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**1 Peter 2:24 (NLT)**



**God Bless America!**

**INSIDE**

- Classifieds** .....6-10  
Autos For Sale.....9-10  
Car Buyers.....9-10  
Career Connection .....8  
Home Connection .....8  
Service Directory .....6-7  
Towing Services.....9
- Columns**  
Personal Recollections ...2  
Reminiscing .....3

- Entertainment**  
Bulletin Boards .....2  
Crossword .....6  
Cryptoquip .....6  
Hocus Focus.....6  
Horoscope .....6  
Sudoku .....6
- Obituaries** .....3  
**Sports** .....4-5

**Trivia test**  
by Fifi Rodriguez

1. MOVIES: Which dramatic film features the character "V"?
2. GEOGRAPHY: Luzon belongs to which island nation?
3. LANGUAGE: What is the Latin phrase for "before the war"?
4. U.S. STATES: Which state has the most national parks?
5. LITERATURE: Which 1950s novel includes the line, "Nothing behind me, everything ahead of me, as is ever so on the road."
6. CHEMISTRY: What kind of gas makes a drink bubbly?
7. TELEVISION: Which sitcom features a mom named Debra Barone?
8. MUSIC: What was the former name of the English band Muse?
9. SCIENCE: What are the gaps between nerve cells called?
10. THEATER: Who wrote the play "The Crucible"?

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**ANSWERS ON PAGE 10**

**Strange BUT TRUE**

By Lucie Winborne  
\* It is impossible for a human to sneeze during sleep due to a bodily state called REM atonia.  
\* Actor Danny DeVito used to be a beautician.  
\* Ten thousand years ago, everyone's eyes were brown until someone living by the Black Sea developed a genetic mutation that turned brown eyes blue.  
\* Research has shown that taller people are happier but shorter people live longer.  
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TheSouthsiderVoice zoned for  
**Decatur Township**

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DC junior Zach Losito lines a single to the outfield during Saturday's game against Perry Meridian at the Phil Webster Baseball Complex.



Logan Markus, a Decatur Central sophomore, fires a high, hard one during his two-inning relief stint on Saturday while third baseman Triston Fidler defends his position. Markus struck out five of the six batters he faced.

**New Hawk baseball team starts fast**



Decatur Central baseball seniors present following Saturday's home game are Tad Harvey (4), Seth Rounds (6) and Michael Garrison (2). Not pictured: Garrett Smith, Brayden Mould, Stephen Oyatayo.



After Decatur Central surrendered six runs to Perry Meridian in the second inning of Saturday's Mid-State Conference opener, coach Sean Winkelseth (3) met with his players just outside their dugout. The Hawks held the Falcons scoreless the rest of the way.

By Steve Page  
Correspondent

No doubt Decatur Central struggled on the baseball diamond last season. "Last year, we didn't pitch very well, didn't play good defense behind our pitchers, so with that, you're not going to win many games," recalled Hawk coach Sean Winkelseth after the Hawks, 7-7 in the Mid-State and 10-14-1 overall, batted just .223 in 2023.

This year appears to be different. The Hawks won their first three games, rallying from a six-run deficit to shade North Central 10-9, topping Pike 7-5 and outscoring Columbus East 13-7.

Junior Zach Losito batted .700 (7-10) in those games, with three doubles, five stolen bases and six RBI. Senior Michael Garrison was .571 with three RBI, freshman Levi Seib went .556 with two RBI and junior Triston Fidler batted .500. They helped the Hawks hit .348 as a team.

"We've already scored 30 runs in three games," noted Winkelseth. "That's a credit to those guys and the practice they've put in. They've really committed to really improving those numbers."

At the heart of that, says Winkelseth, is strength coach Adam Lane.

"He's top notch," Winkelseth said. "There's probably no team more in the weight room than the baseball team. He brings a mentality, a competitive toughness, that we did not have before he got here."

Winkelseth provided a player-by-player outlook.

*"Zach is on fire right now, Sean Winkelseth said of Losito, who hit .286 last season with six doubles, two triples and 18 stolen bases. As a pitcher, he went 1-2 with a 2.90 ERA and a team-leading 34 strikeouts. He worked very hard in the offseason, and it's showing. He'll be in more of a closer role this year, in addition to being our everyday shortstop."*



Decatur Central sophomore Brayden Smith brings one over the top during Saturday's home game with Perry Meridian.

"Zach is on fire right now," Winkelseth said of Losito, who hit .286 last season with six doubles, two triples and 18 stolen bases. As a pitcher, he went 1-2 with a 2.90 ERA and a team-leading 34 strikeouts. "He worked very hard in the offseason, and it's showing. He'll be in more of a closer role this year, in addition to being our everyday shortstop."

"Jaylan Yates, our starting first baseman, stepped into a starting role last year. He's done a ton of work over the offseason, and he's up to 90 (mph) now. He's a huge asset for us, obviously."

"We have a senior catcher in Garrett Smith, who was our starting third baseman the last two years. Obviously, he's a leader on the field and an emotional leader for us. As he goes, the team goes."

"A senior, Michael Garrison, is just a steady, consistent player. He can play all over the field – third, shortstop, second, and the outfield."

"Brayden Smith and Logan Marcus will play in the middle of the field. We're looking for them to take another step for us this year."

**Polston returns**

"Bo Polston separated a shoulder last year, so we didn't have him last year. He's a leader for the football team, and he decided to come back. He'll also play first and in the outfield. That kid can hit."

"We have one freshman, Levi Seib. He's off to a tremendous start for us, starting in center field. Ashton Vogel quit baseball this year to focus on football, and we wish him all the best. That left us in a hole, but Levi has come in and done a tremendous job."

"Brayden Mould had a knee injury during the tennis season. He's probably the hardest worker, and a great teammate. We would love to get him back."

"Some guys were on the JV: Justin Smith, Tad Harvey, Jayden Thompson and Seth Rounds."

They're all role players, and they know it. These guys have really bought in, and work extremely hard.

"This team has culture. This year's group is really connected, from the regular guys to those not getting much playing time. They want to be around each other. Good players like to be around each other. When you're having fun, you win."

"In our first game, we were down 6-nothing, but looking into the dugout, you would not have thought we were down. There was no panic, and everyone was talking: 'We've got it, we're in this game.'

"In years past, I don't know if we had that resolve. Not only the physical aspect, but the mental game, the culture, the way they play for each other."

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# BGHS press box named in honor of longtime PA announcer Steve Nontell



(BGHS ATHLETICS PHOTO)

Longtime P.A. announcer Steve Nontell is honored by Beech Grove City Schools with the naming of the BGHS press box in his honor.

By **Quinten Starks**  
Beechgrove-athletics.com

Last month the Beech Grove School Board unanimously approved the naming of the stadium press box after Beech Grove High School alumni and community fixture, Steve Nontell.

Through years of service and his dedicated commitment to the school, the students, and the community, Steve Nontell is well-known around Beech Grove. He stands out in a crowd, usually a head taller than most, dressed in head-to-toe black and orange. If you're lucky, you'll see him sporting his 1973 BG letterman's jacket adorned with wrestling and scholastic badges.

Nontell has amassed over 50 years as a public address announcer for Beech Grove City Schools. This includes 51 seasons

of football, 41 seasons of wrestling, over 30 seasons of girls' and boys' basketball, and five IHSAA state wrestling championships. The list goes on and on.

BGCS school board president Rob Challis got nostalgic thinking of Nontell.

"I can say that Steve Nontell is Mr. Beech Grove. I remember him from when I went to school here. He is a legend around Beech Grove," reminisced Challis.

In addition to announcing, Challis recalled a memory from the wrestlers at Beech Grove. If you forgot your shoes for practice you'd have to wear "The Nonies". They were an oversized, old pair of Nontell's shoes from back in his wrestling days. Yet another example of the deep connections Steve Nontell has with his Beech Grove community.

For Nontell, working as a PA announcer was more than reading off names and sharing announcements between time-outs.

It was a job he took seriously, and he was committed to being the best professional grade announcer that he could be.

"Professional announcers don't showboat or cheer-lead. They commit to support the event, not take it over," said Nontell.

He was also diligent in his preparation taking painstaking care to ensure he had the proper pronunciation of student names, not just for the home team, but for the visiting side as well.

Steve ultimately hoped that his announcing added to the contribution of student success and memories of the event.

Nontell looked back fondly on the joy he would feel when alumni would come back to catch up and share their memories of him announcing their names at the game.

Earlier this school year, he was diagnosed with ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease) which has affected his mobility and his ability to consistently announce games. The naming of the press box is a way for the Beech Grove community to show appreciation for the years of dedicated service Steve has graciously given.

BGCS Superintendent Dr. Laura Hammack enthusiastically stated, "The Steve Nontell Press Box stands as a tribute to the voice that has not only chronicled victories but has also been a beacon of encouragement during challenging moments. As the voice of Beech Grove athletics, Steve's legacy will continue to inspire generations to come."

To further honor Steve's commitment to student-athletes and recognize all that he has given to numerous sporting events over the years, the Indiana Crossroads Conference has awarded Nontell the WeB4Me award. The WeB4Me award is named after the mantra of the late Matt English.

As described on the Indiana Crossroads Conference athletics website, "Its' purpose is to recognize a person from a member school who exemplifies Matt's approach towards serving others by selflessly and continuously supporting an athletic department, with no expectation of fanfare or recognition." Our thoughts continue to be with Steve and the entire Nontell family as they work through this difficult transition in managing his ALS diagnosis.

We hope that the legacy he has created will inspire others to uphold the same standards he set after decades behind the microphone.



## DUNSCOMB FAMILY AWARDS GRANT TO RONCALLI TEACHER



(SUBMITTED PHOTO)

The Lane Dunscomb Teacher Creativity Grant recipient is Roncalli High School architecture and engineering teacher Frank Mullen, left. The award was presented recently by Jennifer Dunscomb, middle, and Jim Dunscomb. The grant is awarded to a teacher or department with the hope and intent that it assists them in their ability to provide dynamic, unique learning experiences for their students. Lane Dunscomb was a much-loved, energetic third-grade boy who loved sports, learning and being with people. He never met a person he could not charm, from Andrew Luck to his next-door neighbor. Lane fought Ewing's sarcoma for 18 months before passing away in April 2015. This grant is an opportunity provided by his parents, Jennifer and Jim Dunscomb, as a means to carry on his legacy as Lane would have been a member of the Roncalli Class of 2024. The grant will be used to purchase a carbon fiber 3D printer for his classroom. Mullen said that the printer is a powerful addition to the program's capabilities and future.

## JAYNES ENTERS ISSA HALL OF FAME



(SUBMITTED PHOTO)

Mark Jaynes, "The Voice of the 500," holds the Indiana Sports-writers and Sportscasters Association Hall of Fame award at the Valle Vista Golf Club in Greenwood. Jaynes is with, from left, Indianapolis Motor Speedway president J. Douglas Boles, IndyCar president Jay Frye, and IndyCar vice president Dave Furst at Valle Vista. Jaynes is the anchor for Indianapolis 500 radio network broadcasts and chief announcer of the NTT IndyCar Series. He also teaches communications at Monrovia High School and is a former teacher at Beech Grove High School. Jaynes also broadcasts Indiana high school events for the IHSAA Champions Network and ISC Sports Network.

## Keenan-Stahl Boys & Girls Club claims top Basketball Blitz prize

By **Al Stille**  
Editor

With the Connecticut Huskies claiming the first back-to-back NCAA men's basketball championships since Florida in 2006 and 2007, the Keenan-Stahl Boys & Girls Club is the big winner in *The Southsider Voice's* Basketball Blitz for our valued advertisers.

Connecticut upended challenger Purdue University, 75-60 in the title game in Arizona that left the Boilermakers with a 35-4 record, their first national championship appearance since 1980, and removed the stigma of losing to a No. 16 seed in the 2023 tournament first round.

The Southsider club earns the largest complimentary advertisement among the Final Four, Duane Lytle Landscaping (Purdue and North Carolina State) earns two ads, and IU Credit Union (Alabama) one ad. A blind draw before the tournament began determined the advertiser and team matchups with multiple paid entries permitted.

*The Southsider Voice* is appreciative of all businesses who entered the 2024 Basketball Blitz.

Duane Lytle Landscaping with Purdue and the Wolfpack opposed each other in the Final Four. The Boilermakers prevailed in arguably one of their best games of the campaign only to come up short two days later against the Huskies who defeated Alabama, 86-72 in the Final Four opener. The Huskies defeated all

NCAA foes by double digits on their way to winning their sixth national title.

NC State won a remarkable nine consecutive ACC and NCAA tournament games before running into Purdue.

The Wolfpack got a boost from former Perry Meridian High School and Butler University standout Jayden Taylor who played 29 minutes against the Boilers and scored 11 points and grabbed two rebounds. Taylor was one of four players who appeared in all 41 games for the Wolfpack and averaged 11.2 points and 3.6 rebounds. The 6-4 guard scored a career-high 28 points in the final regular season game at Pittsburgh before the Wolfpack went on their tournament tear.

Purdue dominated NCSU as Zach Edey scored 20 points and grabbed 12 rebounds as Lance Jones added 14 points and Fletcher Loyer 11. Purdue won the battle of the boards, 41-29.

Against the Huskies, Edey poured in 37 points and had 10 rebounds with 12 points from Braden Smith. The rest of the Boilers could only produce 11 points against the Huskies' suffocating backcourt defense.

Among the experts at *The Southsider Voice*, correspondent Steve Page and Bob Kelly, special projects, each picked UConn to win against Purdue in the final game. Page won the tie-breaker by correctly picking 14 teams to reach the Sweet 16. Bob White, community outreach, and editor Al Stille picked Purdue to reach the title game.



# Personal Recollections

By Fred Shonk & Simon

## Eclipse just another first off my list

Last week, we had the opportunity to have a once in a lifetime experience. On April 8, lots of us did exactly that. As I was thinking about that, some of my first-time experiences returned to my thoughts.

On my 21st birthday, I was taking an evening class at Indiana Central College. After the classes were over, I drove to a small bar on Madison Avenue and bought my very first legal beer. My first time having my ID checked. I had one beer and went home.

I remember my first speeding ticket and also the last time I was pulled over for speeding. That was more than 30 years ago.

I have memories of bad winter snowstorms and how we dealt with those. I have dealt with the hot weather while living in southern California. I also remember the long winters while living in Michigan.

Lyn and I were looking forward to the once in a lifetime Eclipse. We were planning to watch from our backyard. We had our special glasses about a month early. We both checked our monthly calendars and found we had no other commitments that afternoon.

A few days before the Eclipse, our neighbor Michelle Soruco stopped by with some chicken food for our feathered girls. She and her husband own and operate Southport Equestrian Center. They have several horses and provide riding lessons. It is a wonderful business, and it is visible from our backyard.

While we were visiting with Michelle, she invited us to come over and join a small Eclipse viewing out in one of the fenced-in animal areas. She explained that there would be food and we would have lots of fun.

We took a couple of chairs and some drinks for us. Lyn also got a tray of cheese and dip for everyone to enjoy.

Lots of us sat around a small bonfire and visited. Some of the guests walked around and visited with some of the horses and my friend, Charlie O'Donkey. Sitting out in the sun was extremely hot. Several of us were using sunscreen.

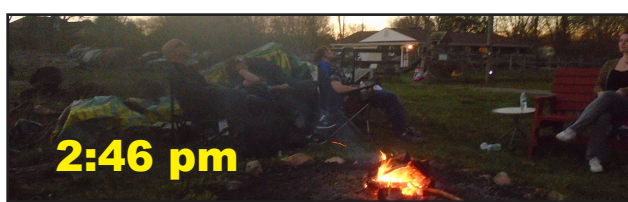
We all kept a close watch on the time. As the time got closer, we all were testing our Eclipse glasses. Soon we saw the moon began to move into place. We began guessing the percentage that was being blocked by the moon.

I was sitting across from several folks, and I started taking pictures of them about every two minutes. I noticed that it was getting darker, and I hoped that would show in the pictures.

Along with the darkness, we quickly noticed that the temperature was quickly dropping. It seemed to drop about 15 degrees during the 10 minutes of darkness. All of a sudden, it was not so hot. It just did not last.

I enjoyed looking through my special glasses as the moon moved from the right side across to the left side of the sun. It was also fun to watch all the guests watching from different locations on the enclosed area.

The Eclipse was over very quickly and then discussions quickly began. Everyone seems excited and happy that we had all experienced something for the first time that it has happened in Indiana for many years.



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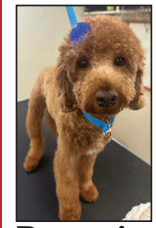
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# Southsiders' Bulletin Board

## HOMECROFT ELEMENTARY REUNION AND HALL OF EDUCATORS CELEBRATION

Homecroft Elementary School, 1551 Southview Dr., will hold a Hall of Educators Celebration and Alumni Reunion on Friday, April 26, from 5-7 p.m. The Hall of Educators will honor William Greathouse, Jean Ann Carson, and Dwight Taylor.

All three taught at the school when it first opened in 1957. The celebration of the honorees will begin in the gym at 5:30 p.m. with school tours to follow.

Info: Jay Danner 317-317-432-6255



HOMECROFT HALL OF EDUCATORS CELEBRATION & ALL-YEARS ALUMNI REUNION

## BG POLICE TRAINING CENTER

A ribbon-cutting ceremony to formally open the Beech Grove Police Department's new training center at 3310 S. Emerson Ave., Friday, April 19 at 11 a.m. The center is adjacent to the police department's new headquarters.

## ST. TIMOTHY'S SPAGHETTI DINNER

An all-you-care to eat spaghetti dinner will be held at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church Saturday, April 20, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Cost is \$12 for adults, \$5 for children under age 12. The church is at 2601 E. Thompson Road. Info: 317-784-6925.

## PTEF PICKLEBALL TOURNAY

The inaugural pickleball tournament to raise funds for the Perry Township Education Foundation (PTEF) unfolds Sunday, April 21 at Perry Meridian Middle School, 202 W. Meridian School Road. Proceeds benefit PTEF. Info and registration: Mary@PTEF.org.

## PERRY SENIOR CITIZENS BINGO

Perry Senior Citizens Center is having bingo Wednesday, April 24 at 1 p.m. Senior citizens on the Southside are invited to play. The center is at 6901 Derbyshire Drive. Info: perryseniors.org.

## SOUTHPORT BRANCH CHAIR AEROBICS

The Southport branch library is the site of a 13-week seated exercise and fitness series on Thursdays, 11:30 a.m. to 12:10 p.m. The next session is April 18. An instructor from Through the Ages Fitness leads. Patrons are urged to bring their own water bottles. The library is at 2630 E. Stop 11 Road. Info: 317-275-4510.

## GREENWOOD TREE GIVEAWAY

The City of Greenwood will have a tree giveaway on Arbor Day, Thursday, April 26, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Craig Park Shelter and the Greenwood City Center in downtown Greenwood. Greenwood Parks and Recreation is giving away 1,000 trees, ranging from silver maple, black cherry, river birch, pecan, and redbud. Info: greenwood.in.gov

## STRIKES FOR HEROES

Strikes for Heroes will benefit military veterans Saturday, April 27, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Royal Pin Expo, 5261 Elmwood Ave., Beech Grove. Event features non-stop bowling, pizza, salad, raffles, and auctions. Sponsored by Whalen Heroes Inc. Service dogs will be presented to two veterans. Info: https://whalensheroes.com/lets-bowl-april-27.

# Reminiscing

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

### 60 Years Ago Week — 1964

The Rev. Urban Habig returned to his home parish of Sacred Heart to celebrate his 60th year as a priest. Born in 1881, he was one of 14 children.

\*\*\*

Candidates in Manual's all-school popularity contest were James Wheeler, Francis Alice Smith, Ronald McBride, Teresa Oliver, Richard Cooper, Diane Eichoff, Denzil Throckmorton and Carol Wilsey. The contest was held in conjunction with the school's pow-wow, which featured food, games, a sock hop and a vaudeville show.

\*\*\*

Clearance items at Woolworth's in Fountain Square included artificial orchids for a nickel; quart mixing bowls, 10 cents; a dozen diapers, \$1.67; and ladies bathing suits, \$3.97.

### 50 Years Ago This Week — 1974

Kathy Hoagland was crowned queen of the spring festival at Indiana Central College. Her court members were Nancy Tucker, Penny Locke, Cathy Aiken and Andrea Constantine.

\*\*\*

Dinner specials at the Lucky Steer in Greenwood started at \$2.29.

\*\*\*

The W-1 Bullets won the pee-wee basketball tournament at Baxter YMCA. The squad consisted of Jimmy Alexander, Steve Clements, Bradley Ford, Steve Engleman, Keith Kinnick, Ricky Burgett, Jerry Eder, Jeff Clements, Mike Meyer, Brent Schieb, Steve Blount, Danny Ball and coaches Mike Clements and Paul Engleman.

\*\*\*

Girl Scout Troop members Robin Kelsey, Vickie McCullah, Lisa Callahan, Angela Doty, Phyllis Wolfe, Sherry Davis and Nadine Faulkner held a rummage sale to fund their camping trips.

\*\*\*

Mike Merkle and Steve Studing, both graduates of St. Roch Grade School, were named to the dean's list at St. Joseph Seminary in Illinois. They were the sons of Mr. and Mrs. Urban Merkle and Mr. and Mrs. Joe Suding.

### 40 Years Ago This Week — 1984

Holy Rosary Church was hosting a series of celebrations to commemorate its 75th anniversary. The church was founded May 2, 1909 by the Rev. Mario Priori to serve immigrant Italian Catholics who had settled southeast of downtown Indianapolis. Also observing its 75th anniversary was St. Catherine of Siena Church.

\*\*\*

The Perry Township Democrat Club named Carl Hinds as its Member of the Year. The award was presented by club president Harold Niehaus, Congressman Phil Sharp and Margaret Schattner, a candidate in the House District 52 primary.

\*\*\*

Margaret LaGrotto, her daughter, Lisa, and Margaret's sister, JoAnn Murello, departed Indianapolis International Airport to visit Lisa's brother, Tony, who had been teaching in Madrid, Spain, for the past year.

\*\*\*

Six-year-old ballerina Kristin Grubbs, daughter of Steven and Jan Grubbs, won a blue ribbon in the Indianapolis Showcase talent contest.

### 30 Years Ago This Week — 1994

Martha Via, Eliza Chaney and Ruth Smith, all teachers at Indianapolis Public School 65 near the University of Indianapolis, announced that they were retiring.

\*\*\*

Roncalli students Dawn Wessell, John Hollowell, Stephanie Rizzi, Kevin Finn, Walker Alte, Julie Wynch, Ruth Davis, Chris Browning, Chris Perkins and Jay Allen participated in the Central Indiana Regional Science and Engineering Fair.

\*\*\*

Mary Bryan fifth-graders Ashley Entwistle, Erika Heiney, Jennifer Rhodes, Jordan Heid, Jessica Elliot and Rusty Eikstein wrote an opera titled "You Don't Know What It's Like" and were anxious to stage it for their schoolmates.

### 20 Years Ago This Week — 2004

The Kiwanis Club of Indianapolis presented scholarships to 10 seniors at Southport for showing the most improvements in their grades. The top honoree was Neil Weitzel, who received the \$5,000 Dunham Scholarship, named in honor of Southport alumnus Tom Dunham. The winners of \$1,000 grants were Leah Averitt, Ashley Cole, James DuPriest, Heather Glascock, Laura Pabody, Ashley Roberts, David Rosenburg, Doug Schouten and Jennifer Zinser.

\*\*\*

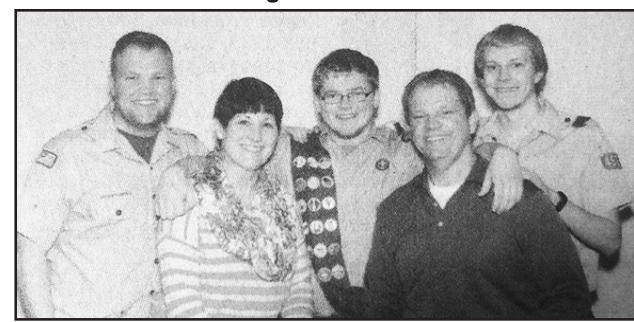
"Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed" was the most popular movie at the box office. "The Ladykillers" with Tom Hanks and Marion Wyrans attracted the second-most amount of viewers, and

"The Passion of the Christ" with James Caviezel and Monica Bellucci came in third.

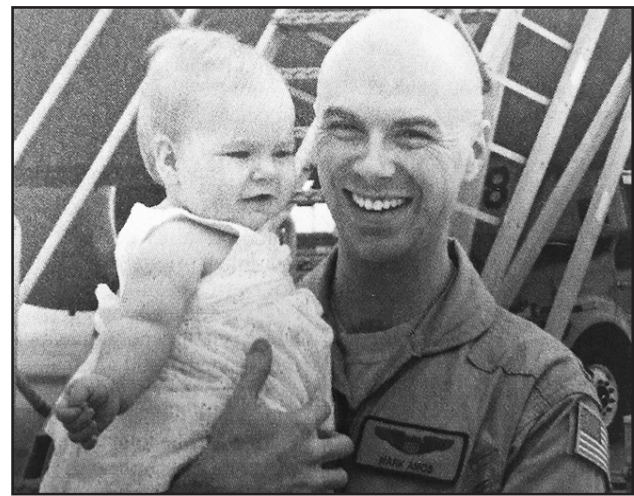


St. Roch School's fourth-grade volleyball team won its division in the Catholic Youth Organization. The squad featured (front, from left) Sara Knott, Alexandria Commler, Kristine Ratz, Toni McQueen, Alexandria Annee; (back) coach Karen "BDA" Kiefer, Katie Ferguson, Taylor Johnson, coach Terese McQueen, Jessica Hayden, Amy Lorenz and coach Melanie Annee.

### 10 Years Ago This Week — 2014



Codey Rohl (center) joined his brothers in achieving the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest honor attainable in Scouting. Corey (left) and Casey earned the distinction in 2009 and '12, respectively. They are seen with their parents, Brenda and David Rohl.



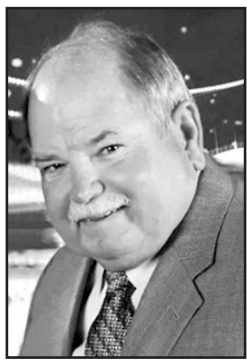
Mark Amos, valedictorian of Perry Meridian's Class of 2004, was a captain in the U.S. Air Force and piloted KC-10s, which were used to refuel military planes in flight and to transport troops and cargo. He is seen with his daughter Rebecca.

Dave Shaffer, a 1966 graduate of Southport who played on four Marion County tennis championship teams, was named Southport's Alumnus of the Year. He graduated from Indiana Central College and taught and coached at Perry Township Schools before becoming assistant superintendent of Brown County Schools.

Beech Grove High School named Ryan Morgan as its Teacher of the Month. He taught physical education/health and was the assistant athletic director and assistant boys basketball coach.

# OBITUARIES

AUGUST E. "GUS" WIEGMAN, 72, of New Palestine, passed away on April 11, 2024. He was born on November 13, 1951 in Beech Grove, IN to the late Lawrence and Lucy (Covert) Wiegman.



Gus was a member of Greenhouse Growers Association. He was an avid bowler with the Growers League. Gus also enjoyed short road trips and day trips with Beth, and his biggest enjoyment in life was spending time with his grandchildren.

Gus is survived by his loving wife of 48 years, Elizabeth "Beth" Wiegman; daughter, Kristi (Tom) White; son, Gus E. (Kim) Wiegman II; grandchildren, Jacob White, Alyssa and Ava Wiegman; sister, Lari Ann (Tim) Wyss; and many nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held on Wednesday, April 17, 2024 from 11:00 a.m. until the time of service at 1:00 p.m. at Friends United Church of Christ, 8300 South Meridian Street, Indianapolis, IN.

Arrangements have been entrusted to G. H. Herrmann Funeral Home, 5141 Madison Avenue, Indianapolis, IN.

Gus will be laid to rest in Greenwood Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research.

Please share your memories of Gus photographs of him, and online condolences with the family at www.gherrmann.com.

KERRIE LYNN BONHAM, 62, mother, Shelby Bradford (John); siblings, Greg Ratliff, Kellie Singh.

Kerrie had a career in travel, working for a number of years for Carefree Travel and AAA Travel. She had a passion for travel and loved to see the world and was fortunate to visit many places. She enjoyed arts and crafts, gardening, cooking, and helping families and animals in need in her community.

Visitation took place at Indiana Funeral Care.

SARAH ALICE BOOMERSHINE, 101, widow of Robert; children, Janice Nordsiek, Daniel (Kimberly), Susanne (Richard) Anderson; sister, Helen Lee; seven grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren.

Sarah and Robert were married for nearly 79 years. They enjoyed traveling, card club with friends, golf, bowling, and ballroom dancing. They were long-time members of Southport Baptist Church where she was active in teaching Sunday school. Sarah will be remembered for her caring personality, her smile, her passion for playing Bingo, and her love of singing.

The funeral service was held at G. H. Herrmann Funeral Home.

DORIS JOAN COX, 93, sisters, Rotha Hudson (Kenneth), Jane Brown (David) and Sharon Cole; longtime partner, Paul Miller. Doris was a longtime employee of Indiana Bell. Upon retirement, she worked another 17 years with Sam's Club as a "Demo Lady."

The last 9 1/2 years of her life were spent at Aspen Trace Assisted Living Facility where she was aided by so many staff members who are truly doing the Lord's work every day. She loved the workers, and they loved her.

A celebration of life was held at G.H. Herrmann Funeral Home.

SAMUEL DEVONTE, 7, mother, Ashley Wade; brother, Stephen Wade; grandparents, Richard and Stephanie Gentle; great-grandmothers, Daphne Mackinnon and Loretta Peters.

He was a first grader at Hornet Park Elementary and loved his teachers and classmates. Due to autism, he spoke very little but lived life on his terms. He would let you know what he liked and did not like. He was fond of his tablet, trampoline and other things such as his hat, church shoes, and vegetables. His first love was his Papa Richard. He and his brother Stephen were inseparable.

Indiana Funeral Care was entrusted with arrangements.

MICHAEL DORAN, 66, wife, Nikki Doran; sister, Michele Farris. He graduated from Beech Grove High School in 1975 and Marian College in 1981. He was employed in the healthcare industry where he served as a medical technologist.

Michael enjoyed computer gaming, particularly Fortnite, and was a Pacers and Colts fan. He enjoyed gardening, fishing, hunting, camping, and trying out new restaurants.

He was a kind-hearted prankster, especially on April Fool's Day. He was a member of Garfield Park Master Gardeners Club and served as a volunteer gardener at the Indianapolis Zoo.

Newcomer Cremations and Funerals handled arrangements.

EVA R. DUARTE, 89, two grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; sisters, Margret (Jim) Wurster, Marlene Ingram, and Maxine (John) Pease.

Eva worked for Western Electric and then became a teacher. She was a member of The Stop 11 Church of Christ. Eva also had a long-standing weekly hair appointment with her beloved friend Jean, spanning two decades.

She took pride in ensuring her home and lawn were in pristine condition. She had a kind heart and loved helping others.

Visitation from 1-3 p.m. Wed., April 17, 2024, at the Wilson St. Pierre Funeral Service & Crematory-Franklin Township Chapel.

RONALD L. DYSON, 78, wife, Paula Dyson; children, Michael (Christina), and Shelby Dyson, Pamela Bonnewell, Valerie (James) Kelley; stepchildren, Ryan (Nicole) Cowart and Nicole (Jordan) Knue; brother, Keith Dyson; 12 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; former wife, Denise Pierson Dyson.

He attended Southport High School and shortly thereafter joined the Marines. Ron worked at Peerless Pump. After retirement, he enjoyed traveling, playing darts, watching NASCAR races, IU games, and all Big 10 games.

Arrangements handled by Little & Sons Funeral Home.

CHARLES "CHUCK" ECK, JR., 80, wife, Marsha Eck; children, Cherie Nowacki, and Kevin (Kelly Weaver) Eck; five grandchildren; siblings, Theresa and Leo Eck.

He graduated from Manual High School in 1966. He was a mess sergeant in the Army during the Vietnam War. Chuck was an electrical assembler at Chrysler for 30 years and then worked at Roncalli for 14 years.

He loved spending time with his family, camping, boating, fishing, gardening, playing cards, and water skiing. He enjoyed fixing things around the house, he liked to stay busy.

G. H. Herrmann Funeral Home handled arrangements.

MICHAEL JOHNSON, 73, wife, Nancy; sons, Keith (Erin), Benjamin (Jenny), Alexander (Sabrina), Nicholas (Laurie), and Nathaniel (Gina); 12 grandchildren; brother, Terry (Marie).

Mike lived a life marked by his love for his family. He adored his grandchildren and took great delight in attending their sporting events. Mike cherished every moment spent with his grandchildren.

Big Mike was happiest at the lake where he found joy in watching his sons and grandkids learn to ski and wakeboard, spending time with Nancy, and sharing stories around the campfire.

Indiana Funeral Care handled arrangements.

CAROLYN H. KRIEGER, 82, widow of Walter Krieger; son, James Krieger; brother, Mike Metcalfe.

Carolyn was a homemaker and enjoyed doing puzzles. Her warm personality and caring nature touched the hearts of many. She left behind a beautiful tapestry of memories that will be held dear by all who had the pleasure of knowing her.

Services entrusted to O'Riley-Branson Funeral Service.

LYNN E. MCPHILLIPS, 73, sister, Audrey Smith. Lynn was a very devoted member of Holy Name Catholic Church her entire life and worked in the parish office until her passing.

Arrangements handled by Little & Sons Funeral Home.

TERRY GENE MOORE, 75, wife, Regina Moore; children, Richie, Sherri, Jason, Justin, and Lorena; grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Terry enjoyed fishing, especially in Florida, where he loved to spend time with his boys. He served in the Navy for four years. He will be remembered for his selflessness and kindness. He always prioritized the needs of others and brought joy and comfort to those around him. His favorite saying, "Watch backing out of the driveway," serves as a reminder of his caring nature.

Visitation was held at G. H. Herrmann Funeral Home.

AALIYAH R. PAFF, 20, mother, Felisa Poplewell; siblings, Tori Bell, Jaylen Paff, Ciara Rivera, Drayden Sweazey, Cali, and Cole Baugher; grandparents, Patricia Ewing, Ramon Rivera, and Shelley Paff.

Aaliyah graduated from Manual High School and was a student at Ivy Tech. She maintained a 4.0 GPA in high school and college and was passionate about her education.

She adored spending time with her family. She had an infectious smile and mischievous sense of humor. She had a passion for music and dancing. Aaliyah loved long car rides and volleyball.

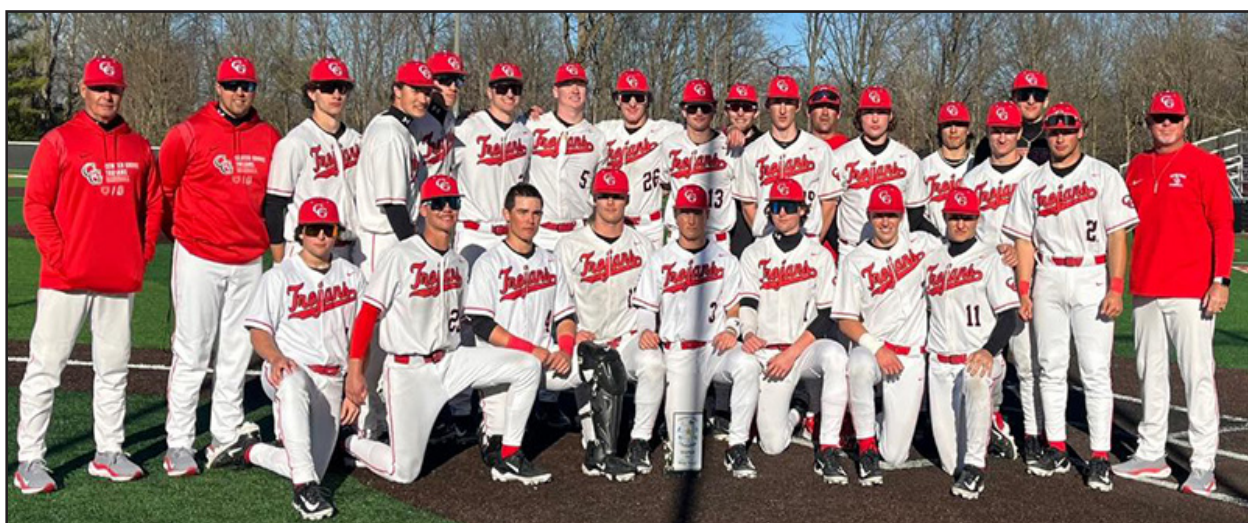
Visitation will be 4-8 p.m. at O'Riley-Branson Funeral Home on April 19, 2024.

ALICE JANE ROBERTS PALMER, 86, widow of Gilbert Palmer; children, Brenda (Timothy) Hawkins, Sonny (Connie), James (Lisa), and Scott (Shannon) Palmer; 17 grandchildren; 42 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild.

Alice was a member of Shelby Street Pentecostal Lighthouse for 58 years where she was a Sunday school teacher, head of the

# BASEBALL SHOWCASE

## Improved teams expect to raise baseball fortune throughout Southside diamonds



(CGHS ATHLETICS PHOTO)

Center Grove's Trojans gathered for team photo after capturing the Johnson County tournament earlier this month on the Trojans' field. Center Grove defeated Indian Creek 9-0 in the semifinal game and Franklin 5-1 in the championship game. CG has a mix of veteran players and newcomers this season as they continue the program's championship tradition.

By Al Stille  
Editor

Baseball fortunes throughout the Southside are on the rise this season with improved teams, great talent, and new coaches.

Class 4A IHSAA state runner-up Center Grove and Class A semistate qualifier Greenwood Christian Academy appear to be improved over last year. The Trojans fell 2-0 to Penn at Victory Field and GCA fell to Barr-Reeve in the semistate. CG returns with a mix of veterans and newcomers. GCA lost only two seniors off last year's team.

Looking over Southside rosters, most teams will be improved, including defending Marion County tourney champions Perry Meridian, sectional finalists Franklin Central, Greenwood, Perry Meridian, and Whiteland. Southport and Lutheran have several returnees back.

Center Grove is No. 1 among 4A teams in the state coaches' poll; Lutheran is No. 7 in Class A.

The Southside has some of the state's top baseball talent, including hard-throwing Franklin Central pitcher Weston Harvey, Center Grove slugger Noah Coy, Whiteland pitcher Drew Helton and speedster Maalik Perkins, Perry Meridian pitcher Austin McNabb, Roncalli's Will Manship, and Lutheran outfielder Owen Lecher.

New coaches include longtime Dayton University coach Tony Vittorio at Roncalli, Ryan Kendall at Beech Grove, and Ryan Hurley at Greenwood Christian Academy.

Here's the Southside team-by-team outlook (with 2023 statistics):

**CENTER GROVE (4A, 29-4)** The Trojans are a different but very threatening team after graduating 13 seniors who helped snare county, sectional, regional, and semistate trophies.

Veteran coach Keith Hatfield reloads with a savvy team that has enough power, speed, defense, and pitching for another promising campaign.

CG has plenty of hard hitters from top to bottom with senior shortstop Noah Coy, a Notre Dame commit, (.370, 39 runs, 37 hits) and A.J. Beggs (.236, 21 RBI); juniors Cal Schembra, Andrew Krupa (Indiana commit), Easton Smith, Cayden Jones, and Carson Bush; sophomores Kobe Cherry (.250, 19 RBI), Reed Sawa, and Tristen Yerman, and freshman Drake McClurg (Ball State commit).

Hatfield can call upon a deep corps of nine pitchers led by Cherry (4-0, 2.95 ERA), sophomore Kallen Thompson, senior Conner Vander Luitgaren (4-0, 2.95 ERA), junior Kyle Boots, and senior Brendan Ealy.

It may take a while for pitching depth to materialize. The Trojans are much younger than last year's team but this group promises to keep the championship tradition alive.

**DECATUR CENTRAL (10-14-1)** After only winning 10 games last year, the Hawks return to the diamond with improved pitching and hitting. Coach Sean Winkelseth sees the difference.

"This team has culture," Winkelseth observed. "This year's group is really connected, from the regular guys to those not getting much playing time. They want to be around each other. Good players like to be around each other."

Big bats are being wielded by the foursome of senior Michael Garrison, juniors Zach Losito (.286, 18 stolen bases) and Tristen Fidler (.247, 20 hits) and freshman Levi Seib. Add in Jaylon Yates (.263, 20 hits) and the Hawks promise to be improved at the plate.

The mound corps is deep with Losito, Garrison, Yates, Logan Marcus, Jayden Thompson, and southpaws Brayden Mould and Brayden and Justin Smith.

The Hawks also will rely on sophomore Bo Polston after missing last season with a separated shoulder.

Tad Harvey and Seth Rounds are up from the junior varsity. Winkelseth looked over his Hawks and readily admitted, "When you're having fun, you win."

**FRANKLIN CENTRAL (4A, 10-20)** Competing in the rugged Hoosier Crossroads Conference is a challenge for the Flashes, but this season could be a little bit different.

"The goal this year, and they came up with this, they want to sweep more opponents and finish above .500 for the first time in conference," veteran coach Greg Schoettle said. "We're starting to understand what it takes to compete in that conference."

The Flashes won only three league games last season but a big improvement is on the horizon. Schoettle has nine seniors and nine juniors to call upon.

"This year, we are more aggressive in hitting the ball, attacking early in the count," Schoettle observed of his veteran team. "Last year that was a struggle. Most pitchers we face are going to throw strikes, so we have to attack early."

FC has solid hitting, good speed, improved defense, and two solid starting pitchers.



(SOUTHSIDER VOICE PHOTOS BY AL STILLE)

The Flashes have a strong pitching staff led by seniors Nolan Feters, left, and Weston Harvey.

Three-year letterwinner Dylan Richards (.288, 23 hits) is behind the plate where he has command.

The infield features senior Brian Lockhart at first, classmate Ben Uhlmsiek at second, junior Nate Schwark (.305, 29 hits) moves from second to shortstop, and junior defensive ace Elijah Thompson and senior designated hitter Dylan Manning share third.

The outfield switches around with junior Jack Cecil (.353) moving from rightfield to leftfield, senior Ty Horvath from left to centerfield, and junior Carson Back in rightfield.

Senior Winston Harvey (4-2, 1.59 ERA, 95 strikeouts) is the Flashes No. 1 pitcher with Uhlmsiek (3-2, 3.26 ERA) in the No. 2 slot. As the season progresses, Schoettle is confident that the Flashes' pitching depth will increase with junior southpaw Jake Hotovek, senior Nolan Feters, and hard-throwing soph Dylan Pearson. Five more Flashes also have pitching experience.

"We'll work on the lineup 1 through 9 so there are no weaknesses and work a little bit more so our pitchers have more command."

**GREENWOOD (4A, 16-15)** Woodmen seek to keep late-season momentum of winning five of last six games before running into sectional champ and eventual state runner-up Center Grove.

Veteran coach Andy Bass' squad has experience, speed, power, and pitching with the return of a dozen players and a few newcomers.

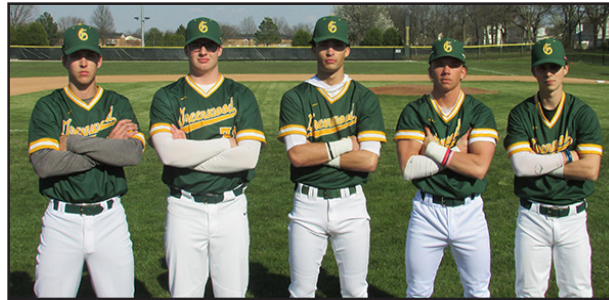
"We return with seven position players and all but one pitcher," Bass said. "On paper, yes it looks good, but we compete in the Mid-State and every team we play has arms (pitching)."

"We have some power and some speed. We have a few guys who can drive the ball but, hopefully, we will be able to make a living by getting on base and creating runs."

Greenwood's mound staff includes senior Micah Vessely (4-5, 1.81 ERA and .342, 26 hits at the plate), senior lefty Cade Kelly (2-5, .297, 27 hits), classmate Logan Connor (5-1, 2.85 ERA), plus Spencer Fay, Brendan Bailey, juniors Mavrick Pauley and Nicholas Pruet, and sophomores Jayden Pierce and Eli Mason.

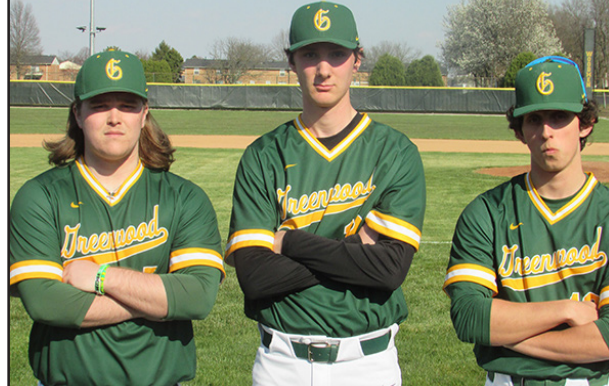
The Woodmen can go with senior Cooper Smith at first, Pauley at second, speedster Landen Smith (.375, 37 runs, 36 hits) a Ball State commit at shortstop, Mason at third, senior Wyatt Flowers in leftfield, junior Ethan King in centerfield, and senior Jagger Bray (transfer from Indian Creek) in rightfield. Senior Jackson Simms and junior Sam Thompson can go behind the plate with Pierce as a designated hitter.

"We peaked at the right time last year in our sectional, knowing there is no easy draw," Bass said. "Baseball is a great game (because) on any given day, anybody can beat anybody."



(SOUTHSIDER VOICE PHOTOS BY AL STILLE)

Greenwood seniors, from left, catcher Jackson Simms, shortstop Landen Smith, first baseman Cooper Smith, and outfielders Jagger Bray and Wyatt Flowers are ready for another winning season.



Greenwood seniors on the mound for the Woodmen are, from left, Logan Connor, Brendan Bailey, and Spencer Fay.

**PERRY MERIDIAN (4A, 19-12)** By Steve Page, correspondent

The Falcons have a promising look despite losing many of their top hitters to graduation.

"We lost quite a bit there with those seniors," said coach Jake Banwart. "But our junior class was very good. It looks pretty good. We have our 1 and 3 (pitchers) from last year, so now, they're 1 and 2."

No. 1 Austin McNabb (7-1, 1.57 ERA, 54 strikeouts) is a Dayton commit; No. 2 Jayden Simpson (4-3, 2.33 ERA, 32 strikeouts) is an Indiana Tech commit. Junior Zach Carile is normally the closer.

"We have two arms, a catcher (junior Ayden Kerr, .295), and our shortstop (Jackson Lamkin) was our third baseman last season. He's a really good defender."

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Franklin Central has plenty of veteran players with seniors, from left, Dylan Manning, Ben Uhlmsiek, Brian Lockhart, Ty Horvath, student manager Wyatt Roddy, and Bryce Kriech.

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**Have a great season Guys!**  
**Royals Baseball**  
Best of luck to the players, coaches and fans!  
From the Roncalli Athletic Department

**Perry Meridian** (Continued from Page 4)

Nate Risley, a sophomore, is the center fielder. Senior Carson Woods is tabbed as designated hitter.

"He (Woods) tore his labrum two years ago, then tore a hamstring last year," Banwart said. "He's a really good bat for us. We're excited to have him back."

Alex Acosta, a junior, leads off, and then it's Lamkin, followed with Kerr batting third and Woods in the cleanup spot with a big bat already.

The rest of the lineup includes sophomore Risley in centerfield, Carlile in left and fleet Ian Miles in right. Cayden Nolan is at first and Isaac Gadiant is at second.

"We're going to pitch it and play really well on defense," Banwart said. "We're fast. We run like crazy on the bases. We're going to be in a lot of base-ball games."

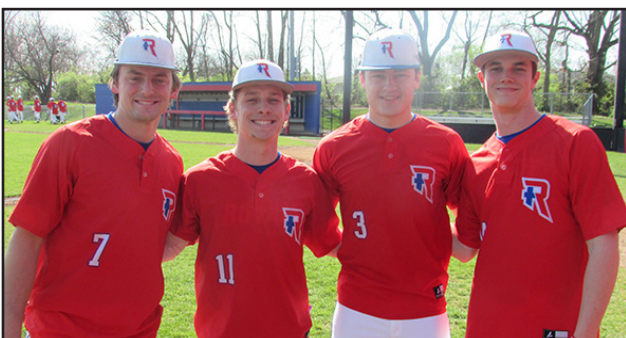
"We're the current Marion County champs for a reason. Our goals are the same: win county, win sectionals. We may not win every game, but our goal is to win the day."



(SOUTHSIDER VOICE PHOTOS BY STEVE PAGE) Junior Austin McNabb (9) returns to the Perry Meridian mound as the Falcons' No. 1 pitcher.



Perry Meridian senior Jayden Simpson (4) is looking for a star-spangled season on the mound.



Roncalli has solid experience with seniors, from left, pitcher Charlie Baker, outfielder Parker Dougherty, pitcher JJ Prendergast, and first baseman Dylan Henry.

**SOUTHPORT** (4A, 6-19) Cardinals should easily benefit from the experience gained last season by a very young team that graduated only three seniors.

Third-year coach Brendan Dudas is genuinely excited about these Cardinals that have a lot of "pop" at the plate, good speed on the bases, solid defense, and a surprising mound staff.

"We have a core group that is in-tune with each other, enjoy working hard, love baseball, and are motivated," Dudas said. "It's now a matter of going out there with confidence and winning games."

The program has attracted 37 players this season, enough numbers for the Cardinals to field a "C" team.

The Cardinals have nine seniors: Jacob Rodriguez and Bryce Ward at first, Calvin Miller at third, Michael-Steven Takacs Jr (.312), at second, and Bryce Calvert, nearly recovered from a season-ending football injury, in rightfield, along with outfielder Espy Ralston, catcher Nolan Roll, and outfielder Jainel Matos Custodio.

Southport's rise features younger starters: juniors, shortstop / pitcher Nick Godsey (.288, 17 hits; 2-2, 35 strikeouts), pitcher / second baseman Peyton Phoenix, and center-fielder Max Terrell; and sophomores, catcher Riley Matlock (.270, 14 RBI) and leftfielder Robert Ludlow. Junior outfielder Austin Van Velse (.267, 16 hits) returns.

The pitching corps begins with Godsey and Phoenix and then Takacs, closer Martinez, and young feisty arm Ty Duncan, who also is a designated hitter.

"This is the most balanced team I've had here," Dudas said. "We have some 'pop' at the plate and speed. We expect to manufacture more runs. Defensively, we're strong up the middle."

**WHITELAND** (4A, 13-14) Eight returnees provide veteran coach Scott Sherry with a solid nucleus to become a sectional threat again after reaching the title game last season.

Senior Drew Helton and junior speedster Maalik Perkins provide a lot of excitement in the Warriors lineup. Helton, a Purdue Fort Wayne commit, hit .443 with 30 RBI and three home runs and was 5-4 on the mound with a 1.65 ERA and 65 strikeouts.

Perkins, the Warriors centerfielder and leadoff hitter, hit .362 and stole 26 bases last season. He is a Ball State commit.

Junior Peyton Dickens (.320, 24 hits; 3-3, 3.89 ERA) is the No. 2 pitcher. Juniors Blake Riddle (.297, 26 runs), Brody Williams, and Kayden Wilson return with sophomore Jordan Palmer.

The talent-heavy junior class also includes varsity newcomers Dillon Brown, Ethan Engel, Connor Grismer, and Isaac Phegley.



Peyton Dickens Whiteland, Drew Helton Whiteland, Brody Williams Whiteland

**BEECH GROVE** (3A, 12-12) First-year coach Ryan Kendall inherits a very young team after graduating 12 seniors from a .500 team last year.

"We have a good young group of players," Kendall said. "They are eager to learn, and they are challenging each other in practice."

Kendall, a former assistant coach, has only four returnees in the Hive with senior Andrew Buerosse (.263 and Tucker McDonald and juniors Griffin Matracia (.293, 17 hits; 1-1, 3.84 ERA), and Brayden Cruse (.190).

Kendall considers pitcher / first baseman Matracia as the team's leader by example, while catcher Buerosse is the Hornets' vocal leader. Cruse starts in centerfield.

Kendall, who played baseball at Franklin Central and Franklin College, will rely on his veteran trio to provide leadership.

Matracia, a fourth-year starter, leads the mound corps with senior Ryan Bennett, sophomore Noah Buerosse, and freshmen, outfielder Ethan Corbett, pitcher / shortstop Guerin Boshears, second

baseballer James Gann, and rightfielder / shortstop Aiden Brown.

Seniors Jayden Smith and juniors Lacy Stephens and Tim Bellows round out the Hornets' thin roster.

"We'll make our share of mistakes, but eventually, even as young as we are, we will become comfortable in uncomfortable situations," Kendall observed.

**CHRISTEL HOUSE MANUAL** (3A, 0-6) Eagles open season at home Friday against Purdue Poly. Coach Fabian Ricks hopes to improve upon last year's record with improvements at the plate and in the field. Eagles pushed across 20 runs in six games last season.

**GREENWOOD CHRISTIAN ACADEMY** (1A, 15-13-1) First-year coach Ryan Hurley is in the enviable position of inheriting a dozen returnees from team that made it all the way to the IHSAA semistate before bowing.

Top hitters, seniors Colton Flint (.355, 33 hits, 25 RBI) and Cole Muhlhauser (.356, 24 runs, 32 hits, 29 RBI), lead the pack. Returnees include Charlie Overton (.272, 25 hits, 19 RBI), Wyatt Schlegeter (.250, 21 runs), and Mason Wright.

Hurley also can rely upon returning juniors, Isaac Bollhorst (.300, 15 runs), Caden Camden (.241, 29 hits), Eli Jackson (.338, 24 hits), and Preston Van Til. Sophomores Brandt Keininger, Steven McClain, and Jacob Schlichting also return.

Overton and Van Til lead the pitching staff that has good depth. Cougars have the experience and a lineup 1 through 9 for another playoff run.

**LUTHERAN** (1A, 16-12) The Saints return with a young-looking roster that has plenty of experience.

Coach Joshua Meaney, who is recovering from rotator cuff surgery, is back with five seniors and seven juniors who have played varsity since their freshman years. Even the Saints' five sophomores are experienced.



Beech Grove's James Gann (6) fouls off a pitch during Beech Grove Invite to launch new season at the Jim Hensley Field of Dreams.

Coach Joshua Meaney, who is recovering from rotator cuff surgery, is back with five seniors and seven juniors who have played varsity since their freshman years. Even the Saints' five sophomores are experienced.

"We bring back a lot of experienced guys," Meaney emphasized. "They bring us a lot that they have learned since they were freshmen. With that experience, we've been able to work on details and fine tune our team."

The Saints are deep on the mound with senior Gehrig Whitlock (2.21 ERA; .306, 15 hits) and junior Owen Lecher (2-0; .427, 32 hits, 24 RBI) for a 1-2 punch in back-to-back conference games plus seniors Ryan Jeffers and Jackson Brandenburg (.425, 34 hits, 5 home runs), sophomores Dax Locklear and Hudson Mills, and juniors Ryan Redding (.433, 30 runs, 29 hits) and Nate Hughes (.333, 24 hits).

Lutheran will rely on Lecher and soph Gage Meaney at first, junior Landyn Parker at second, junior Mason Phelps at shortstop, and senior Jack Searce (.474), junior Sam Strader (Roncalli transfer), and Locklear sharing duties at third base. Brandenburg will be in leftfield with Hughes in centerfield, and Mills in rightfield.

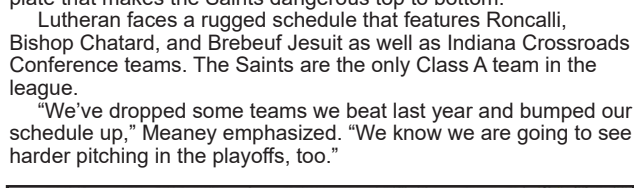
When not pitching, Whitlock or Redding will be behind the plate. Mills (.364, 19 RBI) and Meaney (.312) also bring power to the plate that makes the Saints dangerous top to bottom.

Lutheran faces a rugged schedule that features Roncalli, Bishop Chatard, and Brebeuf Jesuit as well as Indiana Crossroads Conference teams. The Saints are the only Class A team in the league.

"We've dropped some teams we beat last year and bumped our schedule up," Meaney emphasized. "We know we are going to see harder pitching in the playoffs, too."

Lutheran's hopes for another successful season are bolstered by seniors, from left, Ryan Jeffers, Jackson Brandenburg, Gehrig Whitlock, and Jack Searce.

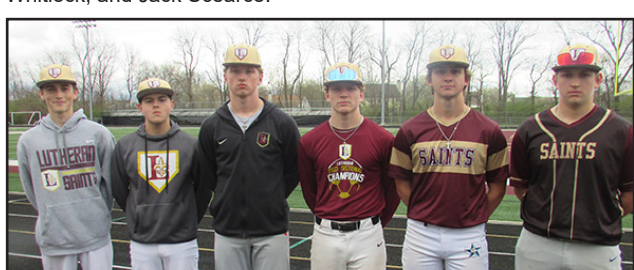
They may be juniors but this group of Lutheran Saints has lots of experience, from left, Mason Phelps, Landyn Parker, Owen Lecher, Nate Hughes, Ryan Redding, and Sam Strader.



(SOUTHSIDER VOICE PHOTOS BY AL STILLEY)



They may be juniors but this group of Lutheran Saints has lots of experience, from left, Mason Phelps, Landyn Parker, Owen Lecher, Nate Hughes, Ryan Redding, and Sam Strader.



They may be juniors but this group of Lutheran Saints has lots of experience, from left, Mason Phelps, Landyn Parker, Owen Lecher, Nate Hughes, Ryan Redding, and Sam Strader.

**GO HORNETS!**

**BASEBALL**

Good Luck **HORNETS!**

Have a great season!

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The Falcons have speed on the bases as Ian Miles steals second in early-season Mid-State game against Decatur Central.



Perry Meridian has a talented group of seniors, from left, Carson Woods, Jayden Simpson, Jacob McDaniel, Miles Garmon, manager Charlie McLain, Ethan Knapp, Cayden Nolan, Ian Miles and Nate McDonald.

**RONCALLI** (4A, 20-9) With a wealth of college coaching experience, Southsider and Southport graduate Tony Vittorio takes over the Royals' program for the first time.

No stranger to the area, Vittorio saw the Royals play five games late last season, so he knew what he was getting into.

"I got a good look at them," said Vittorio, who has nearly 30 years coaching experience at the college level. "I just love baseball and had moved back to the area. I've always called Roncalli the school of champions."

What Vittorio saw last year was a sophomore-dominated team that eventually graduated only six seniors and won 20 games.

The talented seniors are pitchers JJ Prendergast, Charlie Baker, second baseman Parker Dougherty, and designated hitter Dylan Henry.

Those sophomores are now juniors who form the nucleus of the Royals' fortunes: Johnny Jaffe at first, Sam Roeder at shortstop, Maddux Haworth who moves from second to third, Will Manship in leftfield, Rudy Schoettle in centerfield, and Nico Amodeo behind the plate.

Junior second baseman Drew Nelson is overcoming a football injury. Classmates Jack Oncale and JP Roseli can go behind the plate, and Marty Babcock can back up the infield.

Royals' pitching is deep with Prendergast and Baker, sophomore Colin Ash, and juniors Haworth, Amodeo, Dylan Powers, Luke Greene, and Austin Walker.

"We have a little bit of speed and power," Vittorio said. "We will be able to put a lot of pressure with our base running. Defense is a mindset and something you can control that's always been a strength of mine as a coach. But nothing beats experience, right?"

Vittorio also talked about fundamentals and the process that can be instilled to become even better players.

The Royals, as always, face a difficult schedule. They were knocked out last year in the sectional. This time around, they are preparing for a deep playoff run with a new coach who disburses plenty of baseball knowledge.



(SOUTHSIDER VOICE PHOTOS BY AL STILLEY) Veteran college baseball coach Tony Vittorio returns to his Southside roots as the new head coach at Roncalli. Vittorio served as head coach at Indiana Purdue Fort Wayne, University of Dayton, and Wilmington College.

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Freshman shortstop Guerin Boshears (5) makes throw for first for Hornets during Beech Grove Invite.



(BGHS ATHLETICS PHOTOS) Beech Grove junior Brayden Cruse (4) is among four returnees for the Hornets.

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**Have a great season, Royals!**



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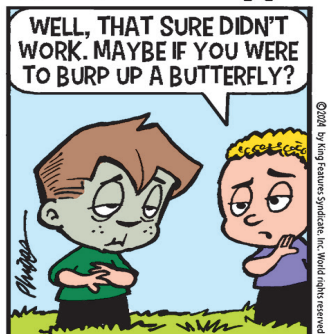
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**TOP DOLLAR PAID FOR JUNK OR RUNNABLE CARS - TRUCKS - RECREATIONS VEHICLES  
ATVs - MOPEDS - MOTORCYCLES - TRAILERS & MORE**

<p>— <b>King Crossword</b> —</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Answers</p> <p>Solution time: 24 mins.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center; border-collapse: collapse; font-size: x-small;"> <tr><td>V</td><td>A</td><td>M</td><td>P</td><td>N</td><td>B</td><td>A</td><td>S</td><td>T</td><td>O</td><td>P</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>R</td><td>A</td><td>S</td><td>A</td><td>L</td><td>B</td><td>L</td><td>E</td><td>T</td><td>O</td></tr> <tr><td>T</td><td>E</td><td>N</td><td>A</td><td>C</td><td>I</td><td>T</td><td>I</td><td>N</td><td>O</td><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>A</td><td>I</td><td>L</td><td>O</td><td>R</td><td>S</td><td>O</td><td>D</td><td>D</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>M</td><td>O</td><td>O</td><td>S</td><td>E</td><td>E</td><td>R</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>D</td><td>A</td><td>T</td><td>L</td><td>B</td><td>S</td><td>D</td><td>R</td><td>I</td><td>V</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>O</td><td>R</td><td>E</td><td>O</td><td>I</td><td>N</td><td>A</td><td>S</td><td>L</td><td>I</td><td>P</td></tr> <tr><td>H</td><td>E</td><td>N</td><td>N</td><td>A</td><td>L</td><td>C</td><td>D</td><td>S</td><td>E</td><td>A</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>E</td><td>T</td><td>C</td><td>H</td><td>C</td><td>O</td><td>G</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>T</td><td>O</td><td>M</td><td>A</td><td>T</td><td>O</td><td>E</td><td>T</td><td>U</td><td>D</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>A</td><td>V</td><td>E</td><td>R</td><td>T</td><td>E</td><td>N</td><td>S</td><td>I</td><td>O</td><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>R</td><td>A</td><td>N</td><td>I</td><td>E</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>S</td><td>N</td><td>I</td><td>T</td></tr> <tr><td>A</td><td>L</td><td>T</td><td>O</td><td>L</td><td>O</td><td>S</td><td>E</td><td>T</td><td>D</td><td>S</td></tr> </table>	V	A	M	P	N	B	A	S	T	O	P	E	R	A	S	A	L	B	L	E	T	O	T	E	N	A	C	I	T	I	N	O	N	S	A	I	L	O	R	S	O	D	D	E				M	O	O	S	E	E	R		D	A	T	L	B	S	D	R	I	V	E	O	R	E	O	I	N	A	S	L	I	P	H	E	N	N	A	L	C	D	S	E	A				E	T	C	H	C	O	G		T	O	M	A	T	O	E	T	U	D	E	A	V	E	R	T	E	N	S	I	O	N	R	A	N	I	E	M	T	S	N	I	T	A	L	T	O	L	O	S	E	T	D	S	<p>— <b>Weekly SUDOKU</b> —</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Answer</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center; border-collapse: collapse; font-size: x-small;"> <tr><td>5</td><td>2</td><td>9</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>6</td><td>3</td><td>1</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>7</td><td>6</td><td>5</td><td>1</td><td>4</td><td>2</td><td>9</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>1</td><td>8</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>9</td><td>5</td><td>7</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>4</td><td>7</td><td>1</td><td>5</td><td>3</td><td>8</td><td>2</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>5</td><td>3</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>2</td><td>6</td><td>4</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>8</td><td>2</td><td>4</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>3</td><td>1</td><td>9</td><td>7</td><td>5</td><td>4</td><td>6</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>6</td><td>4</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>5</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>9</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>4</td><td>1</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>3</td></tr> </table>	5	2	9	7	8	6	3	1	4	3	7	6	5	1	4	2	9	8	4	1	8	3	2	9	5	7	6	6	4	7	1	5	3	8	2	9	1	5	3	8	9	2	6	4	7	9	8	2	4	6	7	1	3	5	8	3	1	9	7	5	4	6	2	7	6	4	2	3	8	9	5	1	2	9	5	6	4	1	7	8	3	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.5em;">TRIVIA</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Answers</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "V for Vendetta" (2005).</li> <li>2. The Philippines.</li> <li>3. Antebellum.</li> <li>4. California, with nine.</li> <li>5. "On the Road" by Jack Kerouac.</li> <li>6. Carbon dioxide.</li> <li>7. "Everybody Loves Raymond."</li> <li>8. Rocket Baby Dolls.</li> <li>9. Synapses.</li> <li>10. Arthur Miller.</li> </ol> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">(c) 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.</p>
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**CryptoQuip** answer

You really shouldn't disregard these fine people from the Pine Tree State. Mind your Mainer!

Thought for the Day: *"Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don't matter, and those who matter don't mind."*

— **Bernard M. Baruch**

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### AUTO INSURANCE

Rates Based On Adult Preferred Drivers With \$100,000/\$300,000 Bodily Injury, \$100,000 Property Damage, \$250 Deductible Comprehensive & Collision, Uninsured & Underinsured Motorist. Low Payment Plans.	<table border="0"> <tr><td><b>Model year</b></td><td><b>Sample Preferred Rates</b></td></tr> <tr><td>2021-2020</td><td>\$254-\$310</td></tr> <tr><td>2019-2018</td><td>\$240-\$295</td></tr> <tr><td>2017-2016</td><td>\$219-\$268</td></tr> <tr><td>2015-2014</td><td>\$212-\$254</td></tr> </table>	<b>Model year</b>	<b>Sample Preferred Rates</b>	2021-2020	\$254-\$310	2019-2018	\$240-\$295	2017-2016	\$219-\$268	2015-2014	\$212-\$254	
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AUTO/HOME DISCOUNT FROM AUTO OWNERS INSURANCE

	<b>HOME INSURANCE</b>	\$100,000	\$850
	\$110,000	\$890	
	\$120,000	\$920	
	\$130,000	\$955	
	\$140,000	\$1010	
	\$150,000	\$1031	
\$200,000	\$1110		
\$250,000	\$1280		

Includes \$500 Deductible - Homes Less Than 30 Years, Eligible For Further Discounts

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