

County election results breakdown

Page 2

BHS announces honor roll students

Page 3

Raiders get girls hoops victory

Page 6





FRIDAY. NOVEMBER 8. 202

\$1.00





Tots in the firehouse

Thursday was the Bluffton Parks Department's Tot Time at the Bluffton Fire Department. Kids had the opportunity to sit in one of the department's fire trucks. Plastic fire helmets and stickers were handed out as well. At top left, Murphy Dobson sits behind the wheel of a truck. Above right, Ezra Hiles reaches to touch a hose while her father Isaiah Hiles watches. Below, pictured from left to right, Frankie, Rachel, Addie and Charlie Flock watch a firefighter put on his gear. (Photos by Jonathan Snyder



APC takes no action yet on new apartments

By JONATHAN SNYDER

Solid Rock Rentals' plan to build eight apartment buildings off Serenity Trail was given a continuance by the Wells County Area Plan Commission on Thursday.

Three items related to the plan were presented — the first being to vacate a portion of undeveloped public road and lots 18-25 at Forget-Me-Not Acres. The second item was a rezoning request, Residential 1 to Residential 3, and the third was approval of the development plan.

The buildings are meant for multiple families, which the current R-1 zoning does not allow.

Cody Word from MLS Engineering and Drew Gerber from Solid Rock Rentals both presented their plan to rezone 3.34 acres. Eight single-story buildings are planned with two bedrooms each. A private road would loop around the development with garages and parking available for each unit. Stormwater is expected to be collected at the detention (Continued on Page 2)

Jury deliberations begin in Delphi murder trial

By RICK CALLAHAN, Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) - The fate of an Indiana man charged with murder in the 2017 killings of two teenage girls who vanished during an afternoon hike near their small hometown was in the hands of a jury Thursday.

Richard Allen, 52, faces two counts of murder and two additional counts of murder while committing or attempting to commit kidnapping in the killings of Abigail Williams, 13, and Liberty German, 14. He could be sentenced to up to 130 years in prison if convicted of all the charges.

The seven women and five men began deliberations Thursday afternoon after hearing closing arguments in the weekslong murder trial. Deliberations ended after about two hours and will resume Friday morning.

Carroll County Prosecutor Nicholas McLeland told (Continued on Page 2)

Federal Reserve cuts its key interest rate by a quarter-point

By CHRISTOPHER RUGABER **AP Economics Writer**

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Reserve cut its key interest rate Thursday by a quarter-point in response to the steady decline in the once-high inflation that had angered Americans and helped drive Donald Trump's presidential election victory this week.

The rate cut follows a larger half-point reduction in September, and it reflects the Fed's renewed focus on supporting the job market as well as fighting inflation, which now barely exceeds the central bank's 2% target.

Asked at a news conference how Trump's election might affect the Fed's policymaking, Chair Jerome Powell said that "in the near term, the election will have no effects on our (interest rate) decisions.'

But Trump's election, beyond its economic consequences, has raised the specter of meddling by the White House in the Fed's policy decisions. Trump has argued that as president, he should have a voice in the central bank's interest rate decisions. The Fed has long guarded its role as an independent agency able to make difficult decisions about borrowing rates, free from political interference. Yet in his previous term in the White House, Trump publicly attacked Powell after the Fed raised rates to fight inflation, and he may do so again.

Asked whether he would resign if Trump asked him to, Powell, who will have a year left in his second four-year term as Fed chair when Trump takes office, replied simply, "No."

And Powell said that in his view, Trump could not fire or demote him: It would "not be permitted under the law," he said.

Thursday's Fed rate cut reduced its benchmark rate to about 4.6%, down from a four-decade high of 5.3%. The Fed had kept its rate that high for more than a year to fight the worst inflation streak in four decades. Annual inflation has since fallen from a 9.1% peak in mid-2022 to a 3 1/2-year low of 2.4% in September.

When its latest policy meeting ended Thursday, the Fed issued a statement noting that the "unemployment rate has moved up but remains low," and while inflation has fallen closer to the 2% target level, it "remains somewhat ele-(Continued on Page 2)



Strings of lights need to be anchored and Audrey Almdale, left, and Kathy Schwartz, attach fastening hooks to rebar stakes for the display. (Photos by Barbara Barbieri)

'Wonderland of Lights' workday at Ouabache

By BARBARA BARBIERI

While behind the scenes work is continuing at Ouabache State Park for the coming Wonderland of Lights, the event's organizer Kathy Schwartz is still accepting spirit sponsors for the event.

Strands of lights need replac-

ing each year, as they take a beating from the weather, and are replaced with LED commercial grade lights. Being a spirit sponsor for \$20 helps replace one light strand.

Checks made out to Friends of Ouabache State Park may be



New additions are two wooden soldiers, who will guard the entrance to the showcase area. Checking out lights and arm motion were Tom Brown, left, and Craig Schwartz. Schwartz is the coordinator of the light and music show at the fire tower each year.

> mailed to: Ouabache State Park, 4930 E SR 201, Bluffton, IN 46714.

State the number of strands you are supporting and the donors name to be printed in the Discover Ouabache online magazine.

barb@news-banner.com



OCAL/NATION

	2024 Wells County General Election																								
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Local Contest				<u>م ر</u>	7 7	7 \	<u>). (</u>). <i>V</i> o		~ \0	<u>× </u>	\sim	२ ्थ	<u>× </u>	<u>× </u>	× \0			x v	4 (<u> </u>	F 🏹			
Wells County	Vicki ANDREWS (R)			260	229	272	252	546	265	358	329	375	318	421	449	390	335	426	445	350	329	511	606	8,197	28.88%
Council	Scott ELZEY (R)		206	240	207	216	211	476	257	232	317	313	217	472	606	417	375	412	414	268	268	512	674	7,635	
At-Large	Seth WHICKER (R)		240	216	173	197	200	465	226	249	303	291	243		404	336	291	418	422	256	246	481	584	7,064	
	Brian HOLLINGSWORTH (D)		72	104	97	97	94	178	117	79	62	90	54	165	158	108	107	80	89	84	77	152	213	2,419	
	Scott BURKE (I)	135	69	101	98	84	88	161	90	150	82	127	121	186	201	191	160	159	151	148	129	184	250	3,065	10.80%
BHMSD	Chris KOINER			173	127	129	129	174	8		95	137												972	32.02%
District 3	Trent WHITE			219	193	230	227	538	17		304	336												2,064	
NWCS	Cathie PETERSON	383	179						233					452	482	372	325	365	423			480	622	4,316	64.27%
Lanc. Twp.	Jeremiah TOMLIN	284	136						128					212	229	185	184	242	223			261	315	2,399	35.73%
National/State	e Races - Local Voting																								
President of	Donald TRUMP (R)			380	313	355	350	635	353	437	414	489	389		655		486	607	604	447	423	691	892	11,004	
the U.S.	Kamal HARRIS (D)	181	79	124	108	109	116	218	151	67	70	105	65	228	196	130	123	100	123	84	66	163	244	2,850	20.16%
	Chase OLIVER (L)	6	4	2	5	5	3	6	4	4	1	2	4	5	6		8	6	5	8	4	4	16	112	
	Robert KENNEDY (WTP)	9	2	5	4	6	6	6	2	3	3	6	6	6	16	4	7	7	5	8	2	12	7	132	
	Write-ins	7	2	0	0		0	2	0		2	1	1	2	2	2	2	4	3	•	v	1	5	36	
U.S.	Jim BANKS (R)	569	276	348	289	311	316	594	316	406	388	448	357	554	600		449	584	546	412		647	824	10,133	
Senate	Valerie McCRAY (D)	138	63	106	91	83	94	175	129	61	63	99	47	196	177	94	105	72	103	71	63	135	214	2,379	
	Andrew HORNING (L)	21	8	6	12	17	17	18	15	12	8	17	14	20	32	22	11	8	24	16		24	39	370	
US Rep.	Marlin STUTZMAN (R)		287	350	295	334	328	613	327	406	400	462	387	580	628		462	606	577	419		669	861	10,516	
District 3	Kiley ADOLPH (D)	154	68	114	105	95	91	180	131	72	61	104	44	206	185	104	112	78	104	74		147	218	2,510	
	Jarrad LANCASTER (L)		5	18	12	20	27	25	18	24	18	9	12	28	34	27	25	21	29	24	13	27	46	500	
Indiana	Mike BRAUN (R)		277	335	274	314	315	564	327	374	388	436	348		594	498	446		560				814	9,976	
Governor	Jennifer McCORMICK (D)		74	126	112	111	111	239	143	80	78	126	60		209	142	124	107	128		79	178	241	2,983	
	Donald RAINWATER (L)	39	10	38	26	34	32	42	22	51	25	29	42	40	66	43	42	43	38	48	35	51	83	879	6.35%
County Uncon													-												
	Circ. Ct. Judge Kent KIRACOFE			417	348	387	377	723	403	450	450	505	397	672	722	610	523	647	647	468			971	11,938	
11	Recorder: Rina STUCK			406	337	382	367	705	381	436	437	499	392	654	689	589	511	633	631	449			935		
	Treasurer: Pam GREGORY			406	344		362	687	382	442	438	498			697		520		633			132	939		
	Coroner: Cliff THOMAS			414	351	387	377	715	387	442	439	512	395	667	698	595	515		635	466			943	11,747	
	Surveyor: Jarrod HAHN			400	344	375		693	378		443	507	402		716				635				945	11,658	
11	Comm: Blake GERBER			393	322	361		643	377	423		461	379				513		610						
	Comm: Jeff Stringer	647	297	398	329	355	346	629	362	428	421	473	380	642	687	562	502	604	601	437	403	708	914	11,125	-
Straight Party																									0.000/
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11	Republcan		85	116	96	108	109	155	109	112	145	138	109	191	210	161	141	182	186	125	116	201	266	3,272	
	Libertarian		04 440/	E0 E00/	E7 040/	61 570/	60 500/	70 500/	E0 000/	70.050/	00.000/	75 500/	01 400/	70 470/	2 2	70 000/	71.020/	00 700/	70.050/	75 750/	70 50%	75 200/	77 400/	73.06%	0.04%
Voter Turnout	T . I	66.48%			57.91%					78.65%			81.46%				71.83%		79.85%		79.56%	75.30%	77.18%	72.96%	2
	Total Ballots Cast Absentee		379	515	432	479	479	877 39	517 24	523 18	499	610 20	470	861 37	890	698	635 27	733	745 27		502	881	20	14,302	
	Walk-in Absentee" (Early Voters)	34 533	21 259	28 262	15 246	18 265	12 291	39 596	311	186	21 339	378		493	33 459	33 410		29 459	503				38 499	554 8 083	56.52%
	Lany Voters)	000	200	-96	2.10	200	201	550	511	100	000	510	101	.55	155		515	155	505	000	230	517	.55	0,000	00.02/0

New apartments

(Continued from Page 1) pond on the north side of the site

Drew added that this development will cost approximately \$2.5 million.

Members of the public, however, expressed concerns about stormwater flow and detention, inadequate lighting in the area, property values, and the lack of discussion about a development plan. Jeremiah Wondercheck stated that there's poor drainage in the area and wondered if additional development would exacerbate the issue. Drew and Word mentioned that the development plan

The traffic and lighting concerns also present a potential problem for children in the area, according to Derek Furrow. Furrow argued that since multiple school buses pick up kids at the West Lancaster and Memory Lane intersection, the lack of lighting is a safety concern. Additionally, Furrow took issue with the lack of a fence around the detention pond, saying that there is a danger of children falling in the pond.

Kent Thompson and Michael Yancy also expressed concerns about the rentals hurting property

Hahn said that if the zoning was not approved, the development plan would be a moot point. Hahn hoped that a meeting between the public and developers would give the residents and the council an idea of whether the rezoning is desired or not. Hahn warned, however, that drainage and lighting issues may be impossible to solve in a development plan. The APC gave a "do

pass" recommendation for BGC Capital's and Minnich Enterprises' request to rezone 1590 and 1600 West Washington St. from residential to light indus-

related to outdoor container storage and traffic, however. Brandon said that no filled containers would be on the property and drivers would mainly come from the west and down south, not expecting them to come through town.

The APC also gave a 90-day continuance for Roger Watson's junk violation at 7666 South 200 East. The APC relayed that constant communication between them and Ellen Rasawehr, Watson's sister, led to the continuance. Rasawehr and the APC acknowledged that the junk is a "mountain" to move and that wintertime will lead to a slowdown in cleanup efforts. Pete Olsen with The Veridus Group also came before the APC to discuss the Wells County Master Plan currently in development. Olsen said local meetings have shown an interest in taking advantage of the river and kayak launches for economic development in particular. Bluffton will have a public meeting regarding the project at 5:30 p.m. next Tuesday at the Washington Park Pavilion. Ossian's meeting will be on Nov. 18 at 5:15 p.m. at the Norwell adminis-(Continued from Page 1) vated." tration building. jonathan@news-banner.com After their rate cut in September the policymak-



Friday, November 8, 2024 (24-hour observations at 10:53 p.m. Thursday) High: 57; Low: 43; Precipitation: None Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 1.16 feet at 10:45 p.m. Thursday

Wells County forecast

Today: Patchy fog before 8 a.m. Otherwise, sunny, with a high near 62. West wind 5 to 10 mph.

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 35. Northwest wind around 5 mph becoming east after midnight.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 59. East wind 5 to 10 mph.

Saturday Night: Showers, mainly after 1 a.m. Low around 46. South wind 5 to 10 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph. Chance of precipitation is 90%. New precipitation amounts between a quarter and half of an inch possible.

Sunday: Showers and possibly a thunderstorm bef

states that the proposed buildings would have their own drainage systems disconnected from the systems currently in the area.

The size of the current detention pond in the area was then questioned. Ben Murray said that the ditch is not as big as it should be and that drainage angles could lead to additional problems depending on the flow from the apartments. Murray added that the KOA Campground near and the additional units also make for a traffic problem. The proposed area only has one access point, and Murray doubted KOA's willingness to allow another one to be added on the other side.

values.

In response, Word and Drew stated that a future public meeting showcasing the development plan to residents will hopefully quell their concerns. APC members Erin Kreigh, substituting for Geoff Lance, and Rick Elwell, substituting for Chandler Gerber, agreed. While the official devel-

opment plan issue will be continued, the APC officially vacated the lots. They also passed a "no recommendation" motion to the Bluffton Common Council on the rezoning petition, with a message to consider the detention pond fencing issue.

Jury deliberations

(Continued from Page 1)

jurors that Allen is the man seen in a grainy cellphone video recorded by one of the girls, known as Abby and Libby, as they crossed an abandoned railroad bridge just before they vanished on Feb. 13, 2017.

"Richard Allen is Bridge Guy," McLeland told jurors. "He kidnapped them and later murdered them."

He noted that Allen had confessed repeatedly to the killings — in person, on the phone and in writing. In one of the recordings he replayed for the jury, Allen could be heard telling his wife, "I did it. I killed Abby and Libby.'

Allen's defense cast doubt on the confessions, putting up witnesses, including a psychiatrist who testified that Allen was delirious and psychotic after months in solitary confinement.

Attorney Bradley Rozzi closed by saying that Allen is innocent.

No witness explicitly identified Allen as the man seen on the hiking trail or the bridge the afternoon the girls went missing, he noted. No fingerprint, DNA or forensic evidence links Allen to the murder scene, Rozzi said.

And for more than five years after the teens were killed, Allen still lived in Delphi while working at a local pharmacy.

The case has drawn outsized attention from true-crime enthusiasts, with repeated delays, some surrounding a leak of

trial zoning. BCG Capital's Brandon Gerber and Minnich Enterprises' Scott Minnich bought the property and currently use two sections. Brandon presented that both buildings were Wells County Highway Department properties before the purchase and used as storage for material supplies and equipment.

evidence, the withdrawal of Allen's pub-

lic defenders and their reinstatement by

the Indiana Supreme Court. It has also

were sequestered throughout the trial,

which began Oct. 18 in the girls' home-

town of Delphi, a small northwest Indi-

ana city where Allen also lived and

worked as a pharmacy technician. A

special judge oversaw the case. Supe-

rior Court Judge Fran Gull, along with

the jurors, came from northeastern

recapped evidence that an unspent bul-

let found between the teens' bodies "had

been cycled through" Allen's .40-caliber

Sig Sauer handgun. A firearms expert

called by the defense questioned the state

police analysis, and Rozzi dismissed it

as a "magic bullet," saying investigators

had made an "apples to oranges" com-

parison of the unspent round to one fired

trooper who had listened to more than

700 phone calls placed by Allen had

identified Allen's voice on German's

cellphone video telling the teens, "

Down the hill " after they crossed

an abandoned railroad trestle called

the Monon High Bridge. McLeland

showed jurors a digitally enhanced ver-

sion of the cellphone video and said

Allen was the man recorded walking

The prosecutor also said a state

In his closing argument, McLeland

Indiana's Allen County.

from Allen's gun.

The 12 jurors along with alternates

been the subject of a gag order.

Hahn and Lautzenheiser believed that if the highway department was a private entity, their use of the property would qualify as light industrial. Brandon stated that the intent is to rezone the area to how it has historically been used.

Dallas Moser and Kevin APC Member Jarrod Seago both had concerns

late to actual policies, you don't want to front-run it." Still, Matthew Luzzetti,

an economist at Deutsche Bank, said there were signs that the Fed might end up announcing fewer rate cuts next year than many econonext year. But with the mists expect. The job market economy now mostly solid and the economy are looking and Wall Street anticipating healthier than they appeared faster growth, larger budget in September, when the Fed deficits and higher inflation announced an outsize halfunder a Trump presidency, point rate cut. further rate cuts may have "Nothing in the economic become less likely. Rate cuts by the Fed typically

data," Luzzetti said, "suggests that the (Fed) has any need to be in a hurry" to get rates down substantially."

On Thursday, Powell did express confidence that inflation, despite some recent higher-than-expected readings, would keep falling back to the Fed's target.

We feel like the story is very consistent with inflation continuing to come down on a bumpy path over the next couple of years, and settling around 2%," he said.

The economy is clouding the picture by flashing conflicting signals, with growth solid but hiring weakening. Consumer spending, though, has been healthy, fueling concerns that there is no need for the Fed to reduce borrowing costs and that doing so might overstimulate the economy and even re-accelerate inflation.

McLeland said Allen, armed with a gun, forced the youths off the trail and that he had planned to rape them before a passing van made him change his plans. Gruesome crime scene photos showed how the girls were found with their throats cut the next day, about a quarter-mile from the bridge.

The defense questioned the state's timeline with witnesses including a digital forensics expert who said headphones or an auxiliary cable were plugged into Libby's cellphone for nearly five hours after she and Abby disappeared, raising doubts about the investigators' belief that the girls were killed and left in the woods around 2:32 p.m. that day.

Attorney Andrew Baldwin argued during trial that one or more other people must have kidnapped the teens and returned them early the next day to the spot where they were found.

Prosecutors directed jurors again to Allen's own words, in confessions he made to his mother and wife and also to a prison psychologist, correctional officers and the former warden of the Westville Correctional Facility, who said Allen wrote him claiming to have killed the girls with a box cutter that he later discarded.

Prosecutors said Allen's incriminating statements contained information only the killer could have known.

ers had projected that they would make further quarterpoint cuts in November and December and four more behind Williams.

10 a.m., then a chance of showers. High near 67. Chance of precipitation is 80%. New precipitation amounts between a tenth and quarter of an inch, except higher amounts possible in thunderstorms. Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 44.

Veterans Day: Mostly sunny, with a high near 58. Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 38. **Tuesday:** Sunny, with a high near 58. Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 40. Wednesday: A 40% chance of showers. Partly sunny, with a high near 62.

Wednesday Night: A chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 41.

Thursday: A chance of showers. Mostly sunny, with a high near 55.

Interest rate

lead over time to lower bor-

rowing costs for consumers

pinned down Thursday

on whether the Fed would

proceed with an additional

quarter-point rate cut in

December or the four rate

cuts its policymakers pen-

omist at accounting giant

KPMG, said she thought

Powell was reluctant to pro-

vide hints about the Fed's

next moves because of

the uncertainty caused by

too far out ahead of his

skis, given how much could

change," she said. "In an

environment where you

don't know how promises

on the campaign trail trans-

"He's not willing to go

Trump's election victory.

Diane Swonk, chief econ-

Powell declined to be

and businesses.

ciled in for 2025.

LOCAL/AREA

OBITUARIES

Jeanne Meeks, 87

Jeanne Meeks, 87, of Bluffton passed away on Wednesday morning, Nov. 6, 2024, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Jeanne was born on July 31, 1937 in Liberty Township, Wells County, to Kenneth and Martha (Strohl) Grover. She graduated from Bluffton High School in 1955. She worked at Caylor-Nickel Clinic and JCPenney, along with helping on the farm.

On Sept. 6, 1958, Jeanne and Wayne E. Meeks were married in Bluffton. They shared 66 years of marriage together.

Survivors include her husband, Wayne of Bluffton, and their daughter Melissa A. (Brian T.) Marsh of Muncie. She will be remembered by her sister, Virginia Cully of Bluffton, along with her nieces, Shirley (Tom) Surbaugh of Bluffton, and Gina (Shawn) Cully-Girard of Detroit, MI., four great nieces & nephews and seven great-great nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her parents.

A private family service will take place at the New Castle Community Columbarium at Elm Grove Cemeterv in Bluffton.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Lemler family of Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Friends can share online condolences with the family at www.thomarich.com.

Gloria Ann Siela, 91

Gloria Ann Siela, 91, of Fort Wayne passed away peacefully on Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2024.

Gloria was born in Fort Wayne on Sept. 8, 1933, a daughter of the late Harold and Dorothy Kruse. She graduated from Concordia High School and later graduated from the Lutheran Hospital nursing program. Gloria was a registered nurse for 41 years and a member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Ossian for over 65



years. She was dedicated to her family and friends. Gloria enjoyed her winters in Florida and her grand activities.

She is survived by her sons, Gary (Diana) and Dan Siela; grandchildren, Jessica and Jake (Bailey Newman) Siela; great-grandson, Beckham Siela; sister-in-law, Norma Kruse; goddaughter and niece, Erica (David) Garrison; and other numerous nieces and nephews.

Gloria was also preceded in passing by her husband, Gerald Siela; and brother, Robert Kruse.

A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 11, 2024, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 6514 East 750 North in Ossian, with visitation one hour prior. Visitation will also be held from 4-6 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 10, 2024, at the church. Burial to follow the service at Bethlehem Lutheran Church Cemetery. Contributions in Gloria's memory may be made to Heart to Heart Hospice or Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Condolences may be left online at www.elzey-patterson-rodak.com.

Rose Irwin, 8

On Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2024, our beautiful little girl, Rose Ellen Marie Irwin, 8 years old, crawled into the lap of Jesus.

Funeral services will take place at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 12, 2024, at the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton with the Rev. Dan York officiating. Burial will follow in the Garden of Chimes at Elm Grove Cemetery in Bluffton.

Visitation will take place from 2-8 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 11, 2024, at the funeral home and for one hour prior to the service.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Lemler family of Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. A complete obituary tribute will be published in Saturday's edition of The News-Banner.

Leo Glogas, 89

BHS announces honor roll students

Bluffton High 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.

SENIORS

High Honor Roll Jackson Affolder, Brady Baldauf, Gordon Bedwell, Noah Bluhm, Chloe Bredemeyer, McKenna Bunch, Sebastian Couch, Lily Crispen, David DeFrain, Marly Drayer, Chloe Engle, Tavin Frees, Lexi Grady, Sierra Graham, Anthony Hartman, Samuel Holloway, Adriana Huffman, Levi Johns, Mykhailo Laishevkin, Tanner McClure, Dontai Moham-Miles, Ali Mygrant med Nashwan, Taylor Nusbaumer, Sacra Powell, Noemi Real, Grant Reifsteck, Amarah Robles, Maryn Schreiber, Drayvin Shoemaker, Madyson Sonnigsen, Bailey Yates, Lukas Yates, Hadessah Yergler and Logan Zoll.

Honor Roll -Kade Abbett, Gabriel Ball, Jude Baumgartner, Dihan Benade, Hailey Bozarth, Leah Brown, Matthew Clark, Phoenix Cook, Isabela Curless, Austin Geimer, Addison Goodwin, Kaleb Green, Ashlyn Hall, Carissa Hughett, Dakotah Jennings, Lorne Kahn, Wyatt Kephart, Connor Klopfenstein, Nolan Lambert, Tiffany Lanning, Griffin Linderwell, Jedidiah Logan, Benjamin Maggard, Kyler Potter, Tressa Renner, Yamirelis Santos Alvarado, Lillian Schreiber, Yaroslav Serdiuk, Hannah Sexton, Brianna Snyder, Isabella Stout, Cameron Williams, Aubree Williamson, Ethan Wilson and Cohen Worster.

JUNIORS

High Honor Roll – Hayden Alfeld , Liby Arnett, Konley Ault, Azmjon Bahronov, Eve Corkwell, Olivia Donascimento, Xzvier Driscoll, Anakin Eguia, Emitt Fiechter, Mason Fox, Emma Frauhiger, Steven Frettinger, Aidan Gavilanez, Marshall Gerber, Baylee Green, Declan Grieser, Miken Habegger, Alyssa Hartman, Kameron Holloway, Savanna Hughett, Aaron Jessup, Kenzie Kershner, Evangilene Larson, Owen Lesh, Madison Mason, Alexander Mechling,

Layna Murray, Manning Nash, Brockton Osborne, Hazel Pfister, Savannah Rasor, Keiner Rinehart, Jackson Rockwell, Jasmine Rupel, Lily Rupel, Riley Schlotter, Ellie Schwartz, Emma Schwartz, Josephina Sessions, Brody Shutt, Kaitlyn Stafford, Aaron Streveler, Jayden Suman, Gabrielle VanCamp, Robert White and Hannah Withers.

Honor Roll – Naransolongo Amgalanbold, Colton Arnold, Sierra Baughman, Elijah Bertsch, Jake Boots, Noah Brooks, Sabastian Burgess, Harper Craighead, Emily Drayer, Kinzie Fiechter, Emma Fink, Gabriella Godwin, Sierra Holmes, Carmen Hurry, Peter Ifer, Izabelle Irelan, Gregory Johnson, Lilly King, Dakota Lee, Braden Lemler, Madyson Lillie, Kylee Masterson, Elijah McCollum, Savanna Michael, Griffin Morgan, Kayla Morgan, Bryce Patrick, Rylynn Penick, Sebastian Schoeff, Owen Sheets and Trevor Smith.

SOPHOMORES

High Honor Roll — Tristan Ault, William Ault, Axton Beste, Elliott Brown, Lillie Brown, Mateo Castro, Sierra Clark, Samuel Cortez, Aleyda Cruz, Lydia Dailey, Rori Drayer, Madison Duncan, Sophie Eisenhut, Adriana Gehring, Jonah Geisel, Audrey Gerber, Cal Grandlienard, Emily Hansen, Reagan Harris, Kylie Hiser, Jordan Jellison, Levi Jennings, Luke Jennings, Heath Johnson, Addison Kauffman, Jacob Kephart, Elijah Kerner, Evan Klopfenstein, Alexandria Koby, Conner Landis, Alexander Maggard, Jackson Meyer, Cassidy Miller, Brian Nusbaumer, Blake Reinhard, Jacob Ribich, Grady Rockwell, Lincoln Rodgers, Maya Saige, Chanley Shaw, Alayna Sheets, Dillon Singleton, Gabriel Spencer, Colt Ternet, Reese Turnbull, Myles Velasquez, Aiden Wilfong and Addison Yates.

Honor Roll - Nadege Abrego, Juan Alvarez, Zane Betz, Easton Blair, Dominic Bowlin, Chase Collins, Briell Coratti, Anasia Eguia, Kenley Falk, Isaac Flood, Madelyn Funk, Addison Gehring, Rhett Gerber, Isla Gibson, Aidan Graves, Aleeah Grover, Brianna Hart, Cierah Hicks, Chase Houser, Paige Hutchison, Logan Johnson, Rozlynn Johnson, Athan King, Izabell King, Samuel King, Kameron Klinski, Coy Lantz, Riley Lucas, Lucynda Mace, Sophia Mayne, Aidan McClure, Lance McMillan, David Merrill, Piper Morgan, Ashley Morphew, Jared Moser, Lance Moser, Khloe Murray, Eliana Mygrant, Jessica Nusbaumer, Kaylee Nusbaumer, Kierstynn Reed, Riley Roby, John Ryan, Ryan Schlagenhauf, Corbin Snyder, Aubree Speidel, Silas Troyer, Makaila Watson, Maxwell White, Gia Youngren and Anna Zurcher.

FRESHMEN

High Honor Roll — Reid Abbett, Kamryn Ault, Andy Baumgartner, Austin Bennett, Krista Blair, Jimmy Borabo-Hower, Chayson Brown, Isabella Byanski, Summer Columbus, Khloe Dick, Lynne Drayer, Mason Engle, Adalynn Fiechter, Tess Frauhiger, Eden Gerber, Rafe Gerber, Cora Kunkel, Dawson Lee, Macy Lemler, Chloe Lesh, Emily Maggard, Klay Markley, Thomas McCarty, Briana Ortiz, Camora Otero, Marcus Pfister, Abigail Ramseyer, Kyla Reinhard, De'Twan Richardson, Natalie Scher, Breeanna Schmidt, Allison Schoeff, Addison Smith, Kenley Smith, Addison Sonnigsen, Mia Sprunger, Bridget Steffen, Bennett Stoller, Violetta Tarasova, Nevaeh Thomas, Rylee Todd, Ava Trexler and Hunter Zoll.

Honor Roll — Emma Ball, Parker Barnes, Wyatt Beer, Alexandra Billman, Jace Campbell, Layah Corbat, Kiah Craig, Grayson Crowder, Jace Draper, Savannah Duff, Grace Fry, Raianna Gentry, Kylee Gottschalk, Gavin Grieser, Gibson Grieser, Brody Grimes, Charley Hay, Christian Herrada, Jacob Hyde, Khloe Jones, Carter Lehman, Makenna Leitner, Leah Lovell, Jaida Mills, Brant Moser, Cooper Pearson, Elizabeth Premo, Finn Reinhard, Carieliz Rivera Torres, Ava Sexton, Andie Shaneyfelt, Elijah Sonnigsen, Ariana Tello, Braelon Terry, Namine VanHyfte, Nikki Williamson, Rhine Wood and Logan Wright.

2 new Republicans win in state congressional races

By CASEY SMITH

Indiana Capital Chronicle Eight of Indiana's nine races were called by late Tuesday.

Ballots statewide collectively featured 28 candidates for the U.S. House. Two GOP incumbents retired and another left to pursue a higher office.

1st Congressional District Incumbent U.S. Rep. Frank Mrvan seemed likely to hold onto his congressional seat, but the Associated Press hadn't called the race five hours after polls closed. At 11 p.m., Mrvan was leadvith 54% of the vote.

leading with more than 66% of the vote. Holder, a former marine, earned 30%, and Groff, of Hendricks County, received almost 4%.

Baird has served in the U.S. House of Representatives for the 4th Congressional District — which covers a large portion of the western part of the state — since 2019. Prior to that the Army veteran was in the Indiana House for eight years. He has largely focused on military issues while in Congress and called himself pro-life, pro-Israel, and (a) supporter of the Second Amendment" during his latest campaign.

"Cinde" Wirth and Libertarian James Sceniak.

The Associated Press called the race with him leading almost 66% compared to roughly 30% for Columbus school teacher Wirth and 4% for behavioral therapist Sceniak.

This traditionally Republican seat represents central and eastern Îndiana, including a strip of southern Indianapolis. It's open for the first time in about six years after incumbent Greg Pence chose not to seek reelection.

Shreve sold off his selfstorage company for nearly \$600 million in 2022 then, he's plugged some of his personal wealth into politics: more than \$13 million into a failed bid for Indianapolis mayor, and \$6 million – thus far – into his congressional campaign. He emerged victorious from a crowded GOP primary field. 7th Congressional District Democrat U.S. Rep. André Carson breezily earned himself a return ticket to the U.S. Capitol, defeating Republican John Schmitz and Libertarian Rusty Johnson. The Associated Press called the race around 9 p.m. with him leading 69.1% to Schmitz' 28.3%. Johnson had earned 2.6%. Votes were still being counted. Carson has represented the 7th Congressional District since 2008, when he won a special election to replace his grandmother, the

late U.S. Rep Julia Carson. 8th Congressional District

A former state legislator now has a new home in Congress – Republican state Sen. Mark Messmer easily claimed victory over Democrat Erik Hurt and Libertarian K. Richard Fitzlaff on Tuesday in the race to represent the 8th Congressional District.

The Associated Press called the race shortly after 7 p.m. with Messmer leading at roughly 74%.

The deep-red district covers southwestern Indiana. Incumbent U.S. Rep. Larry Bucshon's retirement left the seat open. Messmer, of Jasper, served in the state Senate from 2014 until September. He was the state Senate's majority leader from 2018 to 2022, when Senate President Pro Tempore Rodric Bray replaced him.

Leo Glogas, 89 of Bluffton passed away on Wednesday afternoon, Nov. 6, 2024, at River Terrace Estates. Funeral arrangements are pending at this time with the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton.

Police Notebook

INCIDENTS City:

Wednesday, 4:12 p.m., Top Notch Auto Sales. Citation issued for speeding.

Wednesday, 9:30 p.m., KFC. Citation issued for driving while suspended.

Thursday, 2:04 a.m., 1100 block of West South Street. Report of a runaway juvenile. Juvenile located.

Thursday, 10:24 a.m., Hoosier House. Report of stolen tail light.

FIRES

Wednesday, 8:45 p.m., Wendy's. Report of natural gas smell.

Wednesday, 10:29 p.m., 4585 E U.S. 224. Report of an open burn left unattended. Thursday, 5:54 a.m., Matalco. Fire alarm. Employee advised of a routine heat issue. Alarm reset and exhaust turned on to dissipate smoke.

Thursday, 1:31 p.m., Christian Care Retirement Center. Fire alarm. Grill smoke triggered alarm.

State gives \$140M through **Community Crossings**

By WHITNEY DOWNARD, Indiana Capital Chronicle

Cities, towns and counties across Indiana received nearly \$140 million in state funding for road and infrastructure projects under the last round of Community Crossings grants under Gov. Eric Holcomb.

Holcomb is term limited and will be leaving the office in January. Governor-elect Mike Braun will assume the mantle after getting a majority of votes on Election Night.

"Community Crossings has been an annual highlight over the years," Holcomb said in a release. "The fact that nearly 14,000 miles of road and over 200 local bridges have been replaced or rehabilitated through this program since 2017 is simply astonishing, in addition to countless economic and quality of life benefits in hundreds of communities across Indiana."

Community Crossings, part of Holcomb's Next Level Roads program, has sent out more than \$1.8 billion in matching grants since its start in 2016. It is overseen by the Indiana Department of Transportation.

"This program has impacted communities in all 92 Indiana counties, most more than once," said INDOT Commissioner Mike Smith. "I want to recognize all of the local agencies who have participated over time for their hard work and dedication to improving their local transportation networks."

Long-term funding for Community Crossings was enshrined in House Enrolled Act 1002 in 2017. The 223 communities receiving matching funds were approved for amounts ranging from just over \$44,000 to the maximum of \$1.5 million. Prior to this year, the maximum amount communities could receive was \$1 million.

ing v

The Democrat has served the northwest Indiana district since 2020. He faced Republican Randy Niemeyer and Libertarian Dakotah Miskus.

Niemeyer ran a vocal campaign and had more than 44% of the vote by late Tuesday. Miskus was at just shy of 2%.

2nd Congressional District

Republican U.S. Rep. Rudy Yakym sailed to reelection on Election Night, winning out over Democrat Lori Camp and Libertarian William Henry.

The Associated Press called the race around 9:20 p.m., with Yakym leading 67.4% to Camp's 29.6%. Henry had received 3%. Votes were still being counted.

Yakym was first appointed to the 2nd Congressional District following the death of former U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski in a car crash in 2022

3rd Congressional District

Republican and former U.S. Rep. Marlin Stutzman will be heading back to Washington, D.C. after winning a campaign for the 3rd Congressional District.

Stutzman, who previously held the same seat between 2010 and 2017, survived a contentious primary in May. The Associated Press called the race with him leading with 64.3% of the vote.

Democrat Kiley Adolph and Libertarian Jarrad Lancaster has 32.8% and 2.9% of the vote, respectively, as of 7:45 p.m.

4th Congressional District

Sitting U.S. Rep. Jim Baird, a Republican, will keep his congressional seat after claiming victory over his competitors, Democrat Derrick Holder and Libertarian Ashley Groff.

The Associated Press called the race shortly before 9 p.m. Tuesday for the incumbent, who was

5th Congressional District Republican Rep. Victoria Spartz, the first Ukrainianborn member of Congress, easily won reelection to a seat she almost gave up.

The Associated Press called the race when she had a 55.8% lead in Indiana's 5th Congressional District north of Indianapolis.

Spartz initially said she wouldn't run again but changed her mind days before the filing deadline. She faced off against Democrat Deborah Pickett, a resident of Carmel who served in the U.S. Army Reserve. She focused on fighting for personal rights and liberties, and received 39% of the vote.

6th Congressional District

Republican Jefferson Shreve will take over the 6th Congressional District after defeating Democrat Cynthia

9th Congressional District

U.S. Rep. Erin Houchin won her first reelection bid Tuesday, besting Democrat Timothy Peck and Libertarian Russell Brooksbank to represent Indiana's 9th Congressional District.

The Associated Press called the race at 10:17 p.m. with Houchin leading at 64.7%.

Houchin took office in 2023, succeeding former U.S. Rep. Trey Hollingsworth. She previously served eight years in the Indiana Senate, representing Salem.

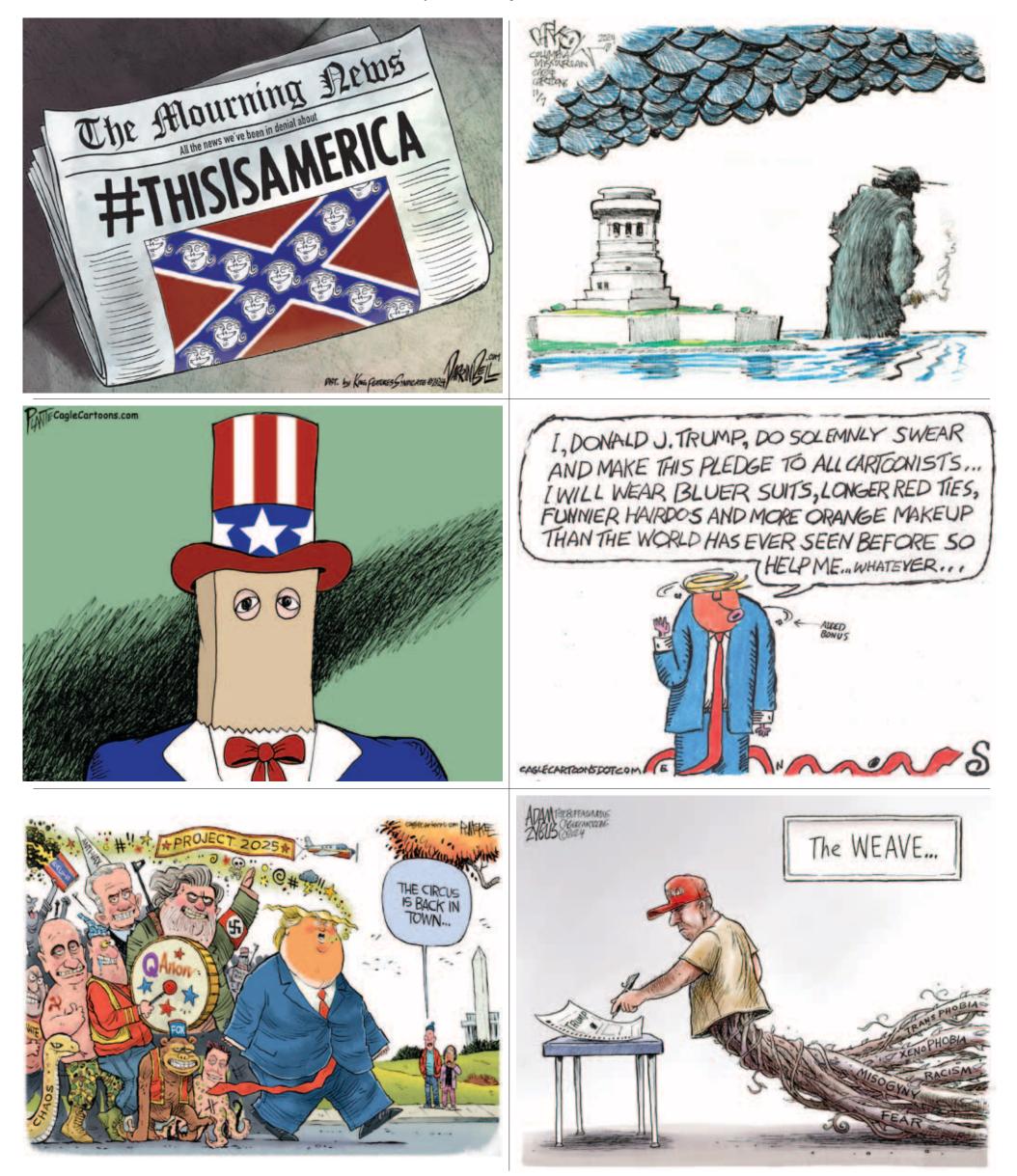
YOU GET SOCIAL SECURITY, MEDICARE AND MEDICAID READY! WE HELP sociates WE REPRESENT MANY - MANY - MANY **INSURANCE COMPANIES** WE HAVE ALL THE MEDICARE AND Preston Kaehr - Julie Myers - Connie Vangelakos MEDICAID OPTIONS AVAILABLE MARKETPLACE ANNUAL ENROLLMENT IS NOV 1ST - DEC 15TH The Price Tag is the Same Everywhere Consider Local for Better Service MEDICARE ANNUAL ENROLLMENT OCT 15 TO DEC 7 CALL US WHEN YOU HAVE PROBLEMS AND YOU WILL HAVE PROBLEMS YOU WILL HAVE US TO COUNT ON MEDICARE SUPPLEMENTS - MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PLANS - PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLANS. Life Insurance - Long Term Care Insurance - Investments - Individual and Small Group Health - Dental - Vision - Hearing - Cancer Insurance We Do **FREE** Information/ Education Seminars Folks on Medicare A and B and Diabetic can get FREE Nice Looking Diabetic Shoes Every Year from Us In Your Business (Again Former Teachers) WE CAN MEET: IN OUR OFFICE - IN YOUR HOME - IN A FAVORED LOCATION

In the 1882 Building at Main & Market with the mural on the outside wall • 260-824-1618

The 2024 Election – finally a finale - a look through cartoonists' eyes...

Editor's Note: Since sometime several months ago, we have been devoting many of our Friday cartoon selections to the variety of our cartoonists' depictions of the 2024 Election. There's no question that editorial cartoonists are generally of the far left progressive persuasion. While it would be easy to say that only matches the general mainstream media bias, I don't buy that. Even the most liberal columnists I read are not so — there is no other word —

ridiculous. Certainly, part of cartoonists' work is hyperbole, but I believe several of them routinely go too far. Hence, it was difficult to pick out just four cartoons to illustrate how the progressive side of our political divide is looking at Donald Trump's decisive win, which is generally that it only reflects the rampant misogyny and racism in America today. I cannot disagree more vehemently. In brief, I believe the results only reflect that despite the numerous and onerous flaws of the Republican's elected candidate, swing voters chose that over the policies of the past four years and the personality and policy objectives of the Democrats' annointed candidate to include unfettered access to abortion. So today, here's a look at how the results of the election are being seen by them and, for further insight, liberal commentator Eugene Robinson's reflections and advice. — Mark Miller



How I'm coping with a Trump win, and some advice for you

Ouch. That hurts. The people have spoken, and many of us can't quite process what they said: Donald Trump, despite everything, will be president again. Somehow, we have to find ways to cope with this incomprehensible reality.

I don't think moving to Canada, New Zealand or Uruguay is going to be the best option for most people. Emigrating is more complicated and expensive than it looks. And the same far-right nationalism that Trump embodies is afflicting countries around the world.

The first step is understanding what just happened. The polls showing an impossibly tight race between Trump and Vice President Kamala Harris in the seven decisive swing states turned out to be right. Trump has been narrowly declared the winner in five of them — Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, North Carolina, Michigan and Georgia and appears on track for slim victories in Arizona and Nevada as well.

It was always the case that the slightest nudge could topple all seven states in the same direction. I had thought Harris might sweep them because just enough voters shared her passion about reproductive rights and the threat Trump poses to our democracy. Instead, Trump won the battlegrounds by convincing just enough voters — many of whom chose Joe Biden four years ago

Submit your Letters to the Editor via: • Our website link (Submit your Letter) •E-Mail: email@news-banner.com • Mail: PO Box 436, Bluffton IN 46714 • Drop-off: 125 N. Johnson St., Bluffton. All letters must be signed and must include a phone number or address in case verification is desired. Letters are edited for brevity and clarity. Letters must be no more than 500 words.



Eugene Robinson

— that he will champion their interests.

Despite all the predictions, African Americans did not defect from the Democratic Party in significant numbers; exit polls showed Harris winning 86 percent of the Black vote. But the Latino vote shifted in the GOP's favor. Harris beat Trump by just eight percentage points among Latinos, compared with Biden's 33-point advantage with this

group in 2020. And among Latino men specifically, exit polls found, Trump actually beat Harris by 10 points.

However, this might be less of a Latino problem for Democrats than a workingclass problem. Trump appears on course to win the national popular vote — the first such feat for a Republican since 2004 and only the second since 1988. Biden, you recall, beat Trump by 7 million votes. The reason for the shift is that Trump's vote share increased in states Harris won, and it appears that many of the converts were blue-collar voters.

For example, Harris won New Jersey by five percentage points — a sharp drop-off from Biden's 16-point margin in 2020. Passaic County, in the northern part of the state, is normally a working-class Democratic stronghold. This year, Trump narrowly won it.

I realize all these numbers are not particularly soothing. But coping with a situation has to begin with looking it in the face. Despite everything, Trump managed to broaden his support this time around. We might not understand that, but we have to accept it as fact.

The second step is to refrain from second-guessing the choices Harris and her campaign made. From Biden's withdrawal to Election Day, she had just 3½ months to barnstorm the country and introduce herself to an electorate that has known Trump for decades. As the sitting vice president, she was inextricably linked to an incumbent whose approval rating, fairly or not, hovers around 40 percent — usually a sign that the opposition party is about to capture the White House.

Harris and her party staged a flawless convention. She embarrassed Trump in their only debate. Her rallies were huge and full of joy. She raised more than a billion dollars and had a vast field operation to identify her voters and get them to the polls. I can think of nothing she could have done. If Trump were winning by a thousand votes here and a few hundred there, that would be one thing. But this victory is solid.

The final step, and the hardest for me, is to come to terms with the role misogyny and racism played in Harris's defeat.

That these ugly forces played some part

in this election is clear to me, but I have no way to quantify their impact. I do know that Trump was exploiting bigotry when he said Harris has a "low IQ" and described her laughter as "cackling." Of course, I remember the crushing disappointment of 2016, when it looked as if Hillary Clinton would break the glass ceiling. And I know that many veterans of that campaign hoped and believed that this time, with Harris, the barrier would finally be shattered.

I believed all along that Harris was being held to the highest possible standard while Trump could get away with saying anything that happened to cross his mind, no matter how transgressive or irresponsible. Like Ginger Rogers dancing with Fred Astaire, Harris had to run the campaign backward and in high heels.

It is unfair that Americans chose someone like Donald Trump over someone like Kamala Harris, and I fear the nation and the world will regret that decision. I'm going to be angry and frustrated. But I'm not going to spend all my waking hours stewing over the fact that Trump is going to be president. I'm going to follow the news — that's my job — but I won't take his nonsense personally. I'm going to find a better politicslife balance and catch myself when I start obsessing over the latest outrage.

Trump is getting back into the White House. Don't let him back into your head. © 2024 The Washington Post

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The News-Banner

(USPS 059-200)

I GOT THE BEETLE

BOY, HE WASN'T

KIDDING!

BAILEY SLEEPY-

TIME BLUES

GETUP

AND GET

GOING

CRASH !!

CAUSE I'VE

BEEN DOWN

SO LONG ..

ON YOUR MARK, GET SET ...

GLAZED

CHOPS

Grateful for the help, but uncomfortable with the extras Dear

Dear Annie: I am a nurse who needed to become a full-time caregiver for my mom, who is in her 90s. I have siblings; however, when I ask for their help, there is always an excuse. I haven't had a vacation in several years.

A friend of mine who is also a nurse offered to take care of my mom so I could have a long weekend off. I was so grateful for her generous offer. Mom is very comfortable with this friend, so I made plans to go on a well-deserved vacation. I did check in while I was away, and everything was going well.

When I returned, my mom told me that my friend had deep cleaned several rooms in our home. I'm not a bad housekeeper, but my priority is caring for my mom, so I clean as I'm able. She also brought additional groceries even though I had told her I had shopped prior to her coming. I had not asked her to clean or to bring groceries, and I am embarrassed by what she's done.

Mom told me that when she saw what my friend was doing, she told her I'd be embarrassed. My friend disregarded Mom's advice and continued cleaning.

I did tell my friend that I appreciated her giving me a break but wished she had asked me first before cleaning and bringing additional food for us, which wasn't needed. She said she likes to keep busy and I could see she didn't recognize my discomfort. I'm torn between being grateful that I got a few days off but now find I don't want to have this friend in my home again. Am I being ungrateful? How do I move forward? - Overwhelmed

Dear Overwhelmed: Your friend likely saw the extra chores as simply part of the care she was providing. Rather than interpret it as a reflection on your ability to keep things in order, reframe the experience as a friend wanting to go the extra mile after seeing how hard you were working for your mom.

Compulsive cleaners are frequently driven by a need to control their situation. This is not personal to you.

Whether or not you accept her help in the future is up to you.

Dear Annie: I read your column from the 16-yearold girl, "Love Wins," who asked if it was OK to get secretly engaged to her bovfriend. both of them still



Annie

by Annie Lane

I agree with your assessment that if something this important has to be a secret, something's wrong.

I wanted to add that the practice of a promise ring is a forgotten tradition from only a few generations back. A boy about her boyfriend's age would give his high school sweetheart an inexpensive ring and then they'd wait a couple of years to actually get engaged.

This act gives the couple a chance to get into the real world together and see what being an adult couple — with jobs, a college education, hobbies and goals that don't always align - is like. It would also be something that's publicly shared. Maybe "Love Wins" should go this route? - Married Young, Two **Decades** On

Dear Married Young: Thank you for your letter. A handful of other readers wrote in with the same sweet suggestion. I agree the intention behind a promise ring would capture the love these two feel for each other but without having to hide it or rush into a lifelong commitment until they are older and fully ready to do so - the perfect next step.

"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. © 2024 CREATORS.COM

ZITS MOM, HOW DOYOU SPELL "RELIANCE"?

BLONDIE

WOW!



I'M HERE TO APPLY FOR THE

SCHOOL BUS DRIVER JOB.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

CRANKSHAFT

BEETLE BAILEY

I'M SINGING

MY SONG ...

I'M PRACTICING FOR A 5K RACE, SO AS SOON AS YOU ORDER, I'LL

RUN TO THE KITCHEN AS FAST

(AS I CAN!



DO 400

HAVEA COMMERCIAL

DRIVER'S

LICENSE'

By Bil Keane

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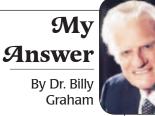
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CLOSE ENOUGH! 11-8



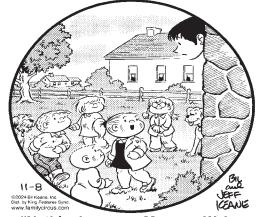
Question: It seems to me that even the churches have fallen prey to false prophets. It's amazing how so many people cannot discern a Biblical sermon from a "feel good" message. I tell them that messages that make us feel good about ourselves are

Difficult to recognize a false prophet

however spiritual, is beyond the seductive assaults of this crafty and clever enemy.

The devil began his work of deception in the garden of Eden, and it continues to this day, cleverly deceiving people. He tries to infiltrate the theological seminary and the pulpit, invading the church under the cover fully, because it is actually God's Love Letter to mankind. God's followers need to know the truth He sets forth in His Word so that we can confidently discern between His truth and love, and Satan's lies.

The enemy's deception is discreet, and his seduction is subtle. Many have fallen prey to his ways. We must be so immersed in God's Word that any false teaching is glaringly obvious.



"Nothing's wrong, Mommy. We're playing Hide-and-Shriek.'





HEIGHT AND WEIGHT."

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer ACROSS 41 Canal 2 Places 23 Slow 1 Pickle

a key element in deceiving even good churchgoers. Isn't this true? – F.P.

Answer: Sometimes it is extremely difficult for us to recognize a false prophet – someone who claims to speak for God, but in reality does not. The underlying principle of all of Satan's tactics is deception, and no Christian, of an orthodox vocabulary – but emptying sacred terms of their true Biblical meaning or denying their truth.

The sword of the Spirit – the Bible – is the weapon God has provided for us to use in this battle between truth and deception. Make it a priority to wield that sword skill-

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

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Raiders crush the Blackawks, Penrod get first girls win

Southern Wells didn't take Cowan lightly in Thursday night girls' basketball action.

The Raiders topped the Blackhawks 63-22, getting their first win of the season and first for new head coach Kyle Penrod.



Ashlie Needler led the team with 19 points, Kaylee Davis nine, Kenzie Paxson eight, Callie Ripperger hitting a pair of threes for seven points and Erika Beavans six.

Southern Wells will be at Union City on Saturday, Nov. 9.

High School Calendar

THURSDAY, NOV 7

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Southern Wells at Cowan, 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, NOV 8 GIRLS BASKETBALL: Cathedral at Nor-

well, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOV 9

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Warsaw at Norwell, 7:30 p.m.; Canterbury at Bluffton, 7 p.m.; Southern Wells at Union City, 7:30 p.m.

MONDAY, NOV 11 No events scheduled. **TUESDAY, NOV 12** No events scheduled. WEDNESDAY, NOV 12 GIRLS BASKETBALL: Northfield at Bluffton, 7:30 p.m.; Northrop at Norwell, 7:30 p.m.; Union Modoc at Southern Wells, 7 p.m. **THURSDAY, NOV 14**

No events scheduled.

No. 8 Indiana hopes to remain perfect with game vs. Michigan

By MICHAEL MAROT AP Sports Writer

Carter Smith and C.J. West aren't interested in any history lessons about Indiana football.

Sure, they understand why everyone around Bloomington is so excited as the No. 8 Hoosiers take the field – even with basketball ramping up.

They're 9-0 for the first time in school history and one win away from producing the program's first 10-win season. Yes, at 6-0 in conference play, they share the Big Ten lead with No. 1 Oregon. They're even in position to make the expanded 12-team playoff, a position that seemed unthinkable even as first-year coach Curt Cignetti touted his past successes as an indication of what was possible in 2024.

And now they're preparing to host Michigan, a team that has made life miserable for Indiana for more than a century. Yet Smith and West are unfazed by what's happening around them.

'There's nothing (different), we prepare the same we do every week, every single week," West, a defensive lineman, said after the first set of CFP rankings had Indiana listed No. 8. "This is the biggest game because it's the next game, and that's how it is every week."

But that hasn't always been the case at Indiana, especially when Michigan (5-4, (3-3) is in town.

The Wolverines have won 27 of the last 28 games in this series with their only stumble coming courtesy of a 17-point loss in front of a tiny crowd during the COVID-19 pandemic-shortened season. Since then, the series has reverted to its more customary fashion with the Wolverines winning the last three by a combined score of 112-24, including 52-7 as

gan is not. Indiana also has the nation's second-highest scoring offense (46.6 points per game) and third-stingiest defense (261.0 yards), while the Wolverines have relied heavily on a strong defense to carry a team that ranks 116th in scoring (21.0 points).

Plus, the Hoosiers will be playing in front of its third straight sellout crowd at home and will again will have a major network, CBS, in town to document college football's most surprising team.

"Keep the standard, it never changes," said Smith, an offensive lineman. "Every single week, we have to get better with each and every practice, stack those days and little by little, it gets a bit easier.

The question now is: Will that philosophy work against the Wolverines?

Cignetti, who has never had a losing season in 14 years as a head coach and spent four years as Nick Saban's recruiting coordinator at Alabama, has no doubt. He believes his track record and that of his late, Hall of Fame coaching father proves it.

The only thing that really matters is you get the result when you play, and to do that you've got to keep the main thing the main thing and eliminate the noise and the clutter," Cignetti said. "Every week presents its own new set of circumstances and so there's a lot of that going on this week. I'm aware of it. But to get kind of caught up on that and lose your focus would be the kiss of death."

TIP OF THE CAP

Indiana's turnaround certainly has impressed Michigan coach Sherrone Moore.

Cignetti already has six more wins than Indiana had last season - with three to play. He's also matched Indiana's victory total from the previous three seasons combined. In fact, the Hoosiers are just three wins away from tying their victory total since last beating the Wolverines. "He's done an unbelievable job," Moore said. "They did a really good job of bringing in the right guy.'

Flacco and Colts try to rebound from sluggish performance when they face the East-leading Bills

By MICHAEL MAROT **AP Sports Writer**

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Indianapolis Colts quarterback Joe Flacco took a long, honest look at last week's game tape and came to one conclusion.

He must play better - and so must the Colts' offense.

Midway through his first season in Indy,

the 39-year-old Flacco has taken hold of the starting job and is now trying to figure out how to jump start the sluggish offense, which keeps struggling to stay on the field and sustain drives.

"It's never easy to look in the mirror after losses," Flacco said. "It's just the nature of this business and that's part of building a team, being able to actually face those challenges. We've had that challenge a couple times this year and we've done a good job (responding). We've just got to continue to do that and trust our preparation is going to carry us into the game and allow us to play the way we want to."

It certainly won't be easy Sunday against Buffalo (7-2), a runaway leader in the AFC East, or with an offensive line that could again be starting multiple rookies.

This is certainly not where the Colts (4-5) expected to be — trying to rebound from back-to-back losses after moving back into the playoff picture with four wins in five games. Or naming Flacco the starter over second-year quarterback Anthony Richardson.

But the struggles have continued regardless of who's taking snaps. Richardson sat out last week when the Colts scored on a pick-6, settled for a field goal after another takeaway without getting a first down and driving for one field goal. The Colts finished with just 227 yards in offense.

That's simply not good enough.

"I think we had a few third-and-mediums last week we didn't convert, but we've got to get back on track on third down," coach Shane Steichen said. "I think we were pretty efficient there early on in the season. The last two weeks haven't been up to our standards, so we've got to get back on track."

The Bills have their own offensive concerns

While Josh Allen has been impressive, throwing 17 TD passes and only two interceptions, injuries could leave his receiving corps short-handed Sunday and the result could be giving James Cook a heavier workload on the ground against a Colts defense that has struggled all season to stop



the run. Allen isn't fretting

"It doesn't have to be pretty, but good teams find ways to win," Allen said. "We have a lot of guys in the locker room who don't care about the end result, don't care about the style points of it. They just want to make sure that we're finding ways to get it done.

The Colts are trying to figure out how to get there, too.

Happy returns

The Bills welcomed back two familiar faces this week in defensive tackles Jordan Phillips and Quinton Jefferson to improve their run defense.

Phillips is in his third stint with Buffalo, while Jefferson was with the Bills in 2020.

Their familiarity with the defense should smooth the midseason transition, but coach Sean McDermott hasn't said whether either will play Sunday. Phillips spent seven weeks on Dallas' injured reserve list with an injured wrist. Jefferson was inactive the last five games with Cleveland.

"It's like riding a bike, really," said Phil-lips, who wasn't listed on Buffalo's injury report. "They have a couple of new things I haven't went over, but I got them down today. So, it'll be OK.

ON THE RUN

One potential solution for Indy's offensive woes would be getting running back Jonathan Taylor more involved.

Part of the problem has been continuity. While Taylor has battled an ankle injury throughout the season, the Colts also have been down multiple linemen this season, which will likely happen again this week with center Ryan Kelly out. Right guard Will Fries already went down with what could be a season-ending lower leg injury.

BLITZ TIMING

McDermott prefers to have his defense apply pressure with its front-four while picking spots when to blitz.

"To just blitz irresponsibly is in some ways irresponsible at times," McDermott said, before noting his philosophy might go against the teachings of his late mentor Jim Johnson in Philadelphia, who helped revolutionize the blitz.

Buffalo ranks 21st in the NFL in sacks per passing play this year. The Bills have 21 sacks and are led by Greg Rousseau (4 1/2) and Von Miller (three), the NFL's active sacks leader with 126 1/2. Miller returned last week after serving a four-game NFL suspension for violating the league's personal conduct policy.



the Wolverines were rolling toward last season's national championship run.

Now, though, the tables may be turned. While the Hoosiers are ranked, Michi-

NASCAR Xfinity championship down to 4 drivers in season finale

By JOHN MARSHALL AP Sports Writer

AVONDALE, Ariz. (AP) - All four NASCAR Xfinity championship drivers said the right things heading into the season finale.

Everyone will be respectful of each other on the track, I'm just going to run my race, let the best man win - you get the picture.

That will all change once the green flag drops at Phoenix Raceway on Saturday. A season championship on the line, cars will be bouncing all over the track.

"Everyone here is selfish and wants to win a championship for themselves and their teams," Richard Childress Racing's Austin Hill said on Thursday. "Anyone who says they aren't is lying. When it comes down to it, elbows will be up and guys will be muscling each other up the track to win a championship."

Saturday's race will be new territory for Hill in a pack of contenders who have been through it before.

While the 30-year-old Hill is making his first appearance in the Xfinity championship four, Cole Custer is the reigning champion, Justin Allgaier is making his seventh appearance in nine years and AJ Allmendinger made it this far for the second time.

The chance to win a championship will undoubtedly lead to some hard racing. The race just to make the final four already did at Martinsville last weekend.

Custer was in the center of it.

The Stewart-Haas Racing driver tangled with Allmendinger early in the race, ending his day, and raced Chandler Smith hard at the end. Smith, who could have made the championship four win a win, didn't appreciate Custer's on-track bluster and confronted him after the race, landing a slap on the 24-year-old's face that cost him a \$10,000 fine from NASCAR.

Title race or not, Custer may want to look over his shoulder at Phoenix on Saturday.

"At the end of the day I am going to go run my race and see where we end up, and try to maximize the day," Custer said. "You race how you get raced, and you go from there.

Allmendinger missed a chance to con-

tend at Martinsville, but had already clinched a spot in the championship with a win at Las Vegas on Oct. 19 — his only win of the season.

The 42-year-old Kaulig Racing driver made the Xfinity playoffs three times, including a fourth-place finish in 2021. Allmendinger is seeking his first championship in an Xfinity and Cup Series career that started in 2007.

"I don't feel the pressure of the championship like I have in years past," said Allmendinger, who will return to the Cup Series full-time next year. "Being here as many times as I have and it's not worked out, you just get this sense of peace of like, I've been here before and we've not been able to accomplish it, so change the game plan, go into it with a different mindset and we'll see what happens."

Allgaier can empathize.

The 38-year-old JR Motorsports driver has won 25 career Xfinity Series races, including two this year, reached the playoffs every year and has finished second in the championship twice — last year and 2020. Allgaier got the 2024 season off to a slow start, but won twice and took fifth at Martinsville to qualify for the championship four.

"There was a time in the middle of the summer where ... we might just have to do something to make the playoffs, let alone worry about trying to go through each round," Allgaier said. "It's definitely been an up-and-down year, but I want to win a championship.'

Hill's season was nearly the opposite to Allgaier's.

Hill won the first two races, at Daytona and Atlanta, but didn't take the checkered flag again until the second Atlanta race in early September. Known to ruffle a few fenders with his aggressive driving, Hill added a win at Homestead in the Round of 8 to earn his first shot at the championship four.

"I came to RCR for one thing, one thing only, and that was to win races," Hill said. "And we've been able to do that."

Now it comes down to one more race for a championship.

NASCAR suspends and fines suspends 9 team members for race manipulation

By JENNA FRYER AP Auto Racing Writer

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) - Drama continued to encompass NASCAR ahead of its championship-deciding season finale as the sanctioning body issued \$600,000 in fines and suspended nine team members from three different teams on Tuesday for alleged race manipulation at Martinsville Speedway.

The penalties came down after a contentious final battle Sunday at the Virginia track in which Christopher Bell initially qualified for the championship final four, but his move to hit the wall and use it for momentum violated a banned safety rule and was disallowed.

That gave the final spot in this week's winner-take-all finale at Phoenix Raceway to William Byron.

But, NASCAR was clear in disqualifying Bell that it would take a hard look at the actions other drivers played in the sequence of events as Bell and Byron battled for the final spot in the championship four.

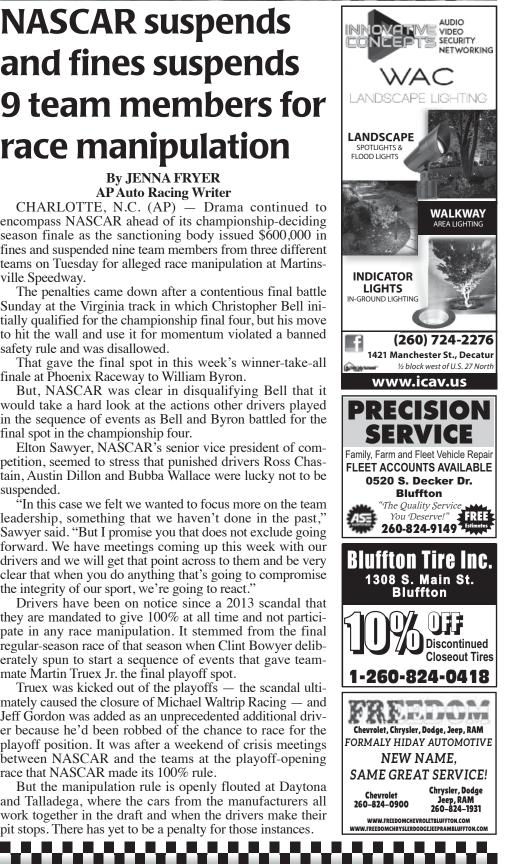
Elton Sawyer, NASCAR's senior vice president of competition, seemed to stress that punished drivers Ross Chastain, Austin Dillon and Bubba Wallace were lucky not to be suspended.

"In this case we felt we wanted to focus more on the team leadership, something that we haven't done in the past," Sawyer said. "But I promise you that does not exclude going forward. We have meetings coming up this week with our drivers and we will get that point across to them and be very clear that when you do anything that's going to compromise the integrity of our sport, we're going to react.'

Drivers have been on notice since a 2013 scandal that they are mandated to give 100% at all time and not participate in any race manipulation. It stemmed from the final regular-season race of that season when Clint Bowyer deliberately spun to start a sequence of events that gave teammate Martin Truex Jr. the final playoff spot.

Truex was kicked out of the playoffs - the scandal ultimately caused the closure of Michael Waltrip Racing - and Jeff Gordon was added as an unprecedented additional driver because he'd been robbed of the chance to race for the playoff position. It was after a weekend of crisis meetings between NASCAR and the teams at the playoff-opening race that NASCAR made its 100% rule.

But the manipulation rule is openly flouted at Daytona and Talladega, where the cars from the manufacturers all work together in the draft and when the drivers make their pit stops. There has yet to be a penalty for those instances.



SPORTS

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Thursday, Nov. 7 Baltimore 35, Cincinnati 34 Sunday, Nov. 10 N.Y. Giants vs Carolina at Munich, DEU, 9:30 a.m.

Atlanta at New Orleans, 1 p.m. Buffalo at Indianapolis, 1 p.m. Denver at Kansas City, 1 p.m. Minnesota at Jacksonville, 1 p.m New England at Chicago, 1 p.m. Pittsburgh at Washington, 1 p.m. San Francisco at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m Tennessee at L.A. Chargers, 4:05 p.m.

N.Y. Jets at Arizona, 4:25 p.m Philadelphia at Dallas, 4:25 p.m. Sunday Night Football: Detroit at Houston, 8:20 p.m. Open: Cleveland, Las Vegas, Green Bay, Seattle

Monday, Nov. 11 Monday Night Football: Miami at L.A. Rams, 8:15 p.m.

BASKETBALL

High School

Thursday's Scores Alexandria 69, Shenandoah 41 Anderson Prep Academy 53, Wes-Del 45

Argos 44, Jimtown 33 Batesville 67, Triton Central 50 Bethany Christian 37, W. Noble 27 Brown Co. 41, Eastern (Greene) 40 Center Grove 44, Franklin Central

39 Chesterton 59, Highland 24 Clinton Central 56. Frontier 37 Clinton Prairie 30, Fountain Central

28 Connersville 54, New Palestine 43 Danville 61, Indpls Perry Meridian 14

n 14 Delta 39, Muncie Central 34 Dubois 42, Paoli 22 Eastern Hancock 64, Morristown 40 Eastside 71, Ft. Wayne Concordia 50

Edgewood 73, Greencastle 47 Elwood 35, Eastern (Greentown) 24 Frankton 48, Tri-Central 36 Fremont 84, Ft. Wayne Canterbury 13

Greenfield 48 Greenwood 27 Hamilton Southeastern 66, Law-rence North 56 Henryville 44, Southwestern (Hanover) 32 Heritage Hills 55, Crawford Co. 22 Indpls Pike 75, Avon 68, OT Kouts 57, Knox 35 Lakewood Park 59, Churubusco 34 Lawrence Central 88, Carmel 57 Logansport 40, Tipton 13 Manchester 65, Triton 37 Mitchell 34, Salem 30

Mt. Vernon (Fortville) 40, Franklin 32

N. Daviess 55, Shoals 22 Northview 42, Bloomington North 33 Oldenburg 61, Greenwood Christian 18

Oregon-Davis 53, Victory Christian Academy 28 Pendleton Hts. 70, Hamilton Hts. 19 Plymouth 48, New Prairie 43

Randolph Southern 60, Muncie Burris 18

Rochester 46, N. Judson 43 Rossville 57, Delphi 42 S. Bend Washington 93, Goshen 14

S. Putnam 54, Cloverdale 24 Seeger 66, Crawfordsville 34 Shakamak 54, W. Vigo 29 Southern Wells 63, Cowan 22 Southwestern (Shelby) 40, Columbus Christian 35 Tippecanoe Valley 46, Northwestern 38

Tri-Township 42, Twin Lakes 26 Valparaiso 70, Bowman 2 W. Central 48, Caston 25 W. Washington 50, Clarksville 23 Westview 44, Hamilton 11 Westville 57. Winamac 35

NBA

Wednesday's Games Charlotte 108, Detroit 107 Indiana 118, Orlando 111 Atlanta 121, New York 116 Golden State 118, Boston 112 Houston 127, San Antonio 100 Cleveland 131, New Orleans 122 Memphis 131, L.A. Lakers 114 Dallas 119, Chicago 99 Denver 124, Oklahoma City 122 Phoenix 115, Miami 112 Sacramento 122, Toronto 107 L.A. Clippers 110, Philadelphia 98 Thursday's Games Milwaukee 123, Utah 100 Minnesota 135, Chicago 119 San Antonio 118, Portland 105 Friday's Games Atlanta at Detroit, 7 p.m. Indiana at Charlotte, 7 p.m. New Orleans at Orlando, 7 p.m. Brooklyn at Boston, 7:30 p.m. Golden State at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m. Milwaukee at New York, 7:30 p.m. Phoenix at Dallas, 7:30 p.m. Houston at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m. Washington at Memphis, 8 p.m. Miami at Denver, 9 p.m. Portland at Minnesota, 9 p.m. L.A. Clippers at Sacramento, 10 p.m. Philadelphia at L.A. Lakers, 10 p.m.

College

Men's scores Thursday, Nov. 7 SOUTH

Florida 81, Jacksonville 60 Wake Forest 80, NC A&T 64 MIDWEST Bucknell 75, S. Indiana 69, OT DePaul 92, Prairie View 59 Illinois St. 77, N. Dakota St. 68 Indiana St. 93. Eureka 48 lowa 89, Southern U. 74 Lindenwood (Mo.) 98. St. Louis 30 Loyola Chicago 87, Detroit 65 Michigan St. 96, Niagara 60 N. Illinois 105, Saints 37 N. Iowa 87, Milwaukee 68 Stony Brook 73, Cent. Michigan 72 W. Michigan 86, Davenport 46 Wisconsin 79. Montana St. 67

Women's scores Thursday, Nov. 7 EAST Boston College 102, Sacred Heart 58 Maryland 70, Coppin St. 47 Penn St 89 Canisius 57 Rutgers 72, Cornell 61 Seton Hall 84, Wagner 40 UConn 86, Boston U. 32

Clemson 91, NC Central 33 Duke 83, Liberty 67 Florida 102, Florida A&M 67 James Madison 85, Loyola (Md.) 54 Kentucky 70, N. Kentucky 41 Mississippi St. 100, Memphis 56 North Carolina 77, UNC-Wilmington

SOUTH

50 South Florida 68. Mount St. Mary's 51 Tennessee 90, UT Martin 50 UCF 57, Marquette 50 Wake Forest 60, Charlotte 41 MIDWEST

Bradley 70, St. Francis (IL) 32 Drake 95, Saint Louis 70 Harvard 72, Indiana 68, OT Illinois 83, Florida St. 74 Iowa St. 64, Indiana St. 42 Kansas St. 82, Belmont 56 Kent St. 113, Walsh 54 Missouri 66, Southern U. 51 SOUTHWEST Baylor 85, Incarnate Word 33 Oklahoma St. 89, Oral Roberts 68 Texas A&M 55, UTSA 51 FAR WEST Arizona 62, Tarleton St. 39 California 88, Idaho St. 36 UNLV 85, N. Arizona 71 Utah 86, Weber St. 46

HOCKEY

NHL

Wednesday's Games Washington 3, Nashville 2 Detroit 4, Chicago 1 Vegas 4, Edmonton 2 Thursday's Games Carolina 5, Pittsburgh 1 New Jersey 5, Montreal 3 N.Y. Islanders 4, Ottawa 2 Buffalo 6, N.Y. Rangers 1 Florida 6, Nashville 2 Boston 4, Calgary 3, OT Philadelphia 2, Tampa Bay 1, SO Dallas 3, Chicago 1 Winnipeg 1, Colorado 0 Utah 4, St. Louis 2 Minnesota at San Jose, late Vancouver at Los Angeles, late Friday's Games Detroit at Toronto, 7 p.m. Pittsburgh at Washington, 7:30 p.m. Minnesota at Anaheim, 10 p.m. Vegas at Seattle, 10 p.m.



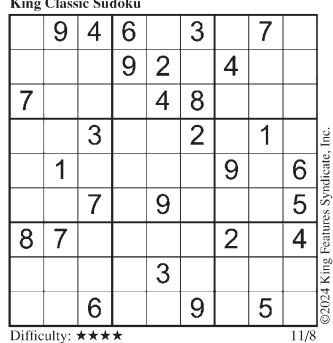
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Class A

NCAA allows Canadian **Hockey League players** to play at U.S. colleges

By JOHN WAWROW AP Hockey Writer

The NCAA Division I Council on Thursday approved a rule allowing players with Canadian Hockey League experience to compete at U.S. colleges starting next season, a landmark decision that has the potential of shaking up the NHL's two largest sources of developmental talent.

The decision, effective Aug. 1, lifts the NCAA's longstanding ban on CHL players who were previously deemed to be professionals because they received a stipend of up to \$600 per month for living expenses.

The approval was expected after the council introduced a proposal to lift the ban last month. Players competing at the major junior ice hockey or on professional teams can retain NCAA eligibility as long as they are not paid more than actual and necessary expenses.

The decision also applies to skiing, bringing both in line with NCAA eligibility rules for other sports

In doing so, the council opened the door for a major change in how players approaching their 16th birthdays decide where to play. Rather than having to choose between one or the other, CHL players can now play NCAA hockey when they become college eligible.

"Everyone expected the rule to change. Now we will have to adapt," Central Collegiate Hockey Association Commissioner Don Lucia wrote in a text to The Associated Press. "There may be a few issues as we transition. But hopefully, in time, it will prove to be a positive change for all involved.'

NHL agent Allan Walsh called the ruling a "game-changer."

"This revolutionary development is great news for young players and their families, who will no longer be faced with the momentous decision of playing Major Junior or going the NCAA route," Walsh added in a text message to The Associated Press. "The young players and their families can now make decisions based on what's best for them, not what's best for the CHL or NCAA.'

The CHL oversees the Western Hockey, Ontario Hockey and Quebec Maritimes Junior Hockey leagues.

The decision could potentially spur the CHL to invest more toward player development and education to compete with the NCAA or risk losing its top 18-and-older talent to U.S. colleges.



Thursday's Drawings HOOSIEŘ LOTTERY

Cash 5 — 13-17-21-37-38

Cash4Life — 01-19-31-51-60, Cash Ball: 04 Quick Draw Midday — 01-02-08-15-23-25-27-30-38-

40-41-46-47-49-61-67-72-75-77-78, BE: 23

- Daily Three-Midday 09-09-01, SB: 07
- Daily Three-Evening 05-06-06, SB: 04 Daily Four-Midday - 04-09-09-08, SB: 07
- **Daily Four-Evening** 00-05-03-09, SB: 04
- Quick Draw Evening 01-04-10-12-14-24-25-28-34-
- 40-44-50-54-57-63-66-70-71-74-77, BE: 63

Hoosier Lotto — Estimated jackpot (for Saturday): \$28.7 million

MEGA MILLIONS Estimated jackpot (for Friday): \$334 million POWERBALL

Estimated jackpot (for Saturday): \$92 million



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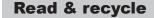
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BIDDING ENDS NOVEMBER 10 - (Online Only) - Estate of Elizabeth (Carter) Aeschliman & others, seller. Ladies diamond wedding ring, ladies diamond cluster fashion ring, ladies diamond earrings. Sapphire necklace w/matching earrings, costume jewelry, Howard Miller china cabinet, quality cherry finish china cabinet, 2019 GE window style air conditioner, collectibles, glassware, vintage silverplate flatware sets, numerous collections of marbles. Anri Italy wood carved figurines, home decor, holiday decorations, household. Sale managers Bobby Perry, 260-273-7260, Patrick Carter, 260-273-8294, The Steffen Group, 260-824-

3006. www.steffenarp.com **NOVEMBER 10-NOVEMBER** 17 - (Online only firearm) -McNamara, owners. Rifles, shotguns, handguns, ammunition, archery. Auction preview & online bidding assistance Nov. 16, 9 a.m.-11 a.m., 215 E. Market St., Bluffton, IN. Sale manager Isaac Stoller, 260-413-3515. Please review all registration information before bidding. The Steffen Group, www.steffengrp.com, 260-824 3006

BIDDING CLOSES NOVEM-BER 12 - 6 p.m. Al Grogg's Custom Exhaust Shop, seller. Harley Davidson fully custom Roadster, dirt track race car, paved track race car, Lingenfelter 9:1 racing engine, race car parts, too cabinets, racing suspension parts, engines, quick change rear end, fuel cells, Snap-On collector clocks, frame straightener, Simplicity 7117 tractor w/ snow blower and weights, Simplicity 4211 hydrostatic, valve grinder, 3 wheel electric convalescent trike (nearly new). tools, vintage auto scanners, oscilloscope, radio and TV signal generators, engine hoists, box grader, race car frame, boat trailer, commemorative clocks, torch sets, more. Full list at Town-countryauctions com, click Fliers. Preview 1441 W. Lancaster St., Bluffton, daily until auction closes, Monday-Thursday 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Friday 9 a.m.-noon, or by appoint-ment, 260-824-4835. Pick up noon-7 p.m. Nov. 14. *Town* and Country Auctioneers/Real-tors, 260-223-7352, Shaw Real Estate & Auction, Inc., 260-824-2116.

NOVEMBER 13 - 6:30 p.m. ET - (Live and online) - Gary and Jennifer Weilbaker, farm. American Legion, 118 N. Broadway Street, Butler. Property location: Along and/or near CR 26 and CR 79 in Troy Twp. (Tract 1, North Part Tract 2) and Stafford Twp. (Tracts 2-4) Tracts 5-6 located near CR 20 and CR 27 in Smithfield Township. Adjoining tracts, road access, tile outlets, 264,651+/acres, 6 tracts, DeKalb Co. Jon Rosen, 260-740-1846, Neal Wolheter, 260-336-2219, Halderman Real Estate & Farm Management, halderman.com, 800-424-2324

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

SOFT CLOSE STARTS NOVEMBER 17 - 6 p.m. -Herman Family farm & Elite Tooling, owner. Online real estate auction. 47+/- acres, log home, machine shop, dog kennel, 2 ponds, CNC lathes, mill. machinist tools, Ferris mower, mowers, skid loader, 1960 Harley Davidson topper. Open house Nov. 9, 10 a.m.-noon, Nov. 12, 4-6 p.m. Green Auction, SoldonGreen.com, 260-589-8474

NOVEMBER 25 - 6 p.m. -Christopher & Kellie Pierce, owner. Held at Krueckeberg Auction Complex, 815 Adams Street, Decatur. Real estate & land auction! Tract 1: 2 bed, 1 bath, 948 sq. foot home, full basement, 40'x90' bank barn, 30'x20' barn, grain bin, wooded, tillable, 6.5+/- acres. Tract 2: 4+/- acres tillable frontage on Hoagland Rd. Tract 3: 4+/- acres tillable frontage on SR 101 & Hoagland Rd. Tract 4: 42.5+/- acres tillable frontage on SR 101 & Hoagland Rd. To be sold in individual tracts or any combinations. Open House Nov. 11, 5-6 p.m., 21015 Hoagland Rd., Monroeville, IN. Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC, 260-724-7402, Kiauction.com.

BIDDING NOW OPEN AND STARTS CLOSING DECEM-BER 1 STARTING AT 4 p.m. EST - Various consignors, owners. Online only Elm Street consignment auction! Name brand woodworking

tools, camping supplies, like new 24" Craftsman lawn vac, lawn & garden tools, weight lifting equipment, household furniture, Craftsman snow blower, antiques, collectibles, kitchen items, and much more! Preview Nov. 27, 3-5 p.m., 812 Elm Street, Decatur, IN. Pick up Dec. 2, 2-6 p.m., Dec. 3, 9 am.-noon. Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC, 260-724-7402, Kjauction.com

DECEMBER 3 - Starts at 6 p.m. - Blackford Golf Club (Lort Services, Inc.), owner. Held at Blackford County Fairgrounds, Hartford City, IN. Online bidding available. 105+/- acres offered in 7 tracts or any combination. Currently a golf course, potential farmland, recreational land, development potential, personal prop-erty available, Blackford Co. Inspections Nov. 16, 10 a.m.noon, Nov. 19, 3 p.m.-5 p.m., 1605 W. Water St., Hartford City. Auction mgr. Al Pfister, 260-760-8922, Schrader Real Estate and Auction Company. Inc., schraderauction.com, 800-451-2709.

DECEMBER 4 - 3 p.m. Online - Dusty Roach, Bankruptcy Trustee, sellers. 6,142 sq. ft. modern commercial building. Key features: 5 rental units w/4 office suites, 1 currently leased, 600 sq. ft. heated garage w/16'x12' overhead door, independently controlled heating and cooling for units, expansion potential w/additional land available for future. Open houses Nov. 20, 2-3 p.m., Nov. 27, 2-3 p.m., 2379 N. Main St., Bluffton, IN. Kurt Ness, auction mgr., 260-417-1545, Ness Bros. Realtors & Auctioneers, www.NessBros. com, 260-459-3911

DECEMBER 5 & 6 - 9 a.m. - Secured creditors & various consignors, owners. 815 Adams, St., Decatur. Day Online bidding only. Over 300+ lots including skid loader attachments, tool boxes, workbenches, iron gates, chains & binders, 1 trip 40' high side shipping container w/side doors, dome shelter containers, much more! Day 2 truck & equipment auction! Onsite and online bidding offering 600+ lots! Cars, SUV, 1/2 ton & 3/4 ton pickup trucks, cargo & passenger vans, dump trucks, large group of box trucks, day cabs, sleepers, utility trucks, bucket trucks, utility & semi trailers, SUV's pickup trucks, various skid steer attachments, much more! Accepting consignments! Krueckeberg Auc-

tion & Realty LLC, 260-724-7402, Kjauction.com.

DECEMBER 8-15 - 2 p.m. (Online only personal property) - Thomas B. & Mary Lou Woodward, seller. 2016 JD 1025R diesel utility tractor, Frontier RT1149 tiller, 2016 Grasshopper zero turn mower. 2020 Club Car Carryall 1700, mowers, lawn & garden, patio furniture, antique & modern furniture, vintage framed art work, lithograph prints, vintage pickle castors, glassware, collectibles, more. Preview Dec. 1, 8, 2-5 p.m., Dec. 12, 3-6 p.m., 301 N. Highland Ave., Ossian. Patrick Carter, sale manager, 260-824-3006, The Steffen Group Inc., www.steffengrp. com, 260-824-3006.

DECEMBER 9 - 4 p.m.- 6 p.m. ET - (Online) - Crandall Farm, seller. Property location: Two miles northeast of Gas, IN, near intersection of E 300 S and S 550 E, Mill Township, Grant County. 81.59+/- total acres, tillable, woods, recreational land, potential building sites. Tract 1: 27.59+/- acres, 18.4+/- tillable, 8+/- woods 1.19+/- non-tillable. Tract 2: 54+/- acres, 28.91+/- tillable, 23.34+/- woods, 1.75+/- nontillable. Rick Johnloz, 260-827-8181, Emma Barr, 260-494-0992. Jason Johnloz, 260-273-9177, Halderman Real Estate & Farm Management, 800-424-2324, halderman.com.

DECEMBER 17 - 9 a.m.-6 p.m. - (Online Only) - Thomas B. & Mary Lou Woodward, seller. One of a kind pictur-esque real estate offering. Outstanding 4,014 SF, 4 bedroom, 3 bath home with a 2 car detached garage. Scenic backyard with multiple utility sheds and gazebo. Open houses Dec. 1 and 8 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., and Dec. 12 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., 301 N. Highland Ave., Ossian, IN. Pat Carter, sale manager, 260-273-8294, The Steffen Group Inc., www. steffengrp.com.

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SERVICES Services

President-elect Trump names Susie Wiles as chief of staff

First woman in the post

By ZEKE MILLER, **MICHELLE L. PRICE** and JILL COLVIN **Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) - President-elect Donald Trump has named Susie Wiles, the defacto manager of his victorious campaign, as his White House chief of staff, the first woman to hold the influential role.

Wiles is widely credited within and outside Trump's inner circle for running what was, by far, his most disciplined and well-executed campaign, and was seen as the leading contender for the position. She largely avoided the spotlight, even refusing to take the mic to speak as Trump celebrated his victory early Wednesday morning. She resisted the formal title of campaign manager, avoiding becoming a target, given Trump's history of cycling through people in that role.

Wiles' hire is Trump's first major decision as president-elect and one that could be a defining test of his incoming administration, as he must quickly build the team that will help run the massive federal government. Wiles doesn't bring much federal government experience to the role, but has a close relationship with the president-elect.

On the campaign, Wiles was able to do what few others have been able to: help control Trump's impulses - not by chiding him or lecturing, but by earning his respect and showing him that he was better off when he followed her advice than flouting it.

Eight years ago, Trump tossed the careful planning of his transition team and instead hired a motley assortment of campaign aides, family members and Republican insiders who spent the better part of his first year in office engaged in infighting that dominated news coverage of the new administration. It was what many experts consider a foundational mistake that hamstrung a president who was new to Washington and government upon his swearing in.

Trump went through four chiefs of staff – including one who served in an acting capacity for a year - during his first administration, part of a record-setting personnel churn. Many top aides were cast out by Trump in his first term, who resented being made to feel managed or condescended to, while others got caught up in ideological spats within the factionalized West Wing.

Trump aides see hope that Wiles' selection marks a sign that the president-elect is aiming to build a more cohesive team, though one that will almost certainly remain less conventional than his Democratic or Republican predecessors.

Trump, who promised in 2016 to hire "only the best people"

has since repeatedly said that he believes the biggest mistake of his first term was hiring the wrong people. He was new to Washington then, he has said, and didn't know any better. But now, Trump said, he knows the "best people" and those to avoid for roles in his administration.

"Susie is tough, smart, innovative, and is universally admired and respected. Susie will continue to work tirelessly to Make America Great Again," Trump said in a statement. "It is a well deserved honor to have Susie as the first-ever female Chief of Staff in United States history. I have no doubt that she will make our country proud."

Successful chiefs of staff serve as the president's confidant, help execute a president's agenda and balance competing political and policy priorities. They also tend to serve as a gatekeeper, helping determine whom the president spends his time with and whom he speaks to — an effort Trump chafed under inside the White House.

The chief of staff is "absolutely critical to an effective White House," said Chris Whipple, whose book "The Gatekeepers" details how the White House chief of staff role shapes and defines a presidency. "At the end of the day the most important thing is telling the president what he doesn't want to hear."

"On the plus side, she's shown that she can manage Trump, that she works with him and can sometimes tell him hard truths, and that's really important," said Whipple. "On the minus side, she really has no White House experience and hasn't really worked in Washington in 40 years. And that's a real disadvantage."

Wiles is a longtime Floridabased Republican strategist who ran Trump's campaigns in the state in 2016 and 2020, and Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis' successful bid for office in 2018. Before that, she ran Rick Scott's 2010 campaign for Florida governor and briefly served as the manager of former Utah Gov. Jon Huntsman's 2012 presidential campaign.

Wiles also worked in the offices of former Jacksonville mayors John Delaney and John Peyton.

Chris LaCivita, who along with Wiles served as de-facto campaign manager, described Wiles as someone who is inclusive in conversations, who seeks input from others and is steadfastly loyal.

'Susie is just functionally built differently because she has that rare commodity to be able to work on so many different important issues simultaneously," LaCivita told The Associated Press.

Wiles was the one who was tasked with having the toughest discussions with Trump and on every pivotal conversation. She worked well with his family and developed relationships with Robert F. Kennedy Jr. and Elon Musk that put her in position as a key

conduit for Trump's budding alliances with those men.

"She can manage really any ego that comes her way," LaCivita said. "And she doesn't do it by any other way other than just being very straightforward and on top of the details.'

He added: "The most important commodity in politics is honesty and loyalty and Susie has both in copious amounts."

Wiles was seen by Trump aides as someone who could guide his moods and impulses without necessarily restraining him. Trump often referenced Wiles on the campaign trail, publicly praising her leadership of what he said he was often told was his "best-run campaign."

"She's incredible. Incredible," he said at a Milwaukee rally earlier this month,

At a rally in Pennsylvania where Trump made one of his last appearances before the election, he launched into a profane and conspiracy-laden speech. Wiles was spotted standing offstage and appearing to glare at him.

Later, at a rally in Pittsburgh, Trump seemed to acknowledge his adviser's' efforts to keep him on message.

After complaining that men aren't allowed to call a woman "beautiful" any longer, he asked if he could strike that word from the record. "I'm allowed to do that, aren't I, Susan Wiles?" he mused.

New Mexico governor declares emergency as winter storm hits

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — New Mexico's governor declared an emergency Thursday after a powerful winter storm left tens of thousands of people without

The utility acknowledged

"This really is an unprec-

that it came so earlier and so heavily while leaves were still on the trees. That has caused limbs to be much heavier that they would normally be," PNM spokesman

Alamos and elsewhere across northern New Mexico canceled classes, while authorities warned people to stay off the roads. Plows were busy ways clear, but state police announced midday that Interstate 25 just south of the Colboth directions.

The National Weather Service in Albuquerque issued a blizzard warning for parts of the state and reported that more than 100 vehi-

Service Weather Predic-Mexico and Colorado, dropof snow within an hour in some spots.

Tonja Goode Ross said she would be staying home and enjoying a cup of hot

chocolate instead of trying to brave what was the "first real snow" of the season for Corona. This rural part of central New Mexico was

turned into a winter wonderland, its pastures covered by a thick blanket of snow and its tree branches bowing from the weight of fresh powder.

