

WEDNESDAY, MAY 31, 2023

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



TODAY'S WEATHER

Today: Mostly sunny morning.
Partly sunny afternoon. Spotty showers
and storms in the afternoon and
early evening. Humidity increase.

Tonight: Partly cloudy
and muggy.

HIGH: 90 LOW: 64



Reporter photo by Amy Adams

Scouts from BSA Boys Troop 107, Girls Troop 1070, and Cub Pack 126 salute the flag as it is lowered during the ceremony.

Boy Scouts save the day

Westfield Scouts live motto “Be Prepared” at Memorial Day Ceremony

By AMY ADAMS
For The Reporter

On Saturday, May 27, Scouts from BSA Boys Troop 107, Girls Troop 1070, and Cub Pack 126 in Westfield fulfilled their oath to do their duty to God and country when they stepped up to ensure that the more than 100-year tradition at Summit Lawn Cemetery continued.

These Scouting units have been performing the flag ceremony as part of this event for 10 to 15 years, maybe more considering Troop 107 is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year.

Ceremony attendee Jim Hester first got involved with Troop 107 when his oldest son joined about 20 years ago, and he served as the committee chair for years.

“In Scouts, you’re always getting asked to go here, there, and everywhere,” Hester said. “Back then, our motto sort of became ‘Westfield Scouts for

Westfield Families.’ This ceremony is part of that tradition.”

According to Barry Simpson, committee chair for Troop 1070, Scouts also took on the responsibility of playing “Taps” when the ceremony’s previous bugler, a World War II veteran, was no longer able to continue.

“All of this is voluntary,” Troop 107 Scoutmaster John Miles said. “The Scouts are all out here of their own will. As a veteran, I view Memorial Day as important. How do the kids know that unless we teach them?”

This ceremony proved to be quite a learning experience for the Scouts.

By 9:45 a.m., the Scouts were ready, as was the Honor Guard, composed of members of Carmel VFW Post 10003 and Carmel American Legion Post 155, which each merged with Westfield posts within the last 10 years. However, community members who were expected to conduct the ceremony had not arrived.



Reporter photo by Amy Adams

Life Scout Andrew Westra and retired Staff Sergeant Jeff Shelburne of the Indiana Army National Guard play “Taps.”

Realizing the problem, the Scouts quickly began coordinating an impromptu presentation.

At 10 a.m., without the usual podium and sound system, Life

Scout Brad Bishop, a rising senior at Westfield High School, stepped up as host, welcoming guests to the event.

See Scouts . . . Page 3

Nickel Plate Arts features Fishers artist Liz Hamstra during June

The REPORTER

Nickel Plate Arts is featuring Liz Hamstra in the Stephenson House during the month of June. Information on the exhibit dates, receptions, and artist details for Hamstra and the other NPArts featured artists are available below.

Stephenson House
Liz Hamstra

Liz Hamstra is a multi-talented artist from Fishers. She graduated from Herron School of Art and Design with a BFA degree, specializing in ceramics, photography, and art history. Her passion for art and creativity is evident in her vast body of work that spans across various mediums and genres.

With 10 years of experience teaching art at the Indianapolis Art Center, Hamstra has emerged as an accomplished teacher and mentor to several of her students. Her commitment to teaching and sharing her knowledge has helped push her own personal artwork in many directions.

In the past two years, Hamstra’s focus has shifted towards two new projects – hand-painted guitars and large mandalas with abstract designs. Her hand-painted guitars are a unique blend of music and art brought to life with the help of her husband. Her large mandala abstract designs are characterized by bold and bright colors and are a testament to her ver-

satility in exploring different art forms. These works are on display in her exhibit, “Neon Electric Moon,” for the month of June at Nickel Plate Arts.

Hamstra’s work has been showcased in several exhibitions and galleries and has gained recognition for its intricate detailing and high-quality craftsmanship. Her passion for creating art that ignites emotions and inspires creativity is evident in her work. For her future plans, she would like to explore larger mural paintings on non-traditional surfaces.

See Hamstra’s full exhibit, “Neon Electric Moon,” in the Stephenson House on the Nickel Plate Arts campus from noon to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays. You can meet Hamstra in person at Nickel Plate Arts’s June First Friday event from 6 to 9 p.m. or at her free public reception from 5 to 8 p.m. on June 24, both held on the Nickel Plate Arts campus.

Meyer Najem
Mark Timmis

Mark Timmis’s full exhibit, “Mark Timmis: One Man Show,” can be seen on the second floor of Meyer Najem, located at 11787 Lantern Road, Fishers, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. You can meet Timmis at his free public reception from 5 to 8 p.m. on Friday, June 2 in the



Photo illustration provided

Following 10 years of teaching art, Fishers artist Liz Hamstra has begun new projects over the past two years.

Meyer Najem second-floor gallery. The exhibit will be open through June 29.

Four Day Ray
Joy Tilson Cobb

Joy Tilson Cobb’s full exhibit, “Free Flowing,” can be

seen at Four Day Ray Brewing, located at 11671 Lantern Road, Fishers, from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday and Monday, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Tuesday through

See Arts . . . Page 2



All aboard NPX’s little red caboose

Monon Caboose returns to the Arcadia Farmers Market thanks to Duke

The REPORTER

The historic Monon caboose operated by Nickel Plate Express (NPX) will travel to Arcadia on Thursday, June 8 for a special \$5 per person caboose ride during the Arcadia Farmers Market.

Rides will depart from Main Street in Arcadia from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tickets will be available on-site. These low-cost rides are thanks to Duke Energy. The energy company and NPX recently announced sponsorship for the 2023 season focused on bringing affordable train rides to Northern Hamilton County. Duke’s sponsorship ensures operating costs are covered for these special rides and makes them accessible to NPX guests regardless of income.

More information on caboose rides, along with schedule information and secure ticket-ordering for NPX’s popular themed excursions, is available at [NickelPlateExpress.com](https://nickelplateexpress.com). NPX’s historic railroad equipment is also available for chartered rides such as corporate events, weddings, and other gatherings.



Community First Bank to hold Free Shred Day to benefit Westfield Youth Assistance

The REPORTER

Community First Bank of Indiana (CFB) will hold a Free Shred Day open to the community on Wednesday, June 7 at its branch located at 707 E. State Road 32 in Westfield.

All are welcome to drive through the branch parking lot between 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to drop off boxes of documents to be securely shredded with PROSHRED® Security. There is a limit of five boxes to be shredded per vehicle, and the event will end once the shred truck is full.

All documents will be shredded on-site, and 100 percent of the paper is recycled and eventually made into other paper products. Three-ring binders cannot be shredded.

See Shred . . . Page 2

Hamilton County accepting nonprofit grant applications

The REPORTER

The Hamilton County Commissioners and Councilors are now accepting grant applications from Hamilton County not-for-profits for funding in 2024. The Grant Program is intended to furnish funding to organizations that provide services in furtherance of county goals and without the providing of these services the county may need to consider the development of such programming.

Awards are provided based on application score and funding available. Any funds awarded must be supported by other funding sources or documented in-kind services and may only be distributed to Hamilton County based organizations. Complete information including eligibility criteria can be found at hamiltoncounty.in.gov/1682/Non-profit-Grant-Application.

See Grants . . . Page 2

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SCAN ME

Indulge in Westfield High School’s ‘American Pie’ concert during June 1 Farmers Market

The REPORTER

The Hamilton County Bicentennial commemorates the county's 200 years of history and takes place throughout 2023. The month of June has been designated as the celebration of Washington Township. On Thursday, June 1, see how Westfield High School reminds everyone how much WHS rocks with the “American Pie” concert. This is a themed concert that takes the audience on a journey through history via music. The theme for this year is “I’m going back to Indiana.” The student performers and the school’s professional house band, led by Mr. Jeff McLaughlin, are

top tier. This is a free concert and will be a reprise of the group’s May fundraiser. Merchandise will be available for purchase. The concert begins at 6 p.m. This event is being presented by the Westfield Washington Township, Westfield Welcome, the Westfield Chamber of Commerce and Downtown Westfield Association. The Westfield Farmers Market will take place from 5 to 8 p.m. in Grand Junction Plaza just north of the stage. [Click here](#) to learn more. **VIP Package** While the concert is free and open to everyone, VIP Packages are available and

include a 10-by-10-foot reserved area on the Great Lawn for up to four people, two commemorative bicentennial blankets, a Hamilton County Bicentennial cooler bag, and a graze box from 317 Charcuterie for \$200. [Click here](#) to request your VIP Package. * * * Learn more about the Hamilton County Bicentennial Celebration at [Ham-CoTurns200.com](#). The Bicentennial celebration was created with these guiding principles in mind: Celebrate, Reflect, Represent and Collaborate. The month of June is dedicated to highlighting Westfield Washington Township.

AMERICAN PIE

I’M GOING BACK TO INDIANA

WESTFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

2 0 2 3

Graphic provided

LOCAL NEWS
LOCAL SPORTS

Hamilton County
Reporter

Thanks for reading! SHRED

Over time, unused documents like medical records, credit card statements, and bills can build up in a home or office and pose a security threat. Ensuring that all these items are properly dis-

posed of by using document shredding can prevent this personal information from falling into the wrong hands. Community First Bank’s Free Shred Days are a part of the bank’s commitment to

supporting its communities. Donations will be welcome to support Westfield Youth Assistance Program (WYAP), which was formed in 2009 to serve as an early intervention advocate for

youth ages 3 to 17 who are facing challenging life circumstances. Find the event details at [CFBIndiana.com/shred](#). **About Community First Bank**

Community First Bank (CFB) was chartered in 2003 in Kokomo and is committed to keeping outstanding customer service, local decision-making, and relationship-building at its core. The locally owned and operated bank currently has branches in Indianapolis, Kokomo, Westfield, and Noblesville. Additional information can be found at [CFBIndiana.com](#). MEMBER FDIC, Equal Housing Lender.

ARTS from Page 1

Thursday, and from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday. The exhibit is open through June 29. **About Nickel Plate Arts** Nickel Plate Arts is an umbrella nonprofit organization that creates and coordinates arts and cultural experiences across communities in eastern Hamilton County and the surrounding areas to improve the quality of life for residents, strengthen local economies and enrich experiences for visitors. Nickel Plate Arts is a project of Hamilton County Tourism, Inc. Learn more at [NickelPlateArts.org](#).

GRANTS from Page 1



Maki Buckingham

Applications are due by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, June 9. Applications received after the deadline will not be accepted. Award recipients will be notified on or after Monday, Nov. 13 and funds will be distributed in January. For additional questions not answered in the application, please contact either County Councilor Sue Maki at [Sue.Maki@HamiltonCounty.in.gov](#) or Director of Administration Lee Buckingham at [Lee.Buckingham@HamiltonCounty.in.gov](#).

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County Scouts “do a good turn” for Memorial Day

By **AMY ADAMS**
For The Reporter

On Saturday, May 27, area Scouts participated in Memorial Day commemorations across Hamilton County. Here are a few highlights:

Fishers BSA Troop 199

Around 65 Scouts and family members from BSA Troop 199, under the leadership of Scoutmaster Bryan Spellman, placed around 2,100 flags at Oaklawn Memorial Gardens on Allisonville Road in Fishers.

“Scouts, siblings, parents, and grandparents spent the morning honoring our veterans,” Spellman said.

They will collect the flags next Saturday and store them.

Scout Troop 199 meets on Tuesday evenings from 7 to 8:15 pm at Holy Family Lutheran Church at 11445 Fishers Pointe Blvd. For more information, visit troop199.org.

Noblesville BSA Troop 150 and Cub Pack 150

Scouts and family members from Scout Troop 150 and Cub Pack 150, under the direction of Committee Chair Joanne Burfeind, assisted Noblesville American Legion Post 45 in placing flags around 1,000 flags at Crownland Cemetery in Noblesville.

“The Scouts were a big help and hopefully learned

a little along the way,” said Post 45 Commander John Morris.

Troop 150, under the leadership of Scoutmaster Tim Triplett, meets on Thursday evenings at Cyntheanne Christian Church at 13151 Cyntheanne Road in Fishers. Pack 150, under the leadership of Cubmaster Matt Blasdel, meets once a month on the second Wednesday at Wayne Township Fire Department at 18441 Durbin Road in Noblesville.

Cicero BSA Boys Troop 103, Girls Troop 1030 & Cub Pack 103

Cub Pack 103 had assisted in placing flags on service member’s graves at Cicero Cemetery on Thursday evening, May 25.

Then on Saturday, May 27, Scouts from BSA Boys Troop 103 and Girls Troop 1030 took part in the annual parade hosted by Cicero American Legion Post 96. Under the leadership of Dan Biddle, who serves as Scoutmaster of Troop 103 and committee member for Troop 103 and Pack 103, participants marched to the Cicero Bridge where “Taps” was played and a wreath was dropped over the bridge in honor of fallen sailors and members of the Coast Guard. The procession then continued on to Cicero Cemetery where, following a



Photos provided

(Top) Scouts from BSA Troop 199 offer a salute to service members at Oaklawn Memorial Cemetery where they placed 2,100 flags. (Above left) Scouts and family members from BSA Troop 150 and Cub Pack 150 placed around 1,000 flags at Crownland Cemetery in Noblesville. (Above right) Scouts from BSA Boys Troop 103 and BSA Girls Troop 1030 participated in the annual Memorial Day parade hosted by Cicero American Legion Post 96.

21-gun salute, a cross was laid for fallen soldiers, airmen, and marines. Several Scouts participated in the

event as members of the Hamilton Heights High School Band.

Find out more about

these Scouting units at CiceroScouts.org.

These are just a few of the many BSA Scout

Troops and Cub Packs in Hamilton County. To find a troop or pack near you, visit BeAScout.scouting.org.

SCOUTS

from Page 1

Four intermediate- and middle-school Scouts who weren’t expecting to conduct the flag ceremony, carefully lowered and raised the flag while onlookers saluted or placed their hands over their hearts.

Retired Army Lieutenant Colonel Roy Adams, an assistant Scoutmaster for Troop 107, filled in as speaker, talking about what a former commander called the “blanket of freedom.”

“Some service members, including in my own formation, never got to come home,” Adams said. “That’s really what Memorial Day is about. We are remembering those who fought and gave the ultimate sacrifice for us and for our country, and they have provided us with that ‘blanket of freedom.’”

Following the extemporized speech, Life Scout Jackson Eyler, a rising junior at WHS whose father, Rob Eyler, is the chaplain for Troop 107, led those in attendance in a prayer followed by a moment of silence to honor the fallen.

As scheduled, the seven-member joint Honor Guard under Sergeant-at-Arms Steve Wyatt, from VFW Post 10003, fired the traditional three-volley salute with rifles, what some call a 21-gun salute.

While Life Scout Andrew Westra, a rising junior who plays tuba in the WHS Marching Band, was prepared to play “Taps” on his trombone, he also welcomed a last-minute change.

Retired Staff Sergeant Jeff Shelburne, a veteran of the Indiana Army National Guard, was visiting his wife’s grave at the cemetery with his sons Brad and Andy, also veterans. Shelburne, a past bugler and trumpeter for the 38th Infantry Division Band, had his instrument on hand. So Westra and Shelburne improvised a duet of the mournful song, with Shelburne playing harmony on his silver trumpet.

As if jumping in to fill unexpected positions isn’t impressive enough, following the conclusion of the ceremony by Bishop, about two dozen Scouts and leaders traveled to Carmel Cemetery on Range Line Road to assist with placing flags at veterans’ graves.

On Monday, a caravan of the same Scouting units traveled to participate in Memorial Day ceremonies in Westfield at Hamilton Memorial Park, Fallen Hoosier Heroes Memorial for Enduring Freedom, and Little Eagle Creek Cemetery and in Carmel at Old Blue Cemetery and at Carmel



Reporter photos by Amy Adams

(Above) A joint Honor Guard, composed of members of Carmel VFW Post 10003 and American Legion Post 155, under Sergeant-At-Arms Steve Wyatt, fired a traditional three-volley salute with rifles. (Below left) Retired Army Lieutenant Colonel Roy Adams filled in as speaker for the Memorial Day event on Saturday, May 27. (Below right) Four Scouts prepare to perform the flag ceremony at Summit Lawn Cemetery in Westfield.

Cemetery.

They returned to Carmel Cemetery for a third time on Tuesday evening to help remove the flags for safekeeping and to place a coin on the gravestones as a symbol they paid their respects to the service member.

Find out more about Troops 107 and 1070 and Pack 126 at troopwebhost.org/Troop107Westfield and pack126.info and more about Carmel VFW Post 10003 at facebook.com/CarmelVFW and Carmel American Legion Post 155 at post155.org.



Community

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Community Free Shred Day!

Wednesday, June 7
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Donations are welcome!
All proceeds will go directly to Westfield Youth Assistance Program

Community First Bank, 707 E SR 32, Westfield
Limit of 5 Boxes per vehicle. CFBIndiana.com/shred



2023 BICENTENNIAL JUNE EVENTS

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

FIND THE OLDEST TREE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

June 1, 5-8 p.m., and June 2, 5-7 p.m.

Grand Junction Plaza | FREE

Hear about the winners of the Westfield Green Together contest! See posters about tree contestants and pick up a driving-tour map. Hear stories about what life might have been like when the trees were planted.

A DAY IN THE LIFE "ROCKS!"

June 2, 5-7 p.m., Grand Junction Plaza | FREE

Join Student Impact for a Pioneer-themed event of games, food and activities focused on a day in the life of a student in the 1830s in Hamilton County.

MAINSTREET PRODUCTIONS' WESTFIELD FOUNDERS

June 3, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Basile Playhouse

220 N. Union St., Westfield | FREE

Performances dramatize the lives of some of Westfield's founding families. Refreshments served. Performances run every hour beginning at 1 p.m.

WEEKENDS AT BARKER CABIN

June 3, 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Westfield Washington

Historical Society, 130 Penn St., Westfield | FREE

Find out how things got done during the time when the Barker family lived in their cabin in the 1830s. Ribbon-cutting and ceremony for the recently restored home is at 10 a.m., followed by old-fashioned cooking, demos by interpreters, the Rusty Muskets Band, a re-enactor show and car show. Food trucks, vendors, pony rides and more for families!

HISTORIC DOWNTOWN WALKING TOUR

June 3, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Cave & Co Printing (tour starting point), 104 W. Main St., Westfield | FREE

Join the Westfield Preservation Alliance on a self-guided walking tour of Westfield's Downtown National Register Historic District. Use the FREE mobile app "U R HERE - Historic Westfield, IN."

FAMILY HISTORY AND ART ACTIVITY DAY

June 23, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Westfield Washington Public Library, 338 W. Hoover St., Westfield | FREE

Speakers discuss genealogy topics, including getting started, Quaker records, military records, and information on how to use Ancestry.com and Indiana State Library sources. Take part in local arts and crafts demonstration fair. During the week leading up to the program, the library will host a vintage board game tournament. (Sign up for parts of the event on the library's website.)



WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP SIGNATURE EVENT

WESTFIELD BASH!

June 1, 5-8 p.m.; June 2, 8-10 a.m. and 6-9 p.m., Grand Junction Plaza, 225 S. Union St., Westfield | FREE

June 1, 5-8 p.m. At the Westfield Farmer's Market, enjoy free entertainment, dozens of vendors and Westfield Washington Schools' American Pie concert ("Coming Back to Indiana").

June 2, 8-10 a.m. Enjoy the Westfield Fire Department's Pancake Breakfast on Park Street and check out vintage vehicles! (Cost for breakfast.)

June 2, 6-9 p.m. Before they head out on their international tour, Reverend Peyton's Big Damn Band takes the stage at Grand Junction Plaza! Local artist Kassey King opens for this FREE concert.

COOL CREEK BICENTENNIAL CONCERT

June 30, 6-9:15 p.m., Cool Creek Park, 2000 E. 151st St., Westfield

\$5 to attend | See Stella Luna and the Satellites during the Cool Creek Bicentennial Concert!

HAMILTON CO. BICENTENNIAL TRAVELING EXHIBIT

Westfield:

June 3-9, Westfield Playhouse, Union St.

June 10-16, Westfield Wash. Historical Society, Penn St.

June 17-23, Westfield Wash. Public Library, Hoover St.

June 24-30, Washington Township Trustee, Greyhound Pass

FREE | Learn about all five of our Bicentennial themes: Arts, Diversity/Inclusion, Education, Historic Preservation, and Parks/Environment. Contact the hosting organization for information on when the exhibit is open to the public.

ALSO IN JUNE

WE THE FREE?: PEOPLE OF COLOR - MOVEMENTS AND IDENTITY

June 29, 7-8:30 p.m., Roberts Chapel, 3102 E. 276th St, Atlanta

FREE | Three history scholars whose academic research has provided rich insight into the under-told story of free people of color headline a panel discussion at Roberts Settlement. Learn about Indiana's free people of color — their Southern roots, migration, settlement in Indiana and faith. (RSVPs required. A live stream of the event will be available. Visit [HamCoTurns200](https://HamCoTurns200.com) for details and registration.)

Access the entire **2023 Bicentennial Event Lineup**
and get event/program details: **HamCoTurns200.com**

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Photo provided

The Darlington Bed Race is known for kicking off summer in the city of Noblesville.

Darlington Bed Race set for Friday evening on Courthouse Square

The REPORTER

The event that has historically been the ‘kick off to summer on the square’ returns this year.

Supporting the Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville and Noblesville Parks & Recreation, the 11th annual event will raise funds to support youth programs that take place during out-of-school times. The Bed Race will also serve as June’s First Friday event for Noblesville Main Street.

“Last year the Bed Race raised over \$20,000 to fund scholarships for our youth programs,” BGCN Director of Club Operations Abby Stutesman said. “These scholarships provide positive, engaging activities for local kids and are needed now more than ever. Youth are needing the freedom and social connections that our organizations offer, and families are needing the financial assistance that events like the Bed Race make possible.”

Since its inception, the annual Bed Race has been

generously titled sponsored by Darlington Snacks. Matteo’s will once again sponsor the event with the Track-side VIP Race Dinner, which will expand this year to provide the ultimate Bed Race experience to more guests with their three-course meal and up-close seating. Other local businesses are invited to sponsor the downtown event and showcase their support to more than 1,000 onlookers over the course of the evening.

“Kicking off summer and putting school to bed has always been our motto,” Stutesman said. “Providing an exhilarating, free of charge, family-friendly atmosphere downtown on the first Friday of summer is our goal. This year’s competition is sure to be just as intense – especially with our new rivalry between the Police and Fire Departments!”

Sponsorship and part-



Stutesman

nership opportunities to support the event are now available, and teams can reserve their spot in the 11th annual event at BGCNI.org. For information, questions and requests, email Stutesman at astutesman@bgcni.org.

About the Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville

The Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville provides high-quality, low-cost programs for youth members with the help of donors and sponsors. Between the Club, the Community Center and Camp Crosser, we provide opportunities for members to enjoy activities and experiences that help shape character and offer new perspectives. We are dedicated to inspiring and enabling all young people to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens by promoting leadership, character, health and physical development.

146th & Allisonville construction project now has its own website

The REPORTER

The Hamilton County Highway Department began construction at the intersection of 146th Street and Allisonville Road last week. The \$44 million project will reduce congestion and increase safety by converting the intersection into a grade-separated interchange, with 146th Street going over a roundabout on Allisonville Road.

“We know it’s an inconvenience now, but we’re certain this project will be worth it in the end,” Highway Director Brad Davis said. “In the meantime, we’re committed to doing whatever we can to communicate the latest information



Davis



Heirbrandt

to residents and motorists.”

The Highway Department has created an informational website and an e-newsletter that provide the very latest on construction and lane restrictions. Both can be found at streamline146.com.

“146th Street is the main east-west artery in our county, running 17 miles from the Boone County Line to I-69,” County Commissioner Mark Heirbrandt said. “The Alli-

sonville Road intersection in particular is one of the most traveled. Approximately 44,000 vehicles travel through it every day, so it’s critical we make these upgrades to keep up with the growing needs of our community.”

The worksite speed limit is set at 35 mph.

Delays are anticipated during peak hours. Motorists are asked to exercise caution while driving through the intersection and to seek alternate routes when feasible. Construction should be complete by Summer 2025. A similar project is expected to start at the intersection of 146th Street and Hazel Dell Parkway in the Summer of 2026.

Senior Lunch & Learn

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Noblesville Lions Club

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FRIDAY, June 2

Lunch/Dinner 11:00AM to 8:00PM

\$13 Advance \$15 At the Door
\$8 Hotdog

SATURDAY, June 3

Breakfast 7:00AM to 11:00AM

\$6 Adult \$4 Kids

Advance tickets available from any Lion

Summer full of Kids TRI for Kids triathlons scheduled for Indy area

The REPORTER

This summer, kids ages 6 to 14 and their friends can enjoy five triathlons which are designed just for kids. Kids TRI for Kids (KTFK) offers safe races where kids can learn the value of fun competition.

The initiative of Kids TRI for Kids is to provide friendly competition and also help kids form healthy fitness habits by taking part in affordable fitness options – swimming, biking and running.

The 2023 dates and locations are June 11, Kathy Dowling Aquatics Center in Greenfield; July 4, Zionsville High School; July 30, TRI Indy at White River State Park; Aug. 13, Riviera Club; and Aug. 27, Greenwood Freedom Springs Aquatics Park.

Registration for the races is currently open. Triathlons and Duathlons are available for each date. Each race will have varied distances based on their layouts. You can visit the Kids TRI website, KidsTRIforKids.com, and get details about each race.

The events are open to children aged 6 to 14. The age of the participant is determined by age as of Dec. 31, 2023. All races are \$30 online and \$45 if registering at the race. Family special: \$30 for first two children then \$25 for each additional child.

USAT Membership is also required. Youth membership is \$10 and will be good for one year. Please



Photo provided

Several triathlons are planned for the Indy metropolitan area this summer.

register online before your first race and bring evidence of your USAT member number to each race. You can register at member.usatriathlon.org/login.

Awards will be given at each race. Each triathlete will receive a participation ribbon with a goodie bag. Kids TRI for Kids medals will be awarded for first through third places in each age division.

For each race, participants will receive an additional award based on the number of races they have participated in:

- One race = T-shirt
- Two races = a water bottle
- Three races = a sling bag
- Four races = a race belt



• Five races = a KTFK trophy

Kid TRI for kKds also partners with Best Buddies and other groups to help get ALL kids involved with physical activity. If you know of any groups who would benefit from being a

part of Kids TRI for Kids, please feel free to contact Kids TRI for more information. Kids TRI for Kids also welcomes sponsors, donations and volunteers for their events. Visit the web-site or Facebook for more information.

American Senior Communities reveals CEO succession plan

Submitted

American Senior Communities (ASC) Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Donna Kelsey, in collaboration with the ASC Board of Directors, has appointed Steve Van Camp, ASC's current Chief Financial Officer (CFO) to succeed her as CEO effective Thursday, June 1. Kelsey will remain with ASC and transition to a Senior Advisor role for the company.

Under Kelsey's leadership for the past seven years, ASC emerged stronger, adding new benefits and technology to support employees, achieving a CMS Quality score above state and national averages, and attaining the highest levels of customer satisfaction among many other accomplishments.

During her tenure as CEO, Kelsey was honored as one of Indiana Business Journal's 2020 Women of Influence, and under her leadership, ASC was named Indy's Top Workplace in 2020. Most recently, she was inducted into the 2023 McKnight's

Women of Distinction Hall of Honor. McKnight's is the preeminent national media outlet for the senior care profession, and the Hall of Honor category celebrates women leaders who have made significant impact on their organization and the profession.

"Donna has poured everything she has into making our organization successful, during a very challenging time in health care," Van Camp said. "She has championed some of the most effective initiatives our company has ever implemented, and we offer her our most profound gratitude for all she has done and will continue to do as Senior Advisor."

In her new role as Senior Advisor, Kelsey will focus on leadership development and government advocacy for the senior care profession.

Taking the helm, Van Camp has served ASC successfully as CFO for nearly five years, and brings over 30 years of experience in operations and

See ASC . . . Page 8



Kelsey



Van Camp



Dice

A Warm Friendly Welcome Awaits You!



Jesus calls us to love all people and extend good to all men. He wants us to respect all people. He tells us not to make distinctions between people. Those are the kind of people you will meet at the Stony Creek Church of Christ. We are simply people wanting to go to heaven and take others with us. We want to be Christians like you can read about in the New Testament – nothing more and nothing else. If that sounds like the kind of people with whom you desire to assemble – check us out!

At the **Stony Creek Church of Christ**, we assemble on Sundays and Wednesdays to seek a better understanding of Jesus and His ways. You are encouraged and invited to join us for those studies or call for a private study.



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Sunday Worship 11:00 am

Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 pm


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This week, my husband and I received some unexpected but exciting news — a previous foster child of ours is coming back “home.” Additionally, she is changing her plan with us to “adoption.”

This will be the fifth child that my husband and I have fostered and then adopted, and it will mean our family is full. After fostering for five years with 12 different kids, we will no longer be

COLUMNIST



a part of the foster system. And so, I am writing today to encourage new members of our community to get involved in fostering.

LOWRY The timing could not be more aligned because May is Foster Care Awareness Month. Years ago, when I first became a foster parent, I wasn't sure what to expect. But fostering gave me a whole new purpose in life. It is an incredible privilege to be the rock for a

child in the scariest moment of their life. You get to love them, show up for them, and encourage them. You get to provide safety, security, routine, and structure. Often, these are things they need now more than ever before. It is extremely rewarding to give them a sense of control when they have felt completely powerless.

Even if you are not ready to make the commitment to fostering, there are other ways to get involved. Some people chose to join A Care Community, a group of people working together to help

foster families with whatever they need the most. Care Communities can bring families dinners, help with childcare, or help around the house. For my family, our Care Community from Grace Church was an essential part of us being successful foster parents.

Additionally, I believe there is no better place to foster kids than the city of Westfield. Westfield Schools understand the educational support needed to make things easier for foster families when registering new kids. They even help with

providing supplies, books, and free meals whenever they are needed. Westfield's special school programs, like the Open Doors Food Pantry and Community Gardens, are incredibly valuable resources and can help settle kids as they transition to their new community.

Finally, the Westfield Youth Assistance Program can also be a huge support to ensure a foster family's success. WYAP will work with a family to find kids mentors for their specific needs. All these programs make Westfield the perfect city to sup-

port getting involved in the foster program.

No matter how short your time with them, you can make a life changing impact on a child's life when you decide to foster. So today I am asking you to consider making one of the greatest contributions you can make to children in our community – fostering.

Alexis Lowry is a foster mother, small business owner, and candidate for Westfield City Council District 4. You can learn more about her online at AlexisForWestfield.com.

By GREGG MONTGOMERY
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

How dangerous is social media for teens?

It's a question people are asking after **U.S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy issued an advisory** Tuesday that says there's not enough evidence to determine whether social media is safe

enough for children and adolescents when it comes to their mental health.

Dr. Jerome Adams, the WISH-TV medical expert and a former U.S. surgeon general, addressed the matter on last Friday's News 8 at 5 p.m.

“We know that we are in the midst of a mental health crisis nationally, and it’s particularly pronounced for

our young people,” Adams said. “What we’ve found in what Dr. Murphy points out in that study is that social media is a big precipitant of these mental health issues.

“If you spend more than three hours on social media as a young person every day, you are twice as likely to have anxiety and depressive symptoms, and they’ve actually found that if you

decrease your social media usage, it can significantly lower your depression and anxiety symptoms.

“So this is a factor that is really having an impact on our youth. It’s both content they’re being exposed to, sexual content to violent content, but also being pressured to keep up with the Joneses, if you will, and it’s also addictive behavior. It’s

problematic usage.

“Young people say they can’t stop using. So, knowing this, should social media use be part of the discussion with pediatricians. Absolutely.”

Adams noted that the report from Murphy's office also includes tips for families, doctors, and the technology experts.

The former surgeon

general added, “As adults, we should model responsible social media behavior and we should teach kids about technology and empower them to be responsible online users. I often say this is a tool just like a hammer. It can help you build a house or it can harm you. We want children to be able to use social media in a productive way.”

finance to the role. Prior to joining ASC, he served as CFO of Consulate Health Care, the largest operator of skilled nursing facilities in the State of Florida. He

graduated with a bachelor's degree in accounting from Manchester University, and then obtained his MBA from the University of Notre Dame. He is a

CPA (non-active) and began his career at Ernst & Young.

"I am confident in Steve's ability to keep delivering quality care as the top priority for the company," Kelsey said. "He leads with passion and has a collaborative management style that will undoubtedly bring long-term value to

the organization.”

With Van Camp transitioning to CEO, Mark Dice will step into the CFO role. Dice, a Certified Public Accountant, has been an ASC finance leader for over seven years. He brings over 25 years of experience as a CFO/Controller in the long-term care and phar-

pharmacy professions. He was a former Audit Manager at Ernst & Young and earned his Bachelors (cum laude) in Accounting from Ball State University.

About American Senior Communities

As Indiana's largest senior care provider, American Senior Communities (ASC) has served fellow

Hoosiers since the year 2000. Lifestyle and care options include garden homes, assisted living, inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation, memory care, skilled nursing care, hospice and respite care. ASC's mission is to compassionately serve each customer with quality care and excellence. Learn more at ASCCare.com.

from Page 7

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Meeting Notice

The June 1, 2023, meeting of the Hamilton County Community Corrections Advisory Board has been canceled.

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Go beyond the stage at Center for the Performing Arts in Carmel

The REPORTER

The Center for the Performing Arts in Carmel offers the following opportunities for educational experiences.

Spotlight shines on Midwest Academy uke players

Weeks of work and fun were on display last week when the afterschool Ukulele Club from Midwest Academy presented a recital for family and friends at the Studio Theater.

Midwest Academy, just down the road from the Center, is an intentional educational community serving students in grades 3-12 who have ADD/ADHD, language-based learning differences, high functioning autism and processing challenges. This spring, with funding from the Hamilton County Community Foundation, the Center purchased ukuleles and launched the afterschool club, led by Education Associate Kristen Bales and local singer-songwriter Meghan Cristeen Martin, who teaches ukulele classes

at the Center.

In conjunction with the club, the Midwest Academy students and their families were invited to participate in one of the Center's FrontRow preconcert artist Q&A sessions with members of George Hinchliffe's Ukulele Orchestra of Great Britain. The families enjoyed dinner and complimentary tickets to the April 30 performance at the Palladium.

"Our students gained more than we could have imagined from this experience," said Kaitlyn Pulos, a counselor and coordinator of Student Activities & Athletics at Midwest Academy. "The instructors were patient and encouraging of our students, who gained new musical skills and confidence in themselves. Partnering with the Center is something we hope to continue."

Little ones can enjoy music by the book

Local musician and educator Michelle Marti, a.k.a. "Ms. Michelle," has added a new twist to her popular

Child & Adult Music Classes for young children and their grownups.

Song Stories is a family music class inspired by popular song-based children's books and designed for children ages 18 months to 5 years, but open to all ages. Classes are filled with live music, stories, movement, singing, dancing, and playing instruments. For home enjoyment that continues long after the class ends, families will receive a link to a digital audio recording of each book and a CD of songs sung in class.

The first round of *Song Stories* runs June 2 to 30, with sessions at 9:30 or 10:45 a.m. each Friday and stories including "Down by the Bay," "There Was a Tree" and "I Ain't Gonna Paint No More!" A **second round** is scheduled July 21 through Aug. 18.

In each case, the cost is just \$70 for all five sessions. *Song Stories* is presented in partnership with Westfield Veterinary Care. [Click here](#) for more information.



Photo provided

The annual Jungle Jams music day camp for kids aged 5 to 7 is set for July 24 to 28, but spots are filling quickly, so get your youngster registered today.

A new kind of arts camp gets underway

This week brings the start of the Center's inaugural Prism Project performing arts camp for youth with physical, sensory and learning disabilities. Originally developed at Ball State University, the program enables these students to express themselves and engage with others while developing self-confidence, gaining creative arts experience, and building friendships.

With support from volunteer "Buddies" and guidance from professional arts instructors in dance, music, and theater, 22 students will spend three mornings each week developing and rehearsing a stage show highlighting their individual tastes and talents.

The culminating performance of this original production will take place at 2 p.m. on Sunday, June 25 in the Center's Studio Theater. Tickets are only \$10. [Click here](#) for tickets.

Spots still available for youngster music camp

The Center's annual Jungle Jams music day camp for ages 5 to 7 takes place July 24 to 28, and there's still room for a few more campers.

Miss Lisa of Bongo Boy Music School introduces the kids to the joy of making music and promotes positive character qualities through songs, stories and music-based crafts and activities. [Click here](#) to learn more about Jungle Jams.

Let's misbehave: don't miss the music of Cole Porter with Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra this weekend

Submitted

Cole Porter's sophisticated and timeless songs continue to inhabit a unique place in society. It's no wonder his work has been interpreted by countless artists across the decades.

Join Principal Pops Conductor Jack Everly, Tony DeSare, trumpeter Bria Skonberg, and vocalist and tap dancer John Manzari as they give their fresh spin on such hits as "Night and Day," "I Get A Kick Out of You," "I've Got You Under My Skin," "It's De-Lovely," "You're the Top," and many more.

Performances are set for 11 a.m. on Friday, June 2; 8 p.m. on Friday, June 2; and 8 p.m. on Saturday, June 3. [Click here](#) to buy tickets. For more information

regarding the policies of the Hilbert Circle Theatre, please go to [Indianapolis-Symphony.org](#).

About Jack Everly

Jack Everly is the Principal Pops Conductor of the Indianapolis and Baltimore Symphony Orchestras, Naples Philharmonic Orchestra, and the National Arts Centre Orchestra (Ottawa). He has conducted the Los Angeles Philharmonic at the Hollywood Bowl, the San Francisco Symphony, the New York Pops at Carnegie Hall, and the Seattle Symphony.

Everly recently extended his contract with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra through 2026, when he will assume the role of Principal Pops Conductor Emeritus. He will continue to be

the music director of the AES Indiana *Yuletide Celebration*, the nation's largest symphonic holiday production in the country. He led the ISO in its first Pops recording, *Yuletide Celebration*, Volume One. Some of his other recordings include *In The Presence* featuring the Czech Philharmonic and Daniel Rodriguez; Sandi Patty's *Broadway Stories*; the soundtrack to Disney's *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*; and *Everything's Coming Up Roses: The Overtures of Jule Styne*.

About Tony DeSare

Tony DeSare performs with infectious joy, wry playfulness, and robust musicality. Named Rising Star Male Vocalist in *Downbeat* magazine, DeSare has lived up to this distinction by

winning critical and popular acclaim for his concert performances throughout North America and abroad. From jazz clubs to Carnegie Hall to Las Vegas and headlining major symphony orchestras, DeSare has brought his fresh take on old school class around the globe.

DeSare has four top 10 *Billboard* jazz albums under his belt and has been featured on the *CBS Early Show*, NPR, *A Prairie Home Companion*, and the *Today Show*, and his music has been posted by social media celebrity juggernaut George Takei. DeSare has also collaborated with YouTube supergroup Postmodern Jukebox. He has been a featured guest artist with over 100 symphony orchestras with

some highlights including the Cleveland Orchestra, The New York Pops, The San Francisco Symphony, The Houston Symphony, the Chicago Symphony.

Notwithstanding his critically acclaimed turns as a singer/pianist, DeSare is also an accomplished award-winning composer. He not only won first place in the USA Songwriting Contest but has written the theme song for the motion picture *My Date With Drew*, several broadcast commercials and has scored five films. His sound is romantic, swinging and sensual, but what sets DeSare apart is his ability to write original material that sounds fresh and contemporary yet pays homage to the Great American Songbook.

About the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra

The Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, at home and thriving in the heart of Indianapolis, offers an exceptional artistic and musical experience. The orchestra is open to all and dedicated to creating an inclusive and innovative experiential environment that is inspiring, educational, and welcoming. The ISO celebrates historically beloved performances while engaging audiences by introducing new voices through programming including the DeHaan *Classical Series*, the Printing Partners Pops Series, the holiday traditions of AES Indiana *Yuletide Celebration* and the popular *Film Series* presented by Bank of America.

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TODAY’S BIBLE READING

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. God called the light “day,” and the darkness he called “night.” And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day.

And God said, “Let there be a vault between the waters to separate water from water.” So God made the vault and separated the water under the vault from the water above it. And it was so. God called the vault “sky.” And there was evening, and there was morning—the second day.

And God said, “Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear.” And it was so. God called the dry ground “land,” and the gathered waters he called “seas.” And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, “Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds.” And it was so. The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the third day.

Genesis 1:1-13 (NIV)

Jewell G. Siler

June 23, 1937 – May 26, 2023

Jewell G. Siler, 85, Noblesville, passed away on Friday, May 26, 2023, at Hamilton Trace of Fishers. She was born on June 23, 1937, to Hubert and Ossie (Jones) Cooper in Pennington Gap, Va.

Jewell was a nursing home dietician for many years before retiring. She was a member of Trinity House of Worship and loved attending church.

She is survived by her sons, Steve (Becky) Barnette and Dan (Carolyn) Barnette; grandchildren, Billie (Glenn) Busch, Rayna Ennen, Kali (AJ) Lollar, and Leah Barnette; eight great-grandchildren; sister, Audrey Stapleton; brother, Gary (Victoria) Cooper; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her first husband, Alfred Barnette; second husband, Charles Siler; and siblings, Eugene Cooper, Anna Mae Ball, Shirley Cooper, Garvie Cooper, Richard Cooper, Bobby Cooper, and Loretta Hess.

Services will be held at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, May 31, 2023, at Randall & Roberts Funeral Home, 1150 Logan St., Noblesville, with Pastor Jed Henson officiating. Visitation will be from 11 a.m. to the time of service at the funeral home. Burial will be at Crownland Cemetery in Noblesville.

Condolences: randallroberts.com

Margaret Louise Bilbrey

April 16, 1955 – May 22, 2023

Margaret Louise Bilbrey, 68, Anderson, Ind., passed away on May 22, 2023, at her home.

She was born on April 16, 1955, in Tipton to Junior Lawrence and Mildred Lavonne (Byers) Brehm. She attended Pendleton Schools and graduated from Pendleton Heights High School.

She became employed at Delco Remy in Anderson and worked for several years on an assembly line. She liked to work outdoors and took good care of her lawn and flower gardens. She also enjoyed shopping and decorating her home. Additionally, she was an animal lover and usually had two cats and a German Shepard dog at her home.

She was a member of the Arcadia Church of the Brethren, a church where many of her family members had worshipped for many years.

Margaret was preceded in death by her husband, Johnny Ray Bilbrey; and her parents, Junior and Mildred Brehm.

Surviving her are sisters Beth Ann (Van) Furgeson and Mary Lynn Thomas of Anderson; and a niece, Bonny Jean Overly of Oklahoma City, Okla.

Graveside rites were held on Friday, May 26, 2023, at Arcadia Cemetery, Arcadia. Hartley Funeral Home Cicero Chapel was entrusted with her services. You may send condolences at hartleyfuneralhomes.com.

Michael J. Walker

September 21, 1944 – May 27, 2023

Michael J. Walker, 78, Fishers, passed away on Saturday, May 27, 2023, at his home. He was born on September 21, 1944, to the late William and Penny (Gray) Walker in Muncie, Ind.

As a child, Mike helped out in his grandparents’ grocery store. In 1961, he started at Standard Grocery where he worked for 30 years. Mike then became a food broker until his retirement. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, and playing golf.

Mike loved his chocolate lab, Molly. Most of all, he loved his grandchildren and supported them in all their activities.

Mike is survived by his wife of 60 years, Patti Walker; sons, Michael (Kelley) Walker and Patrick (Rebecca) Walker; grandchildren, Nico (Ashly) Walker, Sam Walker, Casey Walker, Clayton Walker, and Carly Walker; great-grandchildren, Clay, Kade and Charlotte; brother, Patric G. (Lisa) Walker; and brother-in-law, David (Eunice) Vincent.

Visitation will be held from 5 to 7:30 p.m., with services at 7:30 p.m., on Thursday, June 1, 2023, at Randall & Roberts Fishers Mortuary, 12010 Allisonville Road, Fishers. Burial will be at 11 a.m. on Friday, June 2, 2023, at Mount Tabor Cemetery in Selma, Ind.

Memorial contributions may be made to Riley Children’s Foundation, 30 S. Meridian St., Suite 200, Indianapolis, IN 46204 (rileykids.org); or Salvation Army, 6060 Castleway West Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46250 (centralusa.salvationarmy.org/indiana).

Condolences: randallroberts.com

Vilma “Jay” E. Murphy

December 23, 1927 – May 26, 2023

Vilma “Jay” E. Murphy, 95, Fishers, passed away on Friday, May 26, 2023, at her home. She was born on December 23, 1927, to Charles and Emma (Rawlings) Pugh in Indianapolis.

Vilma graduated from Lawrence Central High School. She married Edmond Murphy on August 20, 1949. Vilma was a full-time wife, mother, and homemaker.

She is survived by her children, Tim (Anitra) Murphy, Laurie (Bert) Murphy, Patricia Howard, Barbara (Brian) Murphy, Mary (Bob) Louzon, Greg (Amy) Murphy, Kevin (Kathy) Murphy, Therese (Steve) Sweitzer, Dennis (Lynn) Murphy, and Johnny Murphy; 22 grandchildren; and 23 great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents, Vilma was preceded in death by her husband, Edmond H. Murphy in 1990; son, Terrance Murphy; daughter, Maureen Gross; and son-in-law, Garry Howard.

Private family services will be held. Burial will be at Oaklawn Memorial Gardens in Indianapolis.

Memorial contributions may be made to Humane Society for Hamilton County, 10501 Hague Road, Fishers, IN 46038, (hamiltonhumane.com).

Condolences: randallroberts.com



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Baseball

Royals play out Cinderella story

Lowest-ranked team takes down state-ranked sectional opponent

By RICHARD TORRES
For The Reporter

CARMEL — The time was right to show out, and the Hamilton Southeastern Royals did precisely that Monday at Carmel's Hartman Field.

The lowest-ranked team in the Class 4A Sectional 8 field, and hardly the tournament favorite, the Royals put their regular-season trials behind them on Memorial Day during the sectional title game and instead focused on tradition.

Their collective mindset and approach paid championship dividends, as junior Ethan Lund, a Purdue commit, and senior Brady Strawmyer, a Rose-Hulman recruit, combined to throw a two-hitter, and senior Ty Bradle provided the run support to power the Royals to a 3-1 win over state-ranked Noblesville.

"Even from early on this season, we were never seen as a strong team. We were looked at as an easy win, but we've shown we can compete with the big boys," Strawmyer said. "This is

huge. We've been through a tough year, but we all kind of expected that something great was coming."

What unfolded was the Royals' (18-14) first sectional title since 2019 — when the program won the 4A state title — and their 16th overall in program history.

"Traditionally, we're a successful team, so to just bring it back, especially in coach (Kory) Seitz's first year here, it feels great. I'm so happy for him and so happy for this team," Bradle said.

The feat required an all-out effort, and it started with pitching.

Lund, who struggled against Noblesville during their regular-season meeting in early May, turned the page and carried a no-hitter into the bottom of the fourth in the rematch to finish with eight strikeouts through 4.2 innings.

Strawmyer closed out the game with 2.1 one-hit innings and two strikeouts for the save.

When the two teams met for their annual two-game Hoosier Crossroads

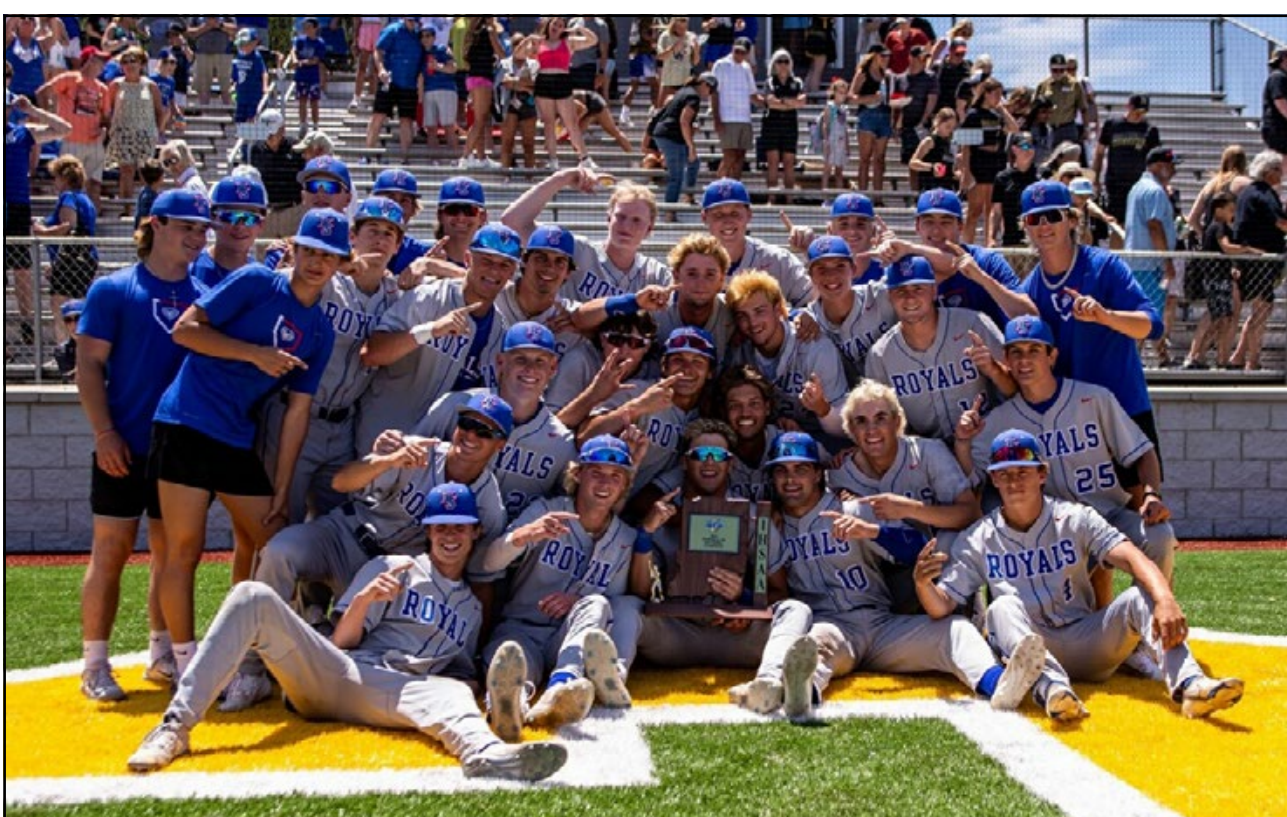


Photo by Joshua Herd

The Hamilton Southeastern baseball team won its first sectional championship since 2019 on Monday. The Royals beat Noblesville 3-1 at Carmel's Hartman Field and will play Harrison Saturday in the Regional 4 game.

Conference series, they split, but with the sectional title on the line, the Royals proved a more confident and refined rendition.

"As we were going

through the season and we would go through a little bit of a lull, we told the guys, 'Hey, all we need to do is play our best at the right time. Nobody cares about

regular-season records.' That's the biggest thing, getting to that point of playing well, having some confidence and playing at the right time,"

Seitz said. "If you can get those things going in the right direction, you never know what can happen."

See *Cinderella* . . . Page 12

Solid pitching & opportune hitting propel Royals to sectional championship

By CRAIG ADKINS
For The Reporter

CARMEL — In a sectional like the six-team field in Class 4A Sectional 8, it's a matter of if you can survive and be the last team standing with the championship on Memorial Day.

The Hamilton Southeastern Royals took full advantage of drawing the bye game and only having to win twice, but the difficult task was getting those victories in two days.

Two solid starts on Saturday from Ty Bradle against Westfield and Monday from Ethan Lund over Noblesville helped HSE capture its first sectional title since 2019, the season the Royals won the 4A state championship.

"It's been a while. This team's gone through some ups and downs. I'm just so proud of this whole team. We've worked so hard since January and February and that hard work is finally paying off. It feels really good," said Hamilton Southeastern senior pitcher and first baseman Ty Bradle.

Bradle and Lund had two strong outings to control Westfield, Noblesville bats

Last Saturday against the Shamrocks, Bradle was in complete control in moving his second mark on the mound to 7-1. The senior Lincoln Trail commit sent down nine Westfield hitters on strikeouts, walked five, but yielded just two hits. The Shamrocks scored their two runs in the fourth, but the Royals completed the comeback to make their way to the championship.

Bradle got it done both at the plate and on the mound. In Saturday's semifinal, Ty threw 6.1 innings, struck out nine Westfield hitters, gave up two hits, two runs and walked five. His two sectional games at the plate he went 2-for-7, including a two-run home run in the fourth inning against Noblesville in Monday's title tilt.

This team had the mindset that they were being overlooked, simply because of their record. The Royals entered sectional play with 14 losses. An outlook like that by their opponents takes

a little pressure off of Hamilton Southeastern as well.

"Coach Seitz told us going into sectional that we've got nothing to lose. We're the so-called worst-ranked team in the sectional and we came in here and shocked some people. Everybody's 0-0 going into the state tournament and we're still surviving," continued Bradle.

Junior Purdue commit Ethan Lund went 4.2 frames in the championship to even his record to 3-3. Lund gave up just one hit and a run, striking out eight and walking five.

The one-two punch of a Bradle and Lund rotation proved to be exactly what the Royals needed to have success against both the Shamrocks and Millers.

The added pressure of base runners in the championship seemed to only fuel Lund to throw better.

"That's how I've been throwing all year. Against Zionsville, I had bases loaded in the first two innings and then struck out the side. I just like to keep it interesting," said Lund.

Lund and southpaw re-



Photo by Joshua Herd

Hamilton Southeastern's Ethan Lund threw 4.2 innings in Monday's sectional final game, striking out eight and helping the Royals to the championship.

lief pitcher Brady Strawmyer allowed one hit apiece in holding down the Millers.

It was an all-business approach for Lund. He went three and two-thirds before giving up a hit to Noblesville catcher Jacob Edwards.

"We definitely had the luck of the (sectional) draw, getting the bye. I re-

member when the sectional draw happened. We were in Lantz's basement and we all just went crazy, because we knew we only had to play two games in the toughest sectional in the state," continued Lund.

The Royals were fortunate enough to be able to rest every other arm that could

possibly be used throughout the remainder of the state tournament. Bradle and Lund started both sectional games and Strawmyer was the only reliever to appear in both contests, leaving plenty of possibilities in Saturday's Regional 4 championship.

See *Propel* . . . Page 12

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CINDERELLA

This season, the Royals’ longest winning streak reached five games, while their lengthiest losing run was the same. Now, they’re at six consecutive victories and in their first regional game in four years.

“It just means so much to the program, especially to Kory, his first year stepping in as the head coach,” Lund said. “I think it’s just awesome for the team to come out and get this sectional win because it just shows everyone that we’re here and the Royals are coming to play.”

Bradle (1-for-3) was prepared to challenge at the plate.

With Noblesville (23-7) keeping the Royals’ hitters quiet behind a strong start by senior Bryce Riggs, who retired the first nine batters he faced, junior Alex Billman (2-for-3) broke up the three-inning no-hit bid with a lead-off single in the top of the fourth.

Bradle stepped up next, and with a 1-0 count, he changed the momentum.

“Coach gave me the slash sign, and I was just looking to put the bat on the ball and make contact and move the runner. The first pitch I pulled back, and it was low in the dirt, and then the second one I just saw it pretty well and put the bat on the ball. It carried and got over,” Bradle said. “It felt pretty good.”

The 2-0 lead jumped to 3-0 in the top of the fifth, as Colin Goley drove in Harrison Dilts, who reached with a one-out triple.

Briggs was relieved in the top of the sixth, finishing with six hits allowed through five-complete innings, one walk and nine strikeouts.

Lund walked five batters and was lifted in the bottom of the fifth after issuing back-to-back walks to open the frame, but despite the Millers putting their lead-off hitter on base in each of the first five innings, they left six stranded.



Photo by Joshua Herd

Noblesville’s Hunter Corbett takes a swing at the plate.

Three straight strikeouts by Lund in the bottom of the third left a runner stranded at third base. In the second, three strikeouts by Lund kept Jack Shade stuck at first base after getting hit by a pitch.

A trio of tag outs in the bottom of the third and fourth prevented any substantial damage after Lund walked the first batter in the first, third and fourth innings.

An RBI single by Riggs in the bottom of the fifth scored Trevor Corbett, who walked to start the inning, but Lund and Strawmyer stuck to their formula to end any further threat.

“Originally, it was supposed to be him starting, but then we switched it up because we like him better out of the pen,” Lund said. “I’ve started most of the games, and Strawmyer has closed out most of the games in long relief for me, and we just didn’t really want to switch that up. Obviously, it worked. I’m just happy we switched it back up and it ended the way it did.”

The Millers were attempting to win their first sectional title since 2014, but eight stranded batters overall kept them chasing the Royals down to the fi-

nal out.

Noblesville had runners on the corners with one out in the bottom of the seventh, but Strawmyer induced a fly out to right field for the second out and a grounder to first base where Bradle recorded the final putout unassisted before the Royals dogpiled in victory.

“Hats off to HSE, they played a great game today. The amount of electricity you see out on the mound in this sectional is second to none, and they had a good guy on the mound again. They have a really good staff, and Strawmyer came in and did a nice job,” Noblesville head coach Justin Keever said.

“We just couldn’t break through. We couldn’t get the hit when we needed it, and we had some opportunities, but they didn’t happen. That’s baseball.”

The win secured coach Seitz’s first sectional title in his first try alongside his father and long-standing HSE baseball coach Ken Seitz.

The duo was on staff during the Royals’ state championship season in 2019, and after upending 17th ranked Westfield, according to MaxPreps, in the sectional semifinal, 5-2, and No. 2 Noblesville in the final, the path ahead is the

team’s to control.

“You can talk to these other coaches. It’s an absolute grind. You can go six, seven years in a row without getting it just because the draw is ridiculous on who you get stuck with,” Seitz said. “Great to get it the first year, but by no means did I get into this for personal success. If there was one thing, I wanted to do with this being around this growing up with my dad and being an assistant this long; It’s so much more about how well our program is represented. I want these kids to understand what tradition that used to be here at Southeastern and getting them to be part of it.”

Now, the present-day Royals are in the history books, and will face No. 16 Harrison for a one-game regional on June 3. The game takes place at 3 p.m. at Lafayette Jefferson.

“It’s going to be a dogfight, but we just have to go out and pitchers have to throw strikes and the batters have to be aggressive, putting the bat on the ball like today. If we can do that, we can do it,” Bradle said.

“Coach has really hyped us up exactly for this moment,” Strawmyer added. “And we’re going to move forward with that.”

Baseball

Huskies fall to Bishop Chatard to close season

By RICHIE HALL
sports@readthereporter.com

INDIANAPOLIS—The Hamilton Heights baseball team fell in the championship game of Class 3A Sectional 27 Monday, losing to host Bishop Chatard 12-1 in five innings.

The home team Trojans scored in every inning in which they batted, starting with four runs in the first inning. Chatard got on the board with a fielder’s choice, then added three runs after a bases-load triple.

Cooper Vondersaar scored the Huskies’ run in the second inning. Kyle Michael was hit by a pitch to lead off the inning, then Vondersaar came in to run for him. Vondersaar advanced to second base on a wild pitch, moved to third after Dillon Pitts hit a sacrifice fly, then scored on a pitcher’s balk.

The Trojans scored two runs in the second inning, then added three runs each in both the third and fourth innings. Heights was held

to two hits, one in the first inning from Adam Hughes and the other in the second inning by Phoenix Vondersaar.

“It was a tough game,” said Huskies coach Ryan VanOeveren. “We started off rough, handed them some runs, they put the ball in play and we just wouldn’t make the routine plays.”

Heights finished the season 14-12.

“There were some really good games,” said VanOeveren. “We had some fun and we had a couple games like this where we just couldn’t make the plays. We have a pretty young crew of kids here with a lot of returning players next year.” The coach said those players got “a lot of experience” during the season, “which means that hopefully next year they come back even better.”

University fell to Covenant Christian 2-0 Monday in the semifinals of Class 2A Sectional 43 at Cascade.

The Trailblazers finished their season 13-12-1.

PROPEL

from Page 11

The Royals’ bats came alive at the right times, securing two wins and sectional crown

Senior Harrison Dilts turned himself into a pivotal option at the plate for HSE. In Saturday’s semifinal win over Westfield, Dilts was the clutch hitter that helped punch Hamilton Southeastern’s ticket into the sectional championship.

Dilts went 2-for-4 with an infield single in his first at-bat and also reached on a fielder’s choice in the sixth. What sent the Royals into Monday’s championship matchup with Noblesville was a bases-clearing double to deep left center for the 5-2 final score.

“I went up to the plate and thought you got to get the job done, get a hit. It turned out, a little double, bases-clearing and it worked. I’ll take that all day,” said HSE senior third baseman Harrison Dilts.

The Royals were able to rough up Westfield pitching for 10 hits and Noblesville’s Bryce Riggs and Nolan Decker for a total of six. Their at-bats were relaxed and it became a different approach at the plate.

“We see pitchers like this all year in our conference. We just have studs left and right. We came in confident and we knew what to do, since we’ve seen them all year. Have the approach and be confident and we can win this ball game,” stated Dilts.

Alex Billman, Bradle, Griffin Haas and Dilts combined for 11 of their 16 total hits in their two games.

Bradle’s two-run home run in the championship would turn out to be all of the scoring that HSE would wind up needing. Dilts scored following his triple for an insurance run.

Kory Seitz gets sectional championship in first season as head coach

“Ty kind of sets the tone for us when he’s on the mound. When he throws, I feel like we’re almost a different team, just with a confidence level and the way he commands that space up there,” said first-year Hamilton Southeastern head coach Kory Seitz.

Seitz has been a mainstay on the Royals’ staff as an assistant for the past 18 seasons, before taking over as head coach this season. He’s already proving that he is the perfect choice to lead HSE.

Under the great pedigree of coaching that he grew up under, with his father Ken Seitz, who is the cornerstone of Hamilton Southeastern baseball. After all, HSE’s home field is named Ken Seitz Field.

“Lund has been our starter the whole time. Ethan has been a little inconsistent for us and I bet if you ask him, he would feel like his season has not gone the way he wanted it to,” continued Seitz.

In a game of this magnitude, Seitz wanted his starter Lund to be relaxed and not feel pressured while getting the job done to win.


“I talked to him this morning and said, this is not a pressure thing for you, but this can be a statement game for you at this point. This is the biggest stage you’ve thrown on in your career,” stated Seitz.

Seitz wanted his team to have fun. It seems to normally feel like a pressure cooker of a situation and that’s when kids can make the most mistakes.

“There’s zero expectation from us. There’s a reason they (Noblesville) were two or three in the state. They’re a good team and even when it’s 3-0, they’re going to make a run or a push at some point. My pitchers were phenomenal in these two games,” said Seitz.

“Now, you’re in a format of one game in regional, two-game semi-state. This right here is a little bit of rehearsal, but not necessarily for that, but you have to have two or three good arms and you’ve got a shot. I think anybody that gets out of our sectional, there’s a shot,” continued Seitz.

The Hamilton Southeastern Royals (18-14) will have fresh arms heading into their Regional 4 championship showdown with former Hoosier Crossroads Conference opponent Harrison Raiders (23-8) on Saturday.



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Softball Regionals

‘Rocks get raided, Huskies feel sting of defeat

The REPORTER

The Westfield softball team played in its first-ever regional championship game Tuesday at Harrison.

And the Shamrocks came close to winning their first-ever regional title. Westfield gave the Raiders (last year’s Class 4A state runners-up) a good battle in the Regional 4 title, but Harrison eventually won 4-3.

“There’s a lot of excitement,” said Shamrocks coach Brian Revercomb. “We had a couple of great practices.” The coach said his team was “upbeat, emotional and excited, but I felt really confident with the way we were playing.”

The ‘Rocks scored the first run of the game, in the top of the first inning, when Makayla Watson stole home plate. The Raiders answered with three runs in the bottom of the inning, getting their first two on back-to-back doubles, then scoring a third with a wild pitch.

“It seemed like in the bottom of the first inning, we had a little bit of nerves coming through,” said Revercomb. “I felt like their experience being in the state finals last year helped them be more calm than we were.”

Westfield cut the lead to 3-2 with a fifth-inning run. Maggie Roh cracked a double, moved to third base on Watson’s single, then was brought in by Allie Dolenc’s RBI groundout.

Harrison went up 4-2 with an RBI single in the bottom of the fifth. The Shamrocks scored a run in the top of the sixth when Chloe Tanner tripled in Cara Snedeker. It was Tanner’s second triple of the game; she also hit one to lead off the second inning. Neither team scored again, so the Raiders held on for the win.

Tanner pitched a complete game, allowing just five hits.

Westfield finished its season with a 17-14 record,

breaking school records in hits, runs scored and home runs. The two seniors, Dolenc and Roh, were part of that home run record, with Dolenc hitting seven homers and Roh one. Roh is headed to the University of Toledo to play softball, while Dolenc will play at Lincolnland Community College.

Huskies fall to Hornets

Hamilton Heights hosted the Regional 14 championship on Tuesday, playing Beech Grove.

The game was scoreless through three innings, but the Hornets erupted after that, dominating the next four innings to win 10-0. It’s the first softball regional title for Beech Grove.

The Hornets held the Huskies to two hits. Isabel Morrow led off the second inning with a center field single, then moved to second base when Kassidy Schakel hit a single. But Beech Grove tightened its defense after that, retiring the next 14 Heights batters. The Huskies would not get on again until Lily Roush drew a walk with two outs in the sixth inning.

“Our offense has been pretty good this year, but there’s been some times we’ve struggled,” said Heights coach Ken Olovich.

Roush pitched five innings, striking out nine. Melanee Forrester pitched the last two innings, tossing three strikeouts.

Despite the loss, the Huskies are upbeat about the future. They will be graduating two seniors, Kaylee Rhoton and Suzanna Sigler. Rhoton won the Hamilton Heights Female Athlete of the Year award.

Meanwhile, everyone else on the team is back for the Huskies, and they are expected to get some talented players coming in to the program – “a lot of travel ball players that come in next year, so we’re going to have a lot of players, a lot of



Hamilton Heights’ Isabel Morrow hit a single during the second inning of the Huskies’ regional game Tuesday with Beech Grove.

Reporter photo by Richie Hall

depth,” said Olovich.

“We’re disappointed about tonight’s outcome, but we are incredibly excited about what lies ahead,” said Olovich.

Heights finished the season 19-9, setting a new record for most wins in a season.

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‘Rocks & Millers Unified Track teams heading to state finals

The REPORTER

The Westfield and Noblesville Unified Track teams are going to the IH-SAA state finals.

Both teams finished fourth at their respective regionals last Saturday, thus ensuring a spot at this Saturday’s state meet, which takes place at Indiana University. The Shamrocks qualified out of the Kokomo regional, while the Millers advanced from the Bedford

North Lawrence regional.

The top six teams from each regional advance to state.

Westfield won the boys 4x100 relay at its regional, and also got section wins from Heidi Burke in the 100 dash and Ava Owens in the 400 dash. Noblesville swept both the boys and girls 4x100 relays, while Eliza Bozell won her section of the 100 dash, Talon Nicholson won Section 1 of the

400 dash and David Lesko won a flight of the shot put.

Here is a complete list of results for both teams.

At Kokomo

Team scores: Fort Wayne Carroll 112, Penn 108, Elkhart 106, Westfield 100, Portage 95, Valparaiso 89, Lafayette Jefferson 88, Fort Wayne North Side 82, Western 78, East Noble 75, Hobart 69, North-Wood 66.

Girls 4x100 relay: 2. Westfield (Heidi Burke, Addyson Short, Jaelyn Owens, Karmia Haws) 1:01.34.

Boys 4x100 relay: 1. Westfield

(Ethan Huffman, Shawn Landrum, Dilan Cabrera, Patrick Craig) 51.36.

Mixed 100 meter dash

Section 1: 3. Thomas Vandegriff 12.02.

Section 3: 1. Burke 15.05, 7. Brandon Price 16.01.

Section 4: 4. Kenzie Carson 16.53.

Mixed 400 dash

Section 1: 7. Gage Guerrieri 59.93.

Section 4: 3. Ty Cassidy 1:18.01.

Section 5: 1. Ava Owens 1:19.43, 5. Brady Sterchi 1:29.12.

Mixed long jump

Flight 2: 3. Alex Lardio 14-3.

Flight 3: 6. Patrick Craig 11-7.5.

Flight 5: 2. Addison Stigler 8-11,

5. Keagan Cheesman 8-7.5.

Mixed shot put

Flight 1: 5. Gavin Dietz 43-1.5,

8. Case Reynolds 41-6.75.

Flight 4: 4. Cassidy 24-0.5.

Flight 6: 3. Nisha Roy 13-5.25.

At Bedford

North Lawrence

Team scores: Bloomington North 129, Avon 109, Bloomington South 105, Noblesville 104, Bedford North Lawrence 100, Pendleton Heights 96, Center Grove 90, Floyd Central 73, Brownsburg 72, Perry Meridian 70, New Albany 63.

Girls 4x100 relay: 1. Noblesville (Kenny Blount, Aubrey Griffin, Jordyn Clark, Lydia Nelson-Mercer) 58.64.

Boys 4x100 relay: 1. Noblesville (Britton Cole, Cole Richardson, Kuljeet Mehra, Blake Koven) 48.16.

Mixed 100 meter dash

Section 2: 8. Sophia Millikan 14.82.

Section 4: 6. Sarah Millikan 16.76.

Section 5: 4. Arden Snyder 20.45.

Section 6: 1. Eliza Bozell 19.74.

Mixed 400 meter dash

Section 1: 1. Talon Nicholson 1:02.74.

Section 3: 4. Isaac Yost 1:11.73,

8. Noah Morris 1:18.43.

Section 5: 5. Mo Ashour 1:38.56.

Mixed long jump

Flight 2: 2. Cole 15-2, 8. Clark 10-10.5.

Flight 3: 4. Gabby Rupert 11-9.5.

Flight 4: 5. Emma Bozell 9-2.75.

Mixed shot put

Flight 1: 2. Jrue Kante 44-5.

Flight 2: 4. Luke Davis 33-4.

Flight 4: 1. David Lesko 24-5.5,

5. Matthew Dean 21-0.



Photo by Jen Kauffman

Hamilton Heights senior Elijah Bowers has signed a letter of intent to play baseball for the Indiana University Purdue University-Columbus Crimson Pride in Columbus, Ind. Bowers (seated) is pictured with his biggest fans, parents Chad and Tracy.

Bowers signs to play baseball with IUPUC

The REPORTER

Elijah Bowers, Hamilton Heights senior, has signed a letter of intent to play baseball for Indiana University Purdue University-Columbus (IUPUC) in Columbus, Indiana. IUPUC is a member of the Continental Athletic Conference and is a NAIA athletic institution. He is the son of Tracy and Chad Bowers.

“Its small campus and small class sizes made me feel like I was a part of something,” recalled Elijah Bowers after his visit to the campus. “Their baseball coaching staff made me feel like I was family.” Bowers will be able to take his game to the collegiate mound while pursuing a degree in business/marketing. His long-term goal is to become an entrepreneur in the sports-related or athletic footwear field.

Bowers, a multisport student-athlete (baseball and football), started playing T-ball at age 4. At age 7, he needed more of a challenge and his parents signed him up to play on a local travel team where he has been a force around the state and beyond since that time. During the fall and winter, he works with trainers to maintain and improve his strength, agility, and stamina.

“My parents along with my trainers and coaches have been my biggest influence as a student athlete,” said Bowers, who also credits Young Life for helping to grow his faith. “My parents sacrificed their time to get me to practice, training, and/or games on time. They always made me go even if I didn’t feel like it. My coaches and trainers also pushed me to be the best I could be and a lot more.”

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SPORTS SCHEDULE

Wednesday, May 31 GOLF Carmel vs. Westfield and Zionsville, 9 a.m. at Coyote Crossing Hamilton Heights at Plainfield Invitational, 9 a.m. at Deer Creek Golf Club BOYS LACROSSE State semifinals Cathedral at Carmel, 6:30 p.m. South Bend St. Joseph at Hamilton Southeastern, 7 p.m.
Thursday, June 1 GOLF Fishers and Hamilton Southeastern vs. Noblesville, 4:30 p.m. at Harbour Trees
Friday, June 2 BOYS TRACK IHSAA state finals, 3 p.m. at Indiana University TENNIS STATE QUARTERFINALS At Carmel, noon Sullivan vs. Fishers Delta vs. Carmel
Saturday, June 3 GIRLS LACROSSE State championship: Carmel vs. Guerin Catholic, 4:30 p.m. at Heritage Christian GIRLS TRACK IHSAA state finals, 3 p.m. at Indiana University <i>Please email schedule changes or corrections to sports@readthereporter.com.</i>

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