

FRIDAY, OCT. 25, 2019

ARCADIA | ATLANTA | CICERO | SHERIDAN
CARMEL | FISHERS | NOBLESVILLE | WESTFIELD



TODAY'S WEATHER

Today: Mostly cloudy and cooler.
A few sprinkles possible.
Tonight: Mostly cloudy.
Shower chances after midnight.
HIGH: 55 LOW: 40



Photo provided

The new road, which will be called Westfield Boulevard, is a joint project between Westfield and the state of Indiana, with the state covering 90 percent of the cost.

Westfield set to begin work on new road

The REPORTER

On Thursday, Westfield Mayor Andy Cook joined city and state leaders to break ground on what is being called the new Westfield Boulevard. The road construction is a collaborative project between the State of Indiana and the City of Westfield.

“This project is a great example of how

all levels of government can work together for the community,” said Cook. “The new Westfield Boulevard will not only ease traffic through our downtown but it will open an entire area along U.S. 31 for economic development.”

The new road will run 0.65 miles between 169th Street and Park Street and cost

\$4.8 million. Because it crosses the Anna Kendall Legal Drain, a bridge is included.

The project also includes new trail connectivity along 169th Street and north along Westfield Boulevard to give pedestrians direct access to Grand Junction Plaza and Park Street. Eventually it will connect to the Monon Trail on the west side of U.S. 31.

The construction is a Federal Exchange project. The city will pay 10 percent of the construction costs and the state will cover the remaining 90 percent. Construction is scheduled to be complete by Nov. 27, 2020. Future plans call for the road to extend future south and connect with Westfield Boulevard at 161st Street.

Former Noblesville basketball standout dies in farm accident

The REPORTER

The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office is investigating a farm accident resulting in the death of an Arcadia man.

Deputies were dispatched to the area of 274th Street and Ott Road in the northern part of Hamilton County near Arcadia shortly after 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday.

Detectives and deputies working the incident reported a local farmer harvesting a soybean field was decel-

erating to turn a corner in the field when Anthony Etchison, 47, Arcadia, attempted to climb aboard the step ladder of the John Deere combine harvester. While attempting to access the still-moving combine harvester in the dark and dusty field, Etchison fell and was unable to avoid being run over by the vehicle's large tires. Etchison was pro-



Etchison

nounced dead at the scene of the incident.

Etchison was a four-year letter winner in basketball at Noblesville and was a member of the 1989, 1990 and 1991 sectional championship teams. He was named All-County four times and was the Hamilton County Player of the Year two times. The Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame named

him to the 2016 Silver Anniversary Team, and he is a member of the Hamilton County Basketball Hall of Fame.

A prayer vigil for Etchison was held Thursday evening at the football field at Hamilton Heights High School.

The Sheriff's Office was assisted by the Arcadia Police Department, the Jackson Township Fire Department and Hamilton County Public Safety Communications throughout the incident.

Surprise visit means the world to this mama

The text came at 11:15 last Friday morning.

“Hi, Amy, do you think we can stop by and visit your mother today?”

My heart jumped to see it was a text from Bev, Mom's dear friend and former neighbor in Mishawaka. Bev and her husband Joe used to visit Mom regularly when their son lived in Central Indiana. However, he had moved away recently and they hadn't been in the area for over a year.

“YES!” I typed enthusiastically, “What time?”

“Around 12:15.”

Uh oh, I thought. That was close to Hair Appointment Time. Why do I capitalize that phrase? To many elderly ladies, this concept is sacred. Every Friday, thousands of hair salons around the country see older women for their weekly hair appointment. Ask any hair stylist. Trust me.

It is the highlight of their week. It's not just their time to get gorgeous. It's their reason to get out of the house, or in Mom's case, assisted living facility, and gossip — er, socialize — and enjoy the presence of other ladies.

I knew this surprise visit would mean the world to my mama. I also knew that she could probably request a lat-



COLUMNIST
AMY SHANKLAND
Sandwiched

er time slot at the salon in her facility vs. her regular beauty shop.

So I made the quick, bold decision to ... gulp ... cancel the Hair Appointment.

“Sure, Bev, she's got a hair appointment but I'll cancel it. I won't tell her, though, so you can make this a surprise,” I typed. “Just let her know about the appointment.”

I was practically giddy about this visit and it took everything in my power to be disciplined to stay at home to get my work done. I wanted to be the fly on the wall to see the look on my mom's face! See, when I know someone I love is going to get a wonderful surprise I'm like a little kid. And when it's my mom, who's done so much for me over the years, I'm 10 times more excited.

I waited to get the call from Mom later that afternoon to get the details about the surprise. However, Mom didn't call. Impatiently I texted Bev who said they had a wonderful visit filled with lots of laughter. My heart leaped once again.

When I visited Mom last Sunday, I asked her if I made the right call about canceling the hair appointment. As she looked up at me with a glow on her face, I knew before she even spoke that I had.

HSE Superintendent gets pay raise

By LARRY LANNAN
LarryInFishers.com



Hamilton Southeastern (HSE) School Superintendent Allen Bourff has a new contract extension through June 30, 2021.

The HSE School Board approved the new pact, calling for a 2 percent increase to an

annual salary of \$189,702, effective July 1, 2019. The contract calls for Dr. Bourff's incentive compensation for the period July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 to be \$14,872 (0.08 percent X \$185,982).

Dr. Bourff's contract was approved by the board Wednesday night by a vote of 6-1, with Amanda Shera the only



Bourff

teachers, a two-year agreement that begins retroactively to the start of this school year.

cluded four items — meeting minutes, a staffing report, a donations report and Dr. Bourff's compensation. Shera did not specify during the meeting why she voted no on the Consent Agenda.

The board also gave final approval to the 2020 budget and the new contract with the district's

Plan for downtown parking garage sought

By FRED SWIFT
ReadTheReporter.com

Hamilton County Commissioners will reveal a request for proposals Monday for a multi-level parking garage. The long-discussed facility is only one part of a major downtown Noblesville redevelopment project.

At the Monday meeting the RFP will be officially considered and likely released for publication.

Officials say they cannot yet disclose details on the overall redevelopment plan which will involve the city of Noblesville, a private developer and the county. The initial phase of the plan will

be the parking garage.

It will be located where two county employee parking lots exist on the north and south sides of Clinton Street east of 8th Street. With at least one second level, the lot may allow for some public parking in addition to spaces for employees.

Again, information is sketchy until details can be worked out, according to County Commissioner Steve Dillinger. Noblesville public affairs office said it had no information on the project which will follow completion of the current

See Garage . . . Page 2

Early voting continues to see low numbers

The REPORTER

Wednesday was the first day of satellite voting in Hamilton County, with voting being conducted in Carmel, Westfield and Fishers. The Hamilton County Elections Office reported on the first day of satellite voting that 57 people voted in Westfield, 74 in Fishers and 120 in Carmel.

As of Wednesday, 651 people have voted in person at the Hamilton County Judicial Center and 485 bal-

lots have been received via mail since the start of early voting on Oct. 8.

Voting will continue on the following dates and locations:

Judicial Center – Noblesville

Friday, Oct. 25: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 26: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 28 to Friday, Nov. 1: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 2: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Monday, Nov. 4: 8 a.m. to noon

Satellite Voting – Carmel, Fishers & Westfield

Friday, Oct. 25 and Saturday, Oct. 26: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 30: 2 to 7 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 1 and Saturday, Nov. 2: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Locations

Carmel Library, 55 4th Ave. SE
Fishers City Hall, 1 Municipal Drive
Westfield City Hall, 130 Penn St.

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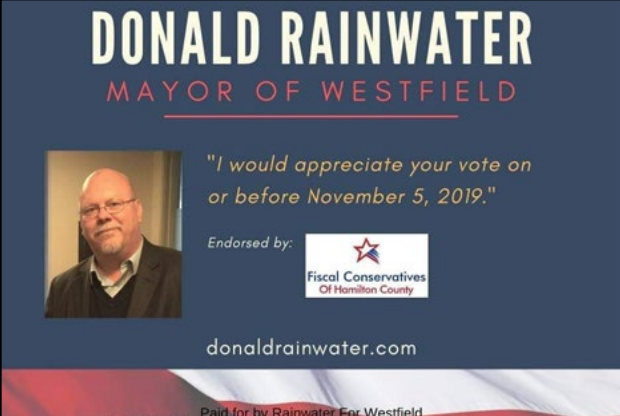
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GARAGE


from Page 1

Levinson redevelopment complex underway at 9th Street and Maple Avenue. Dillinger said there have been discussions with the city and with the county council in an effort to time construction in such a way that parking can be maintained for employees, jurors and other visitors to county offices. The need for more parking in the downtown area has been a topic of conversation for years. A recent city parking plan makes no mention of the unfolding redevelopment plans and parking it may provide.



DONALD RAINWATER
MAYOR OF WESTFIELD

"I would appreciate your vote on or before November 5, 2019."

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I was born and raised right here in Noblesville. I grew up in a home without domestic violence or assault – it wasn't something I saw, or even heard about. But when I was introduced to Prevail of Central Indiana, I was shocked by the number of individuals who are affected by domestic violence. In 2018 alone, Prevail helped more than 4,000 clients in Hamilton County. (Nearly 80 percent of clients are women and children.) Domestic violence and abuse are hard topics to discuss, so you don't often hear about them. But at Tom Wood Volkswagen in Noblesville, we're breaking the taboo and raising awareness for Prevail, an organization that helps families in Hamilton County.
– **Mike Bragg, GM of Tom Wood Volkswagen in Noblesville**

To help Hamilton County families affected by domestic violence and sexual abuse, you can donate the following items:

- Art supplies (for children to journal and express their emotions)
- Bottled water (8 oz. bottles, preferably)
- Individually packaged snacks
- Gas cards (many women have no access to funds after fleeing their abuser)

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The Reporter ... Read it here, read it first!

NFD promotes Ben Patchett to Engineer

The REPORTER

The Noblesville Fire Department has announced that Firefighter Ben Patchett has been promoted to the merit rank of Engineer. Patchett was hired by the City of Noblesville in 2010. His first duty day as an Engineer was Tuesday, assuming the spot vacated by Engineer Ben Bender, who retired last week. He has been a certified Driver Operator since 2013 and will be responsible for oper-

ating Engine 371, which is housed at NFD headquarters, located at 135 S. 9th St.

As an Engineer, Patchett will be responsible for transporting firefighters, carrying equipment, and pumping water to interior crews at fire scenes. Engineers make sure vehicles are clean and run effectively and that all systems are



Patchett

operational. They also perform routine maintenance on their apparatus.

“Merit based promotions such as Ben’s are very competitive and require a good deal of effort to achieve,” said NFD Chief Greg Wyant. “I congratulate Ben on his promotion and the hard work he put in obtaining it.”

Help Carmel K9s earn grant money with your online vote

The REPORTER

The Carmel Police Department K9 Unit is participating in a contest for grant money from Aftermath. Here’s how it works: Go to [aftermath.com/k9-grant](https://www.aftermath.com/k9-grant) and click on the Indiana portion of the map. Scroll through and vote for Carmel PD. The contest is based on total number of votes. Winning agencies will receive grant money to help fund their K9 programs. You can vote once per day. Don’t forget to share your vote on your favorite social media platforms.

Vote for us!

<https://www.aftermath.com/k9-grant>



Graphic provided

Employment Opportunity

The Town of Sheridan has an immediate full-time Accounts Payable Clerk/Utility Clerk position available in the Clerk’s Office. You may pick up a job description and application at the Sheridan Town Hall located at 506 South Main Street, Sheridan, IN 46069 or you may mail your Resume to the same address or it is available at www.sheridan.org. The deadline to apply is Friday, November 1, 2019 by 4:00 p.m. No calls please. Equal Employment Opportunity Employer Participates in E-Verify

Thanks for reading The Reporter!

Hello, Hamilton County With Mr. Weatherman, Paul Poteet

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Mike Johns
Westfield District 5

Jerry Cook
Cicero District 1

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Dear Editor:

I have proudly served the Westfield community for 26 years, including five terms as the elected Clerk Treasurer. As the chief fiscal officer for the City of Westfield, I appreciate the support and the trust that the Westfield community has extended to me.

We have all experienced the changes to the community in recent years. The community has both grown and changed in appearance. While change might be inevitable, selecting the right individuals to lead and govern the community is important.

A great deal of the change that Westfield has experienced is directly attributable to the actions of the common council. Now more than ever, it is important to elect public officials who have the best interests of all the citizens of Westfield in mind and not special interest groups. Over the years there have been some council members that were very knowledgeable and truly cared about our community. Westfield has the opportunity in November to elect a new council member that

will continue the tradition of providing good governance and positive leadership.

Mike Johns is that individual.

I would like to express my appreciation and support for Mike Johns for Westfield City Council District 5.

While getting to know Mike over the last couple years, I can assure you he is the kind of person who will be a positive influence in our community by lending his time and listening to the concerns of our residents. He went to bat for the Village Farms residents on the Landings PUD. In my opinion, he has already proven how valuable he will be to his neighbors and community. I believe Mike and I have developed a positive working relationship as he has with the other council members elect. He will be a positive representative of residents and has a very realistic view of municipal finance and council issues.

Mike Johns is the right candidate for the job. He is truly a man of integrity and accountability. Please vote for Mike Johns on Nov. 5.

Cindy Gossard
Westfield Clerk Treasurer

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12 Days of Giving



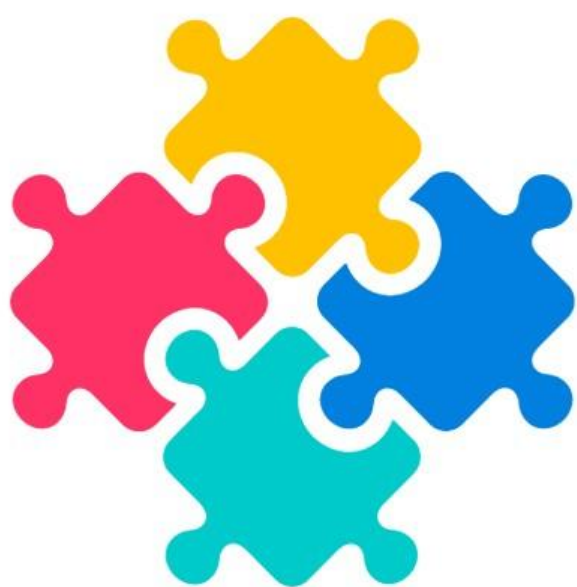
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Stanley Wayne Boruff
July 22, 1945 – October 23, 2019



Stanley Wayne Boruff, 74, Cicero, passed away on Wednesday, October 23, 2019 at St. Vincent Hospital in Indianapolis. He was born on July 22, 1945 to Jamerson and Bonnie (Dezean) Boruff in Elwood.

Stanley proudly served in the United States Air Force. He enjoyed scuba diving and gun collecting.

He is survived by his sons, Darren (Lori) Boruff and Jason (Jayme) Boruff; grandchildren, Heather, Erica, Aimee and Eden; great-grandson, Syllis; and siblings, JoAnn Williams, James Boruff and Ron (Darlene) Boruff.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his siblings, Roy Boruff, Phylis Morris and Mary Kay Greenwald.

The family has entrusted Randall & Roberts Funeral Home with Stanley's care.
Condolences: randallroberts.com

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TODAY'S BIBLE READING

The people therefore, that stood by, and heard it, said that it thundered: others said, An angel spake to him. Jesus answered and said, This voice came not because of me, but for your sakes. Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out. And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me. This he said, signifying what death he should die. The people answered him, We have heard out of the law that Christ abideth for ever: and how sayest thou, The Son of man must be lifted up? who is this Son of man?

John 12:29-34 (KJV)

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Soccer semi-state preview

Miller girls and boys playing at Kokomo



Kent Graham/File photo

Noblesville's Palmer Ault (left) has scored 12 goals for the Millers boys soccer team this season. Noblesville travels to Kokomo to play Lake Central in the Class 3A north semi-state on Saturday, following the Miller girls' semi-state game with Penn. Also pictured is Hamilton Southeastern's Chase Hatfield.

On Saturday, there will be quite a few Miller fans heading up to Kokomo. And staying there a while.

Noblesville's girls and boys soccer teams will be playing up there that afternoon for Class 3A semi-state championships. The No. 2-ranked Miller girls take on No. 7 Penn at 3 p.m., followed by the No. 8 Miller boys facing Lake Central at 5 p.m.

It's a big occasion for Noblesville's soccer programs, and of course, the goal for both is to win, as the winner of each game books a place in next weekend's Class 3A state finals.

NOTABLE RE-MATCH

Saturday will be the second time in the past month that the Millers girls will play Penn. The two teams played at Noblesville's White River Elementary School field on Sept. 28, with the Millers beating the Kingsmen 4-2.

Freshman Ava Bramblett scored two goals for Noblesville in that game, with freshman Meskerem James and junior Jenna Chatterton each getting one. Senior Sydney Egendoerger and sophomore Amanda Baker both had one goal for Penn.

"We played Penn midway through the season and got a positive result, they're a different team now, but so are we, and we'll have to play even better than we did the first time if you want the result we've been working towards," said Noblesville coach Mike Brady.

The Millers also played the Kingsmen two years ago at the Kokomo semi-state. Penn, in the midst of an undefeated run that saw it win two state championships, edged Noblesville in penalty kicks after the teams played to a 1-1 tie after regulation and overtime.

This season, the Kingsmen are 15-5-2. Penn won its own sectional by beating Concord 2-0, Elkhart Central 4-0 and Northridge 2-1. That sent the Kingsmen to the South Bend Adams regional, where they edged No. 13 Valparaiso in a shootout in the semi-finals before defeating No. 6 South Bend St. Joseph 2-1 in the final.

Noblesville is 15-0-3 for the season. The Millers won the Hamilton Southeastern sectional with victories over Anderson 5-0 and the host and No. 3-ranked Royals 3-1. Noblesville triumphed at the Logansport regional with wins over No. 15 Fort Wayne Carroll 1-0 in the semis and McCutcheon 5-0 in the championship game.

"Early in the season we were coming together, now, we are together," said Brady. "What we've accomplished, and will continue to accomplish, we do together."

ORGANIZED AND DISCIPLINED

Millers boys coach Ken Dolaske had to turn on IHSAA TV.org in order to get a look at his team's semi-state opponent. He watched replays of Lake Central's sectional championship win over Hammond Morton, then saw the Indians' regional final win over Northridge.

"They look like a very organized and disciplined team defensively," said Dolaske. The coach noted that there were three players – seniors Jack Bailey (No. 9) and Rob MacNeil (No. 10) and sophomore Jake Noldin (No. 12) "that look dangerous on offense that we will have to worry about. I believe that if we play our brand of possession ball with high pace on the flanks and up top, we should be victorious on Saturday afternoon."

Lake Central is 11-5-3 for the season, and began its post-season run by winning the Munster sectional, over Highland 2-0 and No. 18 Hammond Morton 5-1. That sent the Indians to the Penn regional, where they defeated South Bend Adams 4-2 and No. 10 Northridge 2-1.

Noblesville heads into semi-state with a 16-2-2 record. The Millers won their own sectional over Pendleton Heights 5-2, No. 13 Fishers 3-1 and No. 15 Hamilton Southeastern 4-3. Noblesville then claimed the Kokomo regional title, beating Harrison 1-0 and No. 2 Fort Wayne Carroll 2-1.

Sophomore Palmer Ault has scored 12 goals for the Millers, with junior Drew Barnes adding 11 goals. Senior Adam Carter has 73 saves as goalkeeper, with a 1,000 goals against average.

CARMEL GIRLS, GUERIN CATHOLIC BOYS AT EVANSVILLE NORTH

Meanwhile, two Hamilton County teams are headed south for their chance at a semi-state title. The No. 5-ranked Guerin Catholic boys team plays No. 2 Evansville Memorial at 4 p.m., then No. 1 and defending 3A state champion Carmel takes on No. 5 Castle at 6 p.m.

The Golden Eagles will take on a Memorial team that is 15-3-2. The Tigers won their own sectional by beating Evansville Bosse 14-0 and No. 11 Heritage Hills 4-1, then took the Heritage Hills regional with victories over No. 4 Washington 4-1 and Madison 8-0.

Junior Isaac Bennett is Memorial's leading scorer with 18 goals, while juniors Max Brasseale and Garland Hall have each scored 12 goals.

Guerin Catholic coach Chris McGrath said his team didn't have the opportunity to see the Tigers play during the season, the coach said "we understand they are quick and talented from front to back. This would make them more like some of the better teams on our schedule, and should make for a fun to match for the boys to play and for the fans to watch."

The Golden Eagles are 13-5-3. Guerin Catholic won the Brebeuf Jesuit sectional over No. 6 Cardinal Ritter 1-0, Western Boone 11-0 and the host Braves 3-1. Tommy Hartman scored two goals for GC in the final, with Aiden Soucie scoring the third goal.

The Golden Eagles then cruised through the Greensburg regional by beating No. 9 Danville 4-1 and No. 17 Speedway 6-0.

"In the end we do what we do and so our focus is really on sharpening that sword...too much worrying about the other guys can be distracting," said McGrath.

The Castle girls are 17-2-1 for the season. The Knights won their own sectional by beating Evansville Harrison 6-0, No. 4 Evansville Memorial 2-0 and Evansville North 6-0. Castle headed to Bloomington North for the regional, where it defeated Floyd Central 2-0 and No. 8 Center Grove 1-0.

"I have talked to several of my coaching friends who played Castle and they tell me that the Knights are athletic, organized and well coached," said Carmel coach Frank Dixon. "Their 17-2-1 record tells me they're good."

Dixon pointed out that Castle has not lost to or tied with any Indiana teams this year. The two losses and one tie came against three Kentucky schools, all of which are ranked in the top five in that state.


"We expect a great, competitive game on Saturday," said Dixon.

The Knights have a pair of high-scoring seniors: Daelyn Quinn has 17 goals for the season, while Jessica Jacobs has scored 15 times. Senior Cassidy Elkin has only allowed 12 goals, for a 0.787 goals against average.


Carmel holds a 17-0-3 record. The Greyhounds also were victorious at their own sectional, beating No. 18 Zionsville 3-0 and Guerin Catholic 2-0. Carmel then triumphed at the New Palestine regional, with wins over Lawrence North 7-0 and Avon 3-0.

Senior Kelsie James has 19 goals to her credit this season, while junior goalkeeper Erin Baker has only allowed five goals, for a 0.286 goals against average.

"We are really excited to be back at the Semi-State for the second consecutive year," said Dixon. "While we graduated some truly exceptional players off our 2018 state champion team, the returning core has accepted the challenge of being the hunted and with the help of a few new players has had a very successful season. They are looking to get the job done in Evansville."



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Saturday IHSAA Girls Soccer Semi-State

Game 1 **Evansville** vs **Park Tudor** 1 pm

Game 2 **NOBLESVILLE** vs **Penn** 3 pm

Saturday IHSAA Boys Soccer Semi-State

Game 1 **Jac-Cen-Del** vs **Indpls Lutheran** 3 pm

Game 2 **NOBLESVILLE** vs **Lake Central** 5 pm

Game 3 **Columbus East** vs **Zionsville** 5 pm

Saturday IHSAA Girls Volleyball 4A Regional begin at NOON

Match 1: **Carroll** vs **McCutcheon**

Match 2: **Hamilton Southeastern** vs **Homestead**

Championship Game at 7 pm



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Volleyball

Royals head back to The Mill for the regional

Last week, the Hamilton Southeastern volleyball team won the Sectional 8 championship at Noblesville.

This weekend, the Royals will be back in The Mill. Southeastern is playing at the Noblesville regional on Saturday; the Royals take on Homestead in the second semi-final match at noon. That will follow the first semi-final, which starts at 10 a.m., between Fort Wayne Carroll and McCutcheon. The championship match starts at 7 p.m.

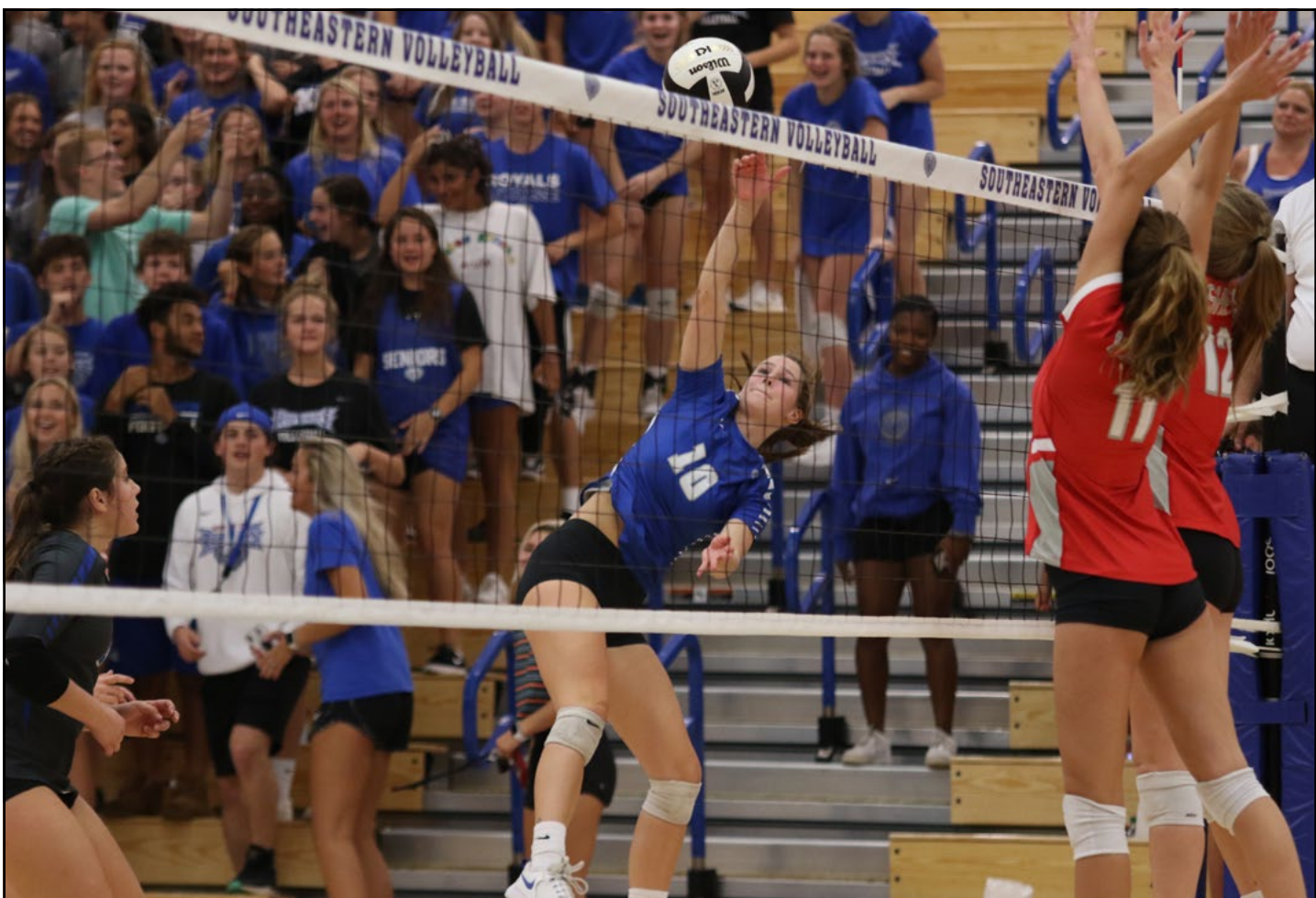
The Spartans are 19-14 for the season. They won the Huntington North sectional, taking care of New Haven in four sets (21-25, 25-22, 25-19, 25-18) in the semi-finals and sweeping Columbia City in the championship, 25-10, 25-21, 25-21.

Southeastern coach Jason Young noted that Homestead has two solid senior players, both of whom stand 6-foot-2. Middle hitter Emily Wilcox has hit 170 kills this season, while Lexi Durnell has put down 150 kills.

“They are both a force in the middle for them,” said Young. “It should be a great match.”

The Royals took care of business at the Noblesville sectional, winning three matches without dropping a set. Southeastern beat Westfield 25-18, 25-19, 25-17; Zionsville 25-12, 25-23, 25-15, and Fishers 25-20, 25-19, 25-19. The Royals hold a 26-4 record going into the regional, and are ranked No. 3 in Indiana by MaxPreps with the toughest schedule in the state.

“Our schedule is by design to be amongst the top five most difficult schedules in the state,” said Young. “I feel like it prepares us for big matches especially



Kirk Green/File photo

Hamilton Southeastern's Abby Weber (left) has hit 306 kills for the Royals volleyball team this season. Southeastern will play Homestead in the second semi-final of the Noblesville regional on Saturday.

around tournament time. The strength of schedule along with the annual Mudsock match with our crosstown rival helps prepare the kids to play in front of big crowds against talented opponents.”

Junior Delaney Garner leads the Royals in hitting with 318 kills this season,

while senior Abby Weber has put down 306 kills. Weber also has the most aces with 42. Junior Olivia Phillips has handed out 449 assists, with sophomore Emily Weber dishing out 427 assists. On defense, Garner has 95 blocks, and junior Carly Mills has collected 468 digs.

“It should be a great day of volleyball and we are hoping that are fans are able to come out in big numbers to support us just 15 minutes down the road at The Mill in Noblesville,” said Young.

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NBA standings

Thursday scores				
Atlanta 117, Detroit 100				
Milwaukee 117, Houston 111				
L.A. Clippers 141, Golden State 122				

Eastern Conference				
Atlantic	W	L	PCT.	GB
Philadelphia	1	0	.000	-
Toronto	1	0	1.00	-
Boston	0	1	.000	1.0
Brooklyn	0	1	.000	1.0
New York	0	1	.000	1.0
Central	W	L	PCT.	GB
Milwaukee	1	0	1.00	-
Detroit	1	1	.000	0.5
Chicago	0	1	.000	1.0
Indiana	0	1	.000	1.0
Cleveland	0	1	.000	1.0
Southeast	W	L	PCT.	GB
Atlanta	1	0	1.00	-
Miami	1	0	1.00	-
Orlando	1	0	1.00	-
Charlotte	1	0	1.00	-
Washington	0	1	.000	1.0

Western Conference				
Northwest	W	L	PCT.	GB
Denver	1	0	1.00	-
Utah	1	0	1.00	-
Minnesota	1	0	1.00	-
Portland	0	1	.000	1.0
Oklahoma City	0	1	.000	1.0
Southwest	W	L	PCT.	GB
San Antonio	1	0	1.00	-
Dallas	1	0	1.00	-
Houston	0	1	.000	1.0
New Orleans	0	1	.000	1.0
Memphis	0	1	.000	1.0
Pacific	W	L	PCT.	GB
L.A. Clippers	2	0	1.00	-
Phoenix	1	0	1.00	0.5
L.A. Lakers	0	1	.000	1.5
Golden State	0	1	.000	1.5
Sacramento	0	1	.000	1.5

Brittany Kelly finishes 3 under par...

Back-Nine charge gives United States a slim lead after opening round of the inaugural Women’s PGA Cup

AUSTIN, Texas – Competing for one’s country commonly generates a flock of butterflies in one’s stomach. Brittany Kelly of Indianapolis found wearing red, white and blue only elevated her focus in Thursday’s opening round of the inaugural Women’s PGA Cup.

The 31-year-old PGA Assistant Professional at Woodland Country Club in Carmel found her rhythm – especially on the Fazio Foothills’ demanding final three holes – to post a 3-under-par 69. It was the spark the United States needed to surge past Canada, 219 to 221, in the first international team competition for women PGA Professionals.

The 54-hole event, featuring a quintet of five-player teams, concludes Saturday at the Omni Barton Creek Resort & Spa. Australia was in third place at 234, followed by Great Britain & Ireland (237) and Sweden (239).

The U.S. and Canada separated themselves from the field midway through the round, but the Americans trailed twice by five strokes and were behind by two through 16 holes. Then, a series of events on the uphill, 470-yard par-5 18th hole resulted in a four-stroke swing in favor of the U.S.

Canada’s Christine Wong, a member of her country’s Women’s National Golf Team, marched to a steady 1-under-par 71 to set the pace. But, the elation was short-lived as teammate Rebecca Lee-Bentham struggled to clear her ball from the hazard in front of the 18th green and closed with a triple bogey 8.

That opened the door for the U.S., with Ashley Grier of Springfield, Pennsylvania, knocking home a 12-foot birdie putt at 18. That brought a wry smile after overcoming a triple bogey 7 on No. 16.

Next, it was up to teammate Alison Curdt of Reseda, California, who had a 73, and just missed a birdie attempt on the low side of the 18th hole.

The stage was left to Kelly, who safely hit her second shot on 18 left of the fairway and with a clear view of the uphill green. She pitched to 20 feet past the flagstick, and two-putted for par.

Standing behind the 18th green, U.S. Captain Suzy Whaley, the president of the PGA of America, was beaming.

“I am so proud of them. They hung in there after getting off to a rocky start,” said Whaley, the PGA Director of Instruction at the Country Club of Mirasol in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida. “Each of them had a bad hole, but they bounced



Photo by Hailey Garrett/Courtesy of The PGA of America

Brittany Kelly, the Assistant Professional at Woodland Country Club in Carmel, finished with a three-under par 69 Thursday to help give the United States a two-stroke lead over Canada in the opening round of the inaugural Women’s PGA Cup, which is taking place this week at the Omni Barton Creek Resort & Spa in Austin, Texas.

back. I was super proud of our final two players on the course – Alison and Brittany. They played wonderful golf today.”

Earlier in the week, Whaley said her team needed to improve its play on the back nine. Curdt and Kelly got their captain’s “memo.” Curdt parred the final three holes, while Kelly rolled home a five-foot birdie putt on the par-4 16th hole, then finished with a pair of pars.

The reigning Indiana Women’s Open Champion and Section Assistants Champion, Kelly made a pact with herself prior to facing the Fazio Foothills’ gauntlet of Holes 16-18.

“I have not played them very well in practice,” said Kelly. “I said to myself that I am going to hit every fairway and every green. I was able to accomplish that.” She also didn’t shy away from looking at the scoreboard.

“I do like to keep up with what is happening on the scoreboard,” she said. “I want to know where we stand. I like the pressure and kind of thrive on it. Today, I

did draw upon my Indiana Open and Assistant Championships experience. I felt it helped me.”

Curd is a PGA/LPGA Master Professional and Director of Instruction at Alison Curdt Golf at Wood Ranch Golf Club in Simi Valley, California. She also is the national Vice President of the LPGA Teaching & Club Professionals Division and the only woman PGA Master Professional trained in Clinical Psychology.

With that résumé, there is no guarantee all will go smoothly in golf and to have that extra dose of patience competing in fivesomes.

“I didn’t look at the scoreboard until the back nine,” said Curdt. “I saw that Canada was ahead of us and when I got up to 18, was pleasantly surprised that the lead had switched. Slow play in golf sucks, but the pace of play in a fivesome was not an issue. We didn’t wait; we just had the pacing of a fivesome. The only thing that I had need for patience was waiting for birdies to drop.”

Canada’s Wong, an Apprentice Professional at Langara College in Vancouver, British Columbia, said that the talent on her team is ever-changing due to familiarity.

“We have played against each other in junior golf, and I played with Emma (De Groot, the Canadian Playing Captain) in Symetra Tour events,” said Wong. “There really isn’t a ‘core’ group, because it changes each day.”

Whaley said the Women’s PGA Cup is a study in how to get the most out of all five players. Though there are three best scores of a five-member team used daily, a dependable trio isn’t guaranteed.

“Tomorrow, it could be two or three other players who step up,” said Whaley. “That’s team golf. I felt that we settled down a bit as the day went from a bit chilly to a little warmer. The nerves were out, but they all realized that golf is golf whether you are competing for your country or yourself.”

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