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# Heights' CTE students trade a day in class for the worksite

**The REPORTER**  
When Nate Press, Talent Acquisition Specialist for E&B Paving, was looking at the roundabout construction project taking place at the intersection of State Road 38 and Boden Road in Noblesville, he had an “a-ha” moment.  
“What an incredible opportunity for students interested in the trades to get an up-close and personal look at the components involved in an active road construction project that just happened to be taking place between the E & B Paving Office and Irving Materials, Inc. (IMI) quarry operations in our own backyard,” he thought.  
Press reached out to Kevin Sheets, Hamilton Heights High School Construction Trades Education (CTE) teacher, with the idea of bringing students to E&B, IMI, and the job site for interactive learning experience in real time. Sheets was all in!  
Sheets, along with 10 students (including two who will



**Chad Hartwick of E&B Paving explains the finer points of E&B's asphalt facility.**  
intern at the E&B lab this summer), and an instructional assistant, took advantage of the offer, and in turn had a powerful, engaging, and interactive learning experience.  
Press crafted a half-day agenda that featured safety briefs throughout each segment of the day. Students were divided into smaller groups, spending the first part of the day in the quarry viewing and learning the different aspects of the process – digging, blasting, moving, crushing, and re-crushing of stone. After lunch, they spent time in the safe area of the construction site to watch live construction action. The day concluded at E&B where Chad Hartwick, E&B Estimator/Project Manager, shared company history, overview, and a tour of the lab.

See Trade . . . Page 2

## Optimistic much?

Optimism ... hopefulness and confidence about the future.  
Are you naturally an optimist? I am not. It's just not the way I was wired, but I have worked to change that over the years. Still, it's just my natural tendency to fall towards the negative, so I must really work to change my mindset. I learned to strive to be an optimistic person from my mother. She always looks on the bright side.  
Growing up, it used to really upset me when my mom would do this. I would often be woe-is-me, and she would say, “No, there is another way to look at the situation.” A lot of times, this was related to my disability.  
Looking back, and after having my own children, I now realize how hard this must have been for my mom, who was dealing with the unknowns of my disability right along with me. As a parent, I know that when your child is hurting or struggling, you feel it too – mentally and physically. It hurts to see your child in a situation where there is nothing you can do to help or make things better for them. I appreciate more now the struggle my parents must have gone through raising a child with a disability. I will never truly know exactly what they went through, because my children do not live with a disability.

**COLUMNIST**

**AMY SHINNEMAN**  
*Disability in the City*

See Optimism . . . Page 2

## Westfield Lions award record \$17K in scholarships to graduating seniors

By **JEFF LARRISON**  
*Westfield Lions Club*

On May 3, the Westfield Lions Club awarded a club-record amount in scholarships to Westfield High School seniors. Ten students were recognized for their service work and academic achievement by the Lions at the Club's annual Scholarship Awards Night held at the Friends Church, 324 S. Union St.  
This year's scholarship winners are:

- **Lucy Hauser** – Outstanding Female Athlete (\$500)
- **Hank Temples** – Outstanding Male Athlete (\$500)
- **Lillie Wade** – Lester Tudor Memorial Scholarship (\$2,000)
- **Reagan Lorenzen, Habiba Moawad, Kathleen Leber, and Laura Herrar** – Service Over Self Club Scholarships (\$2,000 each)
- **Ty Cassidy** – Don Russell Career Development Scholarship (\$2,000)
- **Ellie Vieth** – Culinary Arts Scholarship (\$2,000)

• **Keegan Conner** – Florence Benson Memorial Scholarship (\$2,000)  
The Westfield Lions make it a high priority to support the Westfield school system, spending countless hours and thousands of dollars each year on student-related activities, projects, and scholarships. This includes providing every third-grade student with a dictionary, conducting vision screening tests for pre-school students and elementary school students, sponsoring middle school students class trips to Washington, D.C., sponsoring two WHS girls' trips to the Hoosier Girls State Leadership Conference, significant contributions to the Westfield Education Foundation, and numerous other events and activities.  
The Westfield Lions Club has been serving the citizens of Westfield since 1930. If you are interested in being a part of something special, consider joining the club. Information on membership and club meetings can be found at [WestfieldLions.org](http://WestfieldLions.org).

## When a girl wants her wheels

Here is another story from my mother, Dorothy Howard Adler.

She was such a little girl – a baby, really. At 10 months she began walking, and at one and a half she was talking in sentences. There was no need for a walker or stroller, as they were sometimes called. No, she didn't need it, but having seen one, this little miss wanted a walker.  
One day Mother took Baby to the doctor for a routine checkup. Sister went, too, and saw another walker. There were tears of such unhappiness that Mother went to a store and bought a little red wagon. Ah, wheels. Ah, happiness.  
Now Sister had a new toy with wheels. Mother put her in it and pulled the wagon down the sidewalk to the car. If you think this made Sister forget about a walker, you are wrong. Every time she saw one, she wanted it. Finally, Mother suggested to Daddy that they buy a used walker.  
Their house was small, there were no sidewalks, the child could already walk, money was scarce, walkers then were bulky and unwieldy. Oh, all sorts of good reasons not to buy one. Well, Daddy did some looking around, but this was before the flea market era and places where one can find almost anything. Daddy did not find a suitable walker and that should have ended the story.  
One day Daddy had an errand in Monroe. Stucky's had a blue and white walker. Daddy and Stucky's soon struck a deal and Sister became owner of a new walker. Did she use it? Not much. There was no space. It was more of a bother than help to take it in the car if they were going shopping. Baby Brother used it a little but not much. He also walked at 10 months and didn't want to be bothered by a walker.

**COLUMNIST**

**RAY ADLER**  
*Ask Adler*

See Wheels . . . Page 2

# Hamilton County Health Department to hold Children's Mental Health webinar

Experts to identify signs of mental health struggles & when to seek professional help

**The REPORTER**  
The Hamilton County Health Department, in collaboration with Aspire Health Indiana, will hold a webinar about children's mental health at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, May 22. Geared toward parents, teachers, and anyone working closely with children, the webinar will provide essential insights and strategies for supporting children's mental well-being.  
“Children's mental health is of paramount importance as it plays a pivotal role in their overall well-being and development,” said Jim Ginder, Health

Education Specialist at the Hamilton County Health Department. “It shapes their ability to learn, build relationships, and navigate life's challenges. We're hoping the webinar will empower caregivers to effectively support children facing mental health challenges.”  
The webinar will cover



Ginder



Hinders

supporting children's emotional well-being, and seeking professional help when necessary. Participants will gain valuable insights into preventive measures and strategies for promoting positive mental health

outcomes for children.  
“At Aspire Health Indiana, we are committed to promoting mental wellness among children and adolescents,” said Vivian Hinders, a clinical manager at Aspire Health Indiana. “Partnering with the Hamilton County Health Department allows us to reach a wider audience and provide comprehensive support for children's mental health.”  
Participation is free, but registration is required. Those interested in participating can register at [tinyurl.com/childrensmentalhealthwebinar](http://tinyurl.com/childrensmentalhealthwebinar).

WHEELS

from Page 1

Eventually it was sold to the neighbor. The red wagon was used by both children. They didn't even have to take turns because Grandpa Howard's neighbor gave them a little blue wagon. Mother wouldn't be surprised that both of them remembered the wagons, but she would be surprised if either remembered the walker. Sister and Baby Brother soon outgrew those names. Baby Sister joined the family. She had a new

walker before she was big enough to ask for one. Did she use it? The house had expanded so it could be use some, but there were no sidewalks. It folded rather neatly but Mother found it a nuisance to take in the car. Besides, Baby Sister walked at nine months. But to answer your question: Yes, she did use it a lot – as long as she played with dolls. She probably had a barrel of fun with it. Ah, wheels!

# Noblesville Lions Club

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Thanks for reading!

TRADE

from Page 1

“It was an awesome day for students interested in civil construction/engineering,” Sheets said. “Nate went all out and presented our students with an interesting, informative, and educational experience they absolutely loved. The opportunity to have a hands-on learning experience at a real job site and see how all the players are involved in that site, was a great overall learning experience.” “We welcome the opportunity to show students and literally let them see and touch what we do as we advocate for careers in the civil pathway,” Press added. “This is a way we can continue to support the schools who are developing the workers of tomorrow that we want to hire. Building partnerships within our school systems is really important to us. Kevin’s enthusiasm in teaching means so much to his students, but it means even more to us. We value any opportunity to engage students who might want to pursue a career in civil engineering and construction trades fields and what better way than to see those jobs in action!”



Photos provided  
(TOP) Kevin Sheets, HHHS Construction Trades Education Teacher, captures students watching IMI's drill team drill holes for explosives to blast the rock. (ABOVE) Ten students pursuing careers in the construction trades along with CTE Educator Kevin Sheets and Instructional Assistant Krytsal Hickman had an experiential learning at an active jobsite arranged by E&B Paving's Nate Press.

OPTIMISM

from Page 1

Optimism is a hard thing to stay consistent with, speaking from the standpoint of my experience as a person with a disability. I can be in the best mood, and going about my day, and then go out in public and a mean comment, or a disgusted stare can wreck me. I have come so far in not letting it wreck me for long. I bounce back quicker from things like that. A lot of it I attribute to retraining my mind to be more of an optimist. If you are constantly living in a negative mindset, it is really going to hold you back. If you are living where you let every little thing that goes wrong in your day upset you, it will take you down fast. The more I work

to change this, the easier it is to let things roll off my back, and then I have more energy to focus on more important things than dwelling on a negative experience. I think some of that comes with age, too, and just life experience. In the past few years, I have started to look at my disability in a very optimistic way. I have even come around to feelings of gratefulness for my disability. At times, I even feel blessed to be disabled because of the unique life lessons and front-row seat to a totally unique perspective that it has brought about. A few years ago, if someone told me that was the way I would view my disability I would have vehemently dis-

agreed. There is NO way I would have even been able to muster up those kinds of thoughts, even just a short time ago. So, what changed? My faith became stronger, and I started to pray. I prayed that God would show me my true purpose in life. I had thoughts that if I died, I wouldn't be happy with the way I left things. I felt unfinished, unsatisfied with the work I had done at that point. It wasn't enough. Now, I feel like I have made a dent in my purpose. While I will never be perfect in my optimistic mindset, I've improved. I don't like to dwell on thoughts of my death, but it crosses my mind from time to time, and

I do like to think of my life's path as purposeful. I want to help and make a difference in the people's lives that I was supposed to. Humbly courageously, and optimistically moving toward the future, but also very much taking it day by day. Living in the moment. Doing my best with the hand I was dealt. There were no mistakes, it was meant just for me, and I believe yours is, too. Until next time ... Amy Shinneman is a former National Ambassador for the Muscular Dystrophy Association, disability blogger, wife, and mom of two boys. You can find her blog at [humblycourageous.com](http://humblycourageous.com) and reach her on Instagram @ashinneman.

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# Aspire’s Demetrius Dillard named Indiana Council Advocate of the Year

The REPORTER

Aspire Indiana Health Senior Director of Information Systems and Technology Demetrius Dillard has been named Advocate of the Year by the Indiana Council of Community Mental Health Centers (CMHC).

This award recognizes an individual who has championed the advancement of CMHC’s mission to deliver high-quality, culturally competent, comprehensive primary care services regardless of patients’ ability to pay. They have demonstrated a steadfast commitment to supporting the growth of the CMHC through education, partnership, or service.

According to the Indiana Council, Dillard has been named CMHC Advocate of the Year for his tireless advocacy efforts on behalf of CMHCs in Indiana. His passion for data

and technology within Aspire and CMHCs has been instrumental in leading an effort for a systemwide data integration product and process.

“When the Indiana Council asked for a person to coordinate and lead an effort for a systemwide data integration product and process, Demetrius volunteered without hesitation,” Aspire Information Officer Jim Skeel said. “He provided expertise and guidance to Zoe [Frantz, Indiana Council President and CEO], the State team, and the Council team in their conceptualization and understanding of the capabilities and possibilities in this arena. In step with the Council’s and State’s ‘build the plane while you fly it!’ approach to implement this portion of Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) transformation,

Demetrius was a strong advocate for the involvement of all CMHC’s and helped set up a framework for the collection and meaningful use of CCBHC data.”

“I appreciate how Demetrius is constantly looking at his team internally – how they can grow and keep learning,” Aspire Indiana Health Culture Officer Dr. Gina Forrest said. “He keeps up with trends in the workforce from his lens, and that helps us in HR to know what he might be looking for when he needs to add to his team. Also, he is proactive in anticipating what our needs are across the organization.”

The Indiana Council of Community Mental Health Centers is dedicated to advocating for and supporting the provision of quality mental health and substance use services for all Hoosiers. Comprising CMHCs across



Photo provided  
(From left) Aspire Information Officer Jim Skeel, Aspire Senior Director of Information Systems and Technology Demetrius Dillard, and Indiana Council of Community Mental Health Centers President and CEO Zoe Frantz.

the state, the Council works collaboratively with government entities and stakeholders to ensure accessible and effective mental health care.

About Aspire

Serving central Indiana since 1966, Aspire Indiana Health is a nonprofit provid-

er of comprehensive health-care services addressing behavioral health, primary care medicine, substance use disorder, infectious diseases, deaf services, veteran services, recovery housing, abused/neglected children, and programs addressing

the social drivers of health, including housing and employment assistance. Aspire is supported by a strong network of community organizations, state and federal entities, and generous benefactors. Learn more at [aspireindiana.org](https://aspireindiana.org).



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Letter to the Editor

## Oakmont resident questions Noblesville city officials’ reasoning in cutting down trees to repair sidewalks

Dear Editor:

If you have ever walked down the streets of the Oakmont subdivision in Noblesville, you have probably noticed two things: the trees, and the uneven sidewalks.

Unfortunately for the trees and the homeowners that live in Oakmont, the two are not able to peacefully co-exist. As a resident of Oakmont, I believe that not only is our neighborhood one of the prettiest in the city, but what makes it pretty is the mature tree canopies that line the streets. But beyond beauty, the trees have an impact on mental health, the heating and cooling costs of residents, improve air quality, prolong the life of asphalt by keeping it cooler, and increase property values which in turn increases the tax base (An Inconvenient Tree).

So, with all the added benefits of tree lined streets, why have the trees of Oakmont been labeled public enemy number one since 2017? The answer: sidewalks.

The sidewalks of Oakmont are in definite need of repair. In many spots they are uneven and have become a tripping hazard. We are thrilled that the city wants to ensure safe sidewalks for all but are saddened that they believe cutting down trees is the only way to make this happen.

In 2017, when the city first approached the neighborhood about cutting down 191 trees in order to fix the concrete, Oakmont resident, the late Rick Beaver of Beaver Concrete and Materials, recommended Noblesville pour thicker concrete to weigh down the roots like country clubs and other municipalities have done. Unfortunately, the city said this was not a possible solution. Instead, the city chose to leave the trees and not fix any sidewalks.

Fast forward to 2024, where the city has again decided that the only way they are able to repair sidewalks is to cut down mature trees. Because of this, 42 percent of the neighborhood trees have been slated to be cut down in June, with additional trees to be cut down in 2025. The city has stated that the trees belong to the city, and so they are able to decide their future. Due to the uneven sidewalks, streets needing resurfaced, and the age of our neighborhood, the city has stated that the only way they can fix all of these issues is by cutting down the trees.

Mayor Jensen has said he would like to have a 30-year fix to the sidewalk problem because he needs to think about the other 77,000 residents in Noblesville. But what he fails to realize is that the residents of Oakmont are also thinking about the other 77,000 residents of Noblesville, as well as the beauty of our entire city.

If this is the plan for the Oakmont neighborhood, is it not probably the plan for other neighborhoods as well?

We do not want other neighborhoods to have to go through what we have. We do not want other neighborhoods to have to worry about their property values going down or the beauty of their mature, established neighborhood being torn away.

Is the city's new solution to tear down trees so they can pave streets and make sidewalks level? Or is this just punishment for Oakmont residents?

The city of Noblesville has been a Tree City USA member for the last 34 years. But, if the city’s only solution is to tear down mature trees so they are able to fix sidewalks and pave streets, will that streak soon come to an end?

We hope that the city is able to research other alternatives so that the beauty of our neighborhood as well as all neighborhoods in Noblesville can be maintained, while also having ADA compliant streets and sidewalks.

[Click here](#) to watch a video of a flyover in the Oakmont neighborhood.

**Jamie Rychener**  
Noblesville

Letters to the Editor do not reflect the opinions of The Reporter, its publisher or its staff. You can submit your own Letter to the Editor by email to [News@ReadTheReporter.com](mailto:News@ReadTheReporter.com). Please include your phone number and city of residence. The Reporter will publish one letter per person per week.

# Carmel & Westfield come together, right now, over kids playing live music on stage

The Carmel Music Academy, 14950 Greyhound Court, Suite 2, Carmel, held its annual Spring Concert this past Sunday at Basile Westfield Playhouse, 220 N. Union St., Westfield. Carmel Music Academy is one of the fastest growing music academies in the nation, teaching not only guitar, piano, bass, drums, voice, violin, mandolin, ukulele, and banjo, but also lifelong lessons that students can take into the real world. Lessons are for all ages from kids, teens, and adults to senior citizens. Carmel Music Academy is owned by Jon E. Gee (seen below right) of the John Mellencamp Band. He was also the bassist for Ted Nugent, Henry Lee Summer, and others. Learn more at [CarmelMusicAcademy.com](http://CarmelMusicAcademy.com), by calling (317) 581-1030, or by emailing [info@CarmelMusicAcademy.com](mailto:info@CarmelMusicAcademy.com). (Photos provided by Bill Miller)



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# See Brett Dennen live in concert in Fishers

**The REPORTER**

The Nickel Plate District Amphitheater (NPD AMP) in Fishers and MOKB Presents announced on Tuesday that Brett Dennen will be live in concert on Saturday, Aug. 24. Tickets for the show go on sale Friday, May 17 at [npdamp.com](http://npdamp.com).

Dennen's show is part of the venue's annual summer concert series, which also includes a performance by Niko Moon on Friday, Aug. 23. Additionally, the NPD AMP will continue to host the Fishers Farmers Market and local community

concerts and national tours. Details on the 2024 summer schedule can be found at [npdamp.com](http://npdamp.com).

**About Brett Dennen**

Brett Dennen is telling you to get out and see the world at a time when everyone needs it more than ever.

Flame-haired, 6-foot-5, and with a singular gift for meditating on life's most meaningful subjects with equal parts innocence and razor-sharp wit, Dennen is known for his decade-plus career as a singer/songwriter. With a successful string of albums and four Top Ten

AAA singles like "Make You Crazy," "Wild Child," and 2018's "Already Gone," which achieved his highest chart position yet, he has cemented himself as a fixture in American folk music. What you may not know about him is that he did not set out to be a professional musician. It is a surprising revelation for someone who embodies the best of songwriting: singular storytelling, "singability," and the unique capacity to hold up a mirror to our lives, our society, and the greater world.

Dennen's next release,

*See The World*, is due out July 23 on Mick Music. Like the man himself, the new album is a potpourri of experiences and sometimes seeming contradictions. In the album opener and title track, Dennen sings of "diamond beaches" and "prism streams," and reminds us that "You don't have to be rich to get around / There are mansions growing out of the ground." In the refrain, he urges "Days go by / Get out and see the world with your own eyes."

Tickets for the Brett Dennen concert go on sale



Graphic provided

at 10 a.m. Friday, May 17 and will be available at [npdamp.com](http://npdamp.com) and [mokbpresents.com](http://mokbpresents.com). For ticketed shows, the venue is an all-ages facility and children ages two and under are per-

mitted for free. Fans can also bring their own lawn chair and blankets. Additional information is available on the venue website.

Visit [brettdennen.live](http://brettdennen.live) for more information.

## Breakfast of champions



Photo provided

Noblesville attorney Ray Adler met with State Rep. Julie McGuire, who has been selected by Mike Braun, the presumptive Republican gubernatorial nominee, to be his lieutenant governor. The pair got acquainted at the Hamilton County Republican Party Chairman's Breakfast on Wednesday morning at Matteo's Ristorante Italiano, 40 N. 9th St., Noblesville. During the breakfast, attendees also had the chance to hear from local GOP candidates for state representative Patricia Bratton, Danny Lopez, and Alaina Shonkwiler.

## Fishers replacing Michigan left intersection with roundabout

By ADAM PINSKER  
WISH-TV | [wishtv.com](http://wishtv.com)

After years of complaints from drivers, Fishers city government is replacing the Michigan left at 96th Street and Allisonville Road with a roundabout.

Drivers approaching the Michigan left intersection could not turn left; instead, they had to turn right and make a U-turn rather than make a left. The border of Indianapolis and Fishers runs along 96th Street.

Hatem Meky, director of engineering for Fishers city government, said the intention of the Michigan left was to reduce crashes.

"I've personally seen people trying to take that left in the intersection itself, so obviously that does prevent those instances from happening," Meky said.

Because of that, the city

is converting the intersection into a roundabout.

During that time, 96th Street has been closed westbound and eastbound at Allisonville until the project is finished, likely in November. Drivers can expect delays at the intersection until then.

"This is a very important intersection; obviously, we want to maintain the north-south Allisonville traffic," Meky said.

According to the Fishers Police Department, the Allisonville and 96th Street intersection experienced eight crashes since 2022, compared with eight crashes at nearby 106th Street over the same time period. The 116th Street and Allisonville Road intersection had 14 crashes between 2022 and 2024.

"Introducing a two-lane roundabout on 96th and Allisonville is going to, No. 1,

make it easier for everyone and, No. 2, make it a lot more safer," Meky said.

The city engineering director says Fishers is dealing with rapid population growth and development. The Hamilton County city previously widened Allisonville Road from two to four lanes from 116th to 141st street.

"We have a new development that's coming in on the northwest side [of the intersection of 96th and Allisonville], and that area is going to see a lot of revitalization. We also have a park that is going in on the northwest side [of the intersection], on the White River."

The new roundabout could cost \$6 million, but, Meky says, the price could increase since dealing with concrete is not cost-effective.

## Sen. Todd Young praises Senate passage of FAA reauthorization focused on improving safety, advancing technology

**The REPORTER**

U.S. Senator Todd Young (R-Ind.), a member of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, praised Senate passage of the bipartisan Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Reauthorization Act of 2024.

The legislation, which passed the Senate 88-4 last Thursday, reauthorizes the FAA for five years. The bill includes several provisions to strengthen aviation safety and oversight at the FAA, address air traffic controller shortages, require airlines to seat families together, and support the next generation of aviation technology innovations.

"This bill contains many provisions important to the Hoosier aviation industry and the flying public," Sen. Young said. "I am pleased that it passed the Senate in a strong bipartisan vote and urge the House to pass this critical bill."

A number of Senator Young's amendments and priorities were included in the bill:

- Prohibiting drones that pose a national security risk, a provision prohibiting the Department of Transportation (DOT) from entering into a contract with or awarding a grant for the operation, procurement, or contracting of drones manufactured or assembled by the People's Republic of China,

the Russian Federation, or any covered foreign entity designated by the Secretary of Commerce.

- Comprehensive plan for automated drone operations, a provision directing FAA to develop a plan for automated drone operations and submit a report to Congress. As the world enters the second century of aviation, maintain America's leadership edge in aviation requires leading the way in the safe application of automated and autonomous technologies.
- Common sense flexibility for model aircraft enthusiasts, a provision providing flexibility for model aircraft hobbyists to safely operate in uncontrolled airspace and allows them to secure faster approval for the establishment of fixed flying sites for people flying model aircraft in fields, backyards, and dedicated flying sites.
- Protecting U.S. transportation infrastructure from Chinese espionage, a provision preventing government grants from being used to subsidize the purchase of airport infrastructure like jet bridges from hostile governments.
- Supporting aviation technology innovations, a provision directing the FAA to study new aviation fuels or fuel systems and will en-



Young

sure that the U.S. maintains its competitive lead in the aviation sector and provide advancements in a wide range of technologies, from civil to defense.

Remote identification of drones, a provision directing the FAA to review and report to Congress on whether drone manufacturers and operators can meet the intent of FAA's Remote ID rule through network-based remote identification within one year of enactment.

Increasing global competitiveness for drones in the United States, a provision that safely streamlines the approvals process for beyond visual line of sight (BVLOS) drone flights and bring the regulation of drones in the United States up to speed with current technologies.

Cutting red tape for drones, a provision modernizing and bringing standardization and clarity to the environmental review process for drones.

Streamlining environmental review for airports, a provision making aviation-related reforms to National Environmental Policy Act, adds a categorical exclusion for small airport projects similar to what exists for highways, and requires DOT to review and update categorical exclusions for certain projects.

# MEMORIAL DAY

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## Go ahead, give it a whirl at Indiana Artisan Gifts & Gallery



Photo provided

Everyone in the family gets a turn in the fifth annual Top Spinner Contest at Indiana Artisan Gifts & Gallery in Carmel. But will anyone beat the 2023 top spin of one minute, 36 seconds? Find out in the store at 22 N. Range Line Road, Carmel, from 4 to 8 p.m. on June 8, part of the fun during Allied Solutions *Meet Me on Main* gallery walk in the Carmel Arts & Design District. The contest is free to enter and is open to all ages. Indiana Artisan provides the top. Wood artist Tim Kennedy of Fishers handcrafts the small spinners that fascinate and mesmerize. He'll be on hand to talk about his work and will provide the Top Spinner plaque for the evening's longest spin.

## Art of Wine returns to Carmel Arts & Design District on Saturday

### The REPORTER

Art of Wine returns to the Carmel Arts & Design District from 5 to 9 p.m. on Saturday, May 18 with 20 participating wineries from across the state.

The streets will be closed to vehicles so visitors of all ages can stroll along Main Street and enjoy the festival as well as the unique retail, restaurants, and galleries in the District.

#### Ticket options

• **\$30 Wine Tasting Tickets** – For adults aged 21 and over with a valid photo ID. Includes a sampling of wine from all participating wineries and a souvenir wine glass.

• **\$50 VIP Prime Hour Tickets** – For adults aged 21 and over with a valid photo ID. Includes early entry to the event at 4 p.m. and unlimited wine tasting, a souvenir wine glass and VIP gift bag. Only 400 VIP Prime Hour tickets will be sold so purchase your ticket while supplies last.

Tickets may be purchased online at [this link](#), or



Photo provided by City of Carmel

onsite the day of the event with a credit card only.

New this year, a "Bottle Valet" will be available at all point of purchase locations so guests may purchase bottles of wine and store them with the valet until it's time to depart the festival.

For more information about the event, including a list of participating wineries and food and beverage ven-

dors, [click here](#).

#### Entertainment

It would not be a festival without live music. Art of Wine will host a variety of performers from local acoustic bands to the six-piece headliner on the main stage.

• 4 to 6 p.m. in the District: Elizabeth Lee, Honey & Hutch, Doug Resendz  
• 6 to 8 p.m. in the Dis-

trict: Jeremiah Cosner, Elliott Ferguson, Traci & Jimmy  
• 8 to 10 p.m. on the Main Stage: Five After Midnight

#### Traffic & parking

Art of Wine will fully close some of the streets in the Arts & Design District area of the city. Please review the map at [this link](#) for detour routes and parking information.

## Don't miss these events coming up at Center for the Performing Arts

### The REPORTER

Don't miss your chance to get tickets for these great events coming up soon at The Center for the Performing Arts in Carmel.

#### Luminaries:

**Visual Arts & Opera with Lyndsay Moy**  
*Tuesday, May 28 at 2 p.m.*  
*The Palladium*

Join professional opera singer and visual artist Lyndsay Moy as she speaks about her work as a painter and performer, sharing stories and lessons from her experience at the intersection of visual and performing arts.

The Indianapolis resident is a mezzo-soprano who has appeared across the country and Europe in many operatic and oratorio roles, most recently appearing as Nettie Fowler in Rodgers & Hammerstein's *Carousel* with Indianapolis Opera. As a painter, she specializes in portraiture and realism commissions, running a private painting studio with national and international clientele.

[Click here](#) for tickets.

**Live at the Center: Nate Wolfe**  
*Wednesday, May 29 at 7:30 p.m.*  
*The Studio Theater & Online*



Photo provided

**Hear from professional opera singer and visual artist Lyndsay Moy as she speaks about her artistic work, as well as lessons she's learned being both a visual artist and performing artist.**

Midwest singer-songwriter Nate Wolfe draws inspiration from days gone by, blending elements of folk, blues, rock, and soul to create songs that tell stories of life and love. Nate can be seen playing all around Indy, from small-town bars and breweries to high-end downtown locations and private parties. He had the privilege of singing the National Anthem for the U.S. Olympics dive trials and has opened for Andy Suzuki and the Method at the Hi-Fi. He plans to release some singles in late 2023. His performance at the Center will be solo acoustic.

[Click here](#) for tickets.

**Center Presents: Prism Project Camp**  
*May 29 to June 21*  
*The Studio Theater*

The Prism Project at the Center is a performing arts program developed by Ball State University and designed to be physically, developmentally, and cognitively appropriate for youth with disabilities. The program is a four-week camp culminating in a final performance in


the Studio Theater at the Center for the Performing Arts.

Looking for a rewarding volunteer opportunity? Buddies are needed for the Prism Project. Email [Outreach@TheCenterPresents.org](mailto:Outreach@TheCenterPresents.org) for more information. The Prism Project at the Center is supported by the Samarian Foundation.

[Click here](#) to register. The deadline to register is Friday, May 17.

**Paul Poteet... Your Hometown Weatherman!**





## UNDER CONSTRUCTION

**Next phases of work on 146th & Allisonville project to begin Monday**

Beginning on or after Monday, May 20, the contractor will begin placing the next lifts of asphalt along Allisonville Road south of 146th Street. This work is anticipated to take four days to complete.

The contractors will use traffic phases to complete this work. Please reduce speeds and follow instructions of the flaggers for your safety and the safety of the construction crews. All work items and dates are subject to weather as both asphalt and concrete can be adversely affected if placed in the rain.

Use extreme caution while driving through this construction zone.

[Click here](#) for more project information.

### Live Music May 17 - Tyler Robling Duo



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7-10 p.m.

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# AG Rokita warns college officials: hateful, antisemitic acts against Jewish students will not be tolerated

## The REPORTER

Following months of campus protests sometimes featuring troubling anti-Jewish propaganda, Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita warned college officials they are duty-bound to enforce Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by combating all forms of antisemitism on their campuses – or risk losing their federal funding.

“My team and I are deeply committed to ending antisemitism in all forms,” AG Rokita wrote in a letter to college officials. “Some Indiana colleges and universities boast large populations of Jewish students. If these students face antisemitism on campus without correc-

tive measures, they may bring an action under Title VI against your university by alleging a hostile environment or retaliation.”

Violent and disruptive protests have rocked campuses coast to coast following last year’s deadly attack on Israel by the terrorist group Hamas. Although the 2023-24 academic year is wrapping up, the potential persists for continued campus protests – and continued antisemitic agitation.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits discrimination based on “race, color, and national



Rokita

origin” in programs and activities that receive federal financial assistance. Indiana’s state-run higher educational institutions receive federal funding and are therefore subject to Title VI.

AG Rokita also reminded college officials they must ensure that student groups do not materially support foreign terrorist organizations. **House Enrolled Act 1179**, which takes effect July 1, 2024, requires state educational institutions to adopt policies to prohibit providing funds or other resources to foreign

terrorist organizations or state sponsors of terror.

Those who would incite violence or commit criminal acts may not hide behind the First Amendment to avoid culpability, AG Rokita added.

“Protecting our Jewish students requires accountability on the university’s part,” AG Rokita said. “I strongly encourage them to enforce university codes of conduct and the law when necessary to put an end to antisemitism and the promotion of terrorism on your campuses. That way we can ensure that all students, including our Jewish brothers and sisters, are safe and have an equal access to education.”

# HWC welcomes Wilkinson to firm

## The REPORTER

Scott Wilkinson joins HWC Engineering as its new Director of Transportation after previously serving as the Vice President of Transportation Services for one of the top five largest engineering firms in Indiana.

In his new role, Wilkinson will oversee the continuously growing transportation department at HWC.

“Scott brings a unique skillset and more than 17 years of experience across all aspects of project delivery, including funding, design, and construction layout, making him the perfect fit for the Director of Transportation position,” HWC President Terry Baker said. “I am confident he has leadership experience that will perfectly suit our talented transportation team. HWC is excited to see where the team takes our clients in the next several years.”

During his time in his previous role, Wilkinson was responsible for managing all operations of the transportation, traffic and pedestrian, and utility/railroad service departments, in addition to the internal and external operations necessary to the role. He has been a Staff Surveyor, a De-

sign Engineer, and a Project Manager.

Before moving to the Indianapolis area in 2016,



Wilkinson

Wilkinson lived and worked in Chicago where he had the pleasure of working on the complex Wacker Drive project in the heart of downtown. He is a licensed Professional Engineer in six states: Indiana, Illinois, Arizona, Texas, Kentucky, and Michigan. He is a Purdue University alumnus and has been active in various American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) committees throughout his career.

## About HWC Engineering

HWC Engineering is a trusted partner and design firm that provides transportation, water, wastewater, stormwater, inspection, site engineering, survey, landscape architecture, economic development, and planning services for both the public and private sectors. Founded in 1989, HWC has been trusted by local communities for more than 30 years and supports clients from their seven offices in Indianapolis, Terre Haute, New Albany, Lafayette, Hammond, Muncie, and North Vernon. For additional information, please visit [hwcengineering.com](http://hwcengineering.com).

# Celebrate Kids to Parks Day this Saturday

## The REPORTER

Share your love of the outdoors with a child this Saturday, May 18 during the annual Kids to Parks Day. It’s a national day of outdoor play designed to connect kids and families with local, state, and national parks.

Gov. Eric Holcomb declared May 18 as Kids to Parks (KTP) Day in Indiana and signed an official proclamation, which acknowledges the important initiative to “encourage kids

and empower families to get outdoors and visit America’s parks.”

The day is a chance for children to learn about park stewardship, outdoor recreation, and natural and cultural history. It also helps foster appreciation for public lands in the next generation.

Here are some opportunities to engage children in KTP Day:

- Find planned events and special activities related to KTP Day at [on.IN.gov/stateparkevents](http://on.IN.gov/stateparkevents).

- Check out the Children’s Outdoor Bill of Rights with 11 suggested outdoor activities every kid should do. Complete all 11 to become a Hoosier Outdoor Child. See [children-playoutdoors.dnr.IN.gov](http://children-playoutdoors.dnr.IN.gov).
- Get started on Hoosier Quest to earn patches and pins at [on.IN.gov/hoosierquest](http://on.IN.gov/hoosierquest).
- Check out the State Parks kids webpage at [dnr.IN.gov/kids](http://dnr.IN.gov/kids) for more ideas.
- Share your photos on social media with the

hashtag #KidstoParks. You can post them directly to the Indiana State Parks Facebook page at [facebook.com/INdnrstateparksandreservoirs](https://www.facebook.com/INdnrstateparksandreservoirs).

For more information, see [parktrust.org/kids-to-parks-day](http://parktrust.org/kids-to-parks-day).

KTP Day is sponsored by the National Park Trust and supported by America’s State Parks and the National Association of State Park Directors.

# Former credit union employee sentenced to 33 months in federal prison for scheme that stole over \$2M from members’ accounts

## The REPORTER

Jose Prado-Valero, 35, Carmel, has been sentenced to 33 months in federal prison, followed by two years of supervised release, after pleading guilty to financial institution fraud. He must also pay \$2,132,517 in restitution.

According to court documents, from 2016 through August of 2019, Jose Prado-Valero served as the Automated Clearing House coordinator at a credit union. His duties included posting and coordinating transactions into and out of the accounts of credit union members, which gave him access to members’ personally identifiable information, including Social Security numbers, date of birth, home address, and telephone numbers. Prado-Valero also had access to members’ account numbers and account balances.

Sometime prior to Feb. 14, 2019, Prado-Valero was approached by individuals not employed by the credit union who sought his assistance in conducting a scheme to defraud the fi-

nancial institution and steal money held in member accounts. The co-conspirators promised to pay Prado-Valero a portion of the fraud proceeds if he stole members’ identity and account information.

Prado-Valero agreed to join the scheme and used his position of trust at the credit union to access members’ account information and steal their money. Between Feb. 14, 2019, and Aug. 16, 2019, Prado-Valero and accomplices successfully made 34 fraudulent transfers to themselves out of credit union members’ accounts, in the aggregate amount of \$2,078,725. Prado-Valero was paid over \$100,000 by his co-conspirators for his role in the scheme.

“Account holders and financial institutions depend on people in positions of trust to keep their information and money safe,” said Zachary A. Myers, U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana. “This corrupt employee facilitated the theft of millions of customer dollars to satisfy his own greed. The serious

federal prison sentence imposed demonstrates that the FBI and the U.S. Attorney’s Office are watching, and those who abuse positions of trust to line their pockets at the expense of others will be held accountable.”

“Prado-Valero was entrusted with a great deal of responsibility over the hard-earned money of the credit union’s members. Instead of using his authority and access to protect the accounts of these customers, he sold his access to a criminal conspiracy so he could enrich himself,” said Herbert J. Stapleton, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI’s Indianapolis Field Office. “I commend the investigative team for their expert, detailed work in this case, which resulted in this defendant being held accountable for his crimes.”

The FBI investigated this case. The sentence was imposed by Chief U.S. District Court Judge Tanya Walton Pratt.

U.S. Attorney Myers thanked Assistant U.S. Attorney James M. Warden, who prosecuted this case.

# Jim Banks receives endorsement from U.S. Senator John Kennedy

## Submitted

U.S. Senator John Kennedy (R-La.) endorsed Congressman Jim Banks for U.S. Senate on Wednesday.

“I’m proud to endorse Jim Banks to be the next U.S. Senator for Indiana,” Sen. Kennedy said. “Jim Banks has been a leader against the nauseating wickedness from the goat milk soy latte crowd in Washington, D.C. He’s a proven fighter for common sense and conservative values, and he’s going to fight every day for hard-working Hoosier families. We need Jim Banks in the Senate to get our great Nation back on track.”

Banks said he is proud to have received this endorsement.

“I am honored

to have Senator John Kennedy’s endorsement in my race for the United States Senate,” Congressman Banks said. “It is imperative that we come together in November to defeat Biden and the radical Left, and I am grateful for leaders like Senator Kennedy who are dedicated to ensuring that can happen. His support means the world, and I look forward to working together to push back on the Democrat agenda that swung our border wide open and ran our economy into the ground.”

Congressman Banks



Banks

currently serves Indiana’s Third Congressional District in the United States House of Representatives and is the Republican nominee for Indiana’s open U.S. Senate seat. He is running to replace Senator Mike Braun, who is not seeking re-election. He has received over 400 conservative endorsements in his race, including support from President Donald Trump.

Born and raised in Indiana, Jim and his wife Amanda are the proud parents of three young daughters, and they are honored to serve Northeast Indiana in Washington.

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Thanks for reading The Reporter!

**Philip A. Wicker**

June 26, 1943 – May 10, 2024

Philip A. Wicker, 80, Noblesville, passed away on Friday, May 10, 2024, at Maple Park Village in Westfield.

Phil was born in Indianapolis on June 26, 1943, to the late Lowell and Phoebe (Wooten) Wicker.

On November 23, 1961, he married Nancy L. Kerfoot, and they shared 62 years of marriage.

Phil attended Jackson Central High School and was a member of the graduating Class of 1961. Phil worked in manufacturing for General Motors and spent 28 years at Delco Remy in Anderson. Phil was most known for his witty sense of humor. During his spare time, he enjoyed horses, gardening, and fishing. He liked watching track & field and football, especially the Minnesota Vikings. Phil loved spending time with his family and will be missed by many.

Phil is survived by his wife, Nancy L. Wicker of Noblesville; son, Lynn A. (Donna) Wicker of Fishers; daughter, Roxanne W. Gudgel of Carmel; grandson, John A. Wicker of Terre Haute, Ind.; granddaughter, Stephanie M. Wicker of Elkhart, Ind.; and grandson, Spencer W. Gudgel of Carmel.

Phil was preceded in death by his parents, Lowell & Phoebe Alice Wicker.

Phil's wishes were to be cremated and to have a small family celebration of life. The family has entrusted Phil's care to Hartley Funeral Homes.

Online condolences can be given at [hartleyfuneralhomes.com](http://hartleyfuneralhomes.com).

**Gloria "Cookie" Branham**

February 7, 1953 – May 12, 2024

Gloria "Cookie" Branham, 71, Noblesville, passed away on Sunday, May 12, 2024, at her home. She was born on February 7, 1953, to William and Sarah (Owens) Hazelwood in Franklin, Ind.

Gloria worked at Leatherite and Goodwill. She enjoyed dancing, playing cards, and bingo. Gloria was a huge Elvis fan. She loved her family and loved being a granny.

Gloria is survived by her children, Danny (Lisa) Branham Jr., Denny (Robin) Branham, David Branham, Donna (Steve) Kissel, and Donald Branham; grandchildren, Jillian (Nate) Pickering, Grace Branham (Devon Wynn), Savannah (Tucker) Million, Alexis Branham, Toni (Jeremiah) Sloderbeck, David Branham II, Miranda Branham, David (Abbey) Johnson, Heather (Chris) Shuler, Charles Elliott, Kimberly (Collin) Hull, and Jada Carpenter; great-grandchildren, Grayson, Brady, Luca, Elijah, Oliver, Sawyer, William, Alexandria, Reagan, Charlotte, Aria, Chanson and Maddie; and her siblings, Jack Hazelwood, Patty Aicher, Carlene Powell, Charlotte Kitchens, and Carl Hazelwood.

In addition to her parents, Gloria was preceded in death by her husband, Danny E. Branham; granddaughter, Shantel Branham; and her siblings, Barbara "Joann" Powell, William J. Hazelwood, Agnes Pruitt, Wilma Sanders, Martha Penwell, Ernest Hazelwood, Jenny Lee Wilkinson, Robert Hazelwood, Lebert "Sonny" Hazelwood, Wilbur Hazelwood, Marvin Hazelwood, Bruce Jay Hazelwood, and Frankie Hazelwood.

Visitation will be from 9 to 11 a.m., with services at 11 a.m., on Saturday, May 18, 2024, at Randall & Roberts Funeral Home, 1150 Logan St., Noblesville. Brad Bennett will officiate. Gloria will be laid to rest next to her husband, Danny, at Crownland Cemetery in Noblesville. Condolences: [randallroberts.com](http://randallroberts.com)

**TODAY'S BIBLE READING****JACOB GOES TO EGYPT**

*All those who went to Egypt with Jacob—those who were his direct descendants, not counting his sons' wives—numbered sixty-six persons. With the two sons who had been born to Joseph in Egypt, the members of Jacob's family, which went to Egypt, were seventy in all.*

*Now Jacob sent Judah ahead of him to Joseph to get directions to Goshen. When they arrived in the region of Goshen, Joseph had his chariot made ready and went to Goshen to meet his father Israel. As soon as Joseph appeared before him, he threw his arms around his father and wept for a long time.*

*Israel said to Joseph, "Now I am ready to die, since I have seen for myself that you are still alive."*

*Genesis 46:26-30 (NIV)*

**The Reporter's policy on obituaries**

The Hamilton County Reporter does not charge families for publishing obituary notices in our pages. Every obituary appearing in online editions Wednesday through Saturday also appears in our Monday print editions. In order to continue to offer this as a community service, we ask that obituaries not exceed 600 words. The limitations of space may not allow for longer ones to appear in print.

Families and funeral homes are asked to send obituaries to [obits@ReadTheReporter.com](mailto:obits@ReadTheReporter.com).

**Meeting Notices**

The Jackson Township Board will meet to discuss general township business at 10 a.m. on June 3, 2024, at the Trustee's Office, 506 W. Main St., Arcadia.

The Clay Township Board will meet at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, May 21, 2024, at the John W. Hensel Government Center, 10701 N. College Ave., Carmel.



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# REPORTER SPORTS THURSDAY

Sports Editor Richie Hall | [Sports@ReadTheReporter.com](mailto:Sports@ReadTheReporter.com) | Twitter @Richie\_Hall

CARMEL, FISHERS, GUERIN CATHOLIC, HAMILTON HEIGHTS, HAMILTON SOUTHEASTERN, NOBLESVILLE, SHERIDAN, UNIVERSITY, WESTFIELD

## Girls Track & Field



Photo by Mike Kepner

The Hamilton Southeastern girls track and field team won its eighth consecutive sectional championship Wednesday. The Royals scored 129.5 team points and won three events.

## County runners set more sectional records

By **RICHIE HALL**

[sports@readthereporter.com](mailto:sports@readthereporter.com)

**FISHERS** — Another year, another set of new sectional records for Hamilton County girls track and field athletes.

The 2024 girls track and field sectional took place at Fishers, with Hamilton Southeastern the official host. The Royals claimed their eighth consecutive sectional championship, surging ahead toward the conclusion of the meet to score 129.5 team points. Carmel was the runner-up, totaling 114 points.

"This sectional is so hard," said HSE coach Julie Alano. "I was just telling them, the times out of this sectional are unbelievable."

Southeastern got a boost from its performance in the 3200 run. The Royals went 1-2, with Elizabeth Butler racing home in a time of 10 minutes, 50.76 seconds. Maggie Powers placed second, clocking in at 10:53.58. Powers had already won an event, the 1600 run, in a new sectional record time of 4:54.47.

Freshman Anissa Lammie continued her remark-



Photo by Mike Kepner



Photo by Mike Kepner

(ABOVE LEFT) Fishers' Mireya Benjamin (center) was part of the Tigers' winning 4x100 relay. Pictured from left to right are University's Jayda Dawn, Westfield's Claire Weddige, Benjamin and Southeastern's Chloe Senefeld and Anissa Lammie. (ABOVE RIGHT) The 800 run was the closest race of the night. Noblesville's Summer Rempe (right) won by .02 seconds over Southeastern's Ciara Kepner (left). The Millers' Brinkley Cooper (center) was third. (BELOW LEFT) Westfield's Lucy Hauser swept both hurdles events. (BELOW RIGHT) Hamilton Heights' Waverly Woolever won the high jump. She is pictured with her father and coach Ryan Woolever.

able rookie year by setting a new record in the 400 dash. Her winning time was 56.29 seconds.

The Royals were also boosted by runner-up finishes from Elia Blackmore in the 100 hurdles and 300 hurdles, while EJ Shults soared to second place in the long jump.

"We ran better in the hurdles," said Alano. "The long jump didn't come in until much later, but I knew we had done well in that."

See Sectional . . . Page 11



Grande Rosas



Photo by Mike Kepner



Reporter photo by Richie Hall

## Results from Hamilton County Girls Track & Field Sectional

**Team scores:** Hamilton Southeastern 129.5, Carmel 114, Noblesville 107, Fishers 102, Westfield 82.5, Hamilton Heights 40, Guerin Catholic 22, Western Boone 13, Lebanon 9, University 4, Sheridan 1.

**4x800 relay:** 1. Carmel (Larkin Taylor, Annabel Pollert, Olivia Cebalo, Kaitlyn Oshimura) 9:15.29, new sectional record, 2. Noblesville (Riley Flynn, Brinkley Cooper, Gretchen Graham, Summer Rempe) 9:23.82, 3. Southeastern (Elizabeth Butler, Ciara Kepner, Catey Campbell, Anna Irish) 9:27.97, 4. Westfield (Maggie Naas, Emily Loisel, Jordyn Landrum, Liz Smith) 9:37.39, 5. Guerin Catholic (Katie Kolb, Claire Flannagan, Bailey Freese, Claire Milam) 9:55.39, 6.

Fishers (Aaliyah Hayes, Allie Belush, Elise Bryan, Grier Swaim) 10:14.76, 7. Hamilton Heights (Anna Monnin, Mary Ella Bichey, Kendall Moe, Allie Bushey) 10:16.49.

**100 hurdles:** 1. Lucy Hauser (W) 14.94, 2. Elia Blackmore (HSE) 15.18, 3. Anna Williams (F) 15.28, 4. Ella Ewing (HH) 15.55, 5. Faith Tchuente Fotso (C) 15.90, 6. Sensear Reynolds (HSE) 16.38, 7. Maija Gilhooly (C) 16.62, 8. Lauren Linville (W) 17.43.

**100 dash:** 1. Maya Taylor (F) 12.04, 2. Mireya Benjamin (F) 12.37, 3. Emily Norris (C) 12.38, 4. Rebecca Belanger (C) 12.61, 5. LeBraya Warren (W) 12.78, 6. Mya Baker (N) 12.87, 7. Maddie Coates (N) 12.88.

**1600 run:** 1. Maggie Pow-

ers (HSE) 4:54.47, new sectional record, 2. Sadie Foley (C) 5:00.26, 3. Flynn (N) 5:01.26, 4. Ansley Applegate (N) 5:01.76, 6. Olivia Mundt (C) 5:13.01, 7. Ava Powers (HSE) 5:14.36, 8. Loisel (W) 5:25.57.

**4x100 relay:** 1. Fishers (Benjamin, Zinnia Pineda, Kylee Black, Taylor) 48.44, 2. Southeastern (Shults, Ava Kashani, Camryn McKinney, Chloe Senefeld) 49.62, 3. Noblesville (Mallory Cahill, Baker, Kate Rollins, Coates) 50.28, 4. Westfield (LeB. Warren, LeAsia Warren, Josie Vondersaar, Abbi Van Bibber) 50.84, 5. Heights (Lizzy Smith, Gracie Bortone, Savannah Deetz, Ewing) 51.41, 7. University (Taylor Seay, Lindsey Porter, Emily Comparini, Jayda Dawn) 52.26, Carmel DNF.

**400 dash:** 1. Anissa Lammie (HSE) 56.29, new sectional record, 2. Gabriela Grande Rosas (C) 57.57, 3. Ceablo (C) 58.01, 4. Addison Smith (HSE) 59.30, 5. Flannagan (GC) 59.58, 6. Norah Reiger (HH) 59.82, 7. Lily Hovda (U) 1:00.84, 8. Katelyn Eblen (W) 1:02.77.

**300 hurdles:** 1. Hauser (W) 44.56, new sectional record, 2. Blackmore (HSE) 45.99, 3. Devyn Day (F) 46.77, 4. Gilhooly (C) 46.80, 5. Williams (F) 47.56, 6. Micaiah Bullock (HSE) 47.78, 8. Lauren Linville (W) 50.31.

**800 run:** 1. Rempe (N) 2:15.66, 2. Kepner (HSE) 2:15.68, 3. Cooper (N) 2:15.76, 4. Audrey Ricketts (C) 2:17.03, 5. Katie Kolb (GC) 2:18.44, 6.

Isabella Murch (F) 2:18.66, 7. Elise Herman (HSE) 2:20.21, 8. Pollert (C) 2:20.34.

**200 dash:** 1. Emily Norris (C) 25.07, 2. Taylor (F) 25.25, 3. Lammie (HSE) 25.31, 4. Senefeld (HSE) 25.43, 5. Benjamin (F) 25.78, 6. Ashlyn Guerant (C) 26.27, 7. Gracie Czubik (W) 26.40, 8. Nova Cross (S) 26.63.

**3200 run:** 1. Elizabeth Butler (HSE) 10:50.76, 2. Powers (HSE) 10:53.58, 3. Alivia Lozier (W) 10:55.63, 4. Smith (W) 10:57.96, 5. Nadia Perez (N) 11:13.69, 6. Kenney Applegate (N) 11:19.23, 7. Claire Milam (GC) 11:21.38, 8. Taylor (C) 11:40.58.

**4x400 relay:** 1. Carmel (Grande Rosas, Foley, Cebalo, Norris) 3:54.64, 2. Southeastern (Smith, Lammie, Senefeld, McKinney) 3:54.76, 3. Westfield (Naas, Hauser, LeB. Warren, Landrum) 3:59.82, 4. Noblesville (Cooper, Coates, Rollins, Rempe) 4:03.34, 5. Heights (Reiger, Macie Smith, Bortone, Waverly Woolever) 4:03.79, 6. Guerin Catholic (Brooke Bunnell, Flannagan, Kathryn Demmings, Kolb) 4:13.30, 7. Fishers (Charlotte Lawrence, Scarlett Olson, Murch, Day) 4:14.63.

**Discus:** 1. Hannah Alexan-

der (N) 161-10, new sectional record, 2. Mia Tobias (F) 120-8, 3. Macey Miller (F) 119-10, 4. Ellie Cooley (C) 114-6, 5. Amelia Kring (N) 111-3, 6. Hadleigh Cherry (HH) 102-8, 7. Jada Henson (W) 100-8, 8. Norah Chase (C) 100-0.

**Shot put:** 1. Alexander (N) 44-9.75, 2. Miller (F) 41-10.5, 3. Henson (W) 37-8, 4. Nyla Young (N) 35-9.25, 5. Katie Wooden (HSE) 34-9, 6. Elaina Constantine (HSE) 33-6.5, 7. Cherry (HH) 32-8.5, 8. Ahli Buzan (HH) 31-10.5.

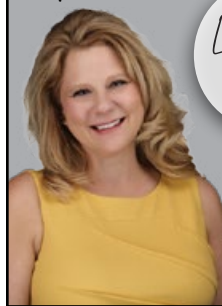
**Long jump:** 1. Grande Rosas (C) 17-0.75, 2. Shults (HSE) 17-0, 4. Berlanger (GC) 16-10, 5. Czubik (W) 16-10, 6. Ewing (HH) 16-9.5, 7. Madison Paciocre (F) 16-4.75, 8. Chang (GC) 16-4.

**High jump:** 1. Woolever (HH) 5-5, 2. Mallory Kixmiller (F) 5-1, 3. Emma Warner (C) 5-0, 4. Czubik (W) 4-10, 5. Kori Dues (GC) 4-10, 6. Smith (HH) 4-10, 7. Maya McDonald (N) 4-10.

**Pole vault:** 1. Delaney Teachnor (N) 12-3, 2. Amelia Smith (N) 12-0, 3. Olson (F) 11-6, 4. Paige Lemieux (W) 10-0, T5. Riley Williams (HSE) 10-0; Alexandra Hamilton (W) 10-0, 8. Olivia Maynard (HSE) 9-6.

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### Baseball

# University wins Pioneer Conference Championship, Tigers take down Bulldogs, GC wins over Lafayette Jeff

#### The REPORTER

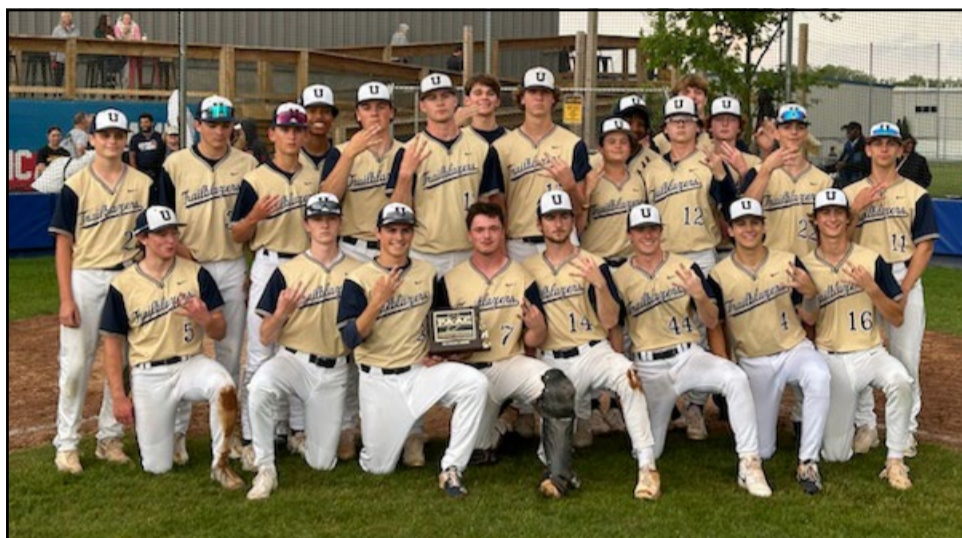
The University baseball team made it through the rain and past Class 2A No. 5 Park Tudor to win the Pioneer Conference championship.

The game began on Tuesday at Grand Park but was interrupted due to rain, so it resumed Wednesday at RoundTripper Academy. So, the Trailblazers finished the game on their home field, winning 7-5.

The Panthers scored one run in both the second and third innings. University took the lead in the bottom of the third. Jasper Owens led off the inning with a walk, moved to third base on Ryan Casterter's left field double, then scored on a wild pitch. Casterter later tied the game by scoring on another wild pitch, then Griffin Wright got home on Jimmy Caldwell's RBI groundout, and the Blazers led 3-2.

Park Tudor scored twice in the top of the fourth to regain the lead at 4-3. But University took it back in the bottom of the fourth, putting up four runs for a 7-4 advantage. Casterter tied the game with a left field hit to bring in Charlie Ranek. Mark Hamby got home on Owens' RBI groundout, then Cooper Burnett smacked a two-run single to bring in Casterter and Wright. The Panthers scored a run in the sixth inning but would get no closer.

Casterter was perfect at



**The University baseball team won the rain-delayed Pioneer Conference championship game on Wednesday, beating Park Tudor 7-5 at RoundTripper Academy.**

the plate, going 4-for-4 including two doubles. Beckett Suh pitched five innings for the win, striking out six.

University is 12-10-1 and plays at 4A No. 1 Center Grove at 6 p.m. tonight.

\*\*\*

Fishers beat Brownsburg 1-0 in a Hoosier Crossroads Conference game Wednesday at the 4A No. 7 Tigers' field.

Fishers had to wait until the seventh inning to get the run. Jase Ruggles led off with a single, then moved to second base on Caulin Brown's bunt. Owen Lukac came in to run for Ruggles, and after the Tigers absorbed two outs, Lukac scored after Huston Dunn reached on error.

Caulin Brown had two hits. Jack Brown pitched a complete game, striking out eight and allowing just

three hits.

Fishers is 10-3 in HCC play and 20-8 overall. The Tigers play at Brownsburg tonight to complete conference and regular season play.

\*\*\*

Guerin Catholic won a Wednesday game 6-5 in eight innings at Lafayette Jefferson.

The 3A No. 3 Golden Eagles scored their first run in the second inning; AJ Nunley got home on Cuinn Morrow's sacrifice fly. The Bronchos scored two in the third inning, but the Golden Eagles took the lead right back in the fourth. Karson Smith singled in Aiden Ochall and Nunley, who hit a double.

Lafayette Jeff put up three runs in the fifth inning to take a 5-3 lead. Guerin Catholic tied the game

in the seventh inning, as Dorsey doubled Ian Taylor home, then Wagner's left field hit brought in Dorsey. Morrow got the winning RBI in the eighth inning, with a groundout to score Nunley.

Smith was 3-for-3 at the plate, with Nunley getting two hits. Tate Troxell pitched all eight innings, tossing 12 strikeouts.

On Monday, the Golden Eagles fell to Roncalli 15-3 in a five-inning game. Guerin Catholic scored all three runs in the first inning: Taylor got home when Troxell drew a bases-loaded walk, then Dorsey and Wagner scored on Smith's RBI fielder's choice. Dorsey and Wagner both had one hit.

The Golden Eagles are 19-5 and host Greenwood Christian Academy tonight.

### Girls Tennis

## Today's sectional finals: Carmel vs. Zionsville, Westfield vs. Heights, Fishers vs. Southeastern

#### The REPORTER

Hamilton County's girls tennis teams all played in sectional semifinals throughout central Indiana on Wednesday.

At Carmel, the three-time defending state champion and No. 7-ranked Greyhounds advance to their own championship with a 4-1 win over University at the Todd Witsken Tennis Center. Carmel will play No. 11 Zionsville, a semifinal winner over No. 17 Guerin Catholic, in today's championship meet at 5:15 p.m.

The Trailblazers' Laurel Buttrick won at No. 1 singles, so she will advance to the individual tournament.

Guerin Catholic's Anna Kolb and Katie Kolb were victorious at No. 1 doubles, so they move on to the individual tournament as well.

\*\*\*

Over at Noblesville, No. 16 Westfield beat the No. 9 Millers 3-2 to reach the championship match. The Shamrocks got wins from

No. 1 singles Isabella Norris, No. 2 singles Juliette Grilloit and No. 2 doubles Brianna Saylor and Carlie Lukowiak.

Noblesville's Lina Hamashuk and Cami Crist were winners at No. 1 doubles, advancing to the individual tournament. Josie Flinchum got a win at No. 3 singles.

Westfield plays Hamilton Heights in today's championship at 4:30 p.m. The Huskies beat Lapel 3-2, with No. 2 singles Natalie Garcia, No. 3 singles Aurelia Lanzerotti and No. 1 doubles Taylor Harley and Taylor Morrison all getting victories.

\*\*\*

At Anderson, No. 2 Fishers beat the host Indians 5-0, while No. 22 Hamilton Southeastern beat Pendleton Heights 5-0, advancing both teams to the sectional championship.

The Tigers and the Royals will play each other today at 4:30 p.m. for the sectional title.

### Softball

## Millers fall to Brownsburg, play Zionsville tonight in final regular-season game

#### The REPORTER

The Noblesville softball team fell to Brownsburg 2-1 Wednesday in an away Hoosier Crossroads Conference game.

The Millers scored their run in the fifth inning when Chloe Vetter bunted Macie Duvall home. The Bulldogs tied the game in the sixth inning, then scored

with two outs in the seventh inning for the walk off win.

Vetter, Delaney Rundle and Izzy Zapp all had one hit.

Noblesville is 4-2 in HCC play and 14-10 overall. The Millers host Zionsville tonight to complete conference and regular-season play.

# McLaughlin jumps to top on another damp day at Indy

#### Submitted by IMS

Scott McLaughlin led three Team Penske cars in the top four on the speed chart Wednesday after another rain-interrupted day of practice for the 108th Indianapolis 500 presented by Gainbridge at Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

McLaughlin was fastest with a best lap of 229.493 in the No. 3 Pennzoil Team Penske Chevrolet in a session that started five hours, five minutes late due to persistent morning rain and was interrupted three times by sprinkles before heavier rain washed out the last 59 minutes. All 34 drivers in the field still managed to turn 2,084

laps in rapid packs of traffic around the 2.5-mile oval.

"The Pennzoil Chevy 'Yellow Submarine' straight out of the box is pretty good," McLaughlin said. "I was able to use that draft and get that speed. Obviously, the car's got good pace right now. We ran through a lot of items, as much as we can, and I think we've gotten in a really good spot."

McLaughlin's lap was the fastest so far in two limited days of practice, as Scott Dixon led opening day Tuesday at 229.107 in the No. 9 PNC Bank Chip Ganassi Racing Honda in a

See Indy . . . Page 12



Photo courtesy IMS

### SECTIONAL

The Greyhounds won four events, starting with a new sectional record in the 4x800 of 9:15.29. Larkin Taylor, Annabel Pollert, Olivia Cebalo and Kaitlyn Oshimura were the runners in that race. Carmel finished the meet with a close victory in the 4x400 relay; the team of Gabriela Grande Rosas, Sadie Foley, Cebalo and Emily Norris won that race in 3:54.64, just 0.12 seconds ahead of Southeastern's Addison Smith, Lammie, Chloe Senefeld and Camryn McKinney.

Grande Rosas triumphed in the long jump in another close competition; her winning leap was 17 feet, 0.75 inches. Norris won the 200 dash in 25.07 seconds.

Noblesville, the defending state champion, scored 107 points for third place. The Millers also collected four event wins, including

three in the field.

Hannah Alexander again dominated the throwing events, winning the discus in a new sectional record of 161 feet, 10 inches. Alexander also claimed the shot put in 44 feet, 9.75 inches, while Delaney Teachnor led a 1-2 finish for Noblesville in the pole vault. Teachnor's winning vault was 12 feet, 3 inches, with Amelia Smith clearing 12 feet for second place.

Summer Rempe won the 800 run in the closest race of the night. Rempe clocked in at 2:15.66, holding off a fast-charging Ciara Kepner by .02 seconds. Brinkley Cooper placed third in 2:15.76 – one tenth of a second separated first and third places.

All three of those runners are advancing to Tuesday's Lafayette Jefferson regional, along with any other finisher

in the top three in each event. This sectional is also expected to receive several call-backs to the regional as well.

Fishers took fourth place with a strong total of 102 points. The Tigers had two event champions, starting with Maya Taylor. She led a 1-2 finish in the 100 dash, running that race in 12.04 seconds. Mireya Benjamin was second, and she joined Taylor, Zinnia Pineda and Kylee Black to win the 4x100 relay in 48.44 seconds.

Westfield scored 82.5 points. The Shamrocks were led by Lucy Hauser, who claimed both hurdles events. Hauser won the 100 hurdles in 14.94 seconds, then set a new sectional record in the 300 hurdles of 44.56 seconds.

Hamilton Heights' Waverly Woolever won the high jump, clearing 5 feet, 5 inches.

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SPORTS SCHEDULE

Jordin Sparks to perform national anthem at Indianapolis 500

Thursday, May 16

BASEBALL

Greenwood Christian Academy at Guerin Catholic, 5:30 p.m.  
Avon at Westfield, 6 p.m.  
Fishers at Brownsburg, 6 p.m.  
Hamilton Southeastern at Franklin Central, 6 p.m.  
Kokomo at Carmel, 6 p.m.  
University at Center Grove, 6 p.m.  
Zionsville at Noblesville, 6:30 p.m.

GIRLS TENNIS

Sectional 31 at Anderson

Championship: Fishers vs. Hamilton Southeastern, 4:30 p.m.

Sectional 35 at Carmel

Championship: Carmel vs. Zionsville, 5:15 p.m.

Sectional 56 at Noblesville

Championship: Westfield vs. Hamilton Heights, 4:30 p.m.

SOFTBALL

Greenfield-Central at Carmel, 5:30 p.m.  
McCutcheon at Westfield, 5:30 p.m.  
Ben Davis at Hamilton Southeastern, 6 p.m.  
Brownsburg at Fishers, 6 p.m.  
Zionsville at Noblesville, 6 p.m.

TRACK AND FIELD

Boys sectional, 6 p.m. at Westfield

Friday, May 17

BASEBALL

Franklin Central at Hamilton Southeastern, 6 p.m.  
Franklin Community at University, 6 p.m.  
Peru at Carmel, 6 p.m.  
Westfield at Avon, 6:30 p.m.

GOLF

Hamilton County meet, 3 p.m. at Pebble Brook

SOFTBALL

Guerin Catholic at Soccina, 5:30 p.m.  
Fishers at Pendleton Heights, 6 p.m.  
Hamilton Southeastern at Yorktown, 6 p.m.

Saturday, May 18

BASEBALL

Carmel Greyhound Invitational - games at 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.  
Hamilton Heights at Frankfort doubleheader, 10 a.m.  
Batesville at Westfield, 1 p.m.  
Noblesville at Lafayette Jefferson, 2 p.m.

GOLF

Westfield at Rock Hollow Invitational, 8 a.m.  
Hamilton Heights, Westfield at West Lafayette Invitational, 9 a.m. at Purdue Ackerman-Allen

Carmel, Fishers, Guerin Catholic, Hamilton Southeastern, Noblesville, Westfield at Muncie Central Invitational, 10 a.m. at The Players Club

SOFTBALL

Circle City Conference tournament, 10 a.m. at Roncalli

UNIFIED TRACK SECTIONALS

Carmel, Hamilton Heights, Westfield at West Lafayette, 11 a.m.  
Fishers, Hamilton Southeastern at Noblesville, 1 p.m.

Monday, May 20

BASEBALL

Carmel at Mount Vernon, 6 p.m.  
University at Hamilton Southeastern, 6 p.m.

SOFTBALL

Sectional 8 at Carmel

Carmel vs. Fishers, 5:30 p.m.

Westfield vs. Hamilton Southeastern, 7:30 p.m.

Sectional 27 at Bishop Chatard

Bishop Chatard vs. Shortridge, 5:30 p.m.

Sectional 43 at Cascade

Cardinal Ritter vs. Riverside, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, May 21

GOLF

Carmel vs. Zionsville, 3:30 p.m. at Prairie View  
Hamilton Heights vs. University, 4:30 p.m. at Bear Slide  
Guerin Catholic, Hamilton Southeastern, Westfield at South Knox Invitational, 8 a.m. at Cypress Hills

SOFTBALL

Sectional 8 at Carmel

Noblesville vs. Game 1 winner, 5:30 p.m.  
Zionsville vs. Game 2 winner, 7:30 p.m.

Sectional 27 at Bishop Chatard

Hamilton Heights vs. Brebeuf Jesuit, 6 p.m.

Sectional 43 at Cascade

Cascade vs. Sheridan, 5:30 p.m.  
Covenant Christian vs. Monday winner, 7 p.m.

Please email schedule changes or corrections to [sports@readthereporter.com](mailto:sports@readthereporter.com).

Grammy-nominated, multi-platinum artist joins must-watch pre-race show on NBC

**Submitted by IMS**

Jordin Sparks, a Grammy-nominated and multi-platinum singer-songwriter and actress, will perform the national anthem before the start of the 108th Running of the Indianapolis 500 presented by Gainbridge on Sunday, May 26 at Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

“We know that Jordin’s voice and performance will deliver an emotional and stirring rendition of the national anthem as part of pre-race ceremonies for the Indy 500,” IMS President J. Douglas Boles said. “The national anthem moment pays honor to the country we love, sets the stage for the hair-raising U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds flyover and gets us one step closer to those final, dramatic and electric moments leading up to the start of the Indianapolis 500.”

Sparks gained worldwide attention as the winner of season six of *American Idol*, one of the show’s highest-rated seasons. Cumulatively, Sparks’ popular singles have sold more than 10 million digital tracks in the United States. She last thrilled fans by performing the national anthem at IMS ahead of the 2015 edition of



Photo courtesy IMS

“The Greatest Spectacle in Racing.”

Sparks has earned two BET Awards, one American Music Award and one People’s Choice Award, and she has been nominated for a *Billboard* Award, a Dove Award, two MTV Awards and two Grammys. She made her Broadway debut starring in Lin-Manuel Miranda’s Broadway smash, *In the Heights*, and made her film debut playing the lead role in the SONY Pictures film *Sparkle*, opposite the legendary Whitney Houston.

Sparks’ positive body image, message and success have impacted people worldwide. She considers philanthropy an integral part of her life and was recently profiled by CNN Heroes and Dress for Success for her charity work.

Sparks has since returned to the Broadway stage to critical acclaim as the lead in the Tony Award-winning *Waitress* with music by Sara Bareilles, and executive-produced and starred in Hallmark’s *A Christmas Treasure*. She is a sought-after successful social media influencer due to her impressive social media following and has successfully transitioned into network broadcasting hosting/co-hosting on some of television’s most iconic programs, such as NBC’s *TO-DAY*, ABC’s *Good Morning America*, ABC’s *The View*, CBS’ *The Talk*, PBS’ *Great Performances* (with John Lithgow) and others. She holds the position of governor of the LA Chapter of the Recording Academy (GRAMMYS).

Last year, she received a Dove, *Billboard*, and Grammy nomination for her No. 1 single with "For King & Country," "Love Me Like I Am." Her latest single, "Call My Name," debuted at No. 29 on the Adult R&B Air-play hit list.

NBC’s live coverage of the Indianapolis 500 presented by Gainbridge starts at 11 a.m. Sunday, May 26.

Visit [ims.com](https://www.ims.com) to purchase tickets for the 108th Indianapolis 500 presented by Gainbridge on Sunday, May 26 and for more information on the complete Month of May schedule at IMS.

INDY

session that ended after just 23 minutes due to heavy rain.

Two-time NTT INDYCAR SERIES champion Will Power helped Team Penske take the top two spots Wednesday on the speed chart. 2018 Indianapolis 500 winner Power ended up second at 228.767 in the No. 12 Verizon Business Team Penske Chevrolet.

Colton Herta was third at 227.858 in the No. 26 Gainbridge Honda of Andretti Global, followed by reigning Indianapolis 500 winner and two-time NTT INDYCAR SERIES champion Josef Newgarden in fourth at 227.675 in the No. 2 Shell Powering Progress Team Penske Chevrolet.

2016 “500” winner Alexander Rossi rounded out the top five at 227.484 in the No. 7 Arrow McLaren Chevrolet.

Rossi’s Month of May teammate Kyle Larson also attracted attention, as he was the fastest of seven rookies on the track while

continuing his preparations to attempt the “double” of competing in the Indianapolis 500 and the NASCAR Cup Series Coca-Cola 600 at Charlotte Motor Speedway on Sunday, May 26. 2021 NASCAR Cup Series champion Larson was 15th at 225.245 in the No. 17 Hendrickcars.com Arrow McLaren Chevrolet.

“It’s a little bit frustrating,” Larson said of the weather delays today and Tuesday. “But it is what it is. There’s plenty of track time.

from Page 11

I’m trying to remember that.

“I’m glad to have gotten out there and got running. I’m still trying to figure a lot out and work through the car balance, timing of runs and all that. Just trying to play around with things and make runs and pass people.”

Practice is scheduled to resume from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday. PPG Presents Armed Forces Qualifying is this Saturday and Sunday, with Race Day on Sunday, May 26.

Today at the Indy Motor Speedway

Information about 108th Indianapolis 500 presented by Gainbridge practice track activity Thursday, May 16 at Indianapolis Motor Speedway:

SCHEDULE (All times local)

10 a.m.-6 p.m.: Public gates open

10 a.m.-6 p.m.: NTT INDYCAR SERIES Practice (All cars)

TICKETS: General Admission tickets are \$25. Children 15 and under are admitted free with a paying adult. The General Admission ticket will provide the opportunity to move between the IMS infield viewing mounds and first-come, first-served access to selected grandstands to view racing action from different vantage points.

PUBLIC GATES OPEN (10 a.m.-6 p.m.): Gate 1, Gate 2, Gate 4, Gate 6S, Gate 7S, Gate 7, Gate 10, Gate 10A.

PARKING: Free public parking is available in Turn 3 and Lot 7 (North 40). ADA accessible parking is available in the following lots: West Museum Lot, Flag Lot, Tower Terrace Lot and Lot 7 (North 40).

CASHLESS OPERATIONS: The Indianapolis Motor Speedway is a cashless facility. Please be prepared to complete your ticket, credentials, parking, concession and merchandise purchases with ease during your event via debit or credit card.

Tap-to-pay phone payments will be accepted, as will credit and debit transactions. Cash-to-Card machines, which convert paper money onto a temporary debit card, will be located in Pagoda Plaza and outside Turn 1 by concessions stand 7. These funds can be spent inside the venue, outside the venue, online or anywhere in the world where Mastercard/Visa debit cards are accepted.

MUSEUM: The IMS Museum is closed for a major renovation, reopening in April 2025. To learn more, please visit [imsmuseum.org/renovation](https://www.imsmuseum.org/renovation).

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