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Hamilton County Reporter

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SATURDAY, Nov. 20, 2021

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CARMEL | FISHERS | NOBLESVILLE | WESTFIELD

WISH 8
NEWS GATHERING PARTNER

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TODAY'S WEATHER

Today: Mostly cloudy.
Tonight: Clouding up, with scattered showers late in the evening, and after midnight.

HIGH: 49 LOW: 39

paulpoteet.com

VOICE youth educate peers for Great American Smoke Out

The REPORTER

The Great American Smoke Out (GASO) event held on Thursday was meant to engage, educate and empower youth to encourage their peers to live tobacco free.

The Westfield team hosted the scavenger hunt for the freshman health classes during their Core Time. Their theme was “Take one step, make one choice, start saying no to vaping today!”

They spoke about the VOICE Initiatives and invited students to join them in encouraging their peers to give up vaping.

Cessation resources were shared, including the new Live Vape Free program.

“I’m excited at how the scavenger hunt turned out,” said Kristin London. “The team worked hard to plan the event



Photo provided
(From left) Kristin London, Youth Coordinator Breathe Easy Hamilton County, Magwire Graybill, Will Strahm and Vance Farrar.

and the Westfield youth implemented it perfectly. These youth are really making a difference. I was impressed at how many of the students spoke up about what they learned today.”

The Hamilton County VOICE Team hopes to connect with other county schools and present their peer-to-peer



Photo provided
Hoosier native Jon McLaughlin will perform with the Carmel Symphony Orchestra – and the Westfield High School Steel Band – on Saturday, Dec. 18 in the auditorium at Westfield High School.

Jon McLaughlin to join CSO for ‘Holiday Pops!’ concerts at Westfield H.S.

The REPORTER

Popular Hoosier singer/songwriter Jon McLaughlin will join Carmel Symphony Orchestra (CSO), under Artistic Director Janna Hymes, for two CSO “Holiday Pops!” performances on Saturday, Dec. 18 at Westfield High School Auditorium.

The concerts, sponsored by IU Health North Hospital, take place at 3 and 7:30 p.m. The school is located at 18250 N. Union St., Westfield.

All tickets are General Admission: \$35 for adults, \$15 for students through grade 12. Visit CarmelSymphony.org and follow the link to Eventbrite to purchase tickets for the performances.

A nominal fee is charged by Eventbrite for each ticket purchased. **Masks are required for both performances.**

See *Holiday Pops!* . . . Page 2

What you can do to improve your sleep quality, part 2

“The shorter you sleep, the shorter your life.” – Mathew Walker, Director, Center for Human Sleep Science, UC Berkeley

Yes, I know the above quote is not pretty. I wish it were not so, but think about it – there is a reason that sleep deprivation has been used as a torture device for centuries!

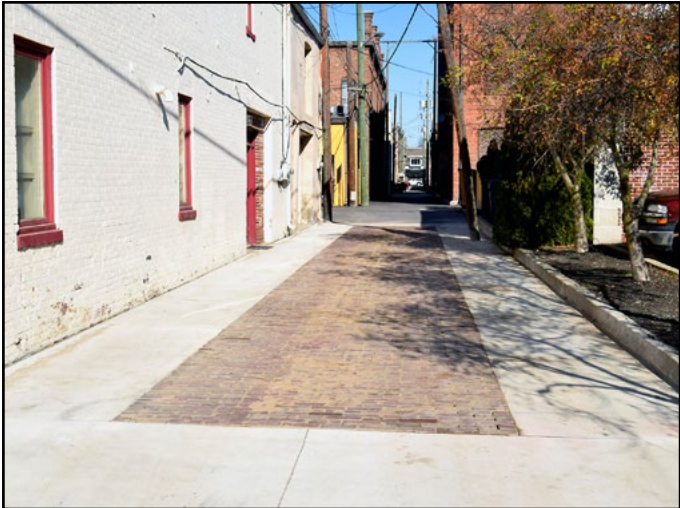
Thankfully, I dare say that none of us has been in that predicament, although judging from the number of OTC sleep aids available and advertised, along with prescription medications available to patients, there is a significant problem going on in our society which results in sleep loss for many. An estimated 50 to 70 million Americans suffer from sleep disorders/sleep deprivation. Only one-third of American get the recommended seven to nine hours of sleep. Nearly 9 million U.S. adults take prescription sleep aids.¹ I personally believe those numbers have increased significantly as our country has struggled through the past couple of years of pandemic.

All that being said, let’s discuss some of the potential results of lack of sleep. Without sleep, the brain struggles to function properly. Because they do not have time to recuperate, neurons become overworked and less capable of optimal performance

COLUMNIST

SHARON McMAHON
Be Well

Noblesville reconstructs alley using bricks from city’s first paved streets



Photos provided by City of Noblesville

On Friday, the city of Noblesville unveiled the renovated alley between 9th and 10th streets north of Maple Avenue. It is one of the last brick alleys and has bricks from the first paved streets in Noblesville around 1892. Thank you to [Noblesville Preservation Alliance](#), Councilor Aaron Smith and the Noblesville Common Council for recognizing the value of preserving this last important vestige of the city’s past. The alley is now safe and functional after being lovingly restored to maintain the authentic downtown. The alley before renovation (left) and after (right). See more photos from the unveiling at ReadTheReporter.com.

Support local artists at Shop Fishers event

The REPORTER

Fishers Arts Council (FAC) will again participate with the City of Fishers in the Shop Fishers: Holiday Series on Saturday, Nov. 27 in the Art Gallery at City Hall in Fishers from 1 to 6 p.m.

FAC will have 13 in-person artists and two virtual artists participating. The artists will demonstrate how they do their work and give you the opportunity to purchase their work. They are all local artists and provide you with a way to support artists and shop local.

Additionally, FAC will offer two make-and-take art classes every hour, starting at 1:30 p.m. The options will be Alcohol Ink lead by artist Candi Walker and Weaving lead by the staff of Tabby Tree Weaver, for a \$5 donation each. Everyone who participates in a class will take home their own artistic creation that will be perfect for gift giving.

Participating in-person artists and their specialties are: Dennis Adams, Woodworking; Nathasa Ray Anderson, Watercolor and Ink Illustrations; Joanne Roeder, Oil Painting; Doug Sauter, Stained Glass; Lena Statsenko, Fiber Arts; Anna Villanyi, Paper Snowflake Art.



Photo provided by Fishers Arts Council
Following Candi Walker’s instructions, community members enjoyed creating their own holiday cards in 2019 using alcohol ink.

tercolor and Ink Illustrations; Maeve Asano, Charcoal Drawings; Patty Coulter, Watercolor Painting; Krista Darrow, Acrylic and Oil; Duane Freed, Luxury Faux Floral Décor; Paige Harper, Stoneware Clay; Olivia Harris, Clay Figure Sculpting; Hikaru Kikuchi, Abstract Art;

Joanne Roeder, Oil Painting; Doug Sauter, Stained Glass; Lena Statsenko, Fiber Arts; Anna Villanyi, Paper Snowflake Art.

The online artists are Jamie Hahn showcasing Upcycled Multimedia Art and Derek Tudor who will demonstrate painting on stainless steel aided by power tools. These artists will be online at 2 and 3 p.m., respectively. Visit fishersartscouncil.org/shopfishers for more information on Jamie and Derek. You can interact with them by

See *Artists* . . . Page 3

See *Sleep* . . . Page 2



CARMEL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

JANNA HYMES ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Experience the Exceptional





Holiday Pops!

with Hoosier singer-songwriter Jon McLaughlin

Saturday, December 18

Two performances: 3pm & 7:30pm

Westfield High School Auditorium, 18250 N Union St, Westfield IN

Get Tickets NOW at CarmelSymphony.org

Special Thanks to our Holiday Pops Sponsors



HOLIDAY POPS!

from Page 1

“We are more than excited to have this huge audience favorite join CSO for ‘Holiday Pops!’” Hymes exclaimed. “Jon’s a local guy from right here in Indiana, he went to Anderson University, and he’s just an extraordinary musician who writes music that touches your soul.”

“We’ll be playing a lot of Jon’s own holiday arrangements, and his brother Jeff will be joining Jon and the CSO for a couple of numbers,” Hymes added. “Jeff is a percussion teacher at Westfield, and the school’s Westfield Steel Band will be on stage to perform a song with Jon and a solo selection, so we’re looking forward to that, too! ‘Holiday Pops!’ is one of the very best ways to celebrate your holidays, with some of your most cherished and familiar seasonal sounds, so get your tickets now and join us on Dec. 18 at Westfield High School. This is the year to make ‘Holiday Pops!’ one of your very own holiday traditions!”

CSO has partnered with Hamilton County’s Merciful H.E.L.P. Center and will be collecting items at both “Holiday Pops!” performances to benefit people in need throughout the area. Concertgoers are encouraged to add one or more requested items to holiday shopping lists, and bring them to Westfield High School on Dec. 18 to donate:

- Blankets (new or “loved”)
- New hats and gloves
- New socks and underwear (any size/style)
- Hygiene items (toothpaste, toothbrushes, dental floss, deodorant, face or body lotion, soap, shampoo, conditioner, etc.)

Collection bins will be located near the auditorium entrance doors for donations to Merciful H.E.L.P. Center.

“We hope all of our CSO supporters will extend the spirit of the holiday season to those in need, and bring along one or more items to the concerts to contribute to Merciful H.E.L.P. Center,” Hymes said. “Merciful H.E.L.P. will ensure that every donation benefits a person in our area who needs that helping hand right now.”

Find out more about Carmel Symphony Orchestra at CarmelSymphony.org. While there, check out the entire season of exceptional and diverse programs, an extraordinary assortment of classical and pops.

“Tickets to CSO’s Masterworks or Pops concerts scheduled for 2022 make outstanding holiday gifts!” Hymes said.

SLEEP

from Page 1

in many types of thinking. Apart from occasional sleepless nights, over the long-term poor sleep may put someone at a higher risk of cognitive decline and dementia.² Lack of sleep can affect not only our brains, but all our bodies functioning organs. This is a subject which I recommend each person who struggles with insomnia or other sleep issues to research and discuss with their physician.

Poor sleep can take many forms. It can be caused by short sleep duration and/or fragmented sleep. Both insufficient and interrupted sleep makes it difficult to progress through sleep cycles in a normal, healthy way.

Sleep deprivation has been shown to cause greater likelihood of car accidents. Drowsy driving accounts for thousands of crashes, injuries and fatalities each year, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Another cause of poor sleep could be a condition called “sleep apnea” which is a potentially serious sleep disorder in which breathing repeatedly stops and starts. This condition must be diagnosed by a physician with resulting treatment prescribed by a physician.

In Part III of this topic, we will look at ways in which our sleep can be improved. Until then – *Goodnight!*

¹ August 29, 2013, *Centers for Disease Control, CBS News*

² *Division of Sleep Medicine Harvard Medical School (2007, Dec 18) Sleep, Learning, and Memory.*

The opinions expressed in this article are not intended to replace advice of your personal physician or licensed health professional. Please consult your physician for any issues you may have related to health, nutrition or fitness activity.

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I was born and raised right here in Noblesville. I grew up in a home without domestic violence or assault – it wasn’t something I saw, or even heard about. But when I was introduced to Prevail of Central Indiana, I was shocked by the number of individuals who are affected by domestic violence. In 2018 alone, Prevail helped more than 4,000 clients in Hamilton County. (Nearly 80 percent of clients are women and children.) Domestic violence and abuse are hard topics to discuss, so you don’t often hear about them. But at Tom Wood Volkswagen in Noblesville, we’re breaking the taboo and raising awareness for Prevail, an organization that helps families in Hamilton County.


– Mike Bragg, GM of Tom Wood Volkswagen in Noblesville

To help Hamilton County families affected by domestic violence and sexual abuse, you can donate the following items:

- Individually packaged snacks
- Lysol
- Hand sanitizer
- Disinfecting wipes

Drop off items at Tom Wood Volkswagen in Noblesville, 14701 Tom Wood Way.





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Life

Donate to Carmel Community Players this Giving Tuesday

Submitted by **LORI RAFFEL**
Carmel Community Players

Did you know that the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving every year is "Giving Tuesday"? It is a designated day for supporting non-profit organizations with a holiday donation.

For the first time in Carmel Community Players' (CCP) 28-year history, CCP is participating in hopes of generating donated dollars that help cover the costs associated with putting on award-winning live performances each year. Because ticket sales don't pay the entire costs associated with staging a production, CCP must rely on contributions from friends and patrons to help us make ends meet. And although CCP is entirely a volunteer organization, there are still expenses that allow CCP to deliver professional quality theater at community theater prices. Theater rental, costumes, set production, play usage fees, sound and lighting are expenses incurred for each and every production.



This year on Giving Tuesday, CCP is asking you to consider making a donation. Your entire donation will be tax deductible, and it may be made as a gift in honor of someone. Please indicate if you'd like a donation announcement to be sent to the honoree.

Thank you for considering and hopefully making a donation to Carmel Community Players.

SMOKE OUT

from Page 1

presentation "Sweet Deceptions."

The next days of action they will be working on will be Take Down Tobacco on April 1 and World No Tobacco on May 31.

If you are interested in having your school participate in VOICE activities, please fill out a presentation request at breatheeasy-hamiltoncounty.com.

Hamilton County VOICE Members

Hamilton Southeastern High School
Suhita Chintalacharuvu and Terryn Green

Noblesville High School
Kaelyn Hart, Kayla Geiger, Nicole Liu and Maddie Stuckwisch

Westfield High School
Vance Farrar, Magwire Graybill and Will Strahm

ARTISTS

from Page 1

joining the Zoom linked from that page, or watch live at fishersartscouncil.org.

Come to the Art Gallery or go online to support local

artists who are part of Fishers small business community. Buy that special gift for mom or dad, grandpa or grandma, or find the perfect

gift just for you.

For questions or additional information, email info@fishersartscouncil.org.

Need more news?
ReadTheReporter.com

Hello, Hamilton County!



Paul Poteet is so...handy.
Click to play video



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10:00 AM

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300 East 6th Street

Sheridan, IN

1:00 PM

For more information, please call 202-225-2276 or visit
Spartz.House.Gov

Fishers needs volunteers this holiday season

The REPORTER

The City of Fishers makes it easy to find ways to help improve your community, and with the new volunteer management platform, donating your time and talent is easier than ever. Visit volunteerfishers.com today to check out a full list of volunteer opportunities, or see a few examples below.

Winter Wonderland

Join Fishers Parks from 4 to 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4 for the annual celebration of the season Presented by Centier Bank, experience the reimagined **Winter Wonder-**

land with the annual City of Fishers Tree Lighting at 6 p.m., carriage and train rides, fire pits and s'mores, cookie decorating, live ice carving, a special Winter Wonderland Storywalk, the Fishers Arts Council's "Winter Wonderland of Art" exhibit inside City Hall, food, drinks, music, and more.

Volunteers are needed to assist with cookie decorating, crafts, carriage rides, train rides, and firepit attending. Volunteers under the age of 13 must be accompanied by an adult with an active volunteer profile. Volunteer T-shirts and snacks will be

provided.

[Click here](#) to volunteer.

Feast with the Grinch

Back by popular demand, **Feast with the Grinch** will take place from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. on Dec. 18 and 19, and from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Dec. 20 and 21 at the Maker Playground. Enjoy a feast with the Grinch, a reading of *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, and more festive holiday fun. Volunteers are needed to assist with food preparation, photos with the Grinch, and crafts. Volunteers under the age of 13 must be accompanied by an adult with an active volunteer profile. Volunteer T-shirts will be provided.

[Click here](#) to volunteer.

Fishers Fire Corps

A Fire Corps member provides support to the firefighters by performing services at emergency incidents and non-emergency events at department facilities and department functions. This includes responding to

incidents to provide incident rehabilitation to firefighters and support to individuals affected by an emergency. Candidates must be at least 18 years of age, pass a criminal background check, and have received a high school diploma or GED.

[Click here](#) to volunteer.

Trinity Free Clinic

Trinity Free Clinic is seeking professional medical, dental, vision, and behavioral health volunteers to support their mission. This includes Physicians, Nurses, Optometrists, Licensed Clinical Social Workers, Psychologists, Physical Therapists, Dentists, Dental Hygienists, Dental Assistants, and Pharmacists.

Trinity Free Clinic is also seeking support with Clerical, Clinical Assistants, and Interpreters especially Spanish, Marketing and Event Planning, and Driver volunteers for the Mobile Health Unit.

Trinity Free Clinic also has an internship program for college students. [Click here](#) to volunteer.

Latest COVID report from Hamilton Heights

Positive Confirmations

Nov. 15-19

- High School: 2
- Middle School: 1
- Elementary School: 3

This week we received six positive test confirmations for two high school, one middle school, and three elementary school students. We have followed our established protocols as outlined in our [Re-Entry Plan](#) and continue to work in collaboration with

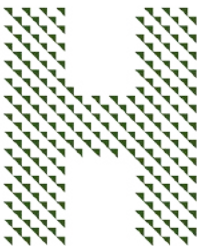


DR. DEREK ARROWOOD
Heights Superintendent

and under the guidance of our local and state health partners. We send our best wishes for a full and speedy recovery.

It is in the actions and steps we take every day that show our care and commitment to our children, to each other, and to our Hamilton Heights community. Thank you for remaining vigilant and working with us to keep our students and staff healthy and safe.

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Carmel nonprofit to get \$36K grant from United Way

The REPORTER

United Way of Central Indiana announced Monday it's awarding \$1.2 million in grants to 14 community organizations from the Social Innovation Fund. The fund, one of five United Way impact initiatives, is designed to support nonprofits that are developing creative solutions to address needs in our communities. Locally, Merchants Affordable Housing Corporation of Carmel will receive \$36,000. Merchants Affordable Housing Corp. for Tech

Equity is a project that will bring together Merchants Affordable Housing Corp. residents from Braeburn Village Apartments on the far eastside with tech educators from Code Black Indy Inc. This partnership will culminate in the provision of comprehensive digital literacy courses for youth and technology certifications for those interested in pursuing a career in technology. The goal of the project is to address both educational attainment and access to opportunity, while also offering resources to meet basic

needs. To increase access to community resources, different community organizations will be hosted on site. With the funds, the organizations plan to combat homelessness; expand a nutrition program for Black people living with HIV; and support women in the welding industry, people affected by addiction and substance use disorder, and new and underrepresented farmers of color – just to name a few. United Way received 114 letters of interest from organizations seeking grant

funding and narrowed the field to 37 applicants, who were then asked to submit full applications. A workgroup composed of 23 people, including community members, United Way staff and board members, reviewed the applications and selected the grantees. The 14 grant recipients received funding ranging from \$25,000 to \$143,000, for a total of \$1.2 million. Roughly 5,000 people will be assisted because of the funding, United Way estimates. “We could not be more excited for the impact this

will make in the greater Central Indiana community,” said Jonathan Jones, United Way’s senior director of social innovation. “Through investing in new and sustainable initiatives in human services, our communities will be stronger, and our neighbors will be empowered for years to come.” Here are the rest of the grant recipients for Central Indiana: • Back on My Feet Indianapolis: \$60,000 • Be Nimble Foundation: \$118,000 • Brothers United: \$95,000 • Centers of Wellness for Urban Women: \$45,000 • Fight for Life Foundation: \$143,000 • Growing Places Indy: \$95,000 • Hope Academy: \$25,000 • Indianapolis Legal Aid Society: \$50,000 • Latinas Welding Guild Inc.: \$143,000 • Overdose Lifeline Inc.: \$60,000 • Pathway Resource Center: \$143,000 • Project Azul: \$85,000 • Sycamore Rehabilitation Services: \$102,000



Photo provided by DNR

DNR stocked 5,228 trout this fall

The REPORTER

DNR stocked 5,228 rainbow trout in five different lakes and streams across Indiana this month. Curtis Creek Trout Rearing Station had a surplus of trout, which allowed for these additional stockings. The stocked surplus trout are greater than seven inches on average. Stocking locations included: • Pinhook Lake (South Bend, St. Joseph County) – 400 fish • Fancher Lake (Crown Point, Lake County) – 1,000 fish • Delaware Lake (Fort Harrison State Park, Marion County) – 700 fish • Cedar Lake (Whitley County) – 2,128 fish • Brookville Reservoir Tailwater (Franklin County) – 1,000 fish Anglers age 18 and older need an Indiana fishing license and a trout/salmon stamp to fish for trout. The bag limit for trout in inland waters, other than Lake Michigan and its tributaries, is five fish per day with a minimum size limit of seven inches. There is no closed season for taking trout from inland lakes. [Click here](#) to review inland trout regulations. For more information about stockings visit [wild-life.IN.gov/fishing/indiana-fish-stocking](#).

This is Hamilton County's Hometown Newspaper



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Military Academy Nominations

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Sen. Young announces nominees for U.S. Service Academies

Six local students earn nominations

The REPORTER

U.S. Senator Todd Young (R-Ind.) has announced his nominations for U.S. service academy appointments. Applications were received from 106 high school students, and a select group was interviewed by an advisory board chosen by Sen. Young. In total, 47 exemplary young men and women from across Indiana received a nomination.

A nomination does not guarantee admission to a service academy, but is required in order to be considered. Nominees are chosen based on personal merit. Criteria considered include evidence of character, leadership, academic excellence, physical aptitude, and extracurricular activities.

“I had the privilege of recommending a talented group of Hoosiers for admission to the United States service academies this year,” Sen. Young said. “These young men and women are highly qualified to serve our country and I’m very proud of their hard work. I wish them the best of luck in their application process.”

The service academy nominees are listed below:

United States Naval Academy

Austin Beck, Clinton Prairie High School (Also nominated to the United States Air Force Academy)

Catherine Dely, Homestead High School (Also nominated to the United States Air Force Academy)

Cameron Frye, Sycamores Classical Christian Academy

Emma Herring, Munster High School

Ethan Howard, Portage High School

John Jackson, Western Boone High School (Also nominated to the United States Merchant Marine Academy)

Jacob Klein, Carmel High School

Charles Krone, Zionsville High School

Sophia Nestler, Penn High School (Also nominated to the United States Military Academy)

Ellison Nou, Carmel High School (Also nominated to the United States Military Academy)

Andrew Penca, Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School (Also nominated to the United States Military Academy and United States Air Force Academy)

Payton Plank, New Castle High School

Samuel Schmidt, Westfield High School (Also nominated to the United States Air Force Academy)

Benjamin Schmitt, Lake Central High School

Carter Schutte, Madison Consolidated High School

John Shetty, Cathedral High School



Young

(Also nominated to the United States Military Academy)

Titus Stutsman, Northwood High School

Grace Sullivan, Carmel High School (Also nominated to the United States Military Academy)

Jonathan Yang, Culver Academy (Also nominated to the United States Military Academy)

John Yeager, Warsaw Community High School

United States Military Academy

Alden Asher, Lutheran High School

Renee Beaubien, Leo Jr./Sr. High School

Joseph Boiquaye, Marian Catholic High School

Jasmine Cai, Indiana Academy

Jack Fellmy, Hamilton Southeastern High School

Asher Halsey, Henry Harrison High School/University of Southern Indiana

Chris Jennings, Floyd Central High School

Richard Kang, Culver Academy

Lydia Kittrell, Jeffersonville High School/Purdue University

Logan McCleese, Perry Meridian High School

Lilian Rose, Carmel High School

Hagan Wells, Penn High School

Reid Wesley, Zionsville High School

Scott Winger, Blackford High School

United States Air Force Academy

Landon Dolvin, Colonial Christian High School

Tom Huynh, Carroll High School

Charles Long, Lafayette Jefferson High School

Nicholas Mark, Cardinal Ritter High School

Kyle Mellady, Fountain Central High School

Audrey Petree, Danville Community High School

Nathan Windell, Heritage Hills High School

United States Merchant Marine Academy

Enzo Costanza, Culver Academy

Joseph Hartzell, Homestead High School

Conner Kobold, Culver Academy

Denys Miroshnyk, Brownsburg High School

Marcus Sherrod, Brebeuf Jesuit High School

Oscar Stuart, Culver Academy

Holiday

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Plan your holiday experience at VisitHamiltonCounty.com/Holiday

More than 2 million people traveled through Indianapolis airport during third quarter

The REPORTER

Air travel out of the Indianapolis International Airport (IND) increased significantly in the third quarter of 2021, with more than 2 million passengers traveling through the airport from July through September.

According to Transportation Safety Administration figures, the Indy airport outpaced the U.S. recovery in passenger throughput 16 of the last 17 months ending August 2021.

"IND has consistently outpaced our peer airports in Cleveland, Cincinnati, Columbus, Milwaukee and Pittsburgh in passenger traffic recovery, especially through this summer," said Indianapolis Airport Authority Executive Director Mario Rodriguez. "That's a big testament to the relationship we have with our airline partners and the keen insight they have in changing market patterns as we've come through the pandemic."

The Indy airport's third quarter passenger traffic increased 133 percent compared to the same time period in 2020, and down only 15 percent compared to the same time period in 2019.

Marsha Stone, IAA senior director of commercial enterprise, attributes the recovery to new nonstop flights, new airlines and re-summing key routes – all resulting in more seat capacity, the most critical driver of growth.

"IND offered 57 percent more flights, with 55 percent more seat capacity overall in Q3 2021 compared to Q3 2020," Stone said, also

noting that the third quarter change in flights and seats was only negative 18 percent and negative 9 percent, respectively, below the same time period in record year 2019.

Key highlights from third quarter 2021

The Indy airport welcomed Contour Airlines as a new airline partner with inaugural daily nonstop flights to Nashville (BNA), Milwaukee (MKE) and Pittsburgh (PIT) in October. Additionally, Allegiant launched its August-only nonstop flight to Rapid City, S.D. (RAP), and American and Sun Country launched new nonstop flights to Austin (AUS) and Orlando (MCO), respectively, in September.

Additionally, United Airlines resumed its nonstop, daily service to San Francisco (SFO) in September,

which had been temporarily halted due to the pandemic.

Looking ahead to the final quarter of 2021, the Indy airport will rack up in total 22 new nonstop flights announced for the year, with Allegiant launching two new inaugural nonstop flights to Palm Springs (PSP) on Nov. 18 and another to Key West (EYW) on Dec. 1. United Airlines will also launch its inaugural nonstop flight to Orlando (MCO) on Dec. 18 and resume service to Ft. Myers (RSW) on Dec. 16. Delta Air Lines will resume daily nonstop service to Salt Lake City (SLC) on Dec. 18. These new additions and resumption of service are launching just in time for the perfect winter getaway.

For a complete list of nonstop destinations by airline, visit IND.com.

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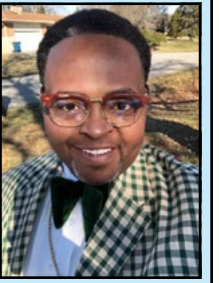
The Noblesville Board of Public Works and Safety will meet at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 23, 2021, in the Council Chamber at Noblesville City Hall, 16 S. 10th St., Noblesville.

The Noblesville Common Council will meet at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 23, 2021, in the Council Chamber at Noblesville City Hall, 16 S. 10th St., Noblesville.

Notice is hereby given that the Westfield Redevelopment Commission will hold a special meeting at 6 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 22, 2021, at Westfield City Hall, 130 Penn St., Westfield.

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Centier named No. 2 best bank to work for in U.S.

The REPORTER

Michael E. Schrage, CEO and Chairman of Centier Bank, has announced that Centier Bank has been recognized as the **No. 2 "Best Bank to Work For" in the United States** by American Banker, and No. 1 in the state of Indiana.

For the past nine years, Centier Bank has placed alongside financial institutions across the country on the nationwide list of 90 banks in the U.S. The nationally renowned American Banker publication creates the list based on extensive employee surveys and reviews employer benefits and policies. The publication evaluates a company's volunteering and charitable contributions, as well as leadership philosophy,

recruitment, and diversity – among other areas – as determining factors.

In 2021, a new area of workplace efforts American Banker considered, was the effectiveness of banks' responses to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Centier Bank found many ways to care for its employees and their families during the COVID-19 pandemic," the publication stated. "The bank offered paid time off for employees who took coronavirus tests, got vaccinated or had to quarantine, for example. And it let employees carry over a week of unused time off into 2021. Employees whose spouses lost jobs benefited from Centier's C.A.R.E. Program, which paid out \$49,000 in 2020."

Chrisanne Christ, Senior

Partner in Human Resource Development at Centier Bank, said while ranking as No. 2 in the country is a huge achievement for the bank, Centier's leadership has always done what comes naturally to its company culture.

"We call ourselves the 'Centier Family,' and when times get tough, family sticks together," Christ explained. "For the past 126 years, we have always looked for ways to make the lives of our associates better, and the setbacks many faced in 2021 were an opportunity for us to show up for one another – as family does."

Christ said Centier's reputation for personalized service is a result of well-cared-for associates.

"When our associates feel valued, they are able to show up to work as their best selves and to help assist and guide our clients," she explained. "There's nothing quite like that personal relationship with your banker, and that's what our clients value."

Schrage said this year's all-time high ranking for Centier makes him feel an

enormous sense of pride, and that he is over the moon about the news.

"What makes the American Banker 'Best Banks to Work For' award so significant is that it is entirely based on feedback from our associates," Schrage said. "I am truly touched to know that through the ups and downs of the pandemic, they knew that their workplace was there for them, and that they felt secure and taken care of. That means everything to me."

Centier Bank recently surpassed the \$5.9 billion assets milestone and was one of the largest banks on the list, with only two other Indiana-based banks being named. The distinction follows **similar workplace accolades** from the **Indiana Chamber of Commerce (Hall of Fame)**, the **Urban League of Northwest Indiana**, and *The Times of Northwest Indiana*, to name a few.

For more information on American Banker's rankings and to see the full list of award recipients, visit americanbanker.com. For more information about Centier Bank, go to centier.com.

TODAY'S BIBLE READING

Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:1-2 (NIV)

Lonnie Lutz

April 26, 1955 – November 17, 2021

Lonnie Lutz, 66, Noblesville, passed away on Wednesday, November 17, 2021 at his home. He was born on April 26, 1955 to Russell and Juanita (Hartsock) Lutz in Noblesville.



Lonnie was the owner of Craftsman Contractors for 32 years before retiring. He enjoyed watching Colts games and NASCAR races. Lonnie liked to go fishing, hunting, and trapping. He would visit the horse track and casinos. Lonnie loved family cookouts and spending time with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He is survived by the father that raised him, Harold Lawson; brothers, David (Shirley) Lawson, Les Lutz, Brian Lutz, and Jimmy Lutz; sisters, Joyce (Johnny) Bentley and Darla (Larmie) Brenton; children, Jade Lutz, Angie (Jackie) DeFoe, Debra Day, Dantan Strong, and Buddy (Cyrena) Lutz; grandchildren, Zach, Aaron, Dakota, Heather, Ethan, and Kaiden; and great-grandchildren, Garner, Zariah, Marcus, and Ella.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, Kenny Lawson; and sister, Patty Ann.

Graveside services will be held at noon on Monday, November 22, 2021 at Crownland Cemetery, 1776 Monument St., Noblesville.

Memorial contributions may be made to please donate to a local food pantry, Feeding Team, Inc., at feedingteam.org/donate.

Condolences: randallroberts.com

Thanks for reading!

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Running and defense power Westfield football to semi-state title...

Shamrocks soar back to state

By RICHIE HALL

WESTFIELD - By keeping their feet on the ground, the Shamrocks are soaring back to Lucas Oil Stadium.

The Westfield football team punched its second consecutive ticket to the IH-SAA state finals on Friday night, pulling away from Merrillville 48-19 to win the Class 6A north semi-state. The 'Rocks got off to a very quick start, held off the expected run by the Pirates, then used its run game and defense to dominate the second half.

Westfield improved to 12-1 with the win and will take on Center Grove in a repeat of last year's Class 6A state finals. The game is set for 7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 27.

This year's semi-state game was almost a rerun of last year's contest between Westfield and Merrillville, with the only change being the location. The Shamrocks won last season's game at the Pirates' Demaree Stadium. This time, Westfield's Riverview Health Stadium was the site, a welcome relief after the 'Rocks took a road trip to Fort Wayne Carroll last week to play and win the regional.

"You can have all the time in the world," said Micah Hauser, Westfield's do-it-all senior star. "So last week was extremely stressful and under really bad conditions. But this week, being at home, being able to relax before the game was extremely nice."

If they were relaxed before the game, the Shamrocks were ready to go at the start. Westfield scored on its first two drives, not wasting any time. Hauser broke loose for a 30-yard touchdown run just 85 seconds into the game, with Caleb King making the extra-point kick. Then after the Shamrocks' defense forced a three-and-out, Maximus Webster powered his way into the end zone on a 20-yard run.

"I don't think we could've gotten off



Reporter photo by Kirk Green

Westfield's Micah Hauser helped the Shamrocks fly high to another semi-state championship on Friday night. Westfield beat Merrillville for the second consecutive year to qualify for the Class 6A state finals. Hauser scored three touchdowns for the 'Rocks, leading in both rushing yards and total tackles.

to a better start," said Westfield coach Jake Gilbert. "We had a great kickoff return. We scored in a few plays. And then the defense stepped up right away."

A good example of that would be Merrillville's series after Webster

scored. The Pirates picked up a first down, but Popeye Williams made a sack to push Merrillville back 10 yards. Then on third down, Tyler Dikos delivered a sack, this one moving the Pirates back 13 yards.

Merrillville eventually put together a drive, and got on the board midway through the second quarter when Lavarion Logan ran 34 yards for a touchdown. The Pirates had been scoring a ton of points during the season on their way to an unbeaten record coming into the semi-state, so Westfield had to adopt a "bend but don't break" philosophy when it came to the Merrillville offense. (The Pirates finished their season 12-1.)

"Yes, because there's so explosive," said Gilbert. "Part of the problem is, they're so good at running the ball, that we played them with a little more depth thinking they may start to throw a little more, and that left some running lanes. These guys average like 45 a game, so our varsity held them to two touchdowns, so that's pretty darn good."

The Shamrocks came back after the Pirates scored, putting together another resolute drive. This one was mostly on the ground, save for a 13-yard Webster to Nic Depasquale pass that got Westfield into Merrillville territory. The 'Rocks continued to move, and Hauser punched the ball in for a three-yard touchdown. King made another good kick, and Westfield led 20-7 at halftime.

In the third quarter, the Shamrocks' threw another shutout, while the offense added a couple more touchdowns. The first one came at the 3:36 mark: Westfield had ground its way down to the one-yard line, and Webster ran the ball in from there.

After the defense took care of busi-

See *Shamrocks* . . . Page 10



The Westfield football team managers, with coach Jake Gilbert in the background, show off the semi-state trophy. They were wearing yellow in honor of Jeannelle Rooney, a 2021 graduate and former Shamrocks manager who passed away Sunday after a lengthy cancer battle. Rooney scheduled her chemotherapy treatments on Monday so she could be well enough to attend Friday games.

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SHAMROCKS

from Page 9

ness again, the 'Rocks quickly added another touchdown. Hauser cut loose for a 39-yard score. King kicked both extra points.

"He's the best player in Indiana," Gilbert said of Hauser. "He's the best all-around football player in Indiana." That's not a hyperbolic statement if one considers the numbers. In this game alone, Hauser led the rushing with 171 yards and the tackles with 11. He also forced a fumble.

"I've never seen somebody do the things he did," said Westfield senior running back Trevon Hatchett. "When I got here, he was actually the first person I talked to. So coming to see that in person, it's great."

Hatchett, who transferred from Lawrence North, is also pretty great at football. Merrillville scored with 8:27 left to cut Westfield's lead to 34-13, but Hatchett essentially sealed the game by running 48 yards for a touchdown on the Shamrocks' very next drive. King kicked the extra point, his fifth of the game.

"I felt like once we got past that o-line, we were gone," said Hauser. He credited the line with making his job easier: "So as long as they do theirs, it makes mine a hundred times easier," said Hauser.

Hatchett also had praise for the offensive line, saying it "blocked absolutely very well" and that the holes were "opening up perfectly."

"I give all credit to the o-line tonight," said Hatchett. "All credit."

The Shamrocks had extra motivation to win the game as they were honoring manager Jeannelle Rooney, a 2021 Westfield graduate who passed away on Sunday after a lengthy cancer battle. Rooney would have her chemotherapy treatments on Monday so she would be well enough to attend the Friday night games.

Gilbert said her goal was to "make it through the season, then make it through Christmas," but Rooney would also go on to attend prom and then graduate.

"We're so proud of the fight that she put up," said Gilbert. "She outlasted all the predictions. We can learn so much from her in so many ways. She was very, very tough."

"We loved Jeannelle deeply," said Hauser. "She was there for everything. Last year at this time, she was scheduling her chemotherapy around our games. She would do it on Monday so she could get well enough on Friday so she could go. She drove the two and a half hours last year up to Merrillville to watch us win, and that meant the world to us. So we had to win out tonight in her honor."

"We knew that at some point this day was coming," said Gilbert. "She loved us and our football program so much. But the best way to honor her was to come out here and play our butts off. And we did."

After Hauser's performance, Webster was next in line for rushing with 79 yards, followed by Hatchett with 63



Westfield's Will Strahm (56) and the Shamrocks' offensive line were effective all night (above) in providing blocks and opening holes for runners like quarterback Maximus Webster (12). As a result, Strahm got to celebrate a semi-state championship with his teammates (below).



yards. Webster completed seven of nine pass attempts for 78 yards, with Depasquale catching three of them.

Dikos finished the game with 10 tackles, while Dillon Thieneman made nine stops. Williams had two sacks to go along with his eight tackles, with Magwire Graybill also making eight stops. Charles Dager had a sack as well.



Westfield's Anthony Feltrinelli scored the Shamrocks' final touchdown of the game on an interception return in the fourth quarter.

WESTFIELD 48,

MERRILLVILLE 19

Score by Quarters

Merrillville	0	7	0	12 - 19
Westfield	13	7	14	14 - 48

Team Stats

	MHS	WHS
First Downs	18	19
By Rush	13	14
By Pass	5	5
By Penalty	0	0
Rushes-Yards	45-274	36-323
Yards Passing	76	78
Comp-Att-Int-TD	9-20-1-0	7-9-0-0
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	0-0
Penalties-Yards	7-59	5-27
Punts-Average	5-29.6	2-43.5

Westfield scoring

First Quarter

10:35 - Micah Hauser 30-yard run (Ca-

leb King kick)

8:06 - Maximus Webster 20-yard run (kick blocked)

Second Quarter

1:57 - Hauser 3-yard run (King kick)

Third Quarter

3:36 - Webster 1-yard run (King kick)

0:52 - Hauser 39-yard run (King kick)

Fourth Quarter

7:30 - Trevon Hatchett 48-yard run (King kick)

5:29 - Anthony Feltrinelli 34-yard interception return (Brody Boehm kick)

Westfield individual stats

Rushing: Hauser 16-171, Webster 11-79, Hatchett 6-63, Jackson Wasserstrom 1-5, Ja'Veyon Averitte 1-4, Brock Stewart 1-2.

Passing: Webster 7-9-78.

Receiving: Nic Depasquale 3-42, Gabe Arambales 2-26, Ian Bruch 1-8, Hauser 1-2.

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Girls basketball

Defense leads HSE to conference-opening win

Hamilton Southeastern got back on the winning track Friday, triumphing in its Hoosier Crossroads Conference opener.

The Royals won a tough home game over Franklin Central 45-36. Southeastern led 12-7 after the first quarter, with Maya Makalusky scoring eight points during that period.

The Royals held a 23-19 lead at halftime, but outscored the Flashes in each of the next two quarters. Riley Makalusky took over in the second half, pouring in 12 points. She would go on to lead Southeastern with 16 points and six rebounds. Olivia Brown had an outstanding game, with nine points, seven steals and five assists.

"Wasn't our best shooting night, but we found a way," said HSE coach Brian Satterfield. "Our defense was tremendous and kept us in the game."

Southeastern is 4-2 overall. The Royals' next game is Tuesday at Brownsburg, in another HCC contest.

HAMILTON SOUTHEASTERN 45, FRANKLIN CENTRAL 36				
Southeastern	FG	FT	TP	PF
Maya Makalusky	3-10	1-1	8	2
Makayla Hinshaw	2-3	2-2	6	0
Riley Makalusky	7-14	2-3	16	4
Olivia Brown	2-3	5-7	9	2
Zoe Bolding	2-7	0-0	4	2
Caleigh Scott	0-1	0-0	0	1
Maine Hooks	0-2	0-0	0	2
Lauren Stewart	1-4	0-0	2	0
Totals	17-44	10-13	45	13



Hamilton Southeastern's Olivia Brown had a solid all-around game for the Royals during their 45-36 Hoosier Crossroads Conference opening win over Franklin Central on Friday. Brown had nine points, seven steals and five assists.

Score by Quarters		Southeastern 3-point shooting (1-10) M. Makalusky 1-4, Stewart 0-3, R. Makalusky 0-1, Scott 0-1, Hooks 0-1.		Southeastern rebounds (15) R. Makalusky 6, Bolding 3, Brown 2, Scott 2, M. Makalusky 1, Hooks 1.	
Franklin Central	7 12 12 5 - 36				
Southeastern	12 11 14 8 - 45				

Millers sail past Bulldogs in HCC opener

The Noblesville girls basketball team had no trouble in its Hoosier Crossroads Conference opener Friday night, as the Millers sailed past Brownsburg 63-28 in a game at The Mill.

Noblesville outscored the Bulldogs, last year's Class 4A state finalist, in each quarter of the game. The Millers led 14-7 after the first quarter, then took control in the second period, allowing Brownsburg only four points. Noblesville held a 29-11 lead at halftime, and then went up 45-21 in the third quarter.

Three Millers players reached double figures, starting with Reagan Wilson's 13 points. Ashlynn Shade was all over the stat line, reaching double-double status with 11 points and 10 rebounds, then dishing out four assists and making four steals. Kaitlyn Shoemaker added 10 points.

Shade and Brooklyn Ely both drained two 3-pointers. Brooklyn Smitherman, making a return after an injury, collected six rebounds, as did Wilson. Meredith Tippner had five re-

bounds.

Noblesville is 4-0 and travels to Homestead this evening for a 6:30 p.m. varsity tipoff, after the 5 p.m. junior varsity contest. The Spartans are also 4-0.

NOBLESVILLE 63, BROWNSBURG 28				
Noblesville	FG	FT	TP	PF
Kaitlyn Shoemaker	2-6	6-6	10	2
Ashlynn Shade	4-12	1-1	11	1
Reagan Wilson	5-10	2-3	13	1
Meredith Tippner	3-6	1-3	8	0
Brooklyn Smitherman	2-4	0-0	4	3
Brooklyn Ely	2-5	0-0	6	0
Ava Shoemaker	2-9	2-2	6	2
Dani Mendez	2-4	0-1	4	3
Marit McLaughlin	0-0	0-0	0	0
Bri Gray	0-0	1-1	1	0
Totals	22-56	13-17	63	12
Score by Quarters				
Brownsburg	7	4	10	7 - 28
Noblesville	14	15	16	18 - 63
Noblesville 3-point shooting (6-23) Ely 2-5, Shade 2-5, Wilson 1-3, Tippner 1-2, K. Shoemaker 0-4, A. Shoemaker 0-4.				
Noblesville rebounds (37) Shade 10, Wilson 6, Smitherman 6, Tippner 5, Mendez 4, A. Shoemaker 3, team 3.				



Noblesville's Reagan Wilson scored 13 points for the Millers during their Hoosier Crossroads Conference opening win over Brownsburg Friday at The Mill.

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Atlantic	W	L	PCT.	GB
Brooklyn	12	5	.706	-
Philadelphia	9	7	.563	2.5
New York	8	7	.533	3.0
Boston	8	8	.500	3.5
Toronto	8	9	.471	4.0
Central	W	L	PCT.	GB
Chicago	11	5	.688	-
Cleveland	9	8	.529	2.5
Milwaukee	8	8	.500	3.0
Indiana	6	11	.353	5.5
Detroit	4	11	.267	6.5
Southeast	W	L	PCT.	GB
Miami	11	5	.688	-
Washington	10	5	.667	0.5
Charlotte	10	7	.588	1.5
Atlanta	7	9	.438	4.0
Orlando	4	12	.250	7.0

Friday's games	Milwaukee 96, Oklahoma City 89
Charlotte 121, Indiana 118	New Orleans 94, L.A. Clippers 81
Golden State 105, Detroit 102	Chicago 114, Denver 108
Boston 130, L.A. Lakers 108	Phoenix 112, Dallas 104
Brooklyn 115, Orlando 113	Toronto 108, Sacramento 89

Western Conference				
Northwest	W	L	PCT.	GB
Utah	10	5	.667	-
Denver	9	7	.563	1.5
Portland	8	8	.500	2.5
Oklahoma City	6	9	.400	4.0
Minnesota	6	9	.400	4.0
Pacific	W	L	PCT.	GB
Golden State	14	2	.875	-
Phoenix	12	3	.800	1.5
L.A. Clippers	9	7	.563	5.0
L.A. Lakers	8	9	.471	6.5
Sacramento	6	10	.375	8.0
Southwest	W	L	PCT.	GB
Dallas	9	6	.600	-
Memphis	8	7	.533	1.0
San Antonio	4	11	.267	5.0
New Orleans	3	14	.176	7.0
Houston	1	14	.067	8.0

Defense takes over in fourth quarter . . .

Huskies pull away from Lebanon

Hamilton Heights rebounded from early-week disappointment with a resounding win over Lebanon Friday, by the score of 53-38.

The Huskies and the Tigers were tied at 14-14 after the first quarter, with MyKayla Moran scoring seven points. Heights outscored Lebanon in each of the next three periods. Ella Hickok had a big second quarter, scoring nine points for the Huskies and helping them to a 25-22 halftime lead.

Heights added to their advantage by the end of the third quarter, going up 39-34. The Huskies' defense then took over

in the fourth, allowing the Tigers only four points. Meanwhile, Heights pulled away thanks to free-throw shooting, as it made eight of 10 during the period.

Hickok and Moran each scored 15 points for the Huskies, while Camryn Runner added 10 points.

"Really proud of the girls tonight," said Heights coach Keegan Cherry. "After our game earlier in the week, which we feel short of our standards, we challenged the girls following that game in practice. They responded big time. When teams try to take away a key weapon in Camryn Runner, other girls have to step

up. MyKayla Moran was fantastic. Maybe some of her best high school minutes to date. Ella Hickok was a monster getting into the lane. And did a nice job being strong and finishing. Kaylee and Hadleigh were also great in their role. Hadleigh really battles defensively and Kaylee was good late game handling the ball late as we worked clock. Mia Shields also contributed. Overall, it was a great team win with contributions from all."

The Huskies are 3-2 and play their next game on Tuesday at Greenfield-Central.

HAMILTON HEIGHTS 53, LEBANON 38				
Heights	FG	FT	TP	PF
Ella Hickok	5	5-7	15	3
Camryn Runner	4	1-1	10	1
Kaylee Rhoton	0	6-8	6	1
Hadleigh Cherry	0	0-0	0	4
MyKayla Moran	7	1-4	15	1
Mia Shields	1	4-4	7	1
Katie Brown	0	0-0	0	2
Kennedy Cherry	0	0-0	0	0
Totals	17	17-24	53	13
Score by Quarters				
Lebanon	14	8	12	4 - 38
Heights	14	11	14	14 - 53
Heights 3-pointers (2) Shields 1, Runner 1.				

Football semi-state scores Heights swimming wins opener

Courtesy John Harrell's website
www.johnharrell.net

CLASS 6A
Westfield 48, Merrillville 19
Center Grove 45, Ben Davis 6

CLASS 5A
Zionsville 52, Michigan City 21
Cathedral 52, New Albany 13

CLASS 4A
Northridge 20, New Prairie 14
Mount Vernon 42, Evansville Memorial 28

CLASS 3A
Brebeuf Jesuit 17, Mishawaka Marian 16
Gibson Southern at Tri-West, Saturday

CLASS 2A
Andrean 17, Eastside 14
Evansville Mater Dei 23, Scecina 7

CLASS 1A
Adams Central 42, North Judson 7
Indianapolis Lutheran 56, Tri 13

STATE FINALS SCHEDULE
Friday, Nov. 26
Class 1A: Adams Central vs. Indianapolis Lutheran, noon
Class 3A: Brebeuf Jesuit vs. Gibson Southern-Tri-West winner, 3:30 p.m.
Class 5A: Zionsville vs. Cathedral, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 27
Class 2A: Andrean vs. Evansville Mater Dei, noon
Class 4A: Northridge vs. Mount Vernon, 3:30 p.m.
Class 6A: Westfield vs. Center Grove, 7 p.m.

Hornets led by 25 in third quarter . . .

Pacers fight back, but fall short at Charlotte

By BRENDAN ROURKE
Courtesy nba.com/pacers

The Pacers capped off a three-game road trip with a trip down to Charlotte to take on the Hornets for the second time this season. The game turned out to be a roller coaster of emotions for Pacers fans.

After Charlotte broke open a 37-37 game to lead by as many as 25, the Pacers' bench clawed its way into making it a close game in the second half. Early in the fourth, they cut Charlotte's lead to seven before the hosts responded with nine straight. With less than a minute to play, they fought back once again, using their aggression to trim the deficit to three. They even earned the final possession with a chance to tie.

However, Charlotte's defense was just a tick better, and the squad could not fire off a shot. The hosts (10-7) escaped with a 121-118 victory over Indiana (6-11).

In total, the bench recorded a season-high 78 points in the effort — far above their season average of 31. Jeremy Lamb had a season-high 23 on 6-of-9 shooting and went 7-for-7 at the free-throw line. Playing in front of several family members, Torrey Craig added 14 and seven boards. Brad Wanamaker scored a season-high 12 and had a +20 rating. Unfortunately, the reserves' efforts fell just short. Even still, head coach Rick Carlisle had nothing but praises for the group.

"I want to recognize the effort of our second and third unit guys in the last 15 or 18 minutes of the game," he said. "I thought it was tremendous to watch."

"I think we just came in with the mindset that we had nothing to lose," Lamb

said of the valiant effort. "We didn't play the game we wanted. So we just tried to come in and bring energy."

Trailing 121-115, Lamb drained his fourth triple to bring the squad to within three. They defended the ensuing in-bounds play well, forcing an errant pass out-of-bounds. With 16.2 seconds left, the squad tried its hardest to get the sharpshooter a look. However, the Hornets' closeout defense was stout. The Blue & Gold failed to fire off a shot before the buzzer sounded.

"They knew we needed a three," Craig said of the final play. "So they were pressuring us and being up (at the 3-point line). No matter what happened it was going to be tough trying to get a shot up like that."

Indiana found early offense through Malcolm Brogdon and Chris Duarte, as both tallied four for the first Pacers points. However, Charlotte responded using the efforts of six-year veteran Terry Rozier. Back-to-back buckets for the Louisville guard in 34 seconds pushed the hosts ahead 11-8 with 5:43 remaining.

A deep three from Ball pushed the Hornets lead to five with 3:44 left. From there, he kept Indiana trailing for the remainder of the frame.

The Blue & Gold remained close but could not get over the hump. Domantas Sabonis tallied five over the final 1:47 of the first quarter, including a mini-hook that brought Indiana to within one. But, Charlotte grabbed a 27-22 edge before time expired using the free-throw line.

Consecutive buckets for Caris LeVert trimmed the gap to one again early in the second. However, Charlotte used an 8-0

run to extend its lead to 35-26.

But Indiana fought back midway through the frame. The squad countered with an 11-2 run, including eight straight, to knot the score at 37 with 6:53 remaining. After shooting just 1-for-10 from 3-point range in the first, Brogdon drilled a pair, and Kelan Martin knocked in another during the spree.

However, the tie was short-lived. Ball knocked in five points of an 8-0 Hornets surge to regain a 45-37 lead with 5:16 remaining.

From there, the Pacers had trouble stopping Ball. His handling forced awkward switches and open spaces on defense. To boot, he also connected on several difficult shots, including a floater with 2:06 to go that pushed the hosts' lead to 56-44. The Hornets grew the lead to as many as 17 before Brogdon's layup with 0.3 seconds left marginally trimmed the deficit to 63-48 before the break.

The Hornets quickly pushed their lead to 70-51 in the opening 1:45 of the third after the Pacers could not lock down Hayward or Rozier. At the 10:16 mark, Hayward found a wide-open Mason Plumlee for a two-handed slam that forced an Indiana timeout. Things only got worse as Hayward finished an and-one, and Ball drilled another deep three — a 29-footer — to extend the hosts' lead to 76-53 with 8:06 left.

Charlotte's lead climbed as high as 25 before T.J. McConnell and Brad Wanamaker provided enough of a spark to trim the deficit to 89-72 with 3:37 remaining. Wanamaker, the former Hornet, scored eight quick points off the bench. Then, a

running dunk by Craig off a Lamb steal breathed some more life into the team.

The Pacers' reserves continued to battle their way back. After trimming the deficit to 17 three more times, they finally broke through the barrier with Lamb's triple from the left side with 1:04 remaining. Craig added one more free throw before the frame ended to cut the gap to 98-85 entering the fourth.

After trading a pair of buckets, Goga Bitadze hit one of two free throws to cut the deficit to 102-92 with 9:35 remaining. At the 8:38 mark, the big man showed his strength, powering through a foul to finish an and-one play to trim the gap to seven.

However, Charlotte kept up the pressure, responding with five straight to push the lead back to 12 and force an Indiana timeout.

The spree re-energized the Hornets, as they extended the run of unanswered points nine. Although Craig stopped the run with a jumper, Ball reached the 30-point mark on the other end with an and-one play to push the Hornets' lead to 117-97 with 5:00 remaining.

Trailing 118-101, the Pacers rattled off a string of seven unanswered points to ignite their comeback attempt. The bench players continued to fight to the end, connecting on tough shots, and scrambling for loose balls to give them a final chance. Unfortunately, a miracle was not in the cards.

Indiana looks to rebound on Saturday in front of a home crowd as they square off against the New Orleans Pelicans.