working with Lego Robotics and other various projects."

BHMS students who have participated in Tiger Tech have enjoyed collaborative club meetings and organized competition.

"Bluffton-Harrison Middle School staff and students have embraced the world of robotics and we are excited to partner with the IDOE on this grant to continue our efforts," Assistant Superintendent Julie Meitzler says. "Thank you to Miss Tonner and BHMS Principal Mr. Herrold for organizing this team and making it a reality for our middle school students."

VISITATION & SERVICES

**Joan Beeks**  
Graveside Service:  
2 p.m. Saturday,  
October 19  
at Fairview Cemetery.  
**Thoma/Rich, Lemler**  
Funeral Home  
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824-3850  
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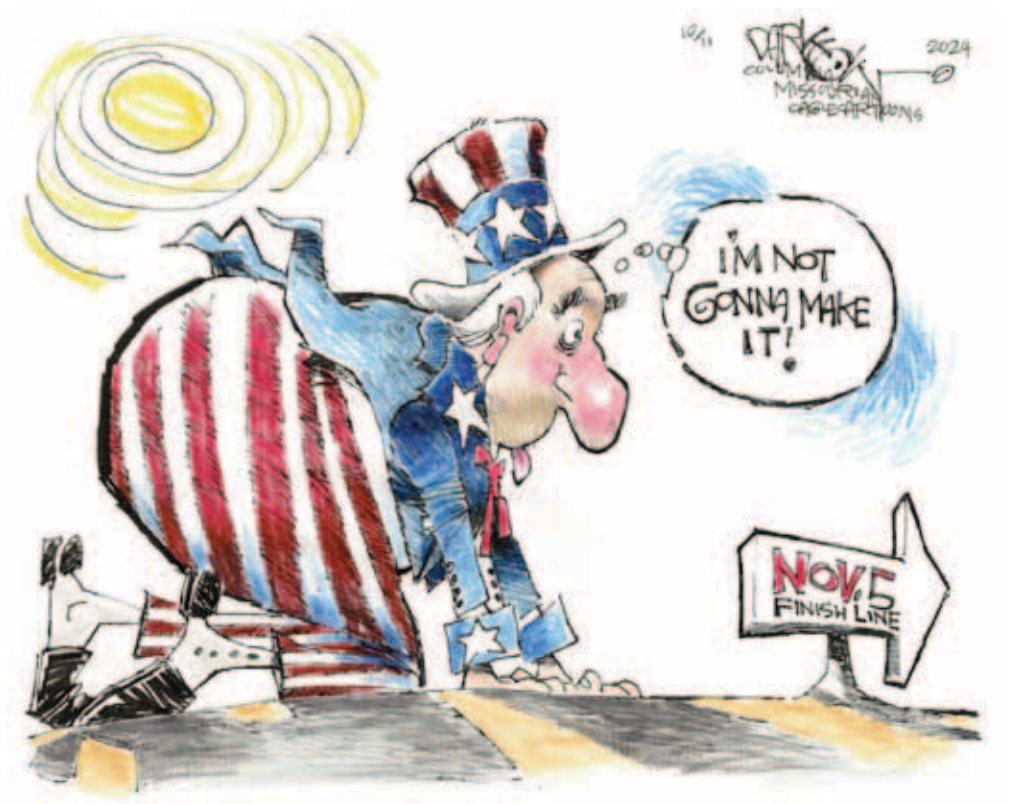
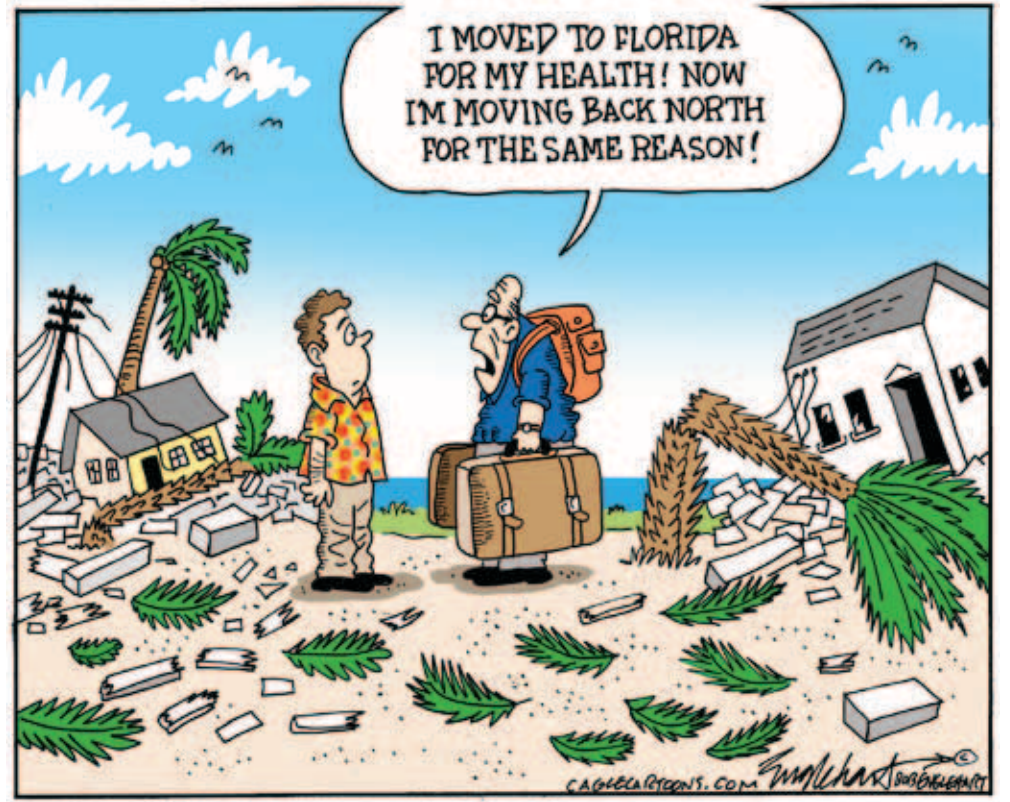
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The Week That Was - a look back through cartoonists' eyes...



Demystifying Indiana school funding

Hoosier Opinions

You can tell a lot about what a person values by examining how they spend their money. In fact, right in the middle of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said, "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also," (Mt. 6:21). By extension, you can tell — or rather you should be able to tell — what society values by examining government expenditures.

As the 2025 budget session of the Indiana General Assembly approaches, I thought that it would be worthwhile to level set about what we value, and specifically to look at the area which receives by far the largest share of our state's biennial budget: K-12 education. There are misconceptions and myths about how and at what levels the state funds education.

A persistent myth propagated by our state's minority party is that the Legislature has somehow cut overall education funding in recent years. In fact, we have delivered historic increases to education funding in each of the last two budget cycles. In the 2024-25 budget, we increased tuition support by a whopping \$1.5 Billion. Since 2011, the legislature has increased tuition support by 42 percent while overall enrollment has only increased 5.7 percent during the same period.

You may be thinking, "It's great that overall funding has increased but aren't private schools syphoning dollars away from traditional public schools through the state's Choice Scholarship Program?" That's another misconception. The truth is that while only 91 percent of Hoosier students attend traditional public schools, those schools receive 93 percent of state funding. And that is just state funding. When you combine state, local and federal dollars, the average traditional public school received \$12,380 per student for the 2022-23 school year (not including the \$2.8 billion in federal COVID-19 relief funds). In contrast, the average Choice Scholarship amount was \$6,263.66 for the 2023-24 school year.

Now, you may ask, "If funding for traditional public schools is increasing, then why aren't teacher salaries?" The first point I would make is that the Legislature doesn't set teacher salaries and, quite frankly, I don't think you'd want us to. What an educator might need to earn to live comfortably in Paoli or Rensselaer is going to be markedly different than what that same educator would need in Noblesville or Fort Wayne. And perhaps educators in a certain district prefer to negotiate for more robust fringe benefits and forgo some amount of salary. Lawmakers are not best suited to hash out these specifics. Rather, it is locally elected school boards and hired administrators that should make these decisions.

With that being said, it is certainly important to note that only 58.7 percent of state expenditures actually made it to the classroom during the 2020-21 school year and, assuming the average classroom is 20 students (a conservative estimate), teacher salary only accounts for roughly one quarter of the revenue generated by a traditional public-school classroom. However, between 2011-2021 the number of administrative staff increased 25.2 percent nationwide.

Lastly, I would note that teacher salaries have indeed increased. During the 2022-23 school year, the average Hoosier teacher made \$58,531 with total compensation including benefits at \$76,608. That was up 3.4 percent from the year before and nearly 10 percent more than the average Hoosier worker.

Article 8 of the Indiana Constitution mandates that the General Assembly "encourage, by all suitable means, moral, intellectual, scientific and agricultural improvement." My hope is that by dispelling some of these myths we can have a more productive conversation about how those efforts are funded during the next legislative session.

JAKE TESHKA

Teshka represents House District 7 in the Indiana Legislature and a member of the House Education Committee. He wrote this at the request of the Indiana Policy Review Foundation.

Indiana's worsening brain drain

Hoosier Opinions

I write often of the economic damage caused by the sharp decline of Hoosiers attending college. Most of that focuses on statewide effects. Because we are now a full decade into this problem, it is time to start talking about where in Indiana the worst economic damage will occur.

The college going rate in Indiana peaked in 2015 and has declined ever since. If there's good news, it is that the declines have leveled out a bit in recent years, with Indiana sending kids to college at about 80 percent of the national rate. This puts us in the bottom five states nationally — closer to West Virginia than Illinois — in sending kids to college.

At the same time, the demand for workers is heavily skewed towards college graduates. Indeed, the U.S. has not created a single net job for people who haven't been to college since 1992 — the first year for which we have data.

Despite happy talk to the contrary, there's no growing demand for trades. There are fewer jobs in the trades in Indiana today than at the turn of the century, and inflation-adjusted wages for those workers are lower now than when Bill Clinton was president. Vocational and trade education won't replace the wage premium or labor market security of college, no matter how much we wish it to be so.

Almost all the internal migration of people within the U.S. is from places with low levels of educational attainment to places with high levels of educational attainment. This is true for people with graduate degrees, high school dropouts and everyone in between. This has been increasingly the case since the end of World War II, and the trend is accelerating.

These four facts spell doom for most of Indiana. But there's at least one more dimension to the problem: Many Hoosier cities host colleges and universities that are at significant risk.

The decline in college attendance across Indiana has not been random. The number of Hoosiers attending out-of-state public colleges and universities has not changed since 2015. Also, the number of Hoosiers attending private universities has not changed since 2015. That means all the declining enrollment has occurred within public universities.

Within Indiana's public universities, only Indiana University and Purdue University have managed to increase the number of in-state, first-year college students since 2015. This growth is just over 1,000 students, good news for those two communities.

Across Indiana's other public four-year schools, first-year, in-state enrollment is down about 5,000 students. That is bad news for Indianapolis and Fort Wayne. It is disastrous news for Muncie, Terre Haute, Evansville and other smaller cities across the state.

Omitting Ball State, whose 2015 data is missing from the national database, Indiana's major public universities lost more than 3,300 in-state, first-year students from 2015 to 2022. Over the same period, in-state private universities saw enrollment gains of about 100 students.

This points to the crux of the problem — state support for higher education.

Had Indiana continued to support higher education spending at the same share of GDP we did in the final years of the Mitch Daniels administration, we'd

be spending almost \$500 million more per year. I mention this only to note that declining educational attainment has a policy dimension to it. If it were just bad luck, or our slice of a national trend due to COVID-19, it would still be unwelcomed. It is worse than that.

The declining educational spending at state universities should be of big interest to elected officials in all the towns around public universities. It seems very likely to undo decades of hard work towards rebuilding these communities. Even if enrollment stabilizes, most state schools are about to see their rankings slip.

At the local level, we should be most worried that at least two public universities in Indiana will lose their designations as R2 Institutions, or Doctoral Universities with High Research Activity. Loss of this designation, which seems probable, will be especially damaging to universities in their roles as the economic engines of their host cities.

So, at first blush, all this would seem to be the problem of a few places, maybe a dozen cities in the state. But there's a deeper problem that will be felt everywhere except perhaps the greater Indianapolis region.

Where students attend college affects the likelihood they remain in the state. Students who leave Indiana to attend college are very unlikely to return to build a life and career. Students who attend private universities inside Indiana are also unlikely to remain in Indiana.

The students who are most likely to remain in Indiana are those who attend public universities. And, among public universities, the ones with the highest rate of students remaining in Indiana are the very ones that have seen the biggest declines. These are the schools that are most sensitive to state funding cuts — and have lost the lion's share of young Hoosiers heading to college.

To put it bluntly, if you were to craft a public policy most likely to contribute to brain drain, you would cut funding to regional universities. This policy would hardly matter to flagship universities, which are able to bolster numbers by admitting a higher share of out-of-state students. For example, for every 10 new in-state students IU or Purdue has brought to campus, they've added 37 to 39 new out-of-state students.

That is not a criticism of IU or Purdue. It is great for both institutions and the cities that host them. It is a good way to replace lost state funding, and they are wise to do so. But it won't make Indiana a better-educated state. Those out-of-state students will stay in Indiana at much lower rates than Hoosier kids attending any state school.

The next two decades will offer some painful evidence of this growing problem. The economic pain will be concentrated, particularly in college towns outside of Bloomington and West Lafayette. But policies that exacerbate, rather than try to slow the loss of educated Hoosiers, can only end in tears.

Michael Hicks is the George and Frances Ball Distinguished Professor of Economics and the director of the Center for Business and Economic Research at Ball State University. • cberdirector@bsu.edu



Michael Hicks

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# I ghosted my friend to protect my sanity

## Dear Annie

by Annie Lane



Dear Annie: I am, I confess, guilty of ghosting a friend. I used to talk to her daily and had meals with her and her child. I explained to her how we communicated differently, and she just never "got it." After she began sending TikTok videos, I just gave up. While I don't want to hurt her feelings, communicating with her makes me anxious. I needed to draw the line to preserve my sanity. Perhaps some of those who have been ghosted might examine their own communications. — Ghosting

*Dear Ghosting: There's nothing wrong with boundaries, but the definition of ghosting is to cut someone off abruptly without explanation.*

*Your letter doesn't express WHY she made you so anxious — surely it had to be something worse than a few TikTok videos — but if you truly want to cut ties, it's important to tell her why, gently and compassionately, of course.*

Dear Annie: We lost our daughter-in-law to COVID-19 right after Thanksgiving in 2021. She and our son had divorced six months before. Both of them had new significant others and joined their three kids in a big blended family. My son's girlfriend has three kids, and my daughter-in-law had gotten pregnant with her new boyfriend and had custody of our three grandkids.

She got COVID, had a C-section and passed two days after delivering, not even knowing she had had her baby. It was so heartbreaking it even made the news.

We have seen the newest baby, a boy who is now 2 1/2 only one time right after he was born. My son's three kids asked about him a lot at first but now do not anymore. Why does my heart feel so broken still? He isn't my grandchild by blood. I feel depressed over it and over losing my DIL. I loved her like an actual daughter. She and my son were married for 13 years and very amicably divorced. I was very close to her. We were all looking forward to her

baby coming. I'm at a loss. My son tells me to get over it and that her getting pregnant with her new boyfriend is what kept them from reconciling. Our DIL's mother is estranged from the child as well because she hates the baby's dad and makes no effort to see him. I'm almost willing to secretly go behind everyone's back and try to have a relationship as his "Gramma." After all, he is also my grandchildren's brother and is now old enough to be included in their lives, too.

What are your thoughts? I'd hate jeopardizing my relationship with my son and doing this might... — Heartbroken Grandma

*Dear Heartbroken: I'm so sorry for your loss. It makes sense to me that, given the close relationship you had with your daughter-in-law, you would feel as you do and want to be connected to her new baby.*

*There's no harm in wanting to be a part of this baby's life, but don't do so behind your son's back. Remember that everyone grieves differently and may need more time to adjust to the idea of these new family dynamics. I hope over time, with grace and open communication, your son may be more receptive to introducing this little boy into his siblings' lives, at the very least.*

"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](mailto:dearannie@creators.com).

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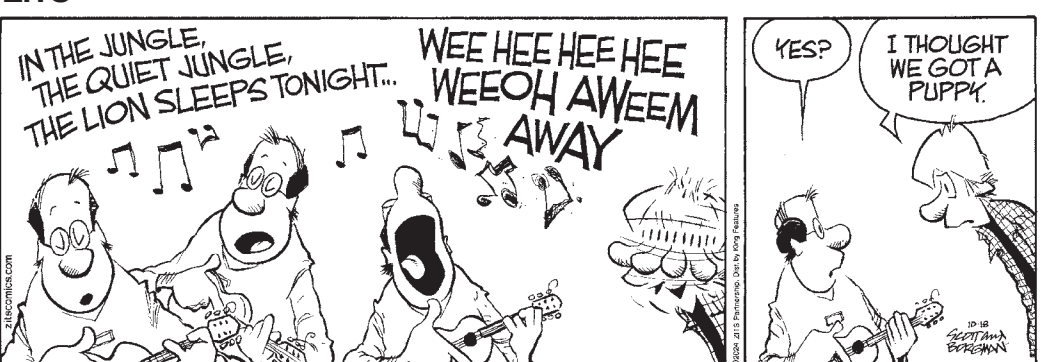
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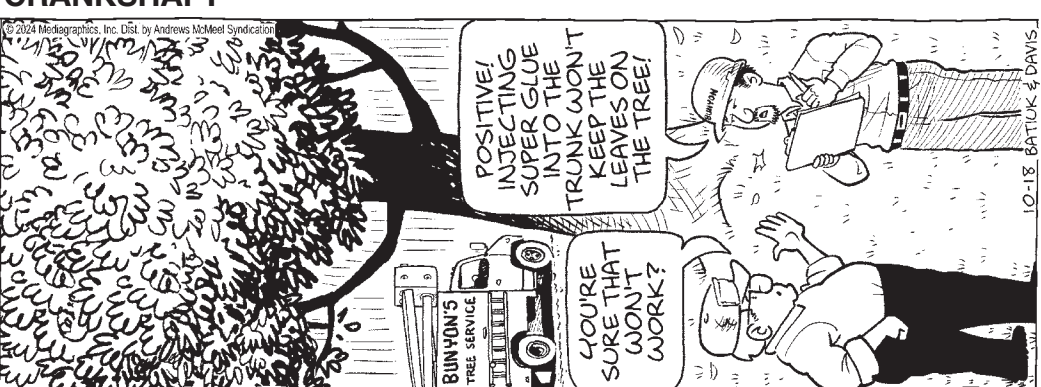
## BLONDIE



## ZITS



## CRANKSHAFT



## THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



## The LOCKHORNS



## My Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham



## Are there female angels?

God are twenty thousand, even thousands of thousands" (Psalm 68:17, NKJV).

And angels are not just mentioned in the past tense. The Bible says that "The Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels" (2 Thessalonians 1:7, KJV). Think of it! Multitudes of angels, indescribably mighty, performing the commands of Heaven as though an extension of the arm of God. Singly or corporately, angels are for real. They are better organized than were the armies of Alexander the Great, Napoleon, or any other mighty world power.

It's important to remember, though, that angels are not to be worshiped. For their powers come straight from God

and He commands them at His will. God has given "his angels charge of you to guard you in all your ways. On their hands they will bear you up" (Psalm 91:11-12, RSV). This is the miracle work of the Lord.

Just as millions of angels participated in the dazzling show when the morning stars sang together at creation, so will the innumerable hosts of Heaven help bring to pass God's prophetic declarations throughout time and into eternity. What hope this should bring to the hearts of people today.

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

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"While you're lookin' at the report card I'll be in my room practicin' being grounded."

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## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Labrador explorer 6 Scoundrel 9 Moment 12 "What's in —?" 13 Swiss canton 14 Born 15 Pooh's creator 16 Water heaters 18 Transparent 20 "Tosca" solo 21 Honest pres. 23 Year-book gp. 24 Milk dispenser 25 Golf standards 27 Revise 29 Egyptian goddess 31 "Baby" singer Justin 35 — dish 37 Video-streaming brand 38 Country-fied

DOWN 1 Rotating part 2 Blackbird 3 TV series starring Dwayne Johnson 4 Hotel chain 5 Abounds 6 Picasso's movement 7 Yankee nickname 8 Cato's 502 9 Mortimer the dummy 10 Haunting 11 Activist Chavez 17 Firetruck necessity 19 "Passengers" actor Chris 21 NYPD alert 22 Sheep's cry 24 Half of Minnesota's cap. 28 Motorized two-wheeler 30 Sushi fish 32 Derby hats 33 Scrape (out) 34 Massage 36 Brawl in the boonies 38 Picture puzzle 39 Standard 40 Hotel posting 42 Pursuing 45 Russian river 46 Incite 48 Clean air org. 50 Geese formation 51 Addams cousin

Yesterday's answer 10-18

10/18	M	A	D1	D2	5 PM	5:30	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	12 AM	12:30	
WINM (12)	11	26	63		Washington Watch With Tony Perkins	News-at-5	News-at-6	CBS News (N)	Wheel of Fortune (N)	Jeopardy! (SP) (N)	S.W.A.T. "Vanished" (SP) (N)	Fire Country "What the Bride Said" (SP) (N)	Blue Bloods "Life Sentence" (N)	Nightcast (N)	(35) The Late Show With Stephen Colbert	(35) After Midnight	(35) Jimmy Kimmel Live!	(35) Tonight Show (N)	(35) Seth Meyers (N)	Prop. Com	
CBS WANE (15)	2	15	15		News (N) Inside Edition (N)	News at 6 (N)	CBS News (N)	Wheel of Fortune (N)	Jeopardy! (SP) (N)	S.W.A.T. "Vanished" (SP) (N)	Fire Country "What the Bride Said" (SP) (N)	Blue Bloods "Life Sentence" (N)	Nightcast (N)	(35) The Late Show With Stephen Colbert	(35) After Midnight	(35) Jimmy Kimmel Live!	(35) Tonight Show (N)	(35) Seth Meyers (N)			
Antenna-2 WANE-2 (152)	106	20			Hawaii Five-0 "Pu'olo" (N)	Hawaii Five-0 "Mai Ka Wa Kahiko" (N)	Magnum "A Bullet Named Fate" (N)	Magnum P.I. "Blood Brothers" (N)	Magnum "Day I Met the Devil" (N)	Magnum "Desperate Measures" (N)	20/20 Unforgettable true crime mysteries, exclusive newsmaker interviews and investigative reports. (N)	ABC21 (N)	(35) Jimmy Kimmel Live!	(35) Tonight Show (N)	(35) Seth Meyers (N)						
ABC WPTA (21)	4	3	21	21	ABC21 News at 5 (N)	ABC21 (N)	ABC World News (N)	ABC21 News (N)	Ent. Tonight (N)	Shark Tank (SP) (N)	20/20 Unforgettable true crime mysteries, exclusive newsmaker interviews and investigative reports. (N)	ABC21 (N)	(35) Jimmy Kimmel Live!	(35) Tonight Show (N)	(35) Seth Meyers (N)						
NBC WPTA-2 (212)	7	8	14		Family Feud 25 Words or Less	News (N)	NBC News (N)	Family Feud	Family Feud	Happy Hooper (N)	Lopez vs Lopez (N)	Dateline NBC Compelling mysteries, powerful documentaries, in-depth investigations.	News (N)	(35) Tonight Show (N)	(35) Seth Meyers (N)						
MNT WPTA-3 (213)	10	9	56	34	Bob Hearts Abishola	Bob Hearts Abishola	Modern Family	News (N)	Last Man Standing	Chicago Fire	Chicago Fire	Chicago Fire	Seinfeld "Friends" (N)	Seinfeld "Friends" (N)	The Conners	The Conners	The Goldbergs	The Goldbergs			
CW WISE (33)	8	4	33	33	The Steve Wilkos Show	TMZ Live (N)		TMZ (N)	True Crime News (N)	Whose Line (N)	Whose Line (N)	Inside the NFL Week 6 (N)	Friends	Friends	TMZ (N)	Dish Nation (N)	True Crime News	Chicago P.D.			
PBS WFWA (38)	13	5	39	39	Outback "The Kimberley Comes Alive"	PBS News Hour (N)	BBC News America	PrimeTime Live (N)	Washington WK (N)	Firing Hooper (N)	Iconic America "Fenway Park" (N)	NEXT at the Kennedy Lines Ballet: Deep River" (N)	Alonzo King of LINES Ballet: Deep River" (N)	Amanpour and Company (N)	Washington WK						
PBS WFP (48)	3				Outback "The Kimberley Comes Alive"	Context	Cardinal (N)	PBS News Hour (N)	Washington WK (N)	Firing Hooper (N)	Iconic America "Fenway Park" (N)	NEXT at the Kennedy Lines Ballet: Deep River" (N)	Alonzo King of LINES Ballet: Deep River" (N)	Amanpour and Company (N)	Washington WK						
FOX WFTT (55)	6	5	55	55	WFFT Fox News at 5 (N)	WFFT Fox News at 6 (N)	Big Bang	Big Bang	College Football Oregon at Purdue From Ross-Ade Stadium in West Lafayette, Ind. (L) (N)	Young Sheldon	Neighbor	Neighbor									
CASTLE CHANNELS																					
LIFE	23	113	108	252	Castle "A Deadly Affair"	Castle "He's Dead, She's Dead"	Castle "Under the Gun"	Castle "Punked"	Castle "Anatomy of a Murder"	(05) Castle "3XK"	(05) Castle "Almost Famous"	Castle "Punked"									
FX	24	132	136	148	*** Maleficent: Mistress of Evil	*** Cruella (21) Emma Thompson, Joel Fry, Emma Stone.	*** Cruella (21) Emma Thompson, Joel Fry, Emma Stone.	*** Cruella (21) Emma Thompson, Joel Fry, Emma Stone.	*** Cruella (21) Emma Thompson, Joel Fry, Emma Stone.	*** Cruella (21) Emma Thompson, Joel Fry, Emma Stone.	*** Cruella (21) Emma Thompson, Joel Fry, Emma Stone.	*** Cruella (21) Emma Thompson, Joel Fry, Emma Stone.	*** Cruella (21) Emma Thompson, Joel Fry, Emma Stone.	*** Cruella (21) Emma Thompson, Joel Fry, Emma Stone.	*** Cruella (21) Emma Thompson, Joel Fry, Emma Stone.	*** Cruella (21) Emma Thompson, Joel Fry, Emma Stone.	*** Cruella (21) Emma Thompson, Joel Fry, Emma Stone.	*** Cruella (21) Emma Thompson, Joel Fry, Emma Stone.	*** Cruella (21) Emma Thompson, Joel Fry, Emma Stone.	*** Cruella (21) Emma Thompson, Joel Fry, Emma Stone.	
TVLAND	25		106	304	*** Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (05) Rupert Grint, Daniel Radcliffe.	*** Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (05) Rupert Grint, Daniel Radcliffe.	*** Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (05) Rupert Grint, Daniel Radcliffe.	*** Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (05) Rupert Grint, Daniel Radcliffe.	*** Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (05) Rupert Grint, Daniel Radcliffe.	*** Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (05) Rupert Grint, Daniel Radcliffe.	*** Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (05) Rupert Grint, Daniel Radcliffe.	*** Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (05) Rupert Grint, Daniel Radcliffe.	*** Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (05) Rupert Grint, Daniel Radcliffe.	*** Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (05) Rupert Grint, Daniel Radcliffe.	*** Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (05) Rupert Grint, Daniel Radcliffe.	*** Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (05) Rupert Grint, Daniel Radcliffe.	*** Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (05) Rupert Grint, Daniel Radcliffe.	*** Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (05) Rupert Grint, Daniel Radcliffe.	*** Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (05) Rupert Grint, Daniel Radcliffe.	*** Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (05) Rupert Grint, Daniel Radcliffe.	
EL	26	142	114	236	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	
ESPN	31	50	140	206	Around (N)	Pardon (N)	SportsCenter (L) (N)	SportsCenter (L) (N)	SportsCenter (L) (N)	SportsCenter (L) (N)	SportsCenter (L) (N)	SportsCenter (L) (N)	SportsCenter (L) (N)	SportsCenter (L) (N)	SportsCenter (L) (N)	SportsCenter (L) (N)	SportsCenter (L) (N)	SportsCenter (L) (N)	SportsCenter (L) (N)	SportsCenter (L) (N)	
ESPN2	32	54	143	209	*** Football (55) Formula 1 Racing	*** Formula 1 Racing	*** Formula 1 Racing	*** Formula 1 Racing	*** Formula 1 Racing	*** Formula 1 Racing	*** Formula 1 Racing	*** Formula 1 Racing	*** Formula 1 Racing	*** Formula 1 Racing	*** Formula 1 Racing	*** Formula 1 Racing	*** Formula 1 Racing	*** Formula 1 Racing	*** Formula 1 Racing	*** Formula 1 Racing	*** Formula 1 Racing
FSMW	33		418	671	*** NHL Hockey	*** NHL Hockey	*** NHL Hockey	*** NHL Hockey	*** NHL Hockey	*** NHL Hockey	*** NHL Hockey	*** NHL Hockey	*** NHL Hockey	*** NHL Hockey	*** NHL Hockey	*** NHL Hockey	*** NHL Hockey	*** NHL Hockey	*** NHL Hockey	*** NHL Hockey	*** NHL Hockey
USA	34	133	105	242	*** Chi. Fire	*** Chi. Fire	*** Chi. Fire	*** Chi. Fire	*** Chi. Fire	*** Chi. Fire	*** Chi. Fire	*** Chi. Fire	*** Chi. Fire	*** Chi. Fire	*** Chi. Fire	*** Chi. Fire	*** Chi. Fire	*** Chi. Fire	*** Chi. Fire	*** Chi. Fire	*** Chi. Fire
DISC	35	72	182	278	Gold Rush-Res. "Bust or Gold Boom?"	Gold Rush-Res. "Bust or Gold Boom?"	Gold Rush-Res. "Bust or Gold Boom?"	Gold Rush-Res. "Bust or Gold Boom?"	Gold Rush-Res. "Bust or Gold Boom?"	Gold Rush-Res. "Bust or Gold Boom?"	Gold Rush-Res. "Bust or Gold Boom?"	Gold Rush-Res. "Bust or Gold Boom?"	Gold Rush-Res. "Bust or Gold Boom?"	Gold Rush-Res. "Bust or Gold Boom?"	Gold Rush-Res. "Bust or Gold Boom?"	Gold Rush-Res. "Bust or Gold Boom?"	Gold Rush-Res. "Bust or Gold Boom?"	Gold Rush-Res. "Bust or Gold Boom?"	Gold Rush-Res. "Bust or Gold Boom?"	Gold Rush-Res. "Bust or Gold Boom?"	
TLC	36	73	183	280	90 Day Fiance: Other Unexplained "Surviving the Impossible"	90 Day Fiance: Other Unexplained "Surviving the Impossible"	90 Day Fiance: Other Unexplained "Surviving the Impossible"	90 Day Fiance: Other Unexplained "Surviving the Impossible"	90 Day Fiance: Other Unexplained "Surviving the Impossible"	90 Day Fiance: Other Unexplained "Surviving the Impossible"	90 Day Fiance: Other Unexplained "Surviving the Impossible"	90 Day Fiance: Other Unexplained "Surviving the Impossible"	90 Day Fiance: Other Unexplained "Surviving the Impossible"	90 Day Fiance: Other Unexplained "Surviving the Impossible"	90 Day Fiance: Other Unexplained "Surviving the Impossible"	90 Day Fiance: Other Unexplained "Surviving the Impossible"	90 Day Fiance: Other Unexplained "Surviving the Impossible"	90 Day Fiance: Other Unexplained "Surviving the Impossible"	90 Day Fiance: Other Unexplained "Surviving the Impossible"	90 Day Fiance: Other Unexplained "Surviving the Impossible"	
HIST	38	77	120	269	*** The First 48	*** The First 48	*** The First 48	*** The First 48	*** The First 48	*** The First 48	*** The First 48	*** The First 48	*** The First 48	*** The First 48	*** The First 48	*** The First 48	*** The First 48	*** The First 48	*** The First 48	*** The First 48	*** The First 48
A&E	39	134	118	265	*** Christmas Getaway	*** Christmas Getaway	*** Christmas Getaway	*** Christmas Getaway	*** Christmas Getaway	*** Christmas Getaway	*** Christmas Getaway	*** Christmas Getaway	*** Christmas Getaway	*** Christmas Getaway	*** Christmas Getaway	*** Christmas Getaway	*** Christmas Getaway	*** Christmas Getaway	*** Christmas Getaway	*** Christmas Getaway	*** Christmas Getaway
HALL	40	117	185	312	*** Christmas Getaway	*** Christmas Getaway	*** Christmas Getaway	*** Christmas Getaway	*** Christmas Getaway	*** Christmas Getaway	*** Christmas Getaway	*** Christmas Getaway	*** Christmas Getaway	*** Christmas Getaway	*** Christmas Getaway	*** Christmas Getaway	*** Christmas Getaway	*** Christmas Getaway	*** Christmas Getaway	*** Christmas Getaway	*** Christmas Getaway
SYFY	41	135	122	244	*** Insidious: Chapter 2 (2013, Horror) Rose Byrne, Barbara Hershey, Patrick Wilson.	*** Insidious: Chapter 2 (2013, Horror) Rose Byrne, Barbara Hershey, Patrick Wilson.	*** Insidious: Chapter 2 (2013, Horror) Rose Byrne, Barbara Hershey, Patrick Wilson.	*** Insidious: Chapter 2 (2013, Horror) Rose Byrne, Barbara Hershey, Patrick Wilson.	*** Insidious: Chapter 2 (2013, Horror) Rose Byrne, Barbara Hershey, Patrick Wilson.	*** Insidious: Chapter 2 (2013, Horror) Rose Byrne, Barbara Hershey, Patrick Wilson.	*** Insidious: Chapter 2 (2013, Horror) Rose Byrne, Barbara Hershey, Patrick Wilson.	*** Insidious: Chapter 2 (2013, Horror) Rose Byrne, Barbara Hershey, Patrick Wilson.	*** Insidious: Chapter 2 (2013, Horror) Rose Byrne, Barbara Hershey, Patrick Wilson.	*** Insidious: Chapter 2 (2013, Horror) Rose Byrne, Barbara Hershey, Patrick Wilson.	*** Insidious: Chapter 2 (2013, Horror) Rose Byrne, Barbara Hershey, Patrick Wilson.	*** Insidious: Chapter 2 (2013, Horror) Rose Byrne, Barbara Hershey, Patrick Wilson.	*** Insidious: Chapter 2 (2013, Horror) Rose Byrne, Barbara Hershey, Patrick Wilson.	*** Insidious: Chapter 2 (2013, Horror) Rose Byrne, Barbara Hershey, Patrick Wilson.	*** Insidious: Chapter 2 (2013, Horror) Rose Byrne, Barbara Hershey, Patrick Wilson.	*** Insidious: Chapter 2 (2013, Horror) Rose Byrne, Barbara Hershey, Patrick Wilson.	*** Insidious: Chapter 2 (2013, Horror) Rose Byrne, Barbara Hershey, Patrick Wilson.
TNT	43	130	139	247	*** Big Bang	*** Big Bang	*** Big Bang	*** Big Bang	*** Big Bang	*** Big Bang	*** Big Bang	*** Big Bang	*** Big Bang	*** Big Bang	*** Big Bang	*** Big Bang	*** Big Bang	*** Big Bang	*** Big Bang	*** Big Bang	*** Big Bang
TSB	44	131	138	245	*** Star Wars: Return of the Jedi (1983, Sci-Fi) Harrison Ford, Mark Hamill.	*** Star Wars: Return of the Jedi (1983, Sci-Fi) Harrison Ford, Mark Hamill.	*** Star Wars: Return of the Jedi (1983, Sci-Fi) Harrison Ford, Mark Hamill.	*** Star Wars: Return of the Jedi (1983, Sci-Fi) Harrison Ford, Mark Hamill.	*** Star Wars: Return of the Jedi (1983, Sci-Fi) Harrison Ford, Mark Hamill.	*** Star Wars: Return of the Jedi (1983, Sci-Fi) Harrison Ford, Mark Hamill.	*** Star Wars: Return of the Jedi (1983, Sci-Fi) Harrison Ford, Mark Hamill.	*** Star Wars: Return of the Jedi (1983, Sci-Fi) Harrison Ford, Mark Hamill.	*** Star Wars: Return of the Jedi (1983, Sci-Fi) Harrison Ford, Mark Hamill.	*** Star Wars: Return of the Jedi (1983, Sci-Fi) Harrison Ford, Mark Hamill.	*** Star Wars: Return of the Jedi (1983, Sci-Fi) Harrison Ford, Mark Hamill.	*** Star Wars: Return of the Jedi (1983, Sci-Fi) Harrison Ford, Mark Hamill.	*** Star Wars: Return of the Jedi (1983, Sci-Fi) Harrison Ford, Mark Hamill.	*** Star Wars: Return of the Jedi (1983, Sci-Fi) Harrison Ford, Mark Hamill.	*** Star Wars: Return of the Jedi (1983, Sci-Fi) Harrison Ford, Mark Hamill.	*** Star Wars: Return of the Jedi (1983, Sci-Fi) Harrison Ford, Mark Hamill.	*** Star Wars: Return of the Jedi (1983, Sci-Fi) Harrison Ford, Mark Hamill.
AMC	45		131	254	*** The Last House on the Left (2009, Horror) Potter, Ganer Dillahunty, Tony Goldwyn.	*** The Last House on the Left (2009, Horror) Potter, Ganer Dillahunty, Tony Goldwyn.	*** The Last House on the Left (2009, Horror) Potter, Ganer Dillahunty, Tony Goldwyn.	*** The Last House on the Left (2009, Horror) Potter, Ganer Dillahunty, Tony Goldwyn.	*** The Last House on the Left (2009, Horror) Potter, Ganer Dillahunty, Tony Goldwyn.	*** The Last House on the Left (2009, Horror) Potter, Ganer Dillahunty, Tony Goldwyn.	*** The Last House on the Left (2009, Horror) Potter, Ganer Dillahunty, Tony Goldwyn.	*** The Last House on the Left (2009, Horror) Potter, Ganer Dillahunty, Tony Goldwyn.	*** The Last House on the Left (2009, Horror) Potter, Ganer Dillahunty, Tony Goldwyn.	*** The Last House on the Left (2009, Horror) Potter, Ganer Dillahunty, Tony Goldwyn.	*** The Last House on the Left (2009, Horror) Potter, Ganer Dillahunty, Tony Goldwyn.	*** The Last House on the Left (2009, Horror) Potter, Ganer Dillahunty, Tony Goldwyn.	*** The Last House on the Left (2009, Horror) Potter, Ganer Dillahunty, Tony Goldwyn.	*** The Last House on the Left (2009, Horror) Potter, Ganer Dillahunty, Tony Goldwyn.	*** The Last House on the Left (2009, Horror) Potter, Ganer Dillahunty, Tony Goldwyn.	*** The Last House on the Left (2009, Horror) Potter, Ganer Dillahunty, Tony Goldwyn.	*** The Last House on the Left (2009, Horror) Potter, Ganer Dillahunty, Tony Goldwyn.
COM	47	107	249		*** The Office	*** The Office	*** The Office	*** The Office	*** The Office	*** The Office	*** The Office	*** The Office	*** The Office	*** The Office	*** The Office	*** The Office	*** The Office	*** The Office	*** The Office	*** The Office	*** The Office
FSN	48	64	150	219	To Be Announced (Programming to be announced).	To Be Announced (Programming to be announced).	To Be Announced (Programming to be announced).	To Be Announced (Programming to be announced).	To Be Announced (Programming to be announced).	To Be Announced (Programming to be announced).	To Be Announced (Programming to be announced).	To Be Announced (Programming to be announced).	To Be Announced (Programming to be announced).	To Be Announced (Programming to be announced).	To Be Announced (Programming to be announced).	To Be Announced (Programming to be announced).	To Be Announced (Programming to be announced).	To Be Announced (Programming to be announced).	To Be Announced (Programming to be announced).	To Be Announced (Programming to be announced).	To Be Announced (Programming to be announced).
WGN	53		307		Vargas Report (L) (N)	The Hill (L) (N)	On Balance (L) (N)	To Be Announced (L) (N)	Coome (L) (N)	Dan Abrams Live (L) (N)	Banfield (L) (N)	Cuomo	Cuomo	TMZ Sports (N)	TMZ Sports (N)	TMZ Sports (N)	TMZ Sports (N)	TMZ Sports (N)	TMZ Sports (N)	TMZ Sports (N)	
WE	57		128	260	*** 9-1-1 "Triggers"	*** 9-1-1 "Triggers"	*** 9-1-1 "Triggers"	*** 9-1-1 "Triggers"	*** 9-1-1 "Triggers"	*** 9-1-1 "Triggers"	*** 9-1-1 "Triggers"	*** 9-1-1 "Triggers"	*** 9-1-1 "Triggers"	*** 9-1-1 "Triggers"	*** 9-1-1 "Triggers"	*** 9-1-1 "Triggers"	*** 9-1-1 "Triggers"	*** 9-1-1 "Triggers"	*** 9-1-1 "Triggers"	*** 9-1-1 "Triggers"	*** 9-1-1 "Triggers"
FOOD	59	153	110	231	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners
BRavo	60	140	129	237	*** Identity Thief	*** Identity Thief	*** Identity Thief	*** Identity Thief	*** Identity Thief	*** Identity Thief	*** Identity Thief	*** Identity Thief	*** Identity Thief	*** Identity Thief	*** Identity Thief	*** Identity Thief	*** Identity Thief	*** Identity Thief	*** Identity Thief	*** Identity Thief	*** Identity Thief
NICK	68		170	299	*** Shrek Forever After (10) Mike Myers.	*** Shrek Forever After (10) Mike Myers.	*** Shrek Forever After (10) Mike Myers.	*** Shrek Forever After (10) Mike Myers.	*** Shrek Forever After (10) Mike Myers.	*** Shrek Forever After (10) Mike Myers.	*** Shrek Forever After (10) Mike Myers.	*** Shrek Forever After (10) Mike Myers.	*** Shrek Forever After (10) Mike Myers.	*** Shrek Forever After (10) Mike Myers.	*** Shrek Forever After (10) Mike Myers.	*** Shrek Forever After (10) Mike Myers.	*** Shrek Forever After (10) Mike Myers.	*** Shrek Forever After (10) Mike Myers.	*** Shrek Forever After (10) Mike Myers.	*** Shrek Forever After (10) Mike Myers.	*** Shrek Forever After (10) Mike Myers.
DISH	69	30	170	299	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey
FREEFORM	70	32	180	311	*** Monsters University	*** Monsters University	*** Monsters University	*** Monsters University	*** Monsters University	*** Monsters University	*** Monsters University	*** Monsters University	*** Monsters University	*** Monsters University	*** Monsters University	*** Monsters University	*** Monsters University	*** Monsters University	*** Monsters University	*** Monsters University	*** Monsters University
HBO	301		300	501	*** Tuesday (23) Lola Pettibrew, Julia Louis-Dreyfus.	*** Tuesday (23) Lola Pettibrew, Julia Louis-Dreyfus.</															

# Tigers fall in a five set heartbreaker to Wildcats in sectional quarterfinals

By RYAN WALKER

WOODBURN — They may have lost, but the Bluffton Tigers gave all they had.

The Tigers (9-17) fell short in a five-set defeat to Whitko (13-16) in the opening round of the volleyball sectional at Woodlan.

The Wildcats swiped the third set 26-24 to take a 2-1 lead overall. After falling behind for the majority of the fourth set, the Tigers stormed back and made it a match. The result was another two-point game, this time in favor of Bluffton.

“It’s something we’ve worked on this entire season is mentality — knowing how to be mentally tough,” Bluffton head coach Caylee Pyle said after the match. “Maybe this isn’t the result that we wanted, but these girls should be so proud of how far they’ve come and how much they have grown.”

The late-game magic would be cut off in the fifth set, as Whitko set the tone early by growing its lead to 7-3 and never let up. Eventually, the set went final at 15-8.

The match was an all-out team effort, no matter what grade any of the Tigers were.

The normal rotation went through its playing time, but freshmen Kamryn Ault and Breanna Schmidt played a more significant role than in prior matches.

It paid off in the first set like it had worked for years, winning 28-18. But the Tigers have battled with consistency all season, and dropped the second set unceremoniously 25-12.

But over those next two sets, it was the Tigers’ team that Pyle has wanted. One that played consistently on all fronts to the best

of their ability. It showed with a heavy new set of players in an effort to put it all together at the right time.

“We had people step up in positions that they needed to step up in,” Pyle said.

Was there anyone in particular Pyle wanted to shout out?

“No, because they all played an interval role,” she said.

The freshman along with leaps from sophomores Isla Gibson, Alex Koby, Sophie Eisenhut and Rori Drayer will command a strong returning cast. Not to mention, the lone junior on the team, Konley Ault, who will be the leader of the squad.

But the senior class of Marly Drayer, Maryn Schreiber and Lexi Grady will leave behind a standard of hard work and ever quitting for the rest of their teammates.

“This group of seniors was phenomenal to coach and to be a part of ... They left a legacy of how to be mentally tough and face adversity and trying to do their best,” Pyle said.

Schreiber finished her season third in the ACAC with 268 kills, totaling 780 in her career. Drayer was a 1,000-dig player last season and finished her career with 1,433. Grady was a role player that kept the glue together for the team, and Pyle appreciated that.

“Lexi’s my Lexi,” Pyle said. “She beeps everywhere and she loves the game. She does whatever I ask of her.”

Stat leaders: Schreiber 12 kills (Konley Ault 11), Gibson 20 assists, Rori Drayer three aces and Schreiber and Eisenhut two blocks.

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Bluffton's Rori Drayer (No. 12) tries to float the ball over the arms of Whitko's Tori Crozier during the sectional quarterfinal Thursday night at Woodlan. The Tigers fell in five sets, ending their season. (Photos by Ryan Walker)



Tigers' senior Lexi Grady (right) cheers on her team during the postseason match.

## Bluffton's Robert Vanderkolk earns District 2 tennis coach of the year honors by IHSTECA

By RYAN WALKER

There was one final accolade to the Bluffton Tigers boys' tennis season.

Head coach Robert Vanderkolk was selected by the Indiana High School Tennis Coaches Associated as head coach of the year in District 2.

The award was nominated by head coach Michael Hower of Homestead and Kyle Stoffel of Carroll to recognize Vanderkolk's season and investment in the middle school tennis program, summer tournament, hosting the sectional and regional, and hosting the first-ever Bluffton Invitational.

Per his usual answer, Vanderkolk gave praise to his program and his assistant coaches about the honor.

“I am humbled by the award, but I will also use it as another opportunity to highlight the success that our tennis

program has had these last couple of seasons,” Vanderkolk said. “This recognition would not be possible with the hard work and dedication of my team, and since it is a coaching award, this would obviously not be possible without the continued efforts of my assistant coaches, Hunter Cunningham and Spencer Schwartz.”

Vanderkolk's team this year completed a 13-4 regular season with its third straight ACAC title and first sectional since 2015. On Sept. 16, his 3-2 victory over Norwell was the 200th win of his 21-year career.

In more recent news, the ACAC honored six members of Bluffton's seven-man lineup as all-conference honorees, including first-team selections from Nolan Lambert and the doubles duo Coy Lantz and Ben Maggard.

## Raiders fall to Broncos in V-ball, finish season with 14 wins

Southern Wells was swept by No. 6 Dalverville at its own house in the volleyball sectional, ending the season Thursday night.

The Raiders fell by scores of 25-21, 25-12 and 25-21. The team finished with its best record in school history with a total of

14 wins and 15 losses.

Abbie Powell finished the game with 11 kills, four aces and 10 digs. Kila Shelley five kills, two aces and seven digs. Sydney Alstoft 17 assists and vie digs. Kaylea Cofel and Kaylee David five digs.

## Tigers finish the middle school football season with split vs. Jets

Bluffton's middle school football teams split with Adams Central to end the season.

The eighth grade team fell 36-8, falling to 6-1 and a three-way tie for the ACAC with the Jets and Jay County.

Ethan Ribich went 9-12 on completions for 71 yards. Chase Kistler went 9-57 on the ground with a touchdown. Croy Stout had four catches for 59 yards and Maddox White three catches for 16 yards.

Kistler led the defense with eight tackles, Wyatt Holmes six tackles and Cooper

Affolder five tackles.

The seventh grade team won 26-6, wrapping up the season 7-1 and winning the ACAC.

Kreigh Ault went 3-4 through the air for 10 yards. Davin Drayer rushed for 241 yards and four touchdowns on 14 attempts. Riker Beste went 6-49 rushing and also caught two passes for 11 yards.

Kole Kiefer made six tackles, Drayer four and Wes Kunkel had a pick and two pass breakups.

## Fry's 2-run homer in 10th sends Guardians to win over Yankees

By TOM WITHERS

AP Sports Writer

CLEVELAND (AP) — Jhonkensy Noel saved Cleveland's season. David Fry extended it.

With two huge swings, the Guardians hit back at the big, bad New York Yankees and tightened an AL Championship Series that was just about over.

Noel connected for a two-run, pinch-hit homer with two outs in the ninth inning and Fry hit a two-run shot in the 10th as Cleveland rallied past New York 7-5 on Thursday in an unforgettable Game 3 to pull the Guardians to 2-1 in the best-of-seven series.

Cleveland's unexpected season that included 92 wins and the AL Central title was on the brink after Aaron Judge hit a two-run homer off All-Star closer Emmanuel Clase and Giancarlo Stanton followed

with a solo drive in the eighth to give the Yankees a 4-3 lead.

But Noel, a burly outfielder known as Big Christmas, delivered an October gift and Fry followed with his second momentous homer in these playoffs.

“That’s exactly who we are,” first-year Guardians manager Stephen Vogt said. “We never quit. We get punched in the teeth pretty hard there in the eighth, and our guys stepped up huge for the guy that carried us all year long. That was really fun to see.”

It was exhausting, thrilling and dramatic as the Yankees and Guardians jammed a season's worth of highlights into three innings.

“That was playoff baseball,” Yankees manager Aaron Boone said. “Both sides just kept coming with haymakers and big

(Continued on Page 7)

## RACING NEWS

### Hendrick declines to appeal Bowman's disqualification from NASCAR playoffs

By JENNA FRYER

AP Auto Racing Writer

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Hendrick Motorsports said Monday it will not appeal Alex Bowman's disqualification at Charlotte Motor Speedway that eliminated him from NASCAR title contention.

Bowman finished Sunday's race at The Roval in 18th-place — high enough to eliminate Joey Logano of Team Penske from the playoff field by four points.

But NASCAR said the No. 48 Chevrolet failed a post-race inspection and disqualified Bowman for failing to meet minimum weight requirements. It dropped him to 38th and Logano claimed that spot in the playoff field.

Hendrick had the right to appeal but said in a statement it would not.

“NASCAR allows a clear margin to account for the difference in pre- and post-race weight. After a thorough review by our team and the sanctioning body, we simply did not give ourselves enough margin to meet the post-race requirement,” the team said in a statement. “Although unintentional, the infraction was avoidable. We are extremely disappointed to lose a playoff spot under these circumstances and apologize to our fans and partners.”

All playoff cars go through inspection after a race.

NASCAR said Hendrick was given multiple opportunities to fuel the car, purge the water system, and add water in attempt to make minimum weight. But when the car went back through the weight station, the Chevy was still light.

The news was especially disappointing to Bowman sponsor Ally, whose chief marketing officer Monday posted on social media that Bowman had earned a spot in the playoffs. He was the highest points getter in the first round of the playoffs.

“Woke up this morning — after hardly sleeping — not feeling any better,” wrote Andrea Brimmer, adding she was “gutted” for Bowman and the “team who have fought for every point this year and deserve to be moving forward.”

The eight drivers who will now compete through the third round of the playoffs are Hendrick drivers William Byron, Chase Elliott and Kyle Larson, Team Penske drivers Logano and reigning series champion Ryan Blaney, Joe Gibbs Racing drivers Christopher Bell and Denny Hamlin, and Tyler Reddick of 23XI Racing.

It was a particularly brutal disqualification for Hendrick Motorsports, which celebrated Sunday night claiming half the spots in the playoff field of eight. Now the team heads to this Sunday's race at Las Vegas will only three of its cars still eligible.

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# Guardians beat Yankees

(Continued from Page 6)

bats, big moments off of two really good bullpens. They outlasted us. They had one more good swing than us. That's part of it. We'll be ready to roll tomorrow."

The Guardians trailed 5-3, had no runners on base in the ninth and were moments from falling into a 3-0 deficit when Lane Thomas doubled against Luke Weaver, who had been perfect in eight save chances since taking over as the Yankees closer in September. Noel then delivered his towering homer.

As he rounded the bases, Progressive Field fans danced on their seats and in the aisles in a moment reminiscent of Rajai Davis' tying homer off Aroldis Chapman in the eighth inning of 2016 World Series Game 7.

It was fitting that Davis, who now works for Major League Baseball, was on hand to see Noel's homer that now belongs beside his in Cleveland history.

"We're a team that don't quit," Noel said through an interpreter. "We play 27 outs, so that's kind of what happened today."

Fry's swing ended an instant fall classic.

Bo Naylor singled leading off the 10th against Clay Holmes and Brayan Rocchio sacrificed. Naylor took third on Steven Kwan's comebacker before Fry, who hit a Division Series-saving homer in Game 4 at Detroit, sent a 1-2 sinker into the left-field bleachers.

Fry watched the ball sail into the stands before heading toward first. He was mobbed by teammates after crossing home plate as fans tossed drinks in the air while trying to process the emotional rollercoaster they had endured.

"I blacked out," Fry said. "I remember being like halfway down the first baseline looking back at the dugout and looking and saying, alright, I just have to make sure I touch all four bases and get home and celebrate."

Cleveland can tie the series with a win on Friday.

The Guardians still have a chance to end baseball's current longest World Series drought, stretching to 1948.

Judge homered in Game 2 but was batting

just .143 (3 of 21) with eight strikeouts this October before coming to the plate against Clase, the AL's saves leader and MLB's most feared reliever.

After falling behind 1-2 in the count, Judge, who was on the field taking batting practice five hours before the game, sat back and drove a 99 mph cutter from Clase the opposite way to right, the ball just clearing the outfield wall.

New York's players poured out of the dugout to celebrate as Judge, the likely AL MVP after hitting 58 homers in the regular season, circled the bases following his 15th postseason homer.

The Yankees, who had been held to three hits over the first seven innings, were still exchanging hugs and high-fives when Stanton crushed a 1-2 slider from Clase, sending it over the center-field wall.

But even though they had the lead, the Yankees weren't taking anything for granted.

"I wouldn't say we were looking ahead to the World Series," Judge said. "We still have another game, even if it was 3-0."

Clase had been impeccable all season, allowing just five runs and recording 34 consecutive saves while dominating almost every time he took the mound. But he was tagged for a three-run homer in the ninth by Kerry Carpenter in the ALDS before Judge and Stanton got him within a span of eight pitches.

New York had two on with no outs in the ninth but scored just one run, on Gleyber Torres' sacrifice fly. Eli Morgan ended the inning by throwing a called third strike past Juan Soto.

Rookie Kyle Manzardo hit a two-run homer in the third for Cleveland.

The 30th postseason matchup between the Guardians and Yankees was another tightly contested matchup between two franchises who know each other well this time of year. This is their seventh meeting in the playoffs.

Cleveland finally got some length from a starter as Matthew Boyd went five innings, the most Vogt has permitted this postseason. The left-hander gave up two hits in the second before retiring 10 straight, seven on easy grounders.

# News-Banner Scoreboard

## FOOTBALL

### NFL

#### AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East					
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Buffalo	4	2	0	.667	165 126
Miami	2	3	0	.400	60 113
N.Y. Jets	2	4	0	.333	113 108
New England	1	5	0	.167	83 143

South					
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Houston	5	1	0	.833	143 135
Indianapolis	3	3	0	.500	139 139
Tennessee	1	4	0	.200	96 110
Jacksonville	1	5	0	.167	113 178

North					
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Baltimore	4	2	0	.667	177 149
Pittsburgh	4	2	0	.667	124 86
Cincinnati	2	4	0	.333	157 152
Cleveland	1	5	0	.167	95 141

West					
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Kansas City	5	0	0	1.000	118 85
L.A. Chargers	3	3	0	.500	91 66
Denver	4	3	0	.571	145 106
Las Vegas	2	4	0	.333	109 163

NATIONAL CONFERENCE					
East					
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Washington	4	2	0	.667	178 145
Philadelphia	3	2	0	.600	106 112
Dallas	3	3	0	.500	126 168
N.Y. Giants	2	4	0	.333	96 121

South					
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Atlanta	4	2	0	.667	149 135
Tampa Bay	4	2	0	.667	178 141
New Orleans	2	5	0	.286	177 180
Carolina	1	5	0	.167	103 203

North					
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Minnesota	5	0	0	1.000	139 76
Detroit	4	1	0	.800	151 91
Chicago	4	2	0	.667	148 101
Green Bay	4	2	0	.667	167 121

West					
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
San Francisco	3	3	0	.500	162 130
Seattle	3	3	0	.500	146 150
Arizona	2	4	0	.333	133 163
L.A. Rams	1	4	0	.200	94 139

**Thursday's Games**  
Denver 33, New Orleans 10

**Sunday's Games**  
New England vs Jacksonville at London, GBR, 9:30 a.m.

Cincinnati at Cleveland, 1 p.m.  
Detroit at Minnesota, 1 p.m.  
Houston at Green Bay, 1 p.m.  
Miami at Indianapolis, 1 p.m.  
Philadelphia at N.Y. Giants, 1 p.m.  
Seattle at Atlanta, 1 p.m.  
Tennessee at Buffalo, 1 p.m.  
Carolina at Washington, 4:05 p.m.  
Las Vegas at L.A. Rams, 4:05 p.m.  
Kansas City at San Francisco, 4:25 p.m.

N.Y. Jets at Pittsburgh, 8:20 p.m.  
Open: Chicago, Dallas

**Monday's Games**  
Baltimore at Tampa Bay, 8:15 p.m.

L.A. Chargers at Arizona, 9 p.m.

**Thursday, Oct. 24**  
Minnesota at L.A. Rams, 8:15 p.m.

**Sunday, Oct. 27**  
Arizona at Miami, 1 p.m.

Atlanta at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.  
Baltimore at Cleveland, 1 p.m.

Green Bay at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.  
Indianapolis at Houston, 1 p.m.

N.Y. Jets at New England, 1 p.m.  
Philadelphia at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.

Tennessee at Detroit, 1 p.m.  
Buffalo at Seattle, 4:05 p.m.

New Orleans at L.A. Chargers, 4:05 p.m.

Carolina at Denver, 4:25 p.m.  
Chicago at Washington, 4:25 p.m.

Kansas City at Las Vegas, 4:25 p.m.  
Dallas at San Francisco, 8:20 p.m.

**Monday, Oct. 28**  
N.Y. Giants at Pittsburgh, 8:15 p.m.

## BASKETBALL

### WNBA

#### WNBA Finals

(Best-of-5) New York 2, Minnesota 1

Thursday, Oct. 10: Minnesota 95, New York 93, OT

Sunday, Oct. 13: New York 80, Minnesota 66

Wednesday, Oct. 16: New York 80, Minnesota 77

Friday, Oct. 18: New York at Minnesota, 8 p.m.

x-Sunday, Oct. 20: Minnesota at New York, 8 p.m.

## BASEBALL

### MLB

#### LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

(Best-of-7)

#### American League

New York 2, Cleveland 1  
Monday, Oct. 14: New York 5, Cleveland 2

Tuesday, Oct. 15: New York 6, Cleveland 3

Thursday, Oct. 17: Cleveland 7, New York 5

Friday, Oct. 18: New York (Gil 15-7) at Cleveland (Williams 3-10), 8:08 p.m. (TBS, truTV, and Max)

x-Saturday, Oct. 19: New York at Cleveland, 8:08 p.m. (TBS, truTV, and Max)

x-Monday, Oct. 21: Cleveland at New York, 5:08 p.m. (TBS, truTV, and Max)

x-Tuesday, Oct. 22: Cleveland at New York, 7:38 p.m. (TBS, truTV, and Max)

#### National League

Los Angeles 3, New York 1  
Sunday, Oct. 13: Los Angeles 9, New York 0

Monday, Oct. 14: New York 7, Los Angeles 3

Wednesday, Oct. 16: Los Angeles 8, New York 0

Thursday, Oct. 17: Los Angeles 10, New York 2

Friday, Oct. 18: Los Angeles at New York, 5:08 p.m. (FOX and FS1)

x-Sunday, Oct. 20: New York at Los Angeles, 8:08 p.m. (FOX and FS1)

x-Monday, Oct. 21: New York at Los Angeles, 8:08 p.m. (FOX and FS1)

## HOCKEY

### NHL

#### EASTERN CONFERENCE

##### Atlantic Division

GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Florida	6	3	2	1	7	21
Tampa Bay	3	3	0	0	6	12
Toronto	4	3	1	0	6	14
Boston	5	3	2	0	6	20
Ottawa	4	2	2	0	4	13
Montreal	5	2	3	0	4	17
Buffalo	6	1	4	1	3	24
Detroit	4	1	3	0	2	9

##### Metropolitan Division

GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
New Jersey	7	5	2	0	10	22
N.Y. Rangers	4	3	0	1	7	20
Pittsburgh	5	3	2	0	6	20
Washington	3	2	1	0	4	10
Columbus	4	2	2	0	4	17
N.Y. Islanders	4	1	2	1	4	11
Philadelphia	3	1	1	1	3	9
Carolina	2	1	0	2	5	6

##### WESTERN CONFERENCE

##### Central Division

GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Dallas	5	4	1	0	8	14
Utah	5	3	1	1	7	20
Winnipeg	3	3	0	0	6	10
Minnesota	4	2	0	2	6	12
St. Louis	5	3	2	0	6	13
Chicago	5	2	2	1	5	13
Nashville	4	0	4	0	0	18
Colorado	4	0	4	0	0	13

##### Pacific Division

GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Calgary	4	4	0	0	8	19
Vegas	5	3	2	0	6	20
Los Angeles	5	2	1	2	6	17
Anaheim	3	2	1	0	4	8
Seattle	4	2	2	0	4	12
Vancouver	4	1	1	2	4	11
Edmonton	5	2	3	0	4	11
San Jose	4	0	2	2	8	14

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

#### Wednesday's Games

Pittsburgh 6, Buffalo 5, OT  
Toronto 6, Los Angeles 2  
Boston 5, Colorado 3

Anaheim 5, Utah 4, OT

#### Thursday's Games

Columbus 6, Buffalo 4  
N.Y. Rangers 5, Detroit 2  
St. Louis 1, N.Y. Islanders 0, OT  
Chicago 4, San Jose 2

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### Services

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

# BHMS honor roll

(Continued from Page 3)

Renley Hurst, Parker Klopfenstein, Wesley Kunkel, Cadence Lehman, Jessica Littell, Olivia Morgan, Lucy Moser, Paisley Neuen-schwander, Averie Pearson, Emily Priester, Erin Ramseyer, Charlotte Rhoderick, Ithan Rinkenberger, Seryniti Seale, Adrienne Smallman, Liam Smith, Rhys Smith, Ciomara Tello, Simeon Terry, Leona Veselji and Dominic Wilson.

## Honor Roll

Aleah Adams, Emma Aschliman, Carter Bell, Janeah Bennett, Riker Beste, Harrison Buroker, Christian Clubs, Naomi Dailey, MacKenzie Dudley, Olivia Ehrhart, Blaine Ehrman, Addison Gerber, Braxton Graham, Aaron Hay, Adrian Herrada, Sophia Heshner, Broderick Hohe, Maylee Holmes, Maddox Kauffman, Kole Kiefer, Crystal Lee, Eyljah Lovelady, Myah Martin, Teagan McAfee, Molly Mills, Corbin Minnich, Phoebe Mygrant, Elijah Payne, Madelyn Platt, Devin Ramseyer, Hudson Reineck, Alaya Reinhard, Payson Rickard, Isaac Salazar-Garcia, Avalynn Scheiman, Easton Schipper, Titus Schwierman, Noah Shively, Jordan Simpson-Barkley, Cheyenne Son-nigsen, Caedence Spaulding, Bear Sprunger,

Delilah Traynor, Hudson Withers, Lincoln Xayyachack and Nea Zuniga.

## 8th Grade High Honor Roll

Adelyn Atkins, Elijah Bendes, Adalynn Bertsch, Jeremy Brown, Lyla Feinberg, Otto Fiechter, Morgan Fox, Asher Fritz, Amelia Geisel, Landry Grandlienard, Anna Hartman, Cleyton Kenworthy, Chase Kistler, Audrey McMillan, Audrey Mechling, Avery Meyer, Irene Monagle, Foster Monticue, Davis Rockwell, Quinton Saige, Charlie Schantz, Eli Seago, Cameron Simpson, Croy Stout and Deacon Yates.

## Honor Roll

Wren Ault, Braxton Bebout, Kinley Bowman, Zain Butcher, Kayden Claghorn, Alanna Croft, Logan Donascimento, Dane Fiechter, McKenna Fry, Khloe Gehrett, Heath Gerber, Ellah Grimes, Reece Himes, Keaton Ingram, Barbie Jellison, Luci Jenkins, Sebastian Jones, Vince Lambert, Hadley Mochlenkamp, Madeleine Morgan, Landon Mophew, Macy Onweller, Averie Patton, Layne Philebaum, Ethan Ribich, Trace Simpson, Madieson Sur-baugh, Liam Teeple and Elizabeth Tlaco-mulco-Moreno.

# La Nina could soon arrive; Here's what that means for winter weather

By ISABELLA O'MALLEY  
Associated Press

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Climate Prediction Center says there is a 60% chance that a weak La Nina event will develop this autumn and could last until March.

La Nina is part of a natural climate cycle that can cause extreme weather across the planet — and its effects vary from place to place.

Although there is no guarantee how this La Nina will play out, there are some general trends. Experts say northern parts of South America could see more rain than usual. Southern regions of the U.S. and parts of Mexico could be drier than average. The northern tier of the U.S. and southern Canada could be wetter than average.

La Nina is the cool phase of the El Nino-Southern Oscillation, a naturally occurring global climate pattern that involves changes in wind and ocean temperatures in the Pacific and can cause extreme weather across the planet.

El Nino is the warm phase and happens when trade winds that typically blow across the Pacific toward Asia weaken, allowing warm ocean waters to pile up along the western edge of South America. But during La Nina, the trade winds intensify and cold water from the depths of the sea rises up, resulting in cooler than average ocean temperatures in the eastern Pacific.

These cold ocean temperatures and changes in the atmosphere affect the position of the jet stream — a narrow band of fast moving air flowing from west to east around the planet — by bumping it northward. The jet stream sits over the ocean and can tap into its moisture, influence the path storms take and boost precipitation.

Ben Cook, climate scientist at the NASA

Goddard Institute for Space Studies affiliated with Columbia University, noted that the frequency of La Nina events can be stressful for regions that have been dealing with drought lately, such as East Africa. "If we're moving into another La Nina event, it means kind of a continuation of those really bad conditions."

The influence La Nina has on the weather varies based on location and the season, said L'Heureux. Parts of South America, such as eastern Argentina, can be drier than average while Colombia, Venezuela and northern parts of Brazil can be wetter than normal.

"It depends exactly where you are. Part of that is because there's a monsoon cycle, wet and dry season, that goes through Central America and South America, so La Nina is basically modifying the intensity and placement of those monsoon cycles," explained L'Heureux.

In the U.S., the Northeast and Ohio Valley typically see wetter than normal conditions with an active storm track due to the position of the jet stream, said Samantha Borisoff, climate scientist at NOAA's Northeast Regional Climate Center based at Cornell University.

The waviness of the jet stream can also cause more frequent cold outbreaks, particularly in the central U.S. Borisoff said snowfall is difficult to predict and highly dependent on the storm and path it takes, but noted that New England, New York and the Great Lakes region tend to be snowier during La Nina winters, but that is never a guarantee. The southern and southeastern regions of the U.S. are farther away from the active storm track and tend to be drier and warmer than normal.

Scientists say the link between climate change and La Nina and El Nino is not entirely clear.

# Biden administration has canceled student loans for more than 1M in public service jobs

By COLLIN BINKLEY  
AP Education Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — A student loan cancellation program for public service workers has granted relief to more than 1 million Americans — up from just 7,000 who were approved before it was updated by the Biden administration two years ago.

President Joe Biden announced the milestone on Thursday, saying his administration restored a promise to America's teachers, firefighters, nurses and other public servants. He celebrated it even as his broader student loan plans remain halted by courts following legal challenges by Republican-led states.

"For too long, the government failed to live up to its commitments," Biden said in a statement. "We vowed to fix that, and because of actions from our administration, now over 1 million public service workers have gotten the relief they are entitled to under the law."

In total, the administration says it has now canceled \$175 billion for about 5 million borrowers using several existing programs. Public Service Loan Forgiveness accounts for the largest share of that relief, while others have had their loans canceled through income-driven payment plans and through a 1994 rule offering relief to students who were cheated by their schools.

The Public Service Loan Forgiveness program was created in 2007, promising college graduates that the remainder of their federal student loans would be zeroed out after 10 years working in government or nonprofit jobs. But starting in 2017, the vast majority of applicants were rejected because of complicated and little-known eligibility rules.

A 2018 report from the Government Accountability Office found that 99% of

applicants were denied, often because they weren't in the right loan repayment plan or because their payments had temporarily been paused through deferment or forbearance — periods that weren't counted toward the 10 years of public work.

The GAO faulted the Education Department for failing to make the rules clear.

The program was the subject of legal and political battles, with Democrats in Congress calling on the Trump administration to loosen the rules and uphold the spirit of the program. Betsy DeVos, the education secretary at the time, countered that she was faithfully following the rules passed by Congress.

Declaring that the program was "broken," the Biden administration in 2021 offered a temporary waiver allowing borrowers to get credit for past periods of deferment or forbearance, among other changes. A year later, the Education Department updated the rules to expand eligibility more permanently.

Since then, waves of borrowers have been approved for cancellation as they reach the 10-year finish line. On Thursday, 60,000 more hit the mark, pushing the total past 1 million. When Biden took office, just 7,000 borrowers had been granted relief over the previous four years.

Republicans in Congress slammed Biden for working to forgive loans rather than make college less expensive.

"The Biden-Harris administration is circumventing Congress to shoehorn graduate degree holders and high-income borrowers into a program they were never eligible for and forcing hardworking Americans to pay for it in the process," said Virginia Foxx, R-N.C., chair of the House Education and the Workforce Committee.

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