

THURSDAY, DEC. 10, 2020

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### TODAY'S WEATHER

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# Carmel corrals the GOAT

## Greatest of All Taverns must close at 2 p.m.

**The REPORTER**

The City of Carmel announced on Tuesday that it will force a downtown tavern to close at 2 p.m. daily. The action comes after numerous neighbor complaints and frequent police calls related to loud music, public urination and vandalism.

Carmel will begin enforcing the variance currently in place for the GOAT, which includes a closing time of 2 p.m. The previous owners of the property ran a breakfast and lunch café for which the variance was issued in 2007. This variance runs with the land allowing subsequent owners the same variance.

However, city staff missed the fact that the variance included hours of operation that ended each day at 2 p.m. and the GOAT was inadvertently allowed to operate with a closing time of 3 a.m. Under the current variance and the state-issued alcohol permit, the GOAT will be allowed to serve alcohol under their permit for breakfast and lunch, but must close at 2 p.m.

City representatives have met with the owners on numerous occasions, but problems have persisted. Continued complaints from neighbors and businesses about how the venue was operating made it clear that



Reporter photo by Jeff Jellison

Until now, the GOAT had been allowed to remain open each night until 3 a.m.

the current variance had to be enforced. Until now, city officials hoped that operations at the GOAT could continue while the request for a change in zoning went through the proper process, but based on the continued and numerous complaints and the number of police calls, that is no longer possible.

The GOAT will have to either get an additional variance or a zoning change approved if it wants to stay open later than 2 p.m.

### OneZone Chamber details its legislative priorities for 2021

**The REPORTER**

OneZone has announced its 2021 legislative priorities for the upcoming session of the Indiana General Assembly: Employer liability, smoking/cigarette tax, and workshare.

“COVID 19 has highlighted both strengths and weaknesses in the employer community at large,” said OneZone President and CEO Jack Russell. “By making sure our business community has confidence and feels protected, addressing health concerns, and having a creative, sustainable unemployment benefit solution, we can make an impact on our community.”

You can read more about each priority below and online at [onezonecommerce.com](http://onezonecommerce.com).



Russell

#### Employer liability

In order for businesses to confidently reopen and remain open, they need to know that they will be protected from unwarranted lawsuits when they themselves have followed government-issued guidelines to appropriately protect their employees and customers from COVID-19. OneZone supports employer liability legislation specifically related to the current COVID-19 pandemic.

#### Smoking/cigarette tax

Indiana’s tobacco use costs Hoosier businesses over \$6 billion each year in health care costs, absenteeism, and productivity loss. With the recent addition of respiratory health concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic, this is needed even more so now. Therefore, OneZone supports an increase in the tobacco tax as a disincentive to the sale of tobacco products. OneZone also supports taxing vaping/e-cigarette products similarly to how the state taxes traditional tobacco products.

#### Workshare

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought to light the need for creative, sustainable unemployment benefit solutions. OneZone supports the development of an opt-in workshare program, because it would allow more people to remain in the workforce while saving taxpayer money on unemployment benefits.

#### About OneZone

OneZone, a Hamilton County chamber of commerce, serves the Central Indiana business community as a commerce connector, strong voice, significant presence and business advocate in an ever-changing marketplace. With OneZone, businesses get an organization that reaches across municipal boundaries – just the way business does – to deliver more impact and more opportunities more efficiently.

# Chris Baldwin named interim Westfield schools superintendent

**The REPORTER**

Chris Baldwin, a longtime Westfield Washington staff member and current director of human resources, has been named the interim superintendent of Westfield Washington Schools.

As the school board begins its superintendent search, Baldwin will lead the district in day-to-day operations. He will step into the role on Jan. 1 and will fill the seat until June 30, 2021, or until a full-time superintendent is named.

“On behalf of the Westfield Washington School Board of Trustees, I would like to congratulate Chris Baldwin on this appointment,” said Board President Amy Pictor. “His dedication to this community

is unquestioned and we are confident that he will continue to be a valuable resource to our students, staff, administration and families.”

Prior to his 13 years as the director of human resources, Baldwin served as the principal and assistant principal at Shamrock Springs Elementary School, assistant principal at Oak Trace Elementary School and he spent 11 years teaching sixth grade at Carmel Middle School.

“I am humbled and honored to serve as the district’s interim superintendent,” Baldwin said. “I’ve spent the last 16 years in



Baldwin

service to this school district and this community and I’m looking forward to continuing that work in this new role.”

Baldwin received a bachelor’s degree from Butler University in Elementary Education, a Master’s degree in Educational Administration from Oakland City University, and is currently pursuing his Ed. D. in Educational Leadership from Oakland City University. He is married to Nancy Baldwin, a teacher at Oak Trace Elementary School and they have three children who have all attended or are currently attending Westfield Washington Schools.

# Vandal hits Noblesville youth baseball league

By **DAN KLEIN**  
[WISH-TV](http://WISH-TV.com) | [wishstv.com](http://wishstv.com)

A vandal and thief hit the Noblesville Babe Ruth complex on Monday, the youth baseball league announced Tuesday.

The crime didn’t start all that late. Security cameras show someone hopping a fence around 6:30 p.m. Monday. The suspect prowled around, then came back around 11:30 p.m. and made off with tools and a flat-bed trailer.

“It definitely could be worse,” said Eli Haskett, facilities director for the non-profit



Haskett

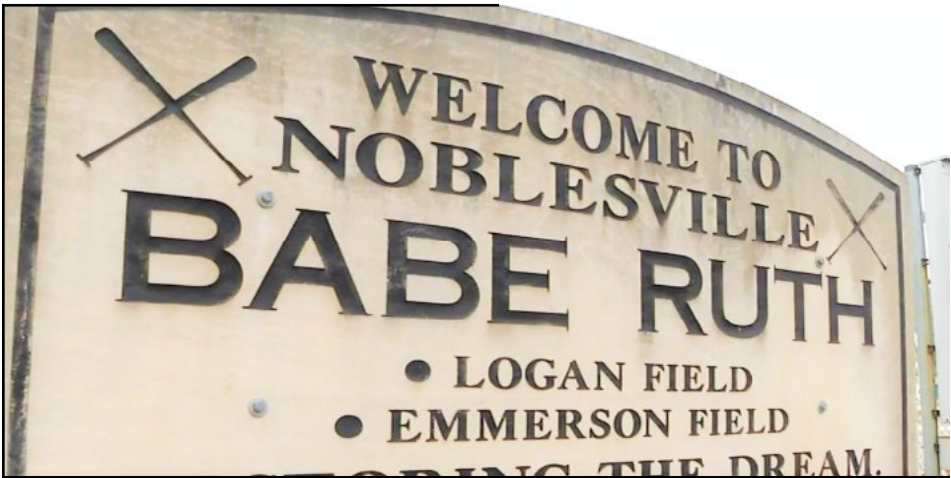


Photo provided

league.

The thief stole a bag of tools from inside the concession stand, then tried to get into the maintenance barn. In the end, the thief made off with a small, red flatbed trailer.

# Fishers Health Department says Hamilton County will likely enter state’s red risk category in a week or two

By **LARRY LANNAN**  
[LarryInFishers.com](http://LarryInFishers.com)

I try to watch the weekly video updates from the Fishers Health Department, hoping for some glimmer of hope on the status of COVID-19 in our city. Sadly, the Dec. 8 numbers are grim.

“I would not be surprised if (Hamilton) County went to red in the next one to two weeks based on the state’s metrics,” said Fishers Public Health Director Monica Heltz in a video posting. Red is the highest risk category for coronavirus.

Heltz listed plenty of numbers in the

Dec. 8 update. Here is one: November shows 2,100 COVID cases in Fishers (more case reports for November are coming in). That is triple the number of cases compared to October.

Another statistic of concern centers on hospital capacity, which continues to decline, according to Heltz. Intensive

Care Units were at 23 percent availability last week. That number is 20 percent this week.

In the past week, Fishers has recorded 565 COVID cases and one death.

There are many more numbers. To hear about them all, you can watch the nearly six-minute video at [this link](#).





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# Tennessee selects Fishers-based company for COVID vaccine program

**The REPORTER**  
*Inside INdiana Business* reported on Tuesday that Fishers-based Knowledge Services has been selected by the Tennessee Department of Health to help with Pfizer’s COVID-19 vaccine pilot program. The company was tasked with hiring, credentialing and supporting the hundreds of nurses who will be administering the vaccine.

Tennessee is one of four states selected for the pilot program. The company says it has already hired a majority of the nurses who will be trained and deployed to the state’s 95 counties.

# AG Curtis Hill: Just 1 more week to file claim for restitution payment after Equifax data breach

**The REPORTER**  
Indiana Attorney General Curtis Hill is urging Hoosiers to visit [IndianaEquifaxClaims.com](http://IndianaEquifaxClaims.com) and file a claim for a restitution payment in light of the massive Equifax data breach. Hoosiers have just **one more week** to file a claim for a payment.

Nearly 4 million Hoosiers are eligible for a restitution payment, and most have not yet filed a claim, Hill said. **The last day to file is Dec. 16.**

“As a result of our settlement with Equifax following its data breach, we have millions of dollars to distribute to eligible Hoosiers who visit [IndianaEquifaxClaims.com](http://IndianaEquifaxClaims.com) and successfully file a claim,” Hill said. “But if you want the money you are rightfully owed, you have to act by Dec. 16. Visit [IndianaEquifaxClaims.com](http://IndianaEquifaxClaims.com) and file a claim today!”

The Equifax data breach occurred from May 2017 to July 2017 and impacted approximately 147 million Americans, including roughly 3.9 million Indiana residents. The breach compromised Social Security numbers, dates of birth, addresses and, in some cases, driver’s license numbers and credit card information. Hill **sued Equifax following the data breach** and **secured a settlement** with the company, which agreed to pay the state of Indiana \$19.5 million.

Indiana was one of two states that opted not to participate in a multistate settlement with Equifax in July 2019. Instead, the Office of the Indiana Attorney General opted to file its own lawsuit against the company. As a result, Indiana received more money than any of the states that participated in the multistate settlement, which distributed \$175 million among the participating states.

Hill encourages all Hoosiers who were Indiana residents between March 2017 and July 2017 to visit [IndianaEquifaxClaims.com](http://IndianaEquifaxClaims.com) and enter the required information to file a claim. You will be able to select whether you would like your payment digitally or in the form of a paper check. Payments will be distributed after the Dec. 16 claim deadline.

Visit [IndianaEquifaxClaims.com](http://IndianaEquifaxClaims.com) for more information about filing a claim and for answers to frequently asked questions about the settlement.



Hill

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**Meeting Notices**

Pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-5 (a) the Hamilton County E911 Executive Board will meet to discuss E911 operations at 8 a.m. on Monday, Dec. 14, 2020, in the Mayor’s Conference Room at Noblesville City Hall, 16 S. 10th St., Noblesville.

Anyone wishing to virtually attend the Noblesville Plan Commission meeting at 6 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 14, 2020, may call (8720 240-4868, then enter conference ID 858 855 211# when prompted. The meeting will be held in the Council Chamber at Noblesville City Hall, 16 S. 10th St., Noblesville.



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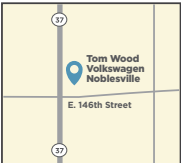



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*I was born and raised right here in Noblesville. I grew up in a home without domestic violence or assault – it wasn’t something I saw, or even heard about. But when I was introduced to Prevail of Central Indiana, I was shocked by the number of individuals 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

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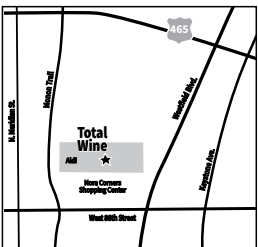


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## TODAY'S BIBLE READING

*For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles. Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.*

Romans 1:21-25 (NIV)

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# Rep. Susan Brooks delivers her farewell remarks on House floor



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Photo provided

Congresswoman Susan W. Brooks (R-Ind.-05) delivered a farewell address to Congress Tuesday evening, reflecting on her eight years of service to Indiana's Fifth Congressional District, calling it "the great honor of my life to serve as your voice in Congress and your advocate for the last eight years ... You make me proud to be a Hoosier." Speaking on the country's ongoing response to the coronavirus, Brooks said, "We are up to this task. I believe in the American spirit. In the power of our ingenuity and the strength of our resolve. We will get through these difficult days. This pandemic will end. We will get Americans and businesses back to work. We will overcome the scourge of racism and prejudice. We will restore trust and confidence in our government and in Congress. We will once again see this Chamber full of big ideas aimed at ensuring the American Dream is within reach for everyone." [Click here](#) to watch Rep. Brooks' full remarks on the House floor.

## Young discusses year-end priorities for Hoosiers

### The REPORTER

During Tuesday's Senate GOP leadership press conference, U.S. Senator Todd Young (R-Ind.) discussed his year-end priorities, including passing crit-

ical coronavirus relief for Hoosiers, getting this year's *National Defense Authorization Act* signed into law, and working on funding the federal government before time runs out.

"Look, as we approach year's end there is a lot of important business still to be tended to, as my colleagues indicated. Most importantly, we need to pass a coronavirus relief package. I've been hearing for months from Hoosiers about the importance of getting this done. I think it was helpful that a number of my colleagues came together in a bipartisan fashion and put forward a proposal that is giving us some traction now. So, I'm optimistic that we are going to pass this package and provide the re-

lief that Hoosiers and other Americans need before year's end and I look forward to doing everything I can to make sure that happens.

"Number two, we need to make sure that we fund the essential services of our federal government, to maintain faith in our government officials, to maintain faith in our institutions, especially in the midst of a global pandemic and an economic downturn, and frankly no one sent any of us here to shut government down so I'm optimistic we can come to terms on that front as well.

"And then lastly, as a U.S. Marine, I think it is



Young

essential that we make sure that we pass the defense authorization bill to fund our men and women in uniform and all that they do for us, and also to make sure that we keep the Ameri-

can people safe. I am looking forward to a productive couple of weeks here as we approach the holidays and I do have a measure of optimism, even amidst some of the political challenges we've faced in recent months and years that this will be a productive couple of weeks ahead," said Senator Young.

[Click here](#) to watch Senator Young's full remarks.

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# Hamilton County Sports

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NOBLESVILLE, CARMEL, WESTFIELD, SHERIDAN, HAMILTON HEIGHTS, FISHERS, UNIVERSITY, GUERIN CATHOLIC, HAMILTON SOUTHEASTERN

## Wrestling

# Greyhounds win dual with Tigers

By RICHIE HALL

**FISHERS** - Carmel won an all-county wrestling dual meet over Fishers Wednesday at the Tiger Den.

The Greyhounds, ranked No. 8 in the state, beat Fishers 63-7. Carmel won nine of the 11 contested matches, including six falls.

"It's our first dual meet," said Greyhounds coach Ed Pendoski. "We had a lot of things going our way."

Carmel wrestlers getting pins were Eitan Halevi at 120 pounds, Nate Powell at 152, Robert Major at 160, Jake Shafer at 170, Horal Halevi at 182 and Sam Nagel at 220.

The Greyhounds' other three wins were all by decision. AJ Gunn won at 138, Vlad Balaban took the 195-pound match, and Mekhi Simmons was victorious at 285.

"It's his first match in three years," said Pendoski of Simmons. "He had some leg injuries and was out of the sport for two years. And so to watch him come back and battle against one of their kids was really, really exciting, for we knew how athletic he is."

Carmel also picked up three forfeit wins for Isaac Ward (113), Brac Hooper (126) and Luke Farling (132).

Fishers had two victories at the meet. Tyler Lindamood won the 145-pound bout by major decision, while 106-pounder Tye Linser finished the meet by winning his match by decision.

"Overall, I think we actually wrestled pretty good," said Tigers assistant coach Cameron Diep, who was filling in as head coach at the meet.

The Greyhounds' next tournament is Saturday at the Columbus North Varsity Tournament. Fishers is also back in action Saturday, at the New Castle Invitational.

### CARMEL 63, FISHERS 7

Meet started at 113 pounds

113: Isaac Ward (C) won by forfeit  
 120: Eitan Halevi (C) def. Anthony Riley (F) by fall, 3:26

126: Brac Hooper (C) won by forfeit  
 132: Luke Farling (C) won by forfeit

138: AJ Gunn (C) def. Josh Thompson (F) by decision, 11-7

145: Tyler Lindamood (F) def. Nayl Sbay (C) by major decision, 9-0

152: Nate Powell (C) def. Stephen



Reporter photos by Richie Hall

**ABOVE:** Carmel's Horal Halevi (top) takes control during his 182-pound match with Fishers' Caleb Myers during the Greyhounds-Tigers dual on Wednesday. Halevi won the match by fall; Carmel won the meet 63-7.

**BELOW:** Fishers' Tyler Lindamood (right) had one of the Tigers' two match wins. Pictured at left for Carmel is Nayl Sbay.



Breck (F) by fall, 1:36

160: Robert Major (C) def. Evan Hull (F) by fall, 1:19

170: Jake Shafer (C) def. Curtis Kearschner (F) by fall, 0:27

182: Horal Halevi (C) def. Caleb Myers (F) by fall, 3:41

195: Vlad Balaban (C) def. Carson

Calin (F) by decision, 6-5

220: Sam Nagel (C) def. Sam Latimer

(F) by fall, 1:05

285: Mekhi Simmons (C) def. Max Kohne (F) by decision, 8-4

106: Tye Linser (F) def. Jackson Elliott (C) by decision, 3-2

## Schedule changes for Hamilton Heights athletics

The Hamilton Heights athletic department announced several changes to its winter schedule on Tuesday.

Athletic events at Heights are currently shut down. The first home event for the Huskies after re-opening will be Saturday, Dec. 19 when the Heights girls basketball team hosts Northwestern in a varsity-only contest. Tip off for the game is at 1:30 p.m.

Three boys basketball games have also been affected. The Dec. 18 home game with Western is postponed; a make-up date is pending. Heights' Dec. 19 game at Noblesville is also postponed and will be played on Feb. 16.

The Huskies were to play Western

Boone Jan. 2 at the Hoosier Gym in Knightstown, but that has been changed due to the gym's limited seating capacity. The game will now be played at Hamilton Heights, with a 6 p.m. junior varsity/7:30 p.m. varsity tip off. This game will also function as the Huskies' Senior Night game. Heights' girls will also play on Jan. 2, hosting Marion. JV tip off is at noon, with varsity to follow at 1:30 p.m.

The Husky Swimming Invitational has been canceled and will not be re-scheduled.

Up-to-the-minute schedules can always be found at the Heights' athletic website, located at <https://www.hhschus-kies.org/domain/79>

## Girls basketball University cruises to victory

The Class 2A No. 3 University girls basketball team cruised to a 70-23 win over the Living Water Marlins Home-school team Wednesday night at The U Center.

Four players scored in double figures as the Trailblazers improved to 6-0 on the season. Kelsey DuBois led with 20 points and 11 rebounds while fellow sophomore Payton Seay also had a double-double with 14 points and ten rebounds.

Senior Sierra Hinds had 11 points and seven rebounds with sophomore Jordan Patterson scoring 10. Hinds made a trio of three-point shots while Patterson had two. Arrion Sherrod also made two three-pointers and had nine points.

University led 8-6 midway through the first period before scoring the last six

points on the quarter to lead 16-6 at the break. DuBois had eight points and four rebounds in the opening quarter.

The Trailblazers broke the game open in the second quarter, holding the Marlins scoreless for the last 5:45 of the period. University led 32-10 at halftime.

The Trailblazers get back into PAAC North action this weekend, traveling to Muncie Burris on Friday evening before hosting Liberty Christian on Saturday night.

### UNIVERSITY 70, LIVING WATER 23

University	FG	FT	TP	PF
Kelsey DuBois	7-12	6-7	20	1
Sierra Hinds	4-13	0-0	11	2
Kamryn Washington	2-7	0-0	4	2
Payton Seay	7-17	0-0	14	2
Jordan Patterson	3-5	2-2	10	1
Arrion Sherrod	4-7	0-0	9	2
Abby Hannon	0-5	2-2	2	2
Reva Allam	0-0	0-0	0	0
Totals	27-66	8-9	70	12

#### Score by Quarters

Living Water	6	4	5	8	23
University	16	16	25	13	70
University 3-point shooting (6-19)	Hinds 3-9,	Patterson 2-3,	Sherrod 1-2,	Seay 0-3,	Washington 0-2.
University rebounds (44)	DuBois 11,	Seay 10,	Hinds 7,	Seay 5,	Hannon 4,
	Patterson 2,	Sherrod 1,	team 4.		

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# Etchison to play basketball for Western Michigan University

Gus Etchison, Hamilton Heights senior, has signed a letter of intent to play basketball for Western Michigan University (WMU) in Kalamazoo, Michigan. WMU is a member of the Mid-American Conference and is a NCAA Division I athletic institution. He is the son of Tony and Toby Etchison.

Etchison has earned a solid reputation on the court and has been instrumental as a guard for the Hamilton Heights Huskies during his four-year tenure. He was named to the 3A 1st Team All State, joined the 1,000 point club, named to the Large School All-State Team, was a Mr. Basketball candidate, awarded Most Points in a Year and as a junior, named to the Indy Star's Fab 15 team.

Etchison says he is proud to be following in his father's footsteps by taking his game to the collegiate level. Etchison, who plans to study political science and business at WMU says, he's been playing basketball from the time he could pick one up. To be his best on the court, Etchison works out daily and trains with M-14. He credits his father as his inspiration and for helping him to build his skill, play the game well, and develop him into the man he is today.

"Gus is one of the most athletic individuals I've had the opportunity to observe," said Kurt Ogden, Hamilton Heights Athletic Director. "The things that he is capable of doing on the basketball court with a ball in his hands are absolutely amazing. He has played a huge role in the success of the basketball program the past three years and we look for that same success to occur again this year. It has been a pleasure to watch his development over the course of his high school career and we wish him well at Western Michigan."

When Etchison is not in class, on the court, or working out, he is cadet teaching or farming. "This year I'm looking forward to a strong season and playing alongside my younger brother, Tillman," he added.



Photo by Jen Kauffman

Hamilton Heights senior Gus Etchison has signed a letter of intent to play basketball for the Western Michigan University Broncos in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Etchison (seated) is pictured with (left to right): Brother, Tillman Etchison; Fraternal Grandmother, Lavonne Etchison; Mother, Toby Etchison; Maternal Grandmother, Kathie Stretch; and Maternal Grandfather, John Stretch.

## HSE swimming gets another dual meet win

The Hamilton Southeastern swim teams scored a sweep of Westfield Tuesday in a dual meet.

In the girls meet, the Royals won 138-48 for their fifth straight dual win. Southeastern won all 12 events, including double victories for Molly Pedersen (200 and 100 freestyles), Katelyn Kertin (individual medley and breaststroke)

and Audrey Crawford (500 free and backstroke). Also winning were Kennedy Fisher in the 50 free, Hannah Justice in diving and Kaleigh Stivers in the butterfly. The Royals also won all three relays.

In the boys meet, Southeastern won 116-70. Zack Bostock was double winner in the 50 and 100 freestyles. Kee-

gan Streett was first in the butterfly, Ryan Harrison won the backstroke and Matt Truxall paced the breaststroke. The Royals won all three relays as well.

Westfield results were not available. Southeastern's divers will compete at the Tiger Claw Diving Invite at Fishers on Saturday, then the Royals will host the HSE Splash & Clash next weekend.



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# Noblesville High School athletic signings

Photo courtesy Noblesville Athletics

Sidney Klinger has committed to play lacrosse at Walsh University. Pictured - Front Row (Left to Right): Cindy Klinger (Mother), Sidney Klinger, Jac Klinger (Father) Back Row (Left to Right): Noblesville Girls Lacrosse Head Coach Veronica Mitchell.



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