

Getting back to class . . .

HSE survey coming, plus virtual learning options for next school year

By LARRY LANNAN
LarryInFishers.com

HSE Schools administrators reviewed plans for the remainder of this school year and virtual learning options in the next school year Wednesday night, while the board debated the speed of returning the students to in-person classes. One board member questioned the speed of district surveys to instruct next steps.

Superintendent Allen Bourff told the board a survey is coming for parents of seventh- and eighth-grade students, and a survey is in the works for high school parents and possibly high school students. Some families have built themselves around the hybrid system of class attendance being used now, but others want an in-person school experience. The goal of the surveys would be to measure the community's views.



Bourff

A return to classrooms could come as soon as April 12, according to the Bourff.

Board member Suzanne Thomas questioned why surveys had not been done earlier, but other board members responded there are good reasons to conduct the survey now. Bourff said school officials are reviewing the new Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidance as plans are made for the future.

Assistant Superintendent Matt Kegel briefed board members on plans to offer an all-virtual option for families in the 2021-2022 school year. There is not enough time to establish virtual schools themselves, so any virtual option will be a program, not a full school.

State lawmakers are looking to fund virtual school at 100 percent; current law funds virtual schools at 85 percent.

See HSE Survey . . . Page 2

Carmel Clay, Noblesville schools eye plans to put all students back in classrooms

By LOGAN GAY
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

Getting teachers vaccinated is a big step to getting all students back in school full-time.

Some Central Indiana schools have already announced plans to bring kids in middle schools and high school back to classrooms after spring break.

Now, Carmel Clay Schools is working on a plan to do the same. Families at Carmel Clay Schools shared mixed reactions after finding out the school administration is working on a plan to get grades 6-12 back into the classroom full-time.

Myla McKinney has three kids in Carmel Clay Schools. She said the hybrid education model has been challenging for them. McKinney said the sooner the students are back in class full-time, the better.

"It's a good way to start the summer where they can feel like they are not alone anymore and reestablish relationships with

friends they had before all this begun," McKinney said. "It's a good trial run for next year and help us work out all of the kinks."

McKinney said she understands the hesitation from some members of the community but think getting back into classrooms is the right thing to do at this point.

"That is a very hard decision to send your child back into a COVID-era school," she said. "But we've got to do something because the kids are just falling more and more behind academically because they are not in school the full time."

The administration at Carmel Clay Schools said parents will be notified when the transition plan is finalized.

But Carmel Clay Schools is not the only district considering this. Noblesville Schools sent a message to parents and staff telling them it is looking at next steps with the goal of getting back to normal schedules – when it is safe.

See Carmel & Noblesville . . . Page 2

Westfield Washington Supt. Chris Baldwin details plan to increase in-person learning

The REPORTER

Editor's note: Westfield Washington Schools Interim Superintendent Chris Baldwin sent the following message to WWS families this past week.

Rocks community, As COVID-19 case numbers continue to trend in the right direction in our schools and in the community, WWS administrators, in collaboration with the Hamilton County Health Department, have begun planning for increased in-person learning for students in grades 7-12. With full support from the health department, we have selected Monday, April 26, to update the 7-12 hybrid plan to four days a week (Monday through Thursday) with Friday remaining a district-wide virtual learning day.



Baldwin

We believe this is the safest return date for staff and students and is the best way to minimize the impact of potential spread after Spring Break while providing flexibility to make adjustments in the event of any COVID-related issues.

NOTE: K-6 will remain in-person Monday through Thursday, with Friday as a virtual learning day.

Our success in safely increasing in-person learning is completely contingent on our ability to continue to keep cases low, monitoring conditions after Spring Break, and the continued guidance from the Hamilton County Health Department. It is more important than ever that we stay home when sick, properly mask, and report symptoms in the lead up to this transition.

As the health and safety of students and staff is always a top priority, masking will continue to be required and buildings will continue to practice vigilant hygiene procedures to help reduce the spread of germs. Fridays will continue to be district-wide virtual learning days to facilitate coordination with quarantined students, afford teachers time for professional development and allow teachers to have proper planning time.

If you do not wish for your student(s) to be in-person four days a week, you still have the option to switch to the 100 percent virtual platform. The middle and high

See Westfield . . . Page 2

To jerk a knot

"Well, someone needs to have a knot jerked in their tail." Oh, my goodness, whenever I heard my mother say that, I knew someone was not in her good graces.

It is a southern expression that my mom and my aunts would say when they felt great dismay for someone or disdain in their actions ... usually it was both.

My mother was not a woman prone to confrontation, so I knew if it was necessary for her to do so ... it was necessary.

She never did it out of meanness. She did not have a mean bone in her body.

Mom taught me that you need to be held accountable for your words and actions. She expected others to follow the same teachings.

If you crossed the line into her family and did them wrong, she would make it known that it was an unacceptable thing to do. Thus, jerk a knot.

Mom never would swear or tell anyone where they should go, but you might have been given directions.

Mom was kind and she was nice, but if pushed or prodded her into a corner, she wasn't afraid to inform you of your wrongdoings. Her pointer finger was armed and dangerous.

We live in a world where being held accountable for one's actions or words seems to be well, let's just say ... missing in action.

This week, as I heard "someone" give denials and excuses for what they "supposedly" did to numerous people, I felt my eyes begin to roll. They kept rolling and I thought I was going to sprain them. I could just hear my mother saying something about a jerk and a knot.

My mother also taught me that your sins will find you out. The greatest detective work is not done by the FBI but by a mother on a mission to find the truth.

One of the most important things a parent can teach a child is to take responsibility. Another thing, running a close second, is to say "I'm sorry" and mean it. Being sorry for something just because you got found out does not count.

Excuses for meanness are just that – excuses. My mother always called things as she saw them. I learned well from her.

I try to be nice and kind and tolerant, but if you step on the toes or the heart of one of my kids or grandkids, you might just hear a sermon on the 11th Commandment: "Thou shalt not mess with my chicks." If so, you might just hear the angry cackle of a woman who is madder than an old wet hen.

Trust me, I do know how to jerk a knot in someone's tail, and I remember well how to pitch a hissy fit.

COLUMNIST



JANET HART LEONARD
From the Heart

Live theater returns to Westfield

By STU CLAMPITT
ReadTheReporter.com

Showing Thursday through Sunday for two weeks only, Main Street Productions (MSP) is bringing live theater back to Westfield Playhouse. *Squabbles* will stage Thursday through Sunday from March 18 to 28 at the new Westfield Playhouse, 220 N. Union St.

The Reporter spoke with Director Doug Davis about the story, the ways MSP is keeping both the actors and audience safe, and the opportunity to be the first live, in-person production in a year.

As the COVID-19 numbers fall and Hamilton County has moved back into the "Blue" advisory level, going to see a comedy after a long year of strict pandemic protocols seems like a welcome diversion. "Exactly!" Davis said. "That's what we were looking for when we chose this. We have gotten to the point that we feel we could put this live on stage again instead of streaming it."

According to Davis, in this play Jerry Sloan (played by Matt McKee) writes advertising jingles for a living. His wife, Alice Sloan (played by



Davis



Photo provided

(From left) Matt McKee, Dwayne Leatherman, Sabrina Lang, and Kevin Kingshill rehearse for *Squabbles*, premiering on March 18 at the new Westfield Playhouse.

Get Your Tickets for 'Squabbles'

When: March 18-20 and 25-27 at 7:30 p.m., and March 21 and 28 at 2:30 p.m.

Where: The new Westfield Playhouse, 220 N. Union St.

In-Person Cost: \$17 for adults 18 and older, \$15 for seniors 62 and older, \$15 for students with ID, and free for active military personnel and veterans with ID

Where to buy: Go to westfieldplayhouse.org/showtickets or call (317) 402-3341 for tickets. Tickets will not be sold at the door. There will be no late seating and all prepaid tickets are nonrefundable.

Safety Guidelines: In order to keep all patrons safe, MSP has a COVID-19 policy that includes only seating 25 percent capacity, mask requirements, taking your temperature upon entering the theater, and other measures. Details are online at westfieldplayhouse.org/showtickets.

Sabrina Lang) is a successful lawyer. Living with them is the wife's grumpy father, Abe. Jerry's mother, Mildred, loses

her house in a fire and needs a place to stay, but Abe and Mildred can't stand each other. Comedy ensues.

"Dwayne Leatherman plays the grumpy father-in-law," Davis said. "He is like a legend among actors in the Indy area. This is first time acting for me and I was just tickled to see him show up at auditions. He has one of the smoothest most velvety voices of an actor you will ever hear on stage. He has great comic timing."

Playing across from Leatherman, as the mother-in-law, is Susan Hill. "She has done quite a few shows at Westfield for us," Davis told The Reporter. "She is a great comic actress."

See Squabbles . . . Page 3

Kindergarten registration changing for HSE Schools

I have many fond memories of taking my young twin daughters to the kindergarten roundup in the late 1990s. They were able to ride the school bus, walk around their school building (Harrison Parkway for our family) and familiarize my daughters with the experience of going to school for the first time.

The kindergarten roundup may no longer be a thing, but there are other ways to accomplish the same thing, and COVID simply complicates the entire situation.

The Hamilton Southeastern (HSE) student population decreased by about 400 in the current school year, and school officials have said parents have told them many families opted to delay starting school in the era of COVID.

At the HSE school board meeting on March 10, a new promotion was revealed to encourage parents to sign-up their youngsters for kindergarten. The promotion will have several ingredients, including Facebook ads and other social media.

See Kindergarten . . . Page 2

COLUMNIST



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Brad DeReamer awarded for having highest voter turnout in his precinct



Reporter photo by Denise Moe
Fishers City Councilman Brad DeReamer recently received an award from Republican Party Chairman Laura Campbell for the highest Republican voter turnout in his precinct. DeReamer represents the Northeast District in Fishers.

HSE SURVEY

from Page 1

Kegley acknowledged the stress teachers have been under with in-person and virtual students. Preliminary plans call for families making a commitment to keep their child in the all-virtual program for a semester, or possibly the entire school year. Kegley said he expects to provide more information, and possibly a recommendation, on the all-virtual option at the March 24 board meeting. In other action, the board approved a \$1.4 million bid to resurface parking lots at HSE Schools. The project had been budgeted at \$1.8 million, so the bid came in under the estimates. A new technology network was approved for HSE High School, replacing the current system, which is more than 10 years old. The board also voted to destroy audio recordings of past meetings that are many years old.

CARMEL & NOBLESVILLE

from Page 1

The president of the Indiana Teacher Association, Keith Gambill, said school administrations and parents need to proceed with caution. “An appointment to be vaccinated is not the same as being vaccinated,” he said. “I know that teachers and all staff are wanting to get everything back as close to normal as soon as possible. The CDC (U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) is pretty clear we need to make sure we don’t get out too far ahead of things. We don’t want to make the wrong decision this close to the finish line.” Gambill said there are a lot of questions that need to be considered. “How classrooms need to be set up when you’re welcoming more students into the classrooms, that needs to be considered,” he said. “The lunchroom, when you would have had half as many seats filled, you may have all of the seats filled – what does that look like?”

WESTFIELD


from Page 1

school will reach out to families with additional information. I would like to thank you for your continued support and flexibility during this unique school year. I want to thank the teachers, staff and administrators for their selfless work ethic and unwavering dedication to the education of our students. Without them, this school year and school district would not be what it is today. We are all looking forward to finishing the school year on a strong, positive note and I thank you all, in advance, for doing your part to make that happen.

KINDERGARTEN

from Page 1

Riddles will be a part of the promotion. There will be clues on where the school bus is parked on a particular day. There will be a backpack giveaway in partnership with the HSE Schools Foundation. One backpack will be awarded per school. You must be enrolled by April 30 to be eligible for the drawing. Virtual building tours will be available March 30. There will be an in-person open house with timed entries for social distancing April 13. Friday tours will also be available. In order to enroll in kindergarten, the family must reside within the HSE school district boundaries. The child must be five years old on or before Aug. 1, 2021. A child can qualify for early entrance by turning five years of age between Aug. 1 and Sept. 1 of the enrollment year. [Click here](#) for more information on kindergarten enrollment at HSE Schools.








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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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DRIVE TODAY TEST

Why we shouldn't have to take finals this year

By **SUNNY NIXON**

Sheridan High School Student

Editor's Note: The Sheridan Student Column is brought to readers by Sheridan High School's 10th grade English class, taught by Abby Williams.

Last year was rough for everyone. Teachers, students, and parents all had to adapt to the new norm that 2020 gave to us.

Many were excited last March 14 when we all figured out we'd be getting a week off from school. Online assignments were easy and sleeping in every day was just the cherry on top. That is until that one week turned into a month, which turned into the rest of the school year. It wasn't that bad at first. It just felt like an extended summer break. A summer break filled with no fun vacations, never seeing your friends or family unless it's over the phone, and ... many, many hours of bingeing everything on Netflix.

By the time the next school year rolled around, many parents were iffy on whether or not bringing their kids back would be safe. Many did, but many who saw how fast the disease was spreading took the opportunity to keep their children home. At least for the first semester. I, being one of the kids whose parents picked online school, saw how negatively it impacted me.

It was tiring, going through the same day over and over again from the start of

March 14 to Jan. 6.

Not only did I see a negative change in my mental health, but physical health as well. My anxiety was terrible and I lost a lot of weight. I was constantly stressing to get all my assignments done on time, I'd forget to eat because I was more focused on getting all my work done, and I never just had time to breathe and talk with my friends. It was hard keeping everything balanced.

That's why, on Jan. 6, I was the happiest I've ever been to finally go back to school. Right away, I saw an improvement in everything ... everything but actual school. Being thrown back into a classroom was terrible. It had almost been a year since I was in this type of setting, and I had never had such a hard time focusing in class before. After just a month, I noticed how burnt out I was getting. It was hard coming back and being on what felt like a different level than everyone else. The classes I took over quarantine put me so behind from everyone else. I would sit in class and watch other peers answer

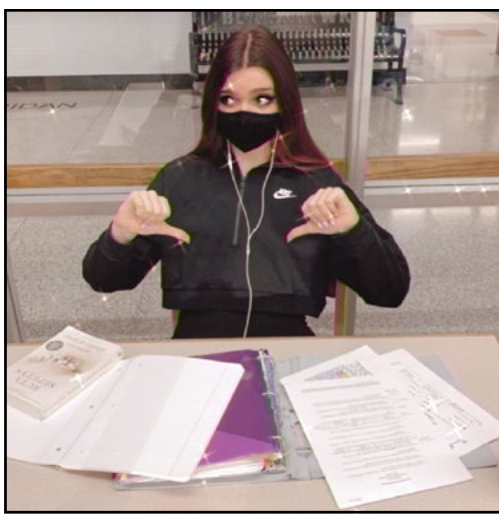


Photo provided

my finals. Looking around, I'm not the only one who feels this way. Many of my close friends are struggling too.

Janielis, a sophomore who took online classes for the first semester, says, "I isolated myself. Like, mentally, I was in a really bad place because I didn't have a very good support system around me. I started to isolate myself from everyone, but once I got back in physical school, the atmosphere really helped my mood. Academically though, I noticed a really big negative change."

Not only do online students feel this way, but students who have been going to school do as well. Emma, a sophomore who started physical school back in August,

questions out loud and all I could do was watch.

It's hard comparing how good you were last year, academically, to now. My online classes helped me with nothing and haven't prepared me once for what's to come. I can't help but stress over how I'm going to even get a somewhat decent grade on

says, "I noticed with being quarantined, you are thrown in at a disadvantage when you return to school. Learning from home is not nearly as thorough, especially when everyone else is at school. Most teachers don't put in the effort to upload everything you need online, or even all of the material you need to understand the subject. I remember coming back from school with only two weeks to make up six quizzes and a test. It was completely overwhelming and my grade definitely dropped because of it."

You get thrown out of that classroom setting and have to teach yourself what's going on. Then one or two weeks later, when you come back, you're expected to have all your work done and be ready for the test the day after.

It's been hard. Not just for the students who took online classes, but for the ones who have been going to school but keep getting quarantined due to peers around them getting sick. We're all on different academic levels now. Some who used to be honor roll are now barely passing many of their classes. When you keep getting hit with bad grades on assignments you would have aced last year, it only makes you more burnt out than before.

Taking finals out of the picture this year wouldn't only benefit me, but the many high school students I've seen who just don't have the same positive energy as they did last year.

SQUABBLES

from Page 1

The two together play so well off of each other. It is a pleasure to watch them."

This production will have limited seating and other safety protocols.

"When people arrive at the building, they will have their temperatures taken and masks will be required," Davis told The Reporter. "During rehearsals we have gone with the same rules. Actors have been wearing masks on stage and during practices they have had their temperatures taken. When backstage they have been doing social distancing. When we blocked, we kept in mind social distancing. When they come out for curtain call, they will put their masks on. For every show we ask the cast if they want to wear the plastic shields or not when on stage. This cast chose not to."

Seating will be limited to approximately 60 audience members for each performance. Though the seats will be spaced for social distancing of the audience, chairs can be placed closer together for groups of family. Due to on-



Photo provided

(From left) Dwayne Leatherman, Kevin Kingshill, and Susan Hill rehearse their roles in *Squabbles*.

going COVID-19 concerns, Westfield Playhouse will not sell any concessions or water in the lobby. According to Davis, chairs will be covered with sheets of sanitary plastic, and as soon as the show is over, MSP will replace those covers with new ones.

"There has to be a first as the COVID lightens up a little," Davis told The

Reporter. "We are pleased to be the first theater for people to come out to live performances again. We are very happy to be bringing live theater back to Central Indiana."

The cost for *Squabbles* will be \$17 for adults age 18 and older, \$15 for seniors age 62 and older, \$15 for students with ID, and free for active military personnel and veterans with ID. Go to westfieldplayhouse.org/showtickets or call (317) 402-3341 for tickets.

"We are very happy to be bringing live theater back to Central Indiana."

— MSP Director Doug Davis

Donatello's Italian Restaurant hosting pop-up shop to benefit women, girls in Western Kenya

The REPORTER

Donatello's Italian Restaurant, 9 W. Main St., Carmel, will host a pop-up shop with items such as jewelry, masks, purses, market bags, and kikoy available for purchase to benefit the women and children of Western Kenya.

The event, called Jubilee Spree, will be held in the side room at Donatello's from 3 to 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 24 and Thursday March, 25. Attendees are required to wear masks and are asked to stay within the event space boundaries.

Donatello's will receive no portion of any of the

sales and is not charging for use of its space.

The items for sale are created by women and girls in Kager, Kenya, and the sales go to benefit their community in a variety of ways. A total of 10 percent of the sales go toward funding a vocational program for Kager's girls, now in their final year of high school.

The international program started as part of the faith-based Jubilee Village Project, which also organizes an annual Walk for Water to raise funds for fresh water for Kenya.

During trips to Kager, Kenya, organizers discovered that the residents had

created some unique crafts and items and decided to help them sell the items in order to benefit their community.

The Carmel sale was held annually at Carmel Christian Church, 463 E. Main St., but was canceled in 2020 due to COVID-19. The decision was made to hold the event off-site for 2021 as COVID procedures are still in place.

Guests who come to shop are welcome to stay for dinner, and reservations can be made by calling (317) 564-4790.

For more details on Jubilee Spree, visit jubileespreec.com or email lin-nasbury@aol.com.

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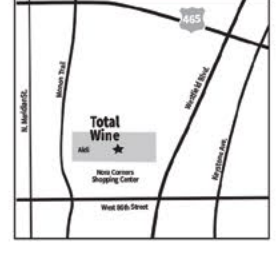
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Fishers road construction updates, week of March 15

The REPORTER

State Road 37 & 146th Street

All left-turn lanes are currently restricted on SR 37 and on 146th Street with traffic moved to the interior lanes. Thru traffic and right turns on SR 37 and 146th Street will remain open. Drivers are encouraged to seek alternate routes for all left-turn access. View an alternate route map [here](#).

State Road 37 & 131st/135th Streets

The northbound SR 37 right turn lane onto 135th Street is currently closed from 131st Street to approximately halfway to 135th Street for Phase 1 construction. This portion of the dedicated turn lane will not reopen to regular capacity until the interchange is

complete. The southbound SR 37 dedicated right turn lane onto 135th Street is also closed for additional widening to accommodate traffic in Phase 2.

• On Thursday, March 25 between the hours of 7 p.m. and 6 a.m., the contractor plans to adjust traffic to the outside between Phase 1 and 2. This work will include single-lane restrictions for both northbound and southbound SR 37 traffic between 131st and 141st streets. This phase change will move traffic to the outside to perform median widening.

Please drive with caution through these areas. To learn more about the State Road 37 Improvement Project and sign up to receive text updates, visit [37Thrives.com](#).

Allisonville Road

Beginning on or after

Monday, March 15, there will be lane restrictions on southbound Allisonville Road between Easy Street and 106th Street for utility work. These restrictions will be in place between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Northfield Estates

Beginning on or after Monday, March 15, ADA ramp work will begin in Northfield Estates, prior to the resurfacing of the roadway, and is anticipated to be completed in April.

106th Street & Hague Road

Currently, there are lane restrictions in place for east and west bound traffic on 106th Street at Hague Road. Thru lanes will be restricted and traffic will use the left turn lanes as thru lanes. Left turn access onto Hague Road will remain open. Ad-

vanced warning signs will be in place. These restrictions are anticipated to be in place until mid-May for bypass pumping for improvements to the Hague Road Lift Station.

Meadows Drive

Drainage work is currently taking place on Meadows Drive, Royal Drive, and Frances Street and is anticipated to be completed in March.

Admirals Pointe Drive

Indianapolis DPW currently has Admirals Pointe Drive closed through mid-summer 2021 to replace the timber bridge over Geist and the north fork of Dry Branch. The detour will consist of Old Stone Drive East to Carroll Road/700 West, south to East 79th Street, and west to Oakland Road.



Who were the first inductees into the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame?

The REPORTER

This week in Indiana's history ...

1865 – President Abraham Lincoln presented Indiana Governor Oliver P. Morton with a Confederate Battle Flag. It had been captured by the Indiana 140th Regiment at Fort Anderson, N.C. The ceremony took place at the National Hotel in Washington, D.C. The band played "Hail to the Chief" as the President entered the room. Several Union officers from Indiana accompanied the Governor. Lincoln's last-minute decision to attend the event disappointed John Wilkes Booth. **Read more below.*

1877 – The Indiana Legislature authorized \$2,000,000 for the construction of a new State House. The new structure would replace the existing building in Indianapolis. Governor James D. Williams began the job of appointing commissioners for the project. According to the *Indianapolis Daily News*, the new State House was "the hearty desire of fully nine-tenths of the people of the state."

1890 – Fire destroyed the Bowen-Merrill bookstore on West Washington Street in Indianapolis. What began as a small blaze became an inferno when all four floors of the frame building collapsed, trapping many firemen. Thirteen died in the disaster. It was the deadliest fire in history for city firefighters.

1923 – Movie Actor Rudolph Valentino was married to actress Winifred Hudnut in the office of the Justice of the Peace in Crown Point. According to the press, they arrived there after "leading newspapermen on a merry chase since they left the Blackstone Hotel in Chicago." The happy couple "rambled up and down the main street, hunting souvenir postal cards and dining in a little country restaurant."

1962 – The Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame was launched with a dinner in the Riley Room of the Claypool Hotel in Indianapolis. The first inductees were

John R. Wooden, Robert P. "Fuzzy" Vandivier, Homer Stonebraker, Ernest B. "Griz" Wagner, and Ward "Piggy" Lambert. The first annual Silver Medallion was awarded to William F. Fox, sports editor of the *Indianapolis News*. He had covered high school basketball since 1925.

2001 – 79-year-old Margaret Ray Ringenberg piloted a plane in an international air race from London to Sydney, Australia. It was just the latest in many adventures for the aviator who grew up on a farm in Allen County. During World War II, as a WASP (Women's Airforce Service Pilot), she flew all types of military aircraft. After the war, she was a commercial pilot and flight instructor. An active participant in air races around the world, she won more than 150 trophies. She was the subject of an entire chapter in Tom Brokaw's book *The Greatest Generation*.

**It was March 17, 1865.* John Wilkes Booth had been devising plans to kidnap President Abraham Lincoln and hold him in exchange for Confederate soldiers locked up in Union prisons. Booth had received word that the President that afternoon was going to attend the play, *Still Waters Run Deep*. It was being staged at Campbell Hospital near the Old Soldiers' Home on the Seventh Street Road on the outskirts of Washington. The road ran through an isolated area, perfect for carrying out the kidnap plot. Booth quickly decided to act. He and three fellow conspirators saddled up and rode out to a lonely spot along the road. Another man was to bring Booth's carriage, loaded with weapons. Their plans were well-founded. Lincoln, indeed, had planned to attend the play. However, at the last minute, he had decided to go to the National Hotel to present a battle flag to Indiana Governor Morton. Booth and his men waited in vain. The Presidential carriage did not come down the road that day.

Attorney General Todd Rokita joins suit against Biden Administration

The REPORTER

Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita has filed suit against President Joe Biden's administration over a \$9.5 trillion expansion of federal regulations through an executive order dictating the "social cost" of greenhouse gases, threatening a devastating impact on Indiana households and nearly every aspect of the nation's economy. [The lawsuit](#) was filed by a coalition of 12 states, led by Missouri.

"Since January, we have witnessed an unprecedented level of federal overreach," Rokita said. "And now, we have yet another egregious example as President Biden attempts to regulate virtually every aspect of the American economy."

When federal agencies set forth and enforce environmental regulations, they must determine to what extent the regulations will reduce the costs imposed by pollutants.

With President Biden's executive order, federal agencies must now increase the regulatory burden to offset new estimates of the "social cost" imposed by carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide, all of which surround nearly every facet of productive human activity.

"Social cost" refers to the supposed impact of these greenhouse gases on such attenuated phenomena as poverty, public health, human migration, and even war.

The Biden administration has now set these "social costs" at \$9.5 trillion and has said that all federal agencies "shall use" that figure.

"As the suit explains, imposing the current estimated regulatory costs of \$9.5 trillion – roughly half



Rokita

Executive Order 13990, titled "Protecting Public Health and the Environment and Restoring Science to Tackle the Climate Crisis," alleges that the Biden Administration lacks the authority to dictate the "social cost" of greenhouse gases that agencies must use for federal regulations, and that the stringency of resulting regulations will stifle manufacturing, harm agriculture, and impose serious economic impact across the country.

Two industries that will be significantly impacted by President Biden's executive order, manufacturing

America's annual economic output – would cancel almost half the income of every household in America," Rokita said.

The lawsuit, which challenges President Biden's Executive Order 13990, titled "Protecting Public Health and the Environment and Restoring Science to Tackle the Climate Crisis," alleges that the Biden Administration lacks the authority to dictate the "social cost" of greenhouse gases that agencies must use for federal regulations, and that the stringency of resulting regulations will stifle manufacturing, harm agriculture, and impose serious economic impact across the country.

and agriculture, are foundational to Indiana's economy. According to the Indiana Economic Development Corporation, Indiana has the highest concentration of manufacturing jobs in the nation. Agriculture contributes an estimated \$31.2 billion to the economy.

The suit states, "In practice, this enormous figure will be used to justify an equally enormous expansion of federal regulatory power that will intrude into every aspect of Americans' lives – from their cars, to their refrigerators and homes, to their grocery and electric bills. It will be used to inflict untold billions or trillions of dollars of damage to the U.S. economy for decades to come. This regulatory expansion will stifle energy production, strangle America's energy independence, suppress agriculture, destroy millions of jobs, deter innovation, and impoverish millions."

New at Hamilton East Public Library

The REPORTER

Here are the new library items lists for the week of March 8:

New Adult Fiction Books

1. The lost boys, by Faye Kellerman
2. The (other) you: stories, by Joyce Carol Oates
3. A fatal lie: an Inspector Ian Rutledge mystery, by Charles Todd
4. Deep into the dark, by P.J. Tracy
5. The lost manuscript, by Cathy Bonidan
6. Ink and shadows, by Ellery Adams
7. The umbrella lady, by V.C. Andrews
8. A stranger in town: a Rockton novel, by Kelley Armstrong
9. All fall down, by James Brabazon

10. Milk fed, by Melissa Broder

New Non-Fiction Books

1. Three simple lines: a writer's pilgrimage into the heart and homeland of haiku, by Natalie Goldberg
2. The plague cycle: the unending war between humanity and infectious disease, by Charles Kenny
3. In the land of the cyclops: essays, by Karl Ove Knausgaard
4. The dirty, lazy, keto no time to cook cookbook: 100 easy recipes ready in under 30 minutes, by Stephanie Laska
5. The beauty of what remains: how our greatest fear becomes our greatest gift, by Steven Z. Leder
6. Windows 10 all-in-one, by Woody Leonhard

7. Hello, habits: a minimalist's guide to a better life, by Fumio Sasaki

8. A swim in a pond in the rain: in which four Russians give a master class on writing, reading, and life, by George Saunders

9. The night lake: a young priest maps the topography of grief, by Liz Tichenor

10. How to fight racism: courageous Christianity and the journey toward racial justice, by Jemar Tisby

New DVDs

1. A Valentine's Match
2. Vera. Set 10
3. Wander
4. 12 hour shift
5. All creatures great and small. Season 1
6. The cleansing hour
7. Dreamland

8. Love in the forecast; Romance in the air
9. Jungleland

10. Princess of the row

New Music CDs

1. Sunday drive, by Brett Eldredge
2. Church. Volume one and two, by Jesus Culture
3. Circles, by Mac Miller
4. Disney goes classical, by Sally Herbert
5. En Espanol, by Mavericks
6. Exodus, by Brian McKnight
7. Believe, by Andrea Bocelli
8. Good luck with whatever, by Dawes
9. Good souls better angels, by Lucinda Williams
10. Grae, by Moses Sumney

Hamilton County Reporter



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Nicholas Harbin
Oak Ridge Branch Manager
Corner of SR32 and Oak Ridge Rd
Westfield

Joshua Faudree
Pebble Village Branch Manager
West of SR32 and Hazel Dell Rd
Noblesville

Letters to the Editor

Skillman, Lubbers thank Indiana Secretary of State Connie Lawson for her service

Dear Editor:

Many thanks are in order as my friend Connie Lawson steps down as our Indiana Secretary of State. This was a difficult decision for her. She is the model of devotion to duty.

I have known and worked with Connie since our time as elected county officials in the early 90s – she from Hendricks County, and I served Lawrence County. Both journeys progressed to the Indiana Senate where we served for many years, and then to our time together serving as Secretary of State and Lt. Governor, respectively.

From the earliest days of her service, she has strived to excel, display humility and civility, and make Hoosiers proud.

After two terms as a county clerk, she joined us in the Indiana Senate in 1996. She made an immediate contribution to successful initiatives that drove improvement for county government, women’s health, election law, and beyond. Always the hard worker, Connie was often the last Senator to leave the offices late at night, literally turning out the lights. She earned the respect of her Senate colleagues and was chosen as the first woman to serve as Senate Majority Floor Leader.

As Secretary of State, Connie worked closely with all 92 county clerks to administer elections. Always accessible, she offered great communication, support and empathy while improving the process for election administrators because she had walked in their shoes. She understood the key to a successful

statewide election is ensuring Indiana has 92 successful county elections.

Indiana’s Secretary of State enforces state securities regulation, and Connie has been relentless to go after financial criminals who prey on Hoosiers. She also modernized the state’s business services division by creating INBiz. This one-stop business portal has assisted thousands of small business owners as they register their businesses and navigate state government for the long term.

As Indiana’s longest serving Secretary of State, Connie continuously traveled our state until the pandemic interrupted her tradition. She understood and demonstrated that one must know Hoosiers to serve Hoosiers.

My partner in state government, Governor Mitch Daniels, appointed Connie to fill a vacancy as Secretary of State on March 16, 2012, following a period of turmoil and controversy surrounding the previous Secretary of State. Governor Mitch asked if I would administer the oath of office to her. As we gathered in his office with Connie’s husband Jack, her children and grandchildren, I knew she would serve with distinction and make us proud. Indeed, she did.

Job well done, my friend!

Becky Skillman
Former Indiana Lt. Governor

Dear Editor:

Some people are grandstanders in the way they lead, promoting themselves and their personal legacy. Others – and the more effective ones – seek to serve in a way that solves problems and makes life better for others. Fortunately, we have been graced by the second kind of leadership for more than three decades in the public service of Connie Lawson.

It’s been my personal privilege to know Connie for most of those years and to benefit from her counsel on a host of issues and to be enriched by her friendship. It’s safe to say that like so many others, I’ll be looking for ways to remain in her circle even after her retirement.

I remember Connie’s presence in the State Capitol when she served as Hendricks County Clerk and as president of the Indiana Clerks Association. She frequently testified on election issues, and when she spoke, we listened. It was a delight to welcome her to the Indiana State Senate in January 1997, as she joined a group of Republican women senators who were action-oriented, and she fit right in.

As the first woman appointed as Senate Majority Leader, she led with purpose

and collegiality. It was surprising to no one that she was selected by Governor Mitch Daniels as Secretary of State or that she handily won election in two subsequent elections.

Distinguished by her strong work ethic and her knowledge of election issues, she proved to be just the Secretary of State we needed to navigate thorny issues. Even those who opposed her found her to be fair and above reproach in character and commitment.

Connie has been a mentor to many, especially women who were carving out public service careers. She gave generously of her time as an Honorary Governor of The Lugar Series and to the class members – no doubt inspiring many to step up and serve. It’s not just what she said but more about how she did her job and how she treated people. Those who follow her example share her willingness to do whatever it takes to do the job well in service to Hoosiers.

While Connie didn’t promote her personal legacy, the quality of her service makes her a stand-out as a leader worthy of our respect and gratitude. While she deserves this retirement and more time with her family, I fully expect that she will find new ways to contribute to the Indiana story. It certainly is richer because of Connie Lawson.

Teresa Lubbers
Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education

Letters to the Editor do not reflect the opinions of The Reporter, its publisher or its staff. You can submit your own Letter to the Editor by email to News@ReadTheReporter.com.

Beauty school relocating to Carmel’s Merchant Square

The REPORTER

The Aveda Fredric’s Institute Indianapolis is relocating from its current Castleton Square Mall location to Merchant Square in Carmel, 2208 E. 116th St., slated for April 2021. The move includes the launch of a new state-of-the-art facility for students, guests, and team members.

“We put a lot of thought into the functionality of this new facility. We operate at a high standard for environmental and community care that demonstrates authenticity to the Aveda Mission,” said Owner/

President Patrick Thompson. “Our biggest challenge was combining a luxurious upscale experience for our guests with a top-notch educational facility. The end result is a thoughtful and highly-functional design that enhances the student, guest, and team member experience.”

First-look details

- **Entry/Check-In** – Guests will be greeted by bamboo flooring, bright retail fixtures, and a color palette consisting of earth tones punctuated by bright color. The check-in counter has a

sleek waterfall design, and guests can enjoy a cup of complimentary Aveda Tea while they wait.

- **Student Salon Floor** – Stained concrete flooring and bright white modern hanging pendants guide guests from the retail space to the student salon floor. The comfortable hair stations are modern and sleek stainless steel. Right off the salon floor is the custom-designed color bar.
- **Shampoo & Rejuvenation Room** – The state-of-the-art shampoo and rejuvenation room is located off the salon floor. Closed

off behind glass, the room features glossy blue tile, soft light, and relaxing music. Guests enjoy their service while lying on custom-designed shampoo beds.

- **Student Spa Oasis** – Entering the student spa oasis, guests wait for their services in a quiet space flanked by tile walls, warm neutrals, and comfortable furniture. Services take place in a private, curtained-off room in one of two larger spaces.
- **Nail Spa** – Guests can get their nails done in the dedicated nail spa located off the hair floor and enjoy

pedicures in one of four massage pedi spa chairs.

- **Mother’s Room** – New to the facility, a dedicated Mother’s Room exists for students, guests, and team members needing a private space to nurse.

For students

The second half of the space is dedicated to learning. There are six classroom spaces that can transition from virtual education to in-person lecture, to in-person hands-on learning or clinic. Students can take a break, study, or eat lunch in a dedicated dining area

with a mix of tables and bar height seating outfitted with a full kitchen.

The institute is equipped with the technology and hardware to allow students to learn in a digital environment. Student curriculum is delivered by iPad and technology is used at every opportunity to enhance the student experience. Flat-screen HDTVs are featured in all classrooms, throughout all clinic spaces, and in the retail space. The TVs are positioned for advanced hands-on learning.

Learn more at aveda.fi.edu/indianapolis.

How to prevent, reduce Canada geese-human conflicts

The REPORTER

Changing a habitat now can help prevent human-geese conflicts later. Once Canada geese have started using a site, it can be difficult to discourage them from staying there through the season. Preventive action is the best way to deter Canada geese.

Many breeding pairs of Canada geese start looking for nesting locations this time of year. Geese frequently return to areas where they’ve been successful nesting before. They prefer areas within 150 feet of open water that are surrounded by turf

grass, which is their favorite food.

If geese are being fed by people, this only encourages them to congregate in large groups and renders attempts to manage them useless. Feeding Canada geese – or any other wildlife – causes the animals to lose fear of humans, increasing the likelihood of conflicts with humans, especially those who have no food for them.

To discourage Canada geese from nesting at a site before they nest, you can dissuade them at any time, without a permit from DNR, as long as

you don’t harm the birds and don’t violate any local ordinances. Effective techniques can be aural, visual, or physical, including airhorns, whistles, motion sensor lights, predator decoys, and sprinklers. [Click here](#) for a complete list.

The pre-nesting period is also the ideal time to consider installing temporary or permanent barriers. Common physical barriers include fences, rocks, and strips of native plants. Indiana’s native plants are those that have grown in the state for thousands of years and have adjusted to Indiana’s climate and landscape. [Click here](#) to learn more about physical barriers.

Once nests are established and for the rest of the nesting season, adult male and female geese will actively defend their nest – this is when most conflicts with humans occur. After the last egg is laid, Canada geese incubate eggs for approximately 28 days. Eggs hatch throughout late April and June. In June and July, adult Canada geese molt their flight feathers around the same time their newly hatched goslings emerge. During this time, using discouragement techniques

will not work because neither the adults nor the goslings can fly away.

Canada goose egg and nest management can limit the number of Canada geese produced after nesting. If a Canada goose nest does not have eggs or birds in it, it can be destroyed at any time without a federal permit. Once eggs have been laid, you can take no further action without first registering with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at [this link](#).

Remember, using several techniques in combination will be more effective than using just one.

Short-term techniques can relieve immediate problems, but long-term solutions are more likely to reduce future conflicts.

Canada goose management plans that have clear actions, community buy-in, and long-term commitment are most likely to be successful. DNR district wildlife biologists can help individuals and communities develop their plans and provide advice specific to the situation. Their contact information is available at [this link](#).

[Click here](#) for more information on Canada goose management.

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Indianapolis Airport offering COVID-19 testing for travelers

The REPORTER

Local company JFI Medical opened a COVID-19 testing site this week at the Indianapolis International Airport (IND), as part of the Indianapolis Airport Authority's commitment to the health and safety of travelers and employees. The optional testing site will be available exclusively to passengers traveling through the airport and badged airport employees.

"Providing onsite, optional COVID-19 testing opportunities for airport employees and our travelers is another example of our customer service in action," said Mario Rodriguez, Indianapolis Airport Authority executive director. "Throughout the pandemic, we've kept the health and safety of our people as the number-one priority and this optional COVID-19 testing service provides another example of how we're getting through this together."

The testing service is not part of the federal Transportation Security Administration's security screening, and travelers are not required to be tested by the airport. In January, the Centers for Disease Control issued an order requiring **international travelers** to show proof of a negative COVID-19 test result or documentation of recovery within three days of departure of their flight to the United States. Domestic travelers are not required

to show a negative test at this time.

The testing site is located in the airport terminal Baggage Claim area and will be available four days per week on Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Sundays from 4 to 8 a.m. and from 2 to 8 p.m., or as needed per airline scheduling. Pre-registration is required.

Travelers are encouraged to schedule their appointment time accordingly to meet their travel needs and any documentation requirements of their connection points and destination.

Two COVID-19 tests will be available at a cost. The PCR test is \$135 with results provided within 24 hours. The Rapid Antigen Test is \$95 with results provided within one hour. Both tests can be taken for \$200. Hoosiers should contact their health insurance provider to check if costs associated with COVID-19 tests are covered.

"Testing is one of the most effective ways to contain and mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic," said Dr. Brian Coleman, chief medical officer of JFI Medical. "With quick results and the opportunity to get tested before and travel, the airport testing site will give Hoosiers some necessary peace of mind."

For more information about the Indy airport's COVID-19 testing site, visit ind.com/covid19testing.

Tony William Bailey, Sr.
April 30, 1955 – March 8, 2021

Our beloved husband, father, grandfather and friend, Tony William Bailey, Sr., 65, passed away on March 8, 2021. The life in the years is what we will remember him for. Tony will be greatly missed.

He was born on April 30, 1955 to the late Guy and Esther (Bilby) Bailey in Tipton, and for most of his life he called Boxley his home. Tony was a graduate of Sheridan High School, Class of 1974.

Tony and Debbie (Hicks) Bailey were married on May 29, 1976 at Sheridan United Methodist Church, and the two of them have been at each other's side for 45 years. Together they have three children, Tony (Amy), Shannon Young (Tony Piatt), and Matt. He was a loving grandfather to his five grandchildren, Zoe and Jocelyn Young, and Colton, Elise, and Lillian Bailey. He was the youngest of four siblings, Terry (Alison) Bailey, Tim Bailey, and Nancy Catterton.

Tony proudly served in the United States Marine Corps and was based in Camp Pendleton, Calif., for four years. When Tony returned home to Indiana, he worked at Biddle/EMC for 36 years as a maintenance technician.

He was a Boy Scout troop leader, neighbor, and never knew a stranger. Some who knew him may have assumed that he was shy, but to his close family and friends he was a deep thinker who had a warm heart. Ordinary moments brought him great joy – being with his family and spending time with his grandkids. He appreciated a home-cooked meal and dessert. His many projects, including "the wheel," kept him very busy and he was always creating something. He was hardworking and patient. He was kind but firm. His voice could command attention and his arms could soothe a baby ... well, some babies. His hands built a house, and his love built a family. He greeted us with the best, deep hugs. He gave us the greatest gifts – love of family, love of community, and love of country. He will be deeply missed and tearfully remembered.

Please join us in celebrating his memory as you hug the ones you love.

Donations may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project at woundedwarriorproject.org.

Everyone is invited to sign the online guestbook, leave a condolence or share a memory at fisherfunerals.com. Fisher Family Funeral Services is honored to serve the Bailey Family.



TODAY'S BIBLE READING

Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the Jews on behalf of God's truth, so that the promises made to the patriarchs might be confirmed and, moreover, that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written: "Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles; I will sing the praises of your name." Again, it says, "Rejoice, you Gentiles, with his people." And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles; let all the peoples extol him." And again, Isaiah says, "The Root of Jesse will spring up, one who will arise to rule over the nations; in him the Gentiles will hope." May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15:7-13 (NIV)

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Sports Editor Richie Hall

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Twitter: @Richie_Hall

Boys basketball regionals

Carmel holds off Lafayette Jefferson for regional championship

By RICHIE HALL

LOGANSPORT - Whether it's on offense or on defense, Carmel always seems to be able to make that "one more play" that wins games.

Saturday evening, the Class 4A No. 2-ranked Greyhounds made one more play on both ends of the floor, and that resulted in another regional championship.

With his team trailing No. 7-ranked Lafayette Jefferson 49-48 and 17 seconds left in the Logansport regional title game, Carmel senior Brian Waddell made two free throws to put the 'Hounds up by one. The Bronchos tried for one last shot, but Carmel senior Connor Gioia tipped the ball away.

The ball eventually landed in the hands of Greyhounds junior Josh Whack, who held on to it until the final buzzer. That gave Carmel the regional championship, 50-49 over a determined Bronchos squad that twice came back from large deficits to challenge the 'Hounds.

Carmel's victory over Jefferson was an instant classic. But don't forget about the Greyhounds' semi-final game. That was another remarkable performance, one where Carmel shut down No. 1-ranked Homestead 60-49 with yet another solid defensive effort, handing the Spartans their first, and ultimately only, loss of the year.

The regional title was the 11th for the Greyhounds, and their third consecutive championship at this level. Carmel won regional trophies in 2018 and 2019; there was no regional round in 2020.

"You think about this team and where we started in November of 2019, and it's basically the same group, minus Jackson Jannsen, who graduated," said Greyhounds coach Ryan Osborn. "We've been through a lot of games together. And they've matured. They've got experience. I'm just proud of them."



Reporter photo by Kent Graham

Carmel was in celebration mode seconds after holding off Lafayette Jefferson 50-49 Saturday evening to win the Class 4A Logansport regional championship. The Greyhounds advance to the semi-state, where they will play Gary West Side next Saturday at Jefferson.

Carmel is now 24-2 for the season and will play at Lafayette Jefferson next Saturday for the Class 4A north semi-state, taking on No. 10-ranked Gary West Side.

GAME OF RUNS

The championship game between the Greyhounds and the Bronchos was a true game of runs, with both teams going on lengthy scoring spurts throughout the game. The first big run came at the end

of the first quarter, when Carmel finished the period with an 8-0 stretch to lead 16-11.

The 'Hounds traded the lead with Lafayette Jeff for most of the first quarter, with Bronchos star Brooks Barnhizer hitting a 3-pointer to put his team up 11-8. But Carmel ran through the final minutes of the first, with Waddell scoring seven points, including a dunk and his own 3.

Another Waddell dunk - he's 6-foot-7, athletic, and knows how to combine the two - put the Greyhounds up 26-15 midway through the second quarter. Waddell also hit another 3 early in the period, as did Wil Leary.

But Jefferson stormed back, finishing the half on a 12-0 run to take a 27-26 lead at the break. Barnhizer got going, scoring seven points of that run, and Ashton Beaver contributed a three-point play.

The Bronchos continued the run into the second half, with Barnhizer making a layin to open the third quarter. It was now a 14-0 run and gave Jeff a 29-26 lead. Waddell ended the run with - guess what? - a dunk, but Beaver's jumper and a 3 from Barnhizer gave the Bronchos their largest lead of the game at 34-28.

Carmel then went on its biggest run of the contest, a 13-0 spurt that ran into the fourth quarter. Charlie Williams scored on a putback, Sam Orme hit a triple, and Waddell added five points - a putback and a 3 that finished the quarter. The score after three was 38-34, and it became 41-34 once Orme nailed a 3.

Orme continued to be hot in the fourth, hitting another 3-pointer to give Carmel a 46-37 lead. Then Barnhizer took over, scoring seven straight points to bring Jef-

erson within 46-44. He would lead all scorers with 27 points.

"I think you first have to give credit to them. Barnhizer is a heck of a player and he fought and fought to the end," said Osborn. "It'd be really easy in that situation to get selfish and take bad shots or let it get out of hand. You got to give them credit for sticking with it and fighting for it, bringing their team back. He's another guy that just made senior plays."

Williams made two free throws to get the Greyhounds up 48-44. The Bronchos responded with a Beaver basket off a Barnhizer rebound, then Jacob Collicott converted an and-1 to get Jeff ahead 49-48 with 1:44 left. Carmel was able to get the ball back, drew a foul with 17 seconds left, and Waddell took care of business at the line.

Waddell admitted he felt the pressure when he stepped up to make those free throws, especially with a loud Jefferson crowd screaming in the background.

"But that's why we get up every week, shoot free throws," he said. Waddell approached the moment like he was in an empty gym. "Just me and the rim, knocking down two huge free throws," he said.

Osborn had this to say about Waddell's success: "It couldn't happen to a better person right now."

"He's worked and he's fought through injury," said Osborn. "He's developed as a player and he's matured as a leader."

Waddell finished the game with 23 points. Peter Suder collected seven rebounds, while Waddell pulled six rebounds.

SEMI-FINAL GAME

Carmel never trailed against Homestead, and the game was only tied twice in the early stages, at 2-2 and 4-4. Williams scored the Greyhounds' first four points on jumpers.

Meanwhile, the Spartans' two stars, Big Ten recruits Fletcher Loyer and Luke Goode, each made a basket to keep up with Carmel. The Greyhounds answered that with a 6-0 run; Suder scored four of those points and Williams the other two. A layin from Waddell finished the first quarter and put Carmel up 12-4.

Homestead made its own run in the second quarter, using a 9-2 stretch to get within 14-13. Waddell got the 'Hounds out of trouble with a floater, then Williams made a layin to put Carmel up 18-13. The Greyhounds expanded their lead to 25-17 by halftime, with Waddell scoring eight points in the second quarter.

"Our guys battled," said Osborn. "They saw three different guys, both of them did, and I thought every one of our guys gave them different issues. Got in foul trouble early and we had some guys step up and guard in positions that they haven't had to yet this year."



Wed March 17 Girls Lacrosse




North Central vs Noblesville

6:00 pm - Junior Varsity,
7:30 pm - Varsity

Girls Lacrosse



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'Incredible' defense leads Golden Eagles to regional championship

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NBA standings

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|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Saturday games | Charlotte 114, Toronto 104 | Portland 125, Minnesota 121 |
| New York 119, Oklahoma City 97 | Milwaukee 125, Washington 119 | Indiana 122, Phoenix 111 |
| Brooklyn 100, Detroit 95 | Atlanta 121, Sacramento 106 | Dallas 116, Denver 103 |

Eastern Conference

| Team | W | L | PCT. | GB |
|--------------|----|----|------|------|
| Philadelphia | 26 | 12 | .684 | - |
| Brooklyn | 26 | 13 | .667 | 0.5 |
| Milwaukee | 24 | 14 | .632 | 2.0 |
| Miami | 20 | 18 | .526 | 6.0 |
| Boston | 19 | 18 | .514 | 6.5 |
| Charlotte | 19 | 18 | .514 | 6.5 |
| ----- | | | | |
| New York | 20 | 19 | .513 | 6.5 |
| Atlanta | 18 | 20 | .474 | 8.0 |
| Indiana | 17 | 20 | .459 | 8.5 |
| Toronto | 17 | 21 | .447 | 9.0 |
| ----- | | | | |
| Chicago | 16 | 20 | .444 | 9.0 |
| Cleveland | 14 | 23 | .378 | 11.5 |
| Washington | 14 | 23 | .378 | 11.5 |
| Orlando | 13 | 25 | .342 | 13.0 |
| Detroit | 10 | 28 | .263 | 16.0 |

Western Conference

| Team | W | L | PCT. | GB |
|---------------|----|----|------|------|
| Utah | 28 | 9 | .757 | - |
| Phoenix | 25 | 12 | .676 | 3.0 |
| L.A. Lakers | 25 | 13 | .658 | 3.5 |
| L.A. Clippers | 25 | 14 | .641 | 4.0 |
| Portland | 22 | 15 | .595 | 6.0 |
| Denver | 22 | 16 | .579 | 6.5 |
| ----- | | | | |
| San Antonio | 19 | 15 | .559 | 7.5 |
| Dallas | 20 | 17 | .541 | 8.0 |
| Golden State | 19 | 19 | .500 | 9.5 |
| Memphis | 17 | 17 | .500 | 9.5 |
| ----- | | | | |
| New Orleans | 16 | 22 | .421 | 12.5 |
| Oklahoma City | 16 | 22 | .421 | 12.5 |
| Sacramento | 15 | 23 | .395 | 13.5 |
| Houston | 11 | 25 | .306 | 16.5 |
| Minnesota | 8 | 30 | .211 | 20.5 |

Teams in positions 7-10 in their respective conferences will compete in a play-in tournament at the end of the season.

Pacers beat Suns as LeVert makes debut

By WHEAT HOTCHKISS
Courtesy nba.com/pacers

The Pacers have been looking for a spark as of late, dropping a number of close contests while losing six of their past seven contests.

They got a huge jolt of adrenaline on Saturday night with the long-awaited addition of Caris LeVert to the Pacers lineup. The 26-year-old swingman acquired from Brooklyn in the Victor Oladipo trade on Jan. 16 made his first appearance in an Indiana uniform against the Suns and his teammates seemed to adopt his attacking mindset.

The Pacers (17-20) exploded for 35 points in the third quarter to open up a 20-point lead, then held on down the stretch for a 122-111 win. It was an impressive victory over the red-hot Suns (25-12), who had won five straight and 17 of their last 20 entering Saturday's contest.

Six players scored in double figures for the Blue & Gold in the win. All-Star forward Domantas Sabonis registered his fifth triple-double of the season with 22 points on 9-of-13 shooting, 13 rebounds, and 10 assists (he also had four steals).

Malcolm Brogdon scored a team-high 25 points, going 4-for-6 from 3-point range, to go along with five boards and four assists. Doug McDermott added 22 points off the bench on 9-of-13 shooting.

LeVert finished with 13 points in 27 minutes on 5-of-14 shooting while also

tallying seven rebounds and two assists. It was an emotional night for the 6-6 guard, who missed two months of basketball after a post-trade physical revealed renal cell carcinoma in his left kidney. He underwent surgery on Jan. 26 to remove the mass (no further treatment is necessary) and then patiently waited for his body to heal before he could make his Pacers debut.

"The main thing for me was to try to contribute to a win," LeVert said after the game. "That's what I'm all about. Today was maybe my second time going five-on-five since everything happened, so a little bit of heavy legs and lack of conditioning, but that will come back. I'm just glad we got the win.

"A month and a half ago, two months ago, I don't think I even knew if I was going to be out here, especially this soon. It's definitely a level of gratefulness and (I'm) just happy to be on the court."

The two teams traded blows in a back-and-forth first quarter that featured four ties and eight lead changes. Brogdon and Sabonis scored seven points apiece in the frame, but Phoenix closed the quarter with a 6-2 run to take a 33-29 lead after one.

Indiana's second unit mounted a charge at the start of the second quarter, however. The Pacers scored on their first six possessions, reeling off a 12-0 run over a 2:36 span.

LeVert — who started the game but

went scoreless in his initial six minute stint — returned to the game shortly thereafter and collected his first points as a Pacer when he drew a foul in transition and hit both free throws with 8:12 remaining in the first half. He scored again on a putback a minute later, then scored buckets on back-to-back possessions shortly thereafter.

"Just having him out there, it was awesome to see," McDermott said. "We're all so happy for him."

The Suns briefly tied the game at 48 with 6:06 remaining in the first half, but Sabonis answered with a three of his own on the other end to put the Pacers back in front. The Blue & Gold remained in front for the rest of the half, stretching the margin as high as eight and taking a 62-57 lead into the break.

The Pacers led 73-70 midway through the third quarter before putting together another impressive run. Myles Turner got the party started with a bucket off a nice dish from Sabonis. Back-to-back steals then led to a Sabonis dunk and Brogdon 3-pointer. Justin Holiday added a three of his own a minute later before Turner swatted a shot on one end and then cleaned up a Holiday miss on the other end to cap a 12-0 Pacers run.

Cameron Payne ended Phoenix's drought with a 3-pointer, but Indiana then scored eight straight to open up a 94-73 lead.

Turner was dominant on both ends in the frame, scoring 11 points and blocking three shots to help Indiana take a 97-77 lead into the fourth quarter.

The Pacers were a little sloppy in the final frame, committing seven turnovers in the first eight minutes. The Suns eventually trimmed the deficit to nine on Mikal Bridges' 3-pointer with 3:58 remaining. But back-to-back baskets from McDermott and Brogdon erased any threat of a comeback and the Pacers held on for arguably their most impressive win of the season.

"Our defensive energy all night was the level I expect us to play every night," Turner said. "We have plenty of talent and we're going to score offensively, but if we set the tone with our defense every night, we're going to be a tough team to beat."

Turner scored 16 points on 7-of-8 shooting, grabbed eight rebounds, and blocked four shots in the win. Justin Holiday added 10 points for Indiana.

Suns All-Star guard Devin Booker had 20 points on 9-of-20 shooting, four rebounds, and seven assists in the loss. Dario Saric added 17 points and five rebounds off the bench for Phoenix.

The Pacers close out a three-game road trip on Monday night in Denver before returning to Indianapolis to host LeVert's former team, the Nets, on Wednesday.

High school boys basketball regional championship scores

Courtesy John Harrell's website
www.johnharrell.net

CLASS 4A

Michigan City
South Bend Riley 44, Valparaiso 36
Gary West 68, Elkhart 34
Gary West 58, South Bend Riley 43
Logansport
Carmel 60, Homestead 49
Lafayette Jeff 52, Carroll (Fort Wayne) 46
Carmel 50, Lafayette Jeff 49
Southport
Lawrence North 58, Ben Davis 44
Plainfield 61, Mount Vernon (Fortville) 52
Lawrence North 43, Plainfield 39
Seymour
Bloomington South 51, Jeffersonville 50
Evansville Reitz 63, Center Grove 61, OT
Bloomington South 49, Evansville Reitz 31

CLASS 3A

South Bend Washington
South Bend St. Joseph 84, Twin Lakes 58
Hammond 51, New Prairie 34
South Bend St. Joseph 79, Hammond 71, OT
New Castle
NorthWood 44, New Castle 42
Leo 79, Mississinewa 43
Leo 47, NorthWood 46
Greencastle
Northview 63, Beech Grove 52
Guerin Catholic 52, Greencastle 41
Guerin Catholic 59, Northview 43
Washington
Silver Creek 52, Heritage Hills 48
Connersville 46, Sullivan 43
Silver Creek 31, Connersville 30

CLASS 2A

North Judson
Bowman Academy 52, Boone Grove 50
Fort Wayne Blackhawk 68, Churubusco 55

Fort Wayne Blackhawk 68, Bowman Academy 52
Lapel
Blackford 52, Wapahani 45
Rossville 47, Rochester 30
Blackford 68, Rossville 59
Greenfield
Parke Heritage 47, Triton Central 30
Shenandoah 82, Covenant Christian 52
Parke Heritage 52, Shenandoah 33
Southridge
Southridge 43, Paoli 35
Southwestern (Hanover) 59, Linton-Stockton 58
Southridge 61, Southwestern (Hanover) 48

CLASS 1A

Triton
Triton 64, Caston 52, 2OT
Kouts 66, Fremont 62
Kouts 56, Triton 42
Frankfort
Lafayette Central Catholic 67, Cowan 63
Southwood 79, Seton Catholic 59
Southwood 54, Lafayette Central Catholic 53
Martinsville
Southwestern (Shelbyville) 57, Bethesda Christian 50

Indianapolis Tindley 65, Shakamak 43
Indianapolis Tindley 50, Southwestern (Shelbyville) 48
Loogootee
Barr-Reeve 63, Trinity Lutheran 38
Lanesville 73, Evansville Day 51
Barr-Reeve 64, Lanesville 34

SEMI-STATE PAIRINGS
Courtesy the IHSAA website

Elkhart
Class 2A: Blackford (25-4) vs. Blackhawk Christian (26-3), 1 p.m.
Class 3A: Leo (23-4) vs. South Bend St. Joseph (21-4), 4 p.m.
Lafayette Jefferson
Class 1A: Southwood (17-10) vs. Kouts (28-2), 1 p.m.
Class 4A: Carmel (24-2) vs. Gary West Side (22-4), 3:45 p.m.
Seymour
Class 3A: Silver Creek (23-4) vs. Guerin Catholic (21-3), 1 p.m.
Class 4A: Bloomington South (23-4) vs. Lawrence North (27-2), 3 p.m.
Washington
Class 1A: Barr-Reeve (27-2) vs. Tindley (19-9), 2 p.m.
Class 2A: Southridge (17-10) vs. Parke Heritage (26-3), 4 p.m.

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