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Wednesday, April 3, 2024 – Tuesday, April 9, 2024

Vol. 16, No. 8

This publication is
FREE

Then He said to the crowd, "If any of you wants to be My follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross daily, and follow Me."
Luke 9:23 (NLT)



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1. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: When did April Fools' Day come into being?
 2. GEOGRAPHY: In which nation is the Great Victoria Desert located?
 3. MOVIES: What sport is featured in the movie "The Mighty Ducks"?
 4. HISTORY: What is the name of the island where Napoleon was exiled in 1814?
 5. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is the largest rodent in the world?
 6. LITERATURE: What is the name of Ron Weasley's pet rat in the "Harry Potter" book series?
 7. U.S. STATES: Which letter of the alphabet is not in any U.S. state's name?
 8. TELEVISION: Which iconic 1960s sitcom inspired two spin-off hits, "Petticoat Junction" and "Green Acres"?
 9. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for bravery in WWII?
 10. ANATOMY: How many pairs of spinal nerves exist in humans?

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ANSWERS ON PAGE 10



By Lucie Winborne

- * Modern brunch was first proposed in 1895 as a post-hangover meal.
- * President Thomas Jefferson hated formal affairs so much that he would often greet foreign dignitaries in his pajamas.
- * Cathay Williams became the first African-American woman to serve in the U.S. Army in 1866. Since women were barred from joining the military at the time, she enlisted as a man under the pseudonym William Cathay.
- * The human body emits visible light, but it's not visible to the naked eye.

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(SOUTHSIDER VOICE PHOTOS BY STEVE PAGE)
 Harlow Estes launches a single to left during the Hawks' preseason intrasquad scrimmage.



Charlie Baldwin slides into third, advancing from first on a single while third baseman Alyssa Clouse reaches to take the high throw.

Young Hawks ready to bounce back

By Steve Page
 Correspondent

The sign, says coach Don Ivey, is very promising as the Decatur Central softball team readies itself for a new season.

Six years removed from the team that won the IHSAA state championship, the Hawks are out to rebound from last season, when they went 6-8 in the Mid-State Conference and 11-16 overall, being ousted in the first round of the sectional tournament.



"We look to win more games than lose. Now, we can head back to where we're used to being."

— DC softball coach
Don Ivey

And the sign? "We have three seniors and 12 freshmen, six on the varsity," Ivey said as the Hawks prepared for the new season. "The last time we had six freshmen on the varsity, when they became seniors, we won state. We had 10 seniors on the varsity that year."

So at that, it's going to take some time to get there.

"Last year was probably the first sub-.500 year we've had in 20 years," Ivey noted. "We look to win more games than lose. Now, we can head back to where we're used to being."

The Hawks are used to being up there.

In 2022, they went 10-4 in the Mid-State and 16-9 overall. In 2021, they were 11-3 and 19-6. Due to Covid 19, there were no games in 2020. In 2019, the Hawks won all 14 MSC games and finished 27-2 overall after falling 1-0 to Brownsburg in the regional finals.

The previous year was 2018, when they were 10-2 in the MSC, 32-4 overall and state champions, after defeating Lake Central 5-2 in the championship game.

And now, they're striving to give it another go.

The coach says this team can do good things, when it grows a bit.

After all, the Hawks did lose catcher Laci Boggs (.477

batting average, .516 on-base percentage and 6 home runs, 13 doubles), and outfielder Ella Phillips (.356, 30 RBI's) and Riley Leverington (.360).

"Laci and Ella were our top two hitters the last two years," Ivey said.

"We probably have more solid contact hitters this year. We had lots of power last year. This year, more solid contact hitters. We will have overall contact hitting, top to bottom. But I don't have power hitting."

In those past years, the Hawks have relied on pitching, much like they did in 2018 with Karli Ricketts (13-3, 1.45 ERA), Kenzee Smith (13-1, 0.62 ERA) and Hannah Cravens (4-0, 1.22 ERA).

"We have more pitching depth, but we're still young," Ivey said. "We have two pitching juniors and three freshmen."

The juniors are Hailey Cruz



Decatur Central's softball seniors are (from left) McKenna Rush, Hailey Cruz, Joslin Stewart and Sydney Hazelwood.



Kylie Vaseloff fires a strike while third baseman Mackenzie Cummings defends her position during the Blue-White scrimmage.

(3-9, 3.67 ERA) and Kylie Vaseloff (4-1, 4.91 ERA). Vaseloff batted .386 as well.

The freshmen are Mackenzie Cummings, Savannah Boone and Brenlyn Waltz.

"Cruz is probably our No. 1," Ivey said. "Vasiloff pitched much of the season because (Laci) Boggs was injured most of the year."

"Defensively, we're pretty solid. Two of our three seniors have been on the varsity since they were freshmen. At any

given time, we will have four freshman starters."

One of those seniors is outfielder Jazlynn Stewart, who hit .356.

Again, Ivey appreciates his staff, which includes varsity assistants Machaela Strykowski and Katie Kelly, JV head coach Mike Trotter and JV assistant Katie Wimsatt.

Then there's the schedule. "The way the schedule worked out, we only have eight or nine home games,

seven in the conference," Ivey noted. "If the weather will cooperate, we'll be OK. We go on Spring Break, then right into conference play."

The Hawks opened with the two-day doubleheader with Perry Meridian on April 2 and 3. After an April 4 nonconference test at Terre Haute North, they host Mooresville on April 10, then travel to play the Pioneers on April 11.

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Plan ahead for Southside viewing spots Monday for total eclipse

By **Al Stilley**
Editor

With the total solar eclipse less than a week away, Southside and Indiana State Police authorities want all Hoosiers to be safe Monday, April 8 as the once-in-a-century event passes through.

Several activities are planned on the Southside leading up to and including the day of the eclipse. For safe travels, residents and motorists with a destination in mind to view the eclipse are urged to leave and arrive early at their destination.

Law enforcement authorities expect heavy traffic on the Southside before, during, and after the eclipse takes place with the partial eclipse beginning around 1:50 p.m. and lasting until 4:23 p.m.

The total eclipse is expected at 3:06 p.m. Interstate and state highway traffic is expected to be heavy as central Indiana becomes a destination to view the total eclipse.

This is a lifetime event that will not happen on the Southside for another 129 years.

Public schools and most libraries on the Southside will be closed on April 8. Selected Southside libraries have had special activities for kids leading up to the eclipse.

Large viewing parties are planned at White River State Park downtown and the Indianapolis Motor Speedway where NASA will broadcast live.

Pre-celebrations take place throughout the Southside.

AT GARFIELD PARK

A pre-eclipse concert, Galactic Garfield, takes place Saturday, April 6, 5 p.m. at the McAllister Amphitheater in Garfield Park. Presented by Square Cat Vinyl, this concert features the Moon Goons, Ancient Days, and Shipwreck Karpathos. Tickets \$20 at the door. Info and advance tickets \$15 per person at: www.squarecat.vinyl.com

BEECH GROVE

Cosmic Glow Dance Party launches community-wide celebration Friday, April 5, 6 p.m., Hornet Park Community Center with music, dancing, cosmic craft, alien finger food and fun. Cost is \$5 per person.

Movie in Sarah T. Bolton Park, Saturday, April 6, 8 p.m. with free movie, "E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial."

Celestial Movie Party, Sunday, April 7, 6 p.m., with movies "Home," Apollo 13," or "Guardians of the Galaxy" and block party.

Sarah T. Bolton Park, Monday, April 8, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., features yoga, Tarot, food trucks, face painting, cookie decorating and fun plus viewing of total eclipse.

Info and dance party tickets online at: hornetparkcommunitycenter.com.

GREENWOOD

Craig Park - 10 E. Smith Valley Road, Greenwood, from 5 to 9 p.m. April 7 enjoy live music from My Yellow Rickshaw and Taste Like Chicken, food, drinks and tethered hot air balloon rides the day before the eclipse. Attendees can return the next day to watch the eclipse in the park.

Greenwood Airport - Fly in or drive in for this eclipse party April 8, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Indy South Greenwood Airport with food trucks, music, entertainment, airplanes on display and more. Bold Aviation is located at 965 Airport Access Dr., Greenwood. Parking is limited. Info: 317-745-4422.

The Suds - Enjoy the eclipse at one of the coolest spots around, The Suds drive-in, 350 Market Plaza. This cruise-in features live music from 2 to 5 p.m. and commemorative T-shirts.

New Hope Church (5307 W. Fairview Road) and Calvary Baptist Church (200 Sunset Blvd.) - overnight and eclipse day parking for



RVs, etc., spots reserved in advance.

Greenwood Christian Church (2405 Averitt Road) - free parking and free eclipse glasses. No restrooms. Donations accepted.

Greenwood Park Mall - opens its doors at 9 a.m. on April 8 with the first 500 people getting free eclipse glasses at the food court. Shoppers can stick around, eat, and watch the eclipse.

WHITELAND

Kelsay Farms (6848 N. 250 East) - Parking available 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on April 8. Primitive camping available April 7 with reservation. Fee for parking and camping non-refundable. Porta-potties, hand-washing stations, concessions, and charging stations available. Info: tours@kelsayfarms.com

Clark-Pleasant Community Schools - All school parking lots open for eclipse viewing, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on April 8. Proceeds benefit Clark-Pleasant Educational Foundation. Parking lots are at Whiteland High School, Whiteland Elementary School, Clark-Pleasant Middle School and Grassy Creek Elementary School. Info and reservations: <https://clarkpleasanteducationfoundation.networkforgood.com>

Indianapolis Motor Speedway - Not exactly on the Southside, but the historic racing facility is the site of daylong special activities April 8, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., presented by Purdue University, NASA, and IMS with plenty of souvenirs available for purchase. Events: STEM symposium, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. with a more technical "sun track;" and a Purdue podcast "moon track" and an all-astronaut panel. IndyCar demonstration laps, 1 p.m. to 1:15 p.m., opens NASA TV global broadcast. Kiss the Bricks tours, and autograph sessions. Grounds admission \$20 per person. Tickets include free infield parking and free eclipse spectacles. Ages 18-and-under admitted free with accompanying adult ticket. Info and tickets: indianapolismotorspeedway.com

White River State Park - Multiple viewing locations with many fun activities, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free solar eclipse glasses provided by IU Indianapolis and can be picked up at the park's visitor's center on first come, first serve basis. Food trucks at the Old Washington Street Bridge are available for lunch and drinks with a signature food competition. The Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra's brass quintet performs at 2:30 p.m.

For more info: Complete downtown Indy info: Visitindy.com. Festivalcountryindiana.com/festivals-and-events. Nationaleclipse.com



Personal Recollections

By Fred Shank & Simon

PURDUE BASKETBALL

A couple of weeks ago, Lyn and I drove up to Butler University to watch a post season basketball game between Butler and Purdue. This was a WNIT women's game. Purdue won that contest 62 to 51. That advanced them to the next game that was held at Purdue last Thursday evening. Their opponent was Duquesne. Purdue also won that contest 71-50.

This is the women's basketball team at Purdue and is coached by Katie Gearlds. Katie has a special Southside connection. She attended Beech Grove High School and during her time there, they won the 3-A State Championship, and she was named "Miss Basketball."

Katie attended Purdue University and played basketball. She then played some professional basketball before becoming the women's coach at Marian University. She is now in her third year as head coach at Purdue. She won her 51st game as the Purdue coach.

The WNIT post season tournament is being held at the same time as the NCAA tournaments. The Purdue men's team is doing very well in the men's NCAA tournament also. They now have advanced and as of the time that I am drafting this article, they will play Tennessee and after that win, they will be in the Final Four.

This year's women's team has several first-year players. Some of them are in the starting five. I have been informed that the team will have a couple of incredibly talented players coming out of high school to join this team next year.

The woman played Monday, April 1st in West Lafayette, but fell to Vermont, 67-59. A win would've put them in the Final Four. It would have been extremely exciting to see both Purdue basketball teams in the Final Four of their tournaments.

Last Saturday, the Purdue women's basketball team was featured in an article published by our local daily newspaper. We have not seen much regarding Katie's team in that publication again this season. Lots of times, the scores are not even posted. I hope that changes next year.

It was so nice to reconnect with several friends from the Southside / Beech Grove area at the Butler game. It was an exciting game. We are immensely proud of our local Big 10 Woman's Head Coach.

I first connected with Katie during her high school days at Beech Grove. She drove a bright yellow Mustang and I would see her a couple of times a day out on the road. My bright yellow school bus and Katie's bright yellow Mustang would pass on a street, and we would wave to each other as we passed. She was still driving that car when she was coaching at Marian University.

I have been thinking about a couple of diverse ways that we might be able to share next year's women's basketball experiences with Southsiders on a weekly basis.

I will be watching to see how Purdue does in the Final Four!

GO BOILERMAKERS !!
Shank is a 1960 graduate of Southport High School, a '63 grad of Indiana Central College (now the University of Indianapolis) and a retired bus driver from Beech Grove Schools. He can be reached through email at fdshonk@aol.com.

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FIRE INSPECTOR OF THE YEAR



(SUBMITTED PHOTO) Mitchell Kreiger, a 2012 Southport graduate, was awarded the Fire Inspector of the Year, 2024 by the Indiana Fire Inspector Association. He is pictured with his wife, Taylor Kreiger.

RONCALLI STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



(SUBMITTED PHOTO) Roncalli honored 10 students recently as students of the month for February. They were honored with a luncheon last month. The honored students are, from left, front row, Lily Anglemeyer, Kale Appleby, Reagan O'Toole, Dorothy Butts, back row, Abby Moll, Bennie Leffler, Michael Dexter and Ivan Figueroa; not pictured, Nolan Kirk and Cylie Henson. The students are selected from the academic disciplines of communications, English, fine arts, health and physical education, math, science, social studies, STARS program, Theology, and world languages.

shcc FOOD PANTRY

**2nd & 4th Saturday of the Month
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The Food Pantry at Southport Heights Christian Church is serving the Perry Township community.

**For more info visit:
southportheights.church/foodpantry**

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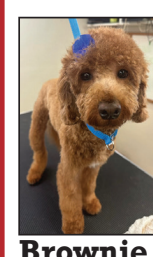
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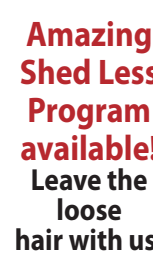
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“On that day, says the Lord God, I will make the sun go down at noon and darken the earth in broad daylight.”

Amos, Chapter 8, verse 9 (Old Testament)

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Decatur Township

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY

CLASSIFIEDS

INDY: EAST & WEST
PUBLISHED BIWEEKLY ON WEDNESDAY

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Greenwood • Homecroft • Southport
Franklin, Perry & White River Townships • Whiteland



PERRY KIWANIS BREAKFASTS IN APRIL
 Perry Kiwanis members and visitors meet on Thursdays at 7 a.m. at the IHOP restaurant, 7521 U.S. 31 South. Speakers for the breakfasts this month are: April 4, Bukola Fasipe, central region outreach coordinator, Learn More Indiana; April 11, Jacob Bowman, attorney, Williams, Barrett & Wilkowski, LLP; April 18, Theresa Chamblee, director, social concerns, Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Indianapolis; and April 25, Anna Getty, outreach coordinator, Firefly Children & Family Alliance. Club president Scott Splichal reported that the Perry Kiwanis/Southport Key Club concession stand brought in more than \$2,200 during the seven-week indoor soccer season at Baxter YMCA. Outdoor soccer begins April 20 and runs through June 15. The club will operate a concession stand with proceeds supporting Hunger Inc., Riley Children's Hospital, Baxter YMCA, and Perry Township Schools. Info: Perry Kiwanis page on Facebook.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE
 Indiana Sen. Aaron Freeman and Rep. Julie McGuire will present their summary of the recent General Assembly at a Greater Beech Grove Chamber of Commerce luncheon Thursday, April 11, 10 a.m. to noon at the Hornet Park Community Center, 5245 Hornet Ave. The two elected legislators will provide attendees with updates and current issues affecting Indianapolis and the state. Luncheon cost, members \$15, non-members \$20. Info and registration: beechgrove-chamber.org.

GARFIELD PARK LIBRARY GARDEN WORKSHOP
 Southsiders interested in seed starting of veggies and easy germination of native plants may attend a garden workshop at the Garfield Park branch library Friday, April 12, noon to 1 p.m. A representative of the Purdue Extension staff will present tips on how to start your seeds, including native plant seeds. Info and registration: indypl.org.

SPRING EUCHRE TOURNAMENT
 Hornet Park Community Center is the site of a spring euchre tournament Saturday, April 13 with a light meal by Indy Fresh Catering at 5:30 p.m. and games at 6 p.m. Doors open at 5 p.m. Cost is \$20, cash or checks only, per person at the door. Proceeds benefit Servants Heart of Indy. Seats can be reserved online: info@servant-sheartofindy.org.

SEWING DAY AT ROSEDALE HILLS UMC
 A Quilts of Valor sewing day will be held at the Rosedale Hills United Methodist Church Saturday, April 13, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Participants are to bring own machine, thread and desired notions. Irons, ironing boards and cutting mats and table provided. This is a Central Indiana Quilts of Valor sewing day on the Southside. The church is at 4450 S. Keystone Ave., use the Fellowship Hall entrance. Future sewing days are June 8, Aug. 10, and Oct. 5. Info: christine.hurley@govf.org.

PRAIRIE OF POETRY
 Beech Grove celebrates National Poetry Month with the Prairie of Poetry at Sarah T. Bolton Park Saturday, April 13, noon to 3 p.m. This blooming poets showcase features poetry readings, Sarah T. Bolton poetry performed live, sharing of participant poems, and poem-in-a-day contest plus fun activities. Info: hornetparkcommunitycenter.com.

STRESS-FREE VACATION PLANNING
 How to plan a vacation stress-free is the topic of planning expert Becky Squires at the Greenwood Public Library, Monday, April 15, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Event is free for adults, but registration is required. The library is at 310 S. Meridian St., Greenwood. Info and registration: www.greewoodlibrary.us.

BG MAYOR'S LUNCH FOR PARKS
 First-term Beech Grove Mayor Jim Coffman is having a Mayor's Lunch for Parks Tuesday, April 16, 11:30 a.m. at the 524 Event Center, 524 Main St., Beech Grove. Reservations are being accepted now. Seats are \$40 each or \$500 for a table of eight patrons, including event recognition. Event supports the Beech Grove Community Parks Foundation, Inc. City of Beech Grove parks include Sarah T. Bolton Park where the Franciscan Trail and Paw Patch Dog Park are located, Hartman Park, Don Challis Park, and the Hornet Park Community Center with the fitness center. RSVP to: friendsofbeechgroveparks@gmail.com.

BAXTER NERF AND KIDS NIGHTS
 Baxter YMCA has two activities for kids, up to 12 years of age, this month. Registration required. Nerf Night unfolds Friday, April 12, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Kids can bring their own Nerf guns and normal Nerf bullets. Some Nerf guns available. Cost is \$10 for members, \$12 non-members. Then on Friday, April 19, the popular Kids Night Out is Friday, April 19, 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Event includes themed games, activities, crafts, gym, dinner, evening snack, movie, and more. Cost \$30 for members, \$50 non-members. Baxter YMCA is at 7900 Shelby St. Info and registration: www.indymca.org

Reminiscing

By B. Scott Mohr
 A retrospective glance at the Southside From *The Spotlight* and *The Southsider Voice* archives

60 Years Ago This Week — 1964
 The Revs. Fred McCoun and Jerry Deffenbaugh hosted a mortgage-burning party at Southport Christian Church.

 Construction on the YMCA at 7900 Shelby St. was progressing well. The pools were finished, and the building was taking shape.

 George Coldren, Shirley Fulcher and Wally Williams from the Lions Club were preparing for their bulb sale.



50 Years Ago This Week — 1974
 The musical group Life and Sound performed at Rosedale Hills United Methodist Church.

 Thousands of worshippers were expected to attend the 37th annual Sunrise Service at Southport Fieldhouse. The program, believed to be the oldest continuous event of its kind in central Indiana, was launched in 1937 by Blanch Penrod, a former teacher and dean at Southport High School.

 A 1-pound chocolate Easter bunny cost 88 cents at G.C. Murphy, where jellybeans were 33 cents a pound.

40 Years Ago This Week — 1984
 L.S. Ayres in downtown opened its Bunny Barnyard for the 29th year. The store's auditorium came to life with rabbits, a cow, a pig, goats, a turkey and baby chickens.

 Roncalli graduate Greg Cunningham was a member of the Ball State track team and competed in the hurdles and sprints.

The Sycamore Ice Skating Club presented "Kaleidoscope on Ice." The performers included Michelle Sauer, Dana Holder, Sara Hardin, Joan Navarro, Laura Wright, Nancy Huebner, Barbara Rec-tor, Andrea Johnson and Lisa Kenninger.

Students from Stage 1 Dance Academy were rehearsing for their annual revue at Manual High School, where Vicki Snodgrass, Alissa Veros and Stacy Shaeffer would be the featured performers.

30 Years Ago This Week — 1994
 Garfield Park was in store for a \$9 million renovation project, which called for restoring the sunken gardens, the conservatory, the pagoda and the amphitheater, building a recreational and aquatic center, paving the roads and creating a new entrance off Southern Avenue.

Southport High School basketball legends, including former Indiana All-Stars Louie Dampier, Jim Krivacs and Linda Mallendar, were returning to the hardwood in an old-timers game to help the school celebrate its 100th anniversary. The coaches would feature former and present mentors: Blackie Braden, Richard Theil, Bill Springer, Marilyn Ramsey and Denise McClanahan.

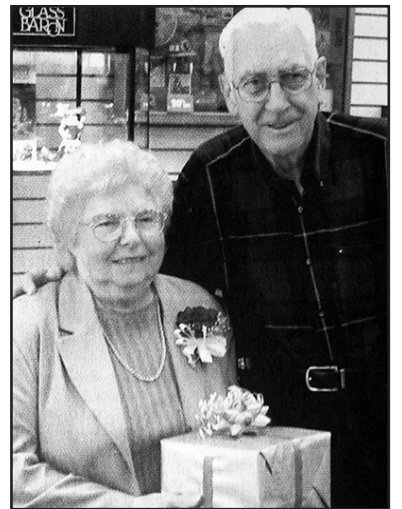
Perry Meridian High School students Jeremiah Jordan, Darla Rewers, Damien Forkner, Theresa Lo, Amber Hanley, Jessica Ewing, Chris Brunson, Rhiannon Sweet, Matt Smith and Holly Haffling returned from a trip to Paris.

Roncall graduate Ray Shelburn advanced to the 165-pound championship bout of the Indiana Golden Gloves tournament. Competing in the open division, he was a novice champ last year.

20 Years Ago This Week — 2004
 Grumpy Ed's at the corner of Southport and Bluff roads celebrated its fifth anniversary with a variety of drink specials, including Jello shots for 50 cents.

The Indy Southside Bulldogs baseball team won the Specialty

Sports Association's Midwest qualifying tournament in Murray, Ky. The squad consisted of Andy McClean, Bradley Schaler, Johnny Slivka, Zach Rohn, Austin Begley, Daulton Capps, Evan Layer, Keaton Schilling, Steven Sullivan, Joe Ardzzone and coaches Bob Slivka, Tim Schilling and Tony Ardzzone.



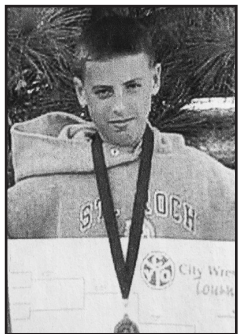
Margaret Hiatt retired from the Card & Gift Gallery in Southern Plaza after working 22 years for owner Jack Kahrs.

Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology students John Amt and Nick Hritsko were awarded the Greek Leader of the Year Award from their fraternities.



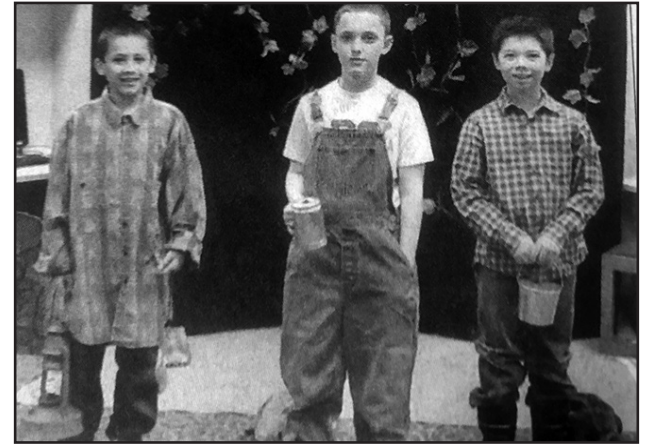
Your Mortgage relocated to Meridian Parke Lane in Greenwood. The staff included (from left) Donna Walker, Jan Handy, Michele Bay and Barbara Faulkner.

Josh Kieffer, son of Jennifer and Kevin Kieffer and a fifth-grader at St. Roch School, won the Catholic Youth Organization's 65-pound wrestling title.



Josh Kieffer

10 Years Ago This Week — 2014
 Lutheran High School teacher Carl Schulenburg was honored as a Distinguished Hoosier at the school's annual dinner auction. The award was one of the highest honors that a governor could bestow upon a citizen.



Jeremiah Gray-Edison Elementary second-graders Francis Calvin, Saul Jimenez and Terry Gulley-Murray participated in the school's annual Underground Railroad program, which simulated the secret paths that slaves used to gain their freedom. The routes often traversed swamps, graveyards and farms, with stops for food and shelter at the homes of abolitionists.

OBITUARIES

MICHAEL R. ADAMS, 53, sons, Justin (Lauren) Ford and Michael Jr. (Taylor) Adams; his grandchildren; siblings, Alan (Kim) Adams, Tami (Greg) Jackman, Jennifer (Chet) Dennison, and Kim Thompson.
 He was a lifelong Indiana resident, attended Franklin Central High School, and had recently returned from spending a couple of years in Tarpon Springs, FL.
 Indiana Funeral Care was entrusted with services.

TERRY FREDRICK BARTLEY, 71, widower of Anna; sons, Christopher and Joshua; grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.
 Terry was a railroad worker as a draftsman for Amtrak throughout his career and had many hobbies. This included making beautiful watches. These were gifted to many family members and friends.
 A service will be from 12-3 p.m. April 7, 2024 at Little and Sons Funeral Home, Beech Grove.

CHRISTIAN "CHRIS" BLAKE, 57, wife, Lea Michelle Blake; children, Christian Blake II (DeAnn), Stephanie (Matt) Jett, Sarah (Brant) Jackson, Billie Jo Bowling; six grandchildren; one great-grandchild; siblings, Tim, Danny, Kevin, Betty Ann, Lorraine, and Jeana.
 Chris served as President of Blake's Electric for 24 years. He mastered the art of grilling a perfectly cooked ribeye. His favorite holidays were Christmas and the Fourth of July.
 He enjoyed Westerns, gambling, tinkering in the garage, and gazing at the stars. He possessed a quick wit and an endless repertoire of jokes. He loved antiques and woodworking.
 G.H. Herrmann Funeral Home handled arrangements.

DORIS KAY GRUBBS CAIN, 83, widow of William "Bill" Cain; children, Vicki (Jim) Little, Wendi (Terry) Galuska, Robbi, and Kipp (Stefanie) Cain; one granddaughter; brother, George Grubbs.
 She was a 1958 graduate of Manuel H.S. and was a homemaker. She later retired from L.S. Ayres as an executive secretary. Visitation took place at Little & Son Funeral Home.

KAREN CONN, 66, widow of Bobby Conn; children, Tina Miller, Heather (Marcos) Kraus, Stefanie (Daniel Congdon), and Bobby (Carissa St. Germaine) Conn Jr.; eight grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; brother, Ralph Miller.
 Her children remember her owning a hair salon, going camping, and the endless big family cookouts. Her grandkids remember their Grammy riding around with the windows down singing "Love Shack", never missing a sports game or dance recital, making breakfast on Saturdays, and being the life of the party. She created magic to make Christmas fun and memorable.
 Indiana Funeral Care handled arrangements.

PATRICIA L. DAVANEY, 92, widow of Hassell "Jim" Davaney; sons, Charles (Debra) and Gary
 Pat, a graduate of Manual High School, met her life partner fresh out of the Korean War in 1952, and married soon after, and were married for 60 years. Pat was raised with Christian principles and a strong work ethic. Pat and Jim were charter members of Southport Christian Church and 50-year life members of the Eastern Star at Southport Masonic Lodge, #270 F&AM. Her hobby was providing a home where her "men" were number one.
 Private services conducted at G.H. Herrmann Funeral Home.

GLORIA GONZALEZ, 66, husband, Fernando Gonzalez; children, Tim, Joseph, Chrissy, and Nita Brewer; 12 grandchildren.
 She was a great team member to her company Nice-Pak of 20 years, where she will be known as the perfect coworker, as well as a good leader, who is strong inside and out.
 Gloria enjoyed spending as much time with her family as possible as well as getting her nails and hair done.
 Visitation will be 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Friday, April 5, 2024 at G. H. Herrmann Funeral Home Greenwood.

JUSTIN VINCENT JENKINS, 38, parents, Tina (Ballard) Jenkins and Jace Jenkins; brother, Casey Stewart; grandmother, Gloria Ballard.
 Justin battled diabetes for several years and was a loving son and devoted brother and uncle. He was known for his strong work ethic and was in the trades as a concrete finisher.
 Lauck Funeral Home was entrusted with arrangements.

ALMA M. KLEMM-LUDLOW, 96, widow of Delbert Ludlow; sons, John and Michael Ludlow.
 Alma enjoyed crafting, gardening and speaking the truth, whether wanted or not. Her family migrated from Bremen, Germany prior WWII. Quote from Alma "Put me on the railroad tracks, I have places to go!"
 Forest Lawn Funeral Home was entrusted with arrangements.

RUTH A. MESSER, 86, husband, Harold "Art" Messer; sons, Mark and Jeff Messer; six grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; brother, Bill Agan.
 Faith and family were always important to Ruth. She loved working in the yard and tending her flowers. She worked for Eli Lilly and was the "lunch lady" at Calvary Lutheran School. Ruth was in a euchre club. She hosted Bible studies and was a member of Calvary Lutheran Church.
 Visitation is 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Wednesday, April 3, 2024 at Calvary Lutheran Church. Funeral service will begin at 1 p.m. at the church. Forest Lawn Memory Gardens handled arrangements.

MARY LOU MURPHY, 81, son, Tony Clements (Connie); sister, Ann Russell (Wallace); six grandchildren.
 She had many hobbies including dancing, playing cards, going to the movies, and watching game shows. While she was a wonderful cook, she also enjoyed going out to eat and socializing with friends. Mary Lou loved music and was an avid fan of Elvis Presley and her favorite band was ZZ Top. Mary Lou adored dogs and leaves behind her best friend, Lola.
 A visitation will be from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursday, April 4, 2024 at Little & Sons Funeral Home, Beech Grove.

RUTH ANNE NOE, 89, widow of Robert Noe; children, Cathy, Karen, Bob (Patsy), and Sandy; eight grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren.
 Ruth Anne grew up on Pennsylvania Avenue across from St. Roch Church. She and Bob moved into their home by Garfield Park where she lived for 70 years.
 She worked for the Post Office and reluctantly retired after 40 years. Ruth Anne enjoyed taking trips and working with St. Vincent de Paul. As a lifelong member of St. Catherine's and then Good Shepherd Church, she enjoyed being part of the parish by helping with activities.
 Services entrusted to O'Riley-Branson Funeral Home.

NARCISSO "CHEESO" POVINELLI, 89, widower of Julia; brother, Frank Povinelli; children, Debi (Perry) Murphree, Ruth Copeland, Anthony (Bonnie) Povinelli; eight grandchildren.
 Narcisso was a long-time member of the Boys and Girls Clubs and served as a board member. He served on the planning board of Roncalli High School. He was employed at Eli Lilly for 43 years. He will be remembered for his kind and generous heart, warm smile and charming sense of humor, his skill in making others feel valued.
 A visitation will be from 4-8 p.m. Thursday, April 4, 2024 at G. H. Herrmann Madison Ave. Funeral Home.

RUDELL "RUDY" RICHARDSON, 84, wife, Susan (Kirtley) Richardson; daughter, Kimberly (Dane) Houchin; three grandchildren; six great-grandchildren.
 Rudy dedicated 40 years to working as a bricklayer. He was a Ham Radio Operator (KN9C) for 42 years. He was an Eagle Scout, loved the outdoors and was an avid reader. He enjoyed spending Tuesdays and Thursdays with his coffee buddies. Rudy dearly loved his wife of 64 years, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.
 Services will be held privately at G. H. Herrmann Funeral Home.

ANITA SIMEONE, 96, widow of Domenick Simeone; children, Lily (Sam) Rumschlag, Teresa (Tim) Faust, Tony (Clara) and John (Shelly) Simeone; seven grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren.
 She met the love of her life, Domenick Simeone, in Germany during WWII when he was a prisoner of war. They were married shortly after the war ended in Europe.
 Anita worked in the old RCA television manufacturing plant. She enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren. Her hobbies included tending to her vegetable garden, fishing, and preparing Italian and Slovakian feasts for family and friends.
 A celebration of life was at O'Riley-Branson Funeral Home.

CHARLES MANNING, 78, passed away on Thursday, March 28, 2024 at St. Francis Hospital in Indianapolis, Indiana. He was born on September 13, 1945 to Mary M. (Ratliff) and George Manning in Beech Grove, Indiana. He married June (Taylor) Manning in Indianapolis, IN.
 Charles graduated Southport High School in Indianapolis, Indiana in 1965. After graduation, he served in the United States Navy for 2 years from 1965 to 1967. Following the Navy, Charles began his long career in construction. He was a hard worker and excelled in carpentry. He enjoyed sports and old cars, but what Charles loved most was fishing and spending time with the boys.
 Charles is survived by his children, Christopher (Jennifer), Natasha, Dayton, Dylan and Gavynn; siblings, John and Dan; grand-children, Stephen, Jordan and Olivia; great grand-children, Aurora and Josie.
 In addition to his parents, Charles was preceded in death by his siblings, Donald, James, William, Norma, Tom, Dorothy, Deborah, Linda and Rick.
 Charles' friends and family may visit from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Friday, April 5, 2024 at Newcomer Cremations, Funerals & Receptions, 925 East Hanna Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana 46227.
 PAID OBITUARY

MADGE H. SMITH, 98, widow of Jack R. Smith; two grandchildren.
 Visitation was held at G. H. Herrmann Funeral Home.

VICKY S. TAYLOR, 68, widow of Michael Taylor; daughters, Kristy (Paul) Morgan and Katie (Jeff) Taylor; three grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; five siblings.
 She was a loving devoted wife, mother and grandmother. She was a friend to all she knew.
 Wilson St. Pierre Funeral Home was entrusted with arrangements.

Full obituaries, celebration of life notices and in memoriams
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SOFTBALL SHOWCASE

Southside softball teams eager for big run through 2024 season with many star players

By Al Stillely
Editor

One era has ended with the graduation of Roncalli's senior class that captured two state championships and made a third straight appearance in the 2023 Class 4A title game last year. With two-time Indiana Gatorade Player of the Year Keagan Rothrock pitching for the University of Florida, the scramble is on to see who will be the top players of 2024.

Center Grove is ranked No. 2 in 4A in the first coaches' poll of the season with Roncalli ranked No. 4. After a record-smashing season last year, Beech Grove is No. 12 among 3A teams, and Lutheran, ranked No. 6, is ready to climb again.

The Southside is rich in talent again. Roncalli is solid with senior Emma Fagan and junior Carley Keller at the plate. Center Grove has Hannah Haberstroh, who stole 30 bases last season, shortstop Riley Janda, and pitcher Riley Henson return. Greenwood has seniors Emma Chism and pitcher Courtney Hankenhoff. Perry Meridian's Macy Stroud and Adriana Chesser can lift the Falcons. Whiteland's Kiley Sullivan stars for the Warriors.

At Beech Grove, pitcher Malone Moore is no longer shadowed by Rothrock. The Hornets also have hard hitting Lilliana Jansen and Kylee Robinson who stole 30 bases last season. Lutheran may have the Southside's top speedster with Mystic Means.

Here's the team-by-team rundown for this season (all statistics are from 2023 season):

CENTER GROVE (22-6) Center Grove returns with a solid lineup, good depth and a hunger to go deep into the IHSAA playoffs.

The Trojans' loss in last year's sectional opener against Mooresville still stings. It is something that coach Alyssa Coleman does not want to dwell upon.

"It was a horrible experience, but how else do you know how badly you want something until you don't have it," Coleman said. "They've demonstrated that hunger so far. We expect a deep run and want to win more than ever. We are stepping on the gas, for sure."

This group of Trojans has experience with speed and power and solid defense.

A trio of seniors gives rise to high expectations with the return of fleet centerfielder Hannah Haberstroh, a .500 career hitter with 49 hits and 30 stolen bases last season; shortstop Riley Janda, .440, 29 runs, 22 RBI, and pitcher Riley Henson, 11-1, 2.34 ERA, 96 strikeouts.

Sophomore pitcher Riley Fuhr (7-1, 4.40 ERA) returns with classmate second-baseman Brynn Meyer who hit .516 with 47 hits



Center Grove returns to the softball field this season with seniors, from left, Kynadee Warner, pitcher Riley Henson, center-fielder Hannah Halberstroh, and shortstop Riley Janda.



Juniors, from left, third-baseman Kaylie Grayson, outfielder August Coons, and shortstop Jady Tinsley add a lot of clout to Flashers' lineup.

as a freshman.

Junior outfielders Mae Munson (.440, 33 hits), Brooklyn Gropel, infielder Hayden Baird (.280), and first-baseman Sydney Herrmann (.270) round out CG's experience.

Coleman also will be counting on freshmen catcher Ava Krupa and infielder Taylor Barrett.

"Our depth is there; two-to-three deep at most positions," Coleman said. "You can't trade anything for experience. Our offense and defense will be some of the best we've seen. These girls know the game, so we'll just let 'em loose."

DECATUR CENTRAL (4A, 11-16) With veteran coach Don Ivey, the Hawks continue their reloading process with a young team that is building for the future.

Ivey lists six freshmen from a promising class of a dozen yearlings to go with three seasoned seniors.

"The last time we had six freshmen on the varsity, when they became seniors, we won state," Ivey said. "We had 10 seniors on the varsity that year." So at that, it's going to take some time to get there.

In the circle, the Hawks have senior pitchers Hailey Cruz (3-9, 3.67 ERA) and Kylie Vaseloff (4-1, 4.91 ERA, .386 at the plate) and freshmen Mackenzie Cummings, Savannah Boone and Brenryn Waltz.

Senior outfielder Jazlynn Stewart (.356) bolsters the Hawks at the plate where they will have a different look.

"We probably have more solid contact hitters this year," Ivey said. "We had lots of power last year. This year, more solid contact hitters. We will have overall contact hitting, top to bottom. But I don't have power hitting."

The Hawks' aim is to power up as they did six years ago when they captured the 4A IHSAA softball state championship.



(SOUTHSIDER VOICE PHOTO BY STEVE PAGE) Decatur Central junior Hailey Cruz strides into a pitch during the Hawks' Blue-White game.

FRANKLIN CENTRAL (4A, 14-13) With another winning season, the junior-laden Flashers have good experience and a crop of sophomores that promises another solid season for veteran coach Kathy Stricker, the program's only coach.

Stricker is in her 44th year at the Flashers' helm. The FCHS softball complex is named in her honor. She has enjoyed two state runner-up teams, 11 sectional, seven regional, and two semistate championship teams in addition to seven county titles and 16 conference crowns. She is in the Indiana Softball Hall of Fame and Franklin College Hall of Fame.

"We have some experience and will be solid; they have a lot of learning to do, though," Stricker observed. "Defensively, we have a pretty good group that covers a lot of territory with good arms



(SOUTHSIDER VOICE PHOTOS BY AL STILLELY) Franklin Central's seniors anchor Flashers' lineup with, from left, catcher Jenna Thompson (Trine commit), pitcher Mallory Stinson (Indiana Tech commit), and Ava Scott.

and they are solid hitters. Our pitching is well above average."

FC's sophomores are led by outfielder Sarah Miller (.452, 28 hits), who missed most of last season due to an injury, and utility infielder Audrina Yorn (.368, 25 hits).

Senior Mallory Stinson (6-6), an Indiana Tech commit, leads the pitching staff with sophomore Kiley Renick (6-3, 69 strikeouts).

Flashers will rely on a group of sophomores for added defense and offense plus depth, from left, front, Mirah Brown, Miley Smith, Audrina Yorn, Alex Ireland, back row, Ashyr Lawson, Kiley Renick, Adelynn Foster, and Sarah Miller.

Senior Mallory Stinson (6-6), an Indiana Tech commit, leads the pitching staff with sophomore Kiley Renick (6-3, 69 strikeouts).

Flashers will rely on a group of sophomores for added defense and offense plus depth, from left, front, Mirah Brown, Miley Smith, Audrina Yorn, Alex Ireland, back row, Ashyr Lawson, Kiley Renick, Adelynn Foster, and Sarah Miller.

Sophomore Miley Smith rounds out the top three hurlers.

Senior catcher-utility player Jenna Thompson (.309, 21 hits), a Trine commit, has a versatile bat.

The Flashers have a bevy of juniors with talent and experience. Junior August Coons (.464), a Mt. St. Joseph's commit, returns to the outfield. Jady Tinsley (.442, 38 hits, 22 RBI) will be at shortstop. Kaylie Grayson (.214) is at third. Adelaide Hubbard (.270) is at second.

Sophomores will help in the lineup and with depth. The Flashers have catcher Adelynn Foster, third base-catcher Ashyr Lawson, fleet outfielder Mirah Brown, and utility player Alex Ireland.

Stricker and the Flashers will miss junior utility player Addy Hubbard, out for the season with a torn ligament.

The Flashers are deep and continue to be a threat for county and sectional championships.

GREENWOOD (4A, 4-20) The Woodmen are rebuilding with first-year coach Sara Allison who is working with more players than her predecessors.

Allison has 11 returnees from last year's team that graduated only two players. Seven seniors lead the way: Emma Chism (.479, 25 RBI) at third, pitcher Courtney Hankenhoff (.405, 32 hits, 23 runs, 3-11), Katelyn Berger at second, outfielder Nev Elliott, catcher Avery Kraeszig, and outfielders Breanna Pierce and Ava Smith.

Junior Hayleigh Hendricks returns to second base with classmate Isabella Blythe (.262, 0-7) in the circle, soph Kinsley Clark (.286) at first, and freshman Gracelyn Bowles in rightfield.

Allison is back at her alma mater with rising numbers and new enthusiasm for a program searching for wins.

"This year is all about rebuilding this program," Allison stated. "Our goal for the season is to have a winning record."



Greenwood has a solid foundation this season with, from left, junior Hayleigh Hendricks, sophomore Kinsey Clark, seniors Emma Chism and Courtney Hankenhoff, and freshman Gracelyn Bowles.

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Have a great season ladies!
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Best of luck to the players, coaches and fans!
From the Roncalli Athletic Department

SOFTBALL SHOWCASE



(SUBMITTED PHOTOS) Perry Meridian sophomore infielder Adriana Chesser batted .440 with 37 hits and 26 runs batted in.

PERRY MERIDIAN (4A, 10-17) The Falcons expect to fly high with power, speed, and solid pitching among their 14 returnees and four newcomers, including junior infielder Alivia Neace who missed last year while recovering from surgery.

"The big difference is that we are solid and can be strategy-based, instead of emphasizing fundamentals," third-year coach Megan Bowling said. "We have some power and a lot of speed. Our optimism is high."

The pitching chores will be handled by starters, senior Lucy Richardson (3-6) and junior Caitlin Harris, and closers, soph Kennedy Simpson (.309, 21 hits) and freshman Alea Chesser.

Simpson is among five batters who hit above .300 last year, including sophomores, outfielder-catcher Macy Stroud (.500, 49 hits, 21 RBI), infielder Adriana Chesser (.440, 37 hits, 26 RBI), and infielder Karsyn Naue (.344, 31 hits), and junior Alexis Vandergriff (.312).

The Falcons also the deepest in three seasons with senior outfielders Taylor Ragland and Addison Berry plus infielders Kendall Garland (.271), shortstop Kiera Nickelman, third-baseman Alysa Baird, infielder Lydia Hartman, and catcher-infielder Bella Osterhoudt.

Seniors Mya Heaviland and Baylie Hedges are up from JV and freshman Makayla Kindred is a newcomer.

The Falcons could be among the Southside's surprise teams this season.



Perry Meridian senior Lucy Richardson returns to the circle and first base.

SOUTHPORT (4A, 9-18) Cardinals have a good foundation even after graduating their four best hitters.

"We're really young," coach Scott Montgomery said. "We will start six freshman-sophomores. Our sophomores should be more comfortable this year after playing varsity as freshmen last year. They can fill that void."

"We may not hit many home runs, but we'll play situational hitting to move runners around," Montgomery continued. "We'll find a way to score runs."

Southport returns with sophomores Malia Breedlove (.220, 17 RBI) behind the plate and pitcher/infielder Addy Stansbury (4-4, 73 strikeouts, .281), and pitcher/shortstop Ally Kiefner (.221). The Cardinals will depend early upon returnees, senior Darcy Leber and junior Addy Mosley in the outfield, and Molly Hodge at first.

Sophomores Keke Graham and Abby Williams are up from last year's JV team. They must adjust quickly to varsity competition along with freshmen infielder Lorelei Bennett, third baseman/catcher Hayli Phoenix, and second-baseman Ava Thorpe.

"I am excited about the group of freshmen we have and how they will impact our team, Montgomery said. "We aim to improve as we get deeper into the season."



Southport seniors are, from left, outfielder Darcy Leber, first-baseman Molly Hodge, and Oreal Johnson, up from last year's JV team.



Sophomores, from left, pitcher Ady Stansbury, catcher Malia Breedlove, and pitcher Ally Kiefner return to Cardinals' lineup after playing varsity softball for first time last season.

WHITELAND (4A, 18-12) The Warriors lost some power at the plate due to graduation, but coach Harley Roller has a good foundation.

Senior pitcher Kiley Sullivan (12-11, 5.51 ERA and 518, 44 hits, 40 RBI at the plate) leads in the circle with sophomore Jordyn Crouch and freshman Joslynn Skaggs.

Four seniors provide valuable experience, including hard hitting centerfielder-shortstop Josslynn Harbert (.505, 48 hits, 44 runs), outfielder-second base Kylie Matthews, catcher Madison Myers (.271), and infielder Makenna Reed.

Warriors also will rely upon juniors Sullivan, utility player Annie Harmon, infielder Reagan Hill, and infielder-catcher Gracee Whitaker (.328).

Whiteland has a blend of experienced players and newcomers that could easily jell for the playoffs.

BEECH GROVE (3A, 21-7) "Wowzers" is a word that is among Beech Grove Hornets veteran coach Kacie Ferrell favorites. It could be catching throughout the Hive.

The Hornets return all players from a record-breaking season with 21 wins, being ranked and reaching the Elite Eight for the first time after initial sectional and regional championships. Beech Grove is primed for an encore and an even deeper run this season.

"We have everyone back from last year," said Ferrell, who missed part of last season while tending to a newborn boy with chronic kidney disease. "We have six seniors and six juniors. We are a very versatile team; a lot of our Hornets can play multiple positions. We have some big bats and are also very speedy and should make some money moves on the bases this season."

Pitcher Malone Moore (Coastal Carolina commit) leads the seniors with a four-year career 1.24 ERA. Last year, she was 18-5 with one no-hitter, 184 strikeouts and held foes to .148 batting average. At the plate, Moore hit .575 with 50 hits, 46 RBI, and 7 home runs.

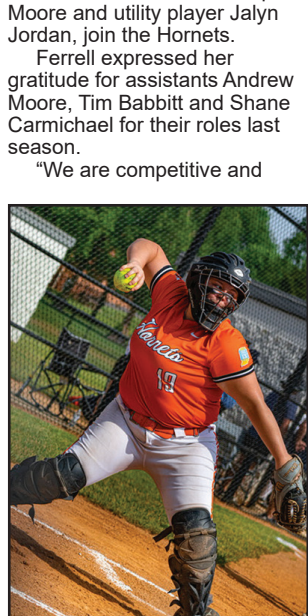
Talented classmates include: catcher Lilliana Jansen (IU Southeast commit), .532, 50 hits, 33 RBI; centerfielder Kylee Robinson (Wabash Valley College commit), .460, 46 runs, 46 hits, 24 RBI, 30 stolen bases; second-baseman Aubree Bailey, .372, 29 hits, 29 RBI; third-baseman Holly Garrett (Iowa Lakes Comm. College commit, wrestling and softball), .329, 30 runs, 26 hits, 19 stolen bases; and outfielder Amira Mills, .193, 26 runs.

Shortstop Mylee Boling, .407, 33 runs, 33 hits, 27 RBI, and pitcher-first-baseman Carmen Edmaiston, .367, 33 hits, 30 RBI, lead the juniors. Boling is one of the area's best with a glove. Junior outfielder Nevaeh Lyte hit .217 but drove in 18 runs. Alyssa Stone adds to the pitching depth. And Brookelyne Rucker stole six bases last season.

Freshmen outfielder Harper Moore and utility player Jalyn Jordan, join the Hornets.

Ferrell expressed her gratitude for assistants Andrew Moore, Tim Babbitt and Shane Carmichael for their roles last season.

"We are competitive and



Beech Grove catcher Lilliana Jansen has served as battery mate for pitcher Malone Moore since they played together in youth softball program.

love to win," Ferrell said. "This is an exciting season for us. We are here to have some fun while striving to meet our goals and enjoy the ride."

Or as she likes to say: "Wowzers."

CHRISTEL HOUSE MANUAL (3A, 6-12) The Eagles continue rebuilding with six returnees from team that was 6-1 against conference competition.

Second-year coach Natalie Freitag has holes to fill after graduating six seniors, but the program is getting healthier with Christel House at the historic Manual campus.

Second baseman Lillian Reeves and catcher-third baseman Jada Cooper are experienced seniors. Junior JaKyra Trotter is at third base.

A solid trio of sophomores - infielder Halla Wilburn, pitcher-catcher Alyssa Schultz, and pitcher-shortstop Savanna Curry - returns after gaining valuable varsity experience last year.

LUTHERAN (1A, 20-8) Saints reached the semistate championship game before bowing out to Tecumseh, and they are hungry to go deeper this time around.

"Expectations are high from the coaching staff and the girls on the team," coach Kevin Schmidt said. "That loss hurt; we took a pretty good whipping. This group looks hungry."

No doubt, the Saints' strength is in their experience with every defensive starter back from last year. It's a fast and powerful lineup with 17 team home runs and speedster Mystic Means, a Marian University commit who stole 42 bases.

Means leads by example, hitting a team high .546 with 40 runs and 53 hits, but vocal senior leaders are Grace King (.250, 16 hits), Caitlyn Brooks (.414, 36 hits, 34 runs), and Delaney Cassinelli.

The Saints' pitching corps is young with junior Brooklyn Barger (12-2, 3.02 ERA, 323, 20 RBI), freshmen Adeline Clark and Maddux Tindell, and sophomore transfer Gracie Boggs (formerly Decatur Central) who will not be eligible until the playoffs.

Lutheran has six seniors in its starting lineup, including catcher Kayla Burns (.487, 38 hits, 26 RBI), second baseman Taylor Gasvoda (.281), shortstop Brooks, and outfielders Means, King, and Cassinelli. Juniors Zoe Sondag is at first and sophomore Layla Miller (.483, 43 hits, 35 RBI) is at third.

The Saints are primed for another outstanding season.



Lutheran Saints are heavy on experience with seniors, from left, Delaney Cassinelli, Caitlyn Brooks, Bella Locklear, Taylor Gasvoda, Mystic Means, and Kayla Burns.



Saints are three-deep in the circle with pitchers, from left, Adeline Clark, Gracie Boggs, and Brooklyn Barger.

GREENWOOD CHRISTIAN ACADEMY (1A, 3-11) The Cougars are eager to field an improved team this season.

Coach Jessica Wagler has eight returnees and a promising group of younger players.

Senior pitcher Jessica Doyle leads the experienced Cougars, including classmates Naomi Avila at second, catcher Summer Huberts, outfielder Sierra Paramore, and shortstop Sydney Waldron.

Junior outfielder Elle Schnake and sophomores first baseman Grace Kahle and utility player Sarah Robertson also return.

Freshman Annalee Jackson adds depth in the circle. Wagler is looking for great improvement this season.



Sophomore Mary Stroud coming off freshman year when she hit .500 with 49 hits and drove in 21 runs for the Falcons.

RONCALLI (4A, 31-4) It's a new era for Roncalli softball after graduating the Class of 2023 that led the Royals to two 4A state championships and a third appearance in the title game last season.

"Our special group has graduated, so this new group has the opportunity to make their own stamp on Roncalli softball," coach David Lauck said. "It's a new time for them and for Roncalli softball. I'm excited for these girls to finally step up."

Senior Avery Clark (6-2, 48 strikeouts) was two-time Gatorade Softball Player of the Year Keagan Rothrock's backup last season. Clark takes on the No. 1 role in the circle. Pitching depth comes from Addy Poe who returns after an injury. Sophomore Elise Baker pitched a few varsity innings as a freshman and will play leftfield.

"Avery will throw most games for us, but our pitching will be a little more by committee which is more normal for most teams," Lauck said. "We have a few other girls who can give us varsity innings."

Senior Emma Fagan, a newcomer to varsity last year, hit .511, scored 40 runs, with 45 hits and 42 RBI, will be behind the plate or in the outfield. Junior Carley Keller moves from third base to shortstop after a standout .504 season with 38 runs scored, and 57 hits.

Athletic junior Natalie Summers (.370) will patrol centerfield. Senior Kendra Clark is at first. Junior Eva Hurrle, a volleyball and basketball player, moves from the outfield to second. Senior Katie Kriner, up from JV, will bolster the infield.

"When you win 100 games in three years and get to the state championship three years in a row, we will have a target on our backs," Lauck said. "We want our girls to embrace that but at the same time balance that with an underdog mentality because that's what we're going to be. We're balancing the healthy culture of winning and championships with practicing and preparing as an underdog, but it will be fun."



(SOUTHSIDER VOICE PHOTOS BY AL STILLEY) Roncalli seniors have experience and tradition of winning with, from left, outfielder Maddie Annee, infielder Katie Kriner, pitcher Avery Clark, outfielder/catcher Emma Fagan, and first-baseman Kendra Clark.



Roncalli has added punch in Royals' lineup with, from left, sophomore Elise Baker and juniors Natalie Summers, Addy Poe, Carley Keller, and Eva Hurrle.

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season, Royals!

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

5			3	2				4
	9		6					3
		4		8	1			
	1			9				5
		7	1					9
6				8	2			
	7			4				6
4					5	9		
		3	9					8

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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HOROSCOPE

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) New opportunities spring up for the Arians. Kick up those heels and go, go, go for them. Remember, someone special will be rooting for your success.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Indulge in your love of beauty. Buy something marvelous for your home, then plan a romantic dinner at a special place with your special person.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Your diligent search for the truth pays off. You can now go ahead and make a decision fully armed with the facts. But expect some resistance to your plans.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Travel is favored, but be prepared to be flexible in planning your trip. A family situation may cause you to delay your original departure date.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Be careful to whom you confide in with your secrets. While you certainly have your admirers, you also have detractors who would love to puncture the Lion's pride.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A certain family problem still needs your attention. At this time to let things slide. Things start to look more promising on the job.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Your mate seems to feel increasingly ignored. Try for a better balance between your home and work commitments. Start with a romantic

weekend getaway. **SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) Missed opportunities usually come from miscommunication, but it's not too late to correct the wrong assumptions. A timely call can help reestablish important contacts.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Your usually keen sense of direction needs some sharpening this week. Stay focused on your goals despite some pesky distractions. Your efforts will soon pay off.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Don't automatically reject suggestions from friends and family members. Some of their ideas might be helpful. Check them out before you decide to chuck them out.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Expect to be pleasantly startled when a promise from the past finally comes through for you. Use this as an opportunity to restart a long-delayed project.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) An air of conspiracy dominates the workplace. Avoid taking sides. This is one time when you need to concen-

trate on being your own best friend. **BORN THIS WEEK:** You despise hypocrisy. Your honesty is admired, although your friends sometimes feel you could be less blunt and a little more diplomatic. You love living life to the fullest.
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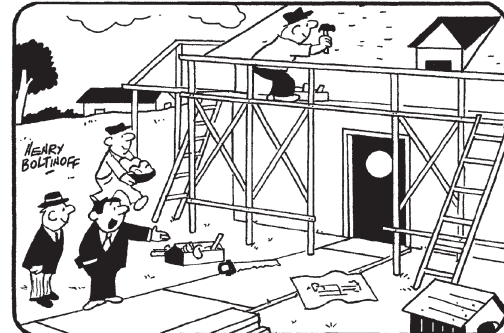
PUZZLE ANSWERS SEE PAGE 10 King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Goal
 - 4 Hosp. hookups
 - 7 "Peter Pan" pooch
 - 11 "Pygmalion" writer
 - 13 Use a straw
 - 14 Bone-dry
 - 15 Teeny bit
 - 16 Capita lead-in
 - 17 Makes lace
 - 18 Tic
 - 20 Laptop connection
 - 22 Deli choice
 - 24 Radiated
 - 28 Reach
 - 32 Battery part
 - 33 King of the jungle
 - 34 Dog's foot
 - 36 Similar
 - 37 Canal vessel
 - 39 iPads, e.g.
 - 41 "In America" writer Susan
 - 43 - Perignon
 - 44 Partially mine
 - 46 Chip choice
- DOWN**
- 1 Tag sale words
 - 2 Breakfast chain
 - 3 - Hari
 - 4 AOL, for one
 - 5 Perspective
 - 6 Parsley piece
 - 7 Site of the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial
 - 8 Coach
 - 9 Quibble
 - 10 Billboards
 - 12 Capital on the Potomac and
 - 7-Down locale
 - 19 Astronaut
 - 21 Ga. neighbor
 - 23 Super Bowl VIP
 - 25 Stirred
 - 26 Tend texts
 - 27 Cozy rooms
 - 28 Priestly vestments
 - 29 Pisa farewell
 - 30 Trumpet
 - 31 Chow down
 - 35 Bankroll
 - 38 Vichy water
 - 40 "- voyage!"
 - 42 Shred, as cheese
 - 45 Agile
 - 47 Mimic
 - 48 Swine
 - 49 October birthstone
 - 50 Cotillion celeb
 - 51 Previously
 - 52 Existed
 - 54 Golf peg

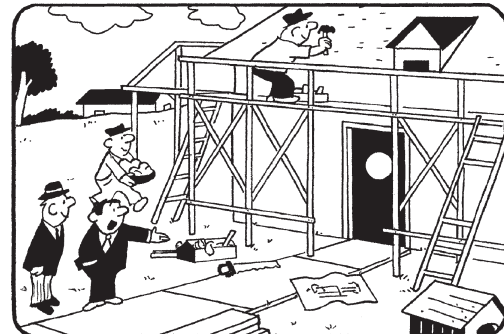
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59					60						61	

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HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Door is taller. 2. Ladder rung is missing. 3. Man in taller. 4. Dorrer is moved. 5. Ladder rung is moved. 6. Line in walkway is moved.

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— King Crossword —

Answers

Solution time: 22 mins.

A	I	M	I	V	S	N	A	N	A	
S	H	A	W	S	I	P	A	R	I	D
I	O	T	A	P	E	R	T	A	T	S
S	P	A	S	M	W	I	F	I		
			H	A	M	G	L	O	W	E
A	C	H	I	E	V	E	A	N	O	D
L	I	O	N		P	A	W	A	K	I
B	A	R	G	E	T	A	B	L	E	T
S	O	N	T	A	G		D	O	M	
			O	U	R	S	N	A	C	H
D	E	A	D	A	P	T	L	O	O	P
G	A	W		T	R	E	L	P	G	A
B	O	S	C	E	Y	E		Y	S	L

— Weekly SUDOKU —

Answer

5	6	1	7	3	2	8	9	4
8	9	2	6	1	4	7	3	5
7	3	4	5	9	8	1	2	6
3	1	8	2	6	9	4	5	7
2	4	7	1	5	3	6	8	9
6	5	9	4	8	7	2	1	3
9	7	5	8	4	1	3	6	2
4	8	6	3	2	5	9	7	1
1	2	3	9	7	6	5	4	8

TRIVIA

Answers

1. Likely in the late 16th century, when calendars changed from Julian to Gregorian.
2. Australia.
3. Ice hockey.
4. Elba.
5. Capybara.
6. Scabbers.
7. Q.
8. "The Beverly Hillbillies."
9. George H.W. Bush.
10. 31 pairs.

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CryptoQuip

answer

What is the term for someone who's examining the life of president Gerald? A Ford explorer.

Thought for the Day: "If we open a quarrel between past and present, we shall find that we have lost the future."

— Winston Churchill

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Amber Waves

HEY FELLAS, THE FARMER FILLED UP THE TROUGH. IT'S CHOWTIME WHERE ARE YOU??

GUYS, WHERE ARE YOU? THIS IS THE HIGHLIGHT OF OUR DAY. YOU'RE GOING TO MISS IT.

WHERE THE HECK ARE THOSE GUYS? THERE'S NO WAY THEY WOULD MISS LUNCHTIME.

WELL, AS IT TURNS OUT, THE OTHER GUYS DIDN'T REALIZE WHAT "DOORDASH" WAS.

by Dave T. Phipps

The Spats

AN APPLE A DAY KEEPS THE DOCTOR AWAY

...ESPECIALLY IF YOU THROW IT AT HIM.

by Jeff Pickering