

TODAY'S VERSE

Isaiah 54:17 No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD.

Meet Opal



How is this cutie still here!? Opal is an adorable 3 year old female American Bulldog available for adoption from The Animal League of Montgomery County (AWL) since 2/13/24. Opal loves going for walks, jumping for joy in water (or being sprayed with a water hose), and walking around looking cute with her favorite stuffed animal (current favorite, Mr. Lobster)! Opal is spayed, dewormed, and up to date on all of her shots. Opal is looking for her best friend. Could that be you? Come say hi!!

The Paper

OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Montgomery County's oldest locally owned independent newspaper

50¢

CRAWFORDSVILLE, INDIANA

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BTN

By The Numbers, a look at what's in the news . . . by the numbers. These are just numbers, not suggestions that they mean more or less than what they are. We do not suggest that one number is connected to another. These are simply facts with no extraneous details, bias or slanted reporting. To borrow (and perhaps mangle a bit) a quote from legendary fictional detective Joe Friday, it's just the numbers, ma'am!

Ironman Back at Shaver's

8-24-24

This Saturday is when the 11-round summer campaign will make its last stop on a compelling 10-state journey to crown a pair of AMA National Champions with the sport's most distinguished title. Championships will be on the line as American motocross makes its annual visit to the motorsports capital of the Indianapolis area for the 11th running of the Tucker Freight Lines Ironman National Finals from Crawfordsville's Ironman Raceway.



53 PRO MOTOCROSS CHAMPIONSHIP

The number of seasons for the Pro Motocrossers. This year once again the season culminates with the world's most prestigious off-road motorcycle racing series crowning its champion in Indiana. Crawfordsville's Ironman Raceway hosts the summer season finale.

31 The SuperMotocross World Championship is a comprehensive 31-race season that combines the winter AMA Supercross Championship, which takes place on man-made racetracks in major stadiums across the country from January to mid-May, and the summer Pro Motocross Championship.

1972

The centerpiece of the SuperMotocross World Championship Series has provided one-of-a-kind thrills for race fans across the country since 1972, becoming its own unique American pastime as the toughest test in motorsports.

8 a.m.

Here are the times for all the action on Saturday. Fans will be arriving way early.
 8 a.m. Practice & Qualifying
 12:30 p.m. Opening Ceremonies
 1 p.m. First Motos (250 Class & 450 Class)
 3 p.m. Second Motos (250 Class & 450 Class)

\$60

That's the adult price for an adult general admission ticket for Saturday. Kids (ages 6-10) are \$30. A general admission ticket with a pit pass is \$90 and \$60.

Saturday General Admission \$60 Adults / \$30 Kids (Ages 6-10)
 General Admission + Pit Pass \$90 Adults / \$60 Kids (Ages 6-10)
 Weekend Super Ticket \$300 Adults / \$150 Kids (Ages 6-10)



Photos, Images Courtesy: MX Sports Pro Racing, Inc.

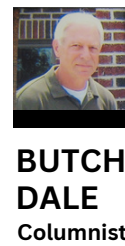
For information about the Pro Motocross Championship, sanctioned by AMA Pro Racing, please visit ProMotocross.com and be sure to follow all of the Pro Motocross social media channels for exclusive content and additional information on the latest news:

- Facebook: @americanmotocross
- Instagram: @promotocross
- Twitter: @ProMotocross
- YouTube: AmericanMotocross

Butch Says: Boy, That Sure Was Dumb!



John "Butch" Dale ready for action in 1952, age 3.



BUTCH DALE Columnist

Have you ever done anything really stupid? How about really, really, REALLY stupid? C'mon, admit it. You know you have.

Believe me, I have. Now I'm not talking about the dumb things I did as a little whippersnapper when I didn't know any better . . . such as cutting a light cord in two with a pair of scissors . . . or shoving a razor blade through my cheek while pretending to shave . . . or loading up Dad's 12 ga shotgun and firing off a round . . . or even drinking from a creek and ending up with typhoid fever . . . all of which I managed to accomplish before the age of 10. No, what I am talking about are stupid things that we have all done when we were older and supposedly had a smidgeon of common sense and should have known better.

I have searched my brain and come up with four really dumb things I have done:

(1)-Age 14 . . . I knew that I should not throw rocks at people (unless of course, they threw rocks at me first). But back in a field one day, I thought it would be fun to throw rocks at my brother Gary . . . not hit him in the face, just ping a few at his legs. A dumb decision. As I laughed and walked away, Gary picked up a rock about the size of a baseball and hit me in the back of the head. Yep, I suffered a large gash and was knocked unconscious. As Dad placed me in the truck, he told me not to move . . . as my brains were leaking out. Funny, Dad, real funny.

(2)-Age 19 . . . When I was first married, I helped my father-in-law on his farm part-time while attending Purdue. One spring afternoon, I drove his tractor to a field to begin plowing. He asked me if I needed help in lowering a spring tooth harrow down (which dragged behind the plow and broke up the clods). It was very heavy, but I told him I could do it myself. Dumb decision. After he left, and as I started to lower it, my sweaty hands

TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

In addition to keeping track of what you eat, also determine how and why you eat to try and find ways to cut back.

Today's health tip was brought to you by Dr. John Roberts. Be sure to catch his column each week in The Paper and online at www.thepaper24-7.com



TODAY'S QUOTE

"We must be free not because we claim freedom, but because we practice it."
 William Faulkner

THREE THINGS You Should Know

- 1** Kokomo is getting a new hotel and conference center. The IEDC and local leaders recently broke ground on the project that is being supported by Indiana's Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative. The \$32.8 million hotel and convention center (including a \$5 million READI 1.0 funding allocation), is a partnership between the Greater Kokomo Alliance and Visitors Bureau, the city of Kokomo, Howard County and Indiana-based SSG Hotels. It is being constructed in the heart of downtown Kokomo and is expected to open in 2026.
- 2** The great Hoosier state recently ranked ninth in the U.S. for people who are unhappiest with their job. Digital marketing agency Hennessey Digital analyzed data from the US Bureau of Labor Statistics to find the rate of workers quitting their jobs per month in each state. Tops on the list was Alaska with Wyoming and Montana rounding out the top three.
- 3** Along the same lines, Indiana also ranked ninth in the U.S. for worst states to work in. Wyoming, Mississippi, South Carolina, Louisiana and West Virginia were the top five. The study was conducted by employment law experts Duddy, Goodwin & Pollard. They studied data based on the percentage of employed individuals represented by unions and the states with the highest work fatality rates in 2022.

TODAY'S JOKE

Did you hear about the idiot who was given two months to live? He asked for August and December because he loves summer, but doesn't want to miss Christmas!

MONTGOMERY MINUTE

The Union Township Board will meet on Thursday at 5:30 p.m. at the Union Township Trustee's Office, 1311 Darlington Ave. in Crawfordsville. The meeting is open to the public.



The Paper appreciates all our customers. Today, we'd like to personally thank CAMELLA ASHMENT for subscribing!

OBITUARY

Errol John McBride

June 10, 1939 - August 14, 2024

Errol John McBride, age 85, of Crawfordsville, passed away on Wednesday, August 14, 2024 at Wellbrooke of Crawfordsville. He was born on June 10, 1939 to John William and Lena Mae (Scherb) McBride at Clinton Hospital.



Errol's father, John, passed away when Errol was three years old, and he was raised by his grandparents, Fred and Nellie McBride in Putnam County. He helped his grandparents on the farm. Growing up, Errol participated in 4-H, showing Tamworth Hogs at the Putnam County Fair. He continued to support 4-H throughout his life.

Errol was a graduate of Bainbrige High School, Class of 1957, and attended college at Purdue University. He married Judy Kay Chavis on March 5, 1960 in Rockville. They met at the Parke County 4-H Fair. Errol worked at RR Donnelley for 22 years as a proofreader, retiring in 1982. After retirement, he turned his part-time job of farming into his full-time career, raising hogs, corn, and soybeans.

Errol belongs to the Waynetown Christian Church. He proudly farmed with his Farmall tractors and enjoyed driving around his property in his Ranger. Errol attended antique tractor shows and had a collection of toy antique tractor replicas. He enjoyed watching college basketball, especially Purdue University and IU, and bird watching.

Errol will be deeply missed by his wife, Judy; children, William (Susan) McBride of Washington, D.C. and Carol (Jeff) Vice of Lafayette; grandson, Curtis Vice; and his sister Carole McBride of Loveland, Colorado.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be given in Errol's name to Montgomery County 4-H Incorporated, 400 Parke Avenue, Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933

Visitation will be at Sanders Funeral Care Waynetown, 202 Bratton Road on Tuesday, August 20, 2024 from 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm. A funeral service will be held for Errol at the funeral home on Wednesday, August 21, 2024 at 10:00 am. Burial will follow at Mt. Moriah Cemetery in Parke County. Share memories and condolences online at www.SandersFuneralCare.com.

FOR THE RECORD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF WAYNETOWN

The Town of Waynetown Town Council would like to cordially invite you to attend a Town Wide Community Public Hearing Meeting to discuss allowing chickens in the Town and Public Comments will be heard.

The Public Hearing will be held at 6:30 p.m., local time, on Wednesday, August 28, 2024, at Waynetown Christian Church, 101 West Walnut Street, Waynetown, IN 47990.

The Town Council will convene and will not be voting on allowing chickens at the Public Hearing. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if any person wishes to attend and needs reasonable accommodations, please contact Town Hall at 765-234-2154 Ext 102 at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the scheduled meeting.

SOUTH MONTGOMERY SCHOOL BOARD EXECUTIVE SESSION NOTICE OF BOARD RETREAT/GOAL SETTING

South Montgomery School Board
 Central Office Board Room
 Wednesday, August 21, 2024

The South Montgomery Board of Education will meet in a Board Retreat/Goal Setting meeting from 3:00 - 9:00 p.m. in the Central Office Board Room, located at 6401 S. US Highway 231, Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933 on Wednesday, August 21, 2024.

AGENDA

The purpose of the Board Retreat/Goal Setting meeting is to train board members with an outside consultant on goals and brainstorm areas for strength and improvements for South Montgomery Community School Corporation.

For The Record is a public service and regular feature in The Paper of Montgomery County. It is designed to tell you what is scheduled to happen and what actually does happen in meetings paid for with your tax dollars. The Paper encourages all citizens to take an active role in being involved in local government.

Local 4-H'er Earns Blue Ribbon at Indiana State Fair



Photo Provided

Liam Bernhardt, 10, poses with his 4-H photo board project at the Indiana State Fair. The board titled "Montgomery County: Apple of My Eye" featured ten photos of an apple in front of local landmarks including the Rotary Jail Museum, Speed Cabin and Sugar Creek. Bernhardt earned a Champion ribbon for the project at the Montgomery County fair in July.

Wabash Announces Spring 2024 Dean's List

Wabash College has announced that 12 Montgomery County students are on the Dean's List for the spring 2024 semester.

They are:

Owen Bennett
 Drake Hayes
 Trevor McKinney
 Landon Timmons
 Brady Largent

Jonathon Young
 Aidan Mason
 Gerald Hutson
 Gabrien Smith
 Noah Barnhart
 Oscar Jacome Huesca
 Jack Pendleton
 Brecken Hardy

These students maintained a 3.5 grade point average or better on a 4.0-point scale.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Montgomery County Board of Zoning Appeals Notice of Public Hearing to Consider Variance to the Montgomery County Zoning Ordinance

Notice is hereby given the Montgomery County Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, AUGUST 28, 2024 at 10:00 am to consider a Variance, of Use standards, from the Montgomery County Zoning Ordinance. The meeting will be held in the Montgomery County Government Center Community Room, 1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933.

The proposed Variance (ZV2405), to the use standard, in 2.10 of the Montgomery County Zoning Ordinance Chapter 159 of Montgomery County Code. The request is for variance of use on a Agricultural property. The petitioner requests Commercial Use on property.

Parcel: 54-13-26-500-001.006-003

Citizens appearing at the public hearing will have an opportunity to provide comments concerning the proposed variance. All interested citizens are encouraged to attend. The Board of Zoning Appeals may continue the hearing from time to time as may be found necessary. Citizens may file written comments or objections with Marc Bonwell, 1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933 (marc.bonwell@montgomerycounty.in.gov) prior to the public hearing. All such written objections will be considered by the Board of Zoning Appeals. A copy of the proposed Variance is on file and may be examined at the Montgomery County Building and Zoning Department office at 1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933 (765-364-6490), office hours are 8:00-4:30 weekdays except holidays.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if anyone intending to attend the public hearing needs reasonable accommodation, please contact the Montgomery County Commissioners Office, 1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, IN 47933, 765-361-2623

This notice dated August 13, 2024

Marc Bonwell,
 Building/Zoning Administrator
 Montgomery County, IN

PL4954 8/19 It hspaxlp

Montgomery County Board of Zoning Appeals Notice of Public Hearing to Consider Variance to the Montgomery County Zoning Ordinance

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The proposed Variance (ZV2406), to the use standard, in 2.10 of the Montgomery County Zoning Ordinance Chapter 159 of Montgomery County Code. The request is for variance of use on a Agricultural property. The petitioner requests Commercial Use of accessory buildings on property.

Parcel: 54-09-25-700-003.000-032

Citizens appearing at the public hearing will have an opportunity to provide comments concerning the proposed variance. All interested citizens are encouraged to attend. The Board of Zoning Appeals may continue the hearing from time to time as may be found necessary. Citizens may file written comments or objections with Marc Bonwell, 1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933 (marc.bonwell@montgomerycounty.in.gov) prior to the public hearing. All such written objections will be considered by the Board of Zoning Appeals. A copy of the proposed Variance is on file and may be examined at the Montgomery County Building and Zoning Department office at 1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933 (765-364-6490), office hours are 8:00-4:30 weekdays except holidays.

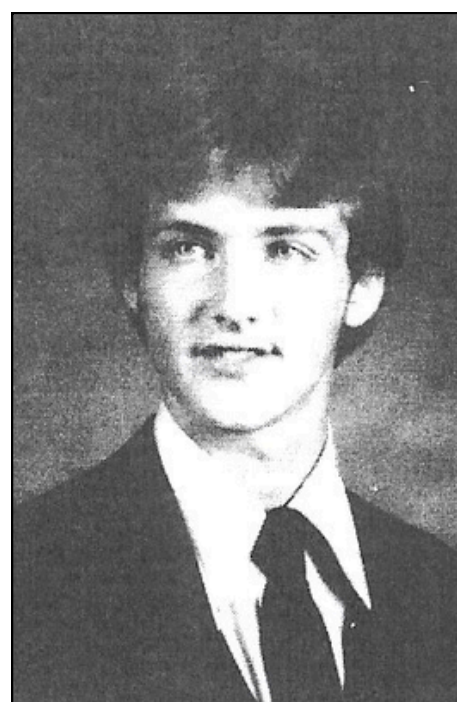
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This notice dated August 13, 2024

Marc Bonwell,
 Building/Zoning Administrator
 Montgomery County, IN

PL4955 8/19 It hspaxlp

Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia



Do You Recognize This Person?

HINT:

This 1980 North Montgomery grad helped in the search for Amelia Earhart's plane.

Answer on Page A3



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The Paper

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Making Stone Soup



CARRIE CLASSON
The Postscript

One of my favorite stories as a child was “Stone Soup.”

I don’t know if you know it or not. It’s an old European folktale, and there are a lot of variations, but in most of them two soldiers come into a town during a war. They ask for food, and everyone tells them they have nothing to eat. So the soldiers build a fire, and they ask an old woman if they can borrow a pot because they are going to make stone soup.

“Soup from a stone?” the old woman asks.

“Yes,” they say. “We are going to make stone soup!”

So the old woman loans them a pot, and they fill it with water, and they start cooking a stone.

“Soup from a stone!” the old woman exclaims. “Imagine that!”

Pretty soon, a small crowd gathers. No one had ever heard of making soup from a stone.

“Stone soup is wonderful,” one soldier casually mentions. “But it’s even better with a little onion.”

“Oh! I have an onion,” someone offers, and throws it in the pot.

“Carrots are also nice,” the soldier adds. And, a few minutes later, someone throws some carrots in the pot.

Soon, a little beef is put in, and a few other ingredients are added as the crowd grows. Before long, there is a large pot of soup, and everyone in the village is fed, including the two soldiers. A village where everyone said they had no food eats a meal together—a meal that would not have existed if it were not for a stone.

I told my friend, Wally, this was a favorite story of mine.

“I see men coercing others to get what they couldn’t get themselves!” Wally said. This astonished me.

“But everyone ate!” I told him. “No one even knew they had soup—and they didn’t—without first believing it was possible.”

Wally is not convinced that any good comes from telling a lie. But I never saw it as a lie. Because I believe in stone soup.

A couple of months ago, I went to a beautiful little theater in Mexico, in the town where I spend the winter, and I met with a producer there. Suddenly, I saw the possibility of doing a show in this space. The whole thing was completely real in my imagination before I’d written a word. So I worked on the script and I planned all the costumes and the music and everything needed for the show. The show became as real on the page as it was in my mind.

Yesterday, I learned it wouldn’t be possible to do my show in the theater as planned. I was very disappointed—for about 12 hours. And then I realized I had a pot of stone soup.

The theater and the producer had never made it a show. The show was made of all the things I’d put into that simmering pot. It was the belief that I could make a show—if I just added enough ideas, if I stirred those ideas long enough, if I kept the fire going.

The soup was never about the stone. The stone was the excuse to make the soup.

I have no idea where this show will be performed, but I am absolutely certain it will be, because this soup is filled with good things, put together in a way I believe people will enjoy.

In the story, after everyone has eaten, the old woman shakes her head. “Soup from a stone,” she says. “Imagine that!”

Imagine that.

*Till next time,
Carrie*

Wolfsie is Sitting Pretty!



DICK WOLFSIE
Funny Bone

What has happened to the art of sitting? People nowadays don’t just sit; they have to

be involved in some activity like emailing, blogging, tweeting, reading, or watching TV.

When I was a kid, people in my neighborhood sat on their front porches. Since this was New York, they were mostly protecting their valuables or waiting for the police to arrive. They were sitting, nonetheless. You do see people sitting in a doctor’s office—but these people are waiting. Big difference.

In some of those old English manors, there were sitting rooms. But if you ever saw a movie or read a book about life in those days, you’d know that people also did a lot of yakking to each other while they were sitting. They would converse about the murder that just occurred in the sewing room or speculate about why the downstairs maid was spending so much time upstairs. In reality, these were talking rooms, not sitting rooms. My wife was addicted to Downton Abbey. A lot of talking in that show...okay, and maybe a few liaisons thrown in.

When you are sitting, you are not wasting time. That is why we need to applaud the historical significance of this leisurely activity. For it is in this repose that the truly lazy people of the world have made their impact. Do you think it was hard-working folks who came up with the idea for the backhoe, the chainsaw and the snow blower? Heavens no. It was the sluggish and the indolent looking for a way to get their work done quickly, so they could just sit for the rest of the day.

Cracker Barrel Restaurant has tried to bring back sitting as an art form. They have this nifty front porch lined with sturdy rocking chairs. But rarely is someone just sitting in one of them. Instead, people are looking at the price tags on the arm or complaining about the 30-minute wait for the meatloaf special. But Cracker Barrel customers

should be the perfect people for sitting. Many of them sport suspenders and have great stories to tell. This is sit waiting to happen.

Fewer and fewer people have front porches, the traditional place for this non-activity. We have a lovely back deck, but I’d like to have a front porch as well, just to sit.

Sitting alone inside your house is actually a little weird. You see, part of the charm of sitting is that you are publicly displaying that you have the time and the inclination to just park your rear end in a chair. Not a bill to pay, a chore to do, or a place to go. You can’t flaunt this in private. If word got out you were in your spare bedroom staring at the walls, the neighbors would call for some form of crisis intervention. But sit on your front step and gaze into space with a slight smirk, and there is immediate neighborhood speculation about an unexpected inheritance, or gossip about you and the new UPS driver.

Sometimes to relax, I just sit in my driveway in an old beach chair and wait for my wife to get home from an errand. When my neighbor Josh sees me, he always grabs a stool from his garage and plants himself next to me. Then he wants to chat endlessly about politics or religion, but lately I’ve mustered up the nerve to tell Josh I’d rather be alone.

Some people just don’t sit well with me.

– Dick Wolfsie spent his career sharing his humor, stories and video essays on television, radio and in newspapers. His columns appear weekly in *The Paper of Montgomery County*. E-mail Dick at Wolfsie@aol.com.

Hello, all

JOIN ME AND MY WIFE, MARY ELLEN, ON AN UNFORGETTABLE ONE-WEEK ADVENTURE TO ICELAND BEGINNING MARCH 24, 2025

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Email me: Wolfsie@aol.com

↓ BUTCH

From Page A1

lost their grip, and the harrow dropped. I felt something. I looked down, and a 3/8th-inch diameter steel rod had gone THROUGH my foot. Not good. When I lifted it up, blood shot up like an oil well. After experiencing extreme pain, a loss of a lot of blood and a trip to Culver Hospital, I was laid up for almost a month while it healed.

(3)-Age 37 . . . While trying to arrest a drugged-up psycho who had tried to burn down his mother’s house, I chased him into a field. When he stopped and then came at me with a butcher knife, I drew my revolver, and he took off running back toward the house. I heard a dog barking as I ran after the fellow, but didn’t put two and two together. I should have stopped right then and there, but I didn’t. Dumb decision. The psycho then sicced the dog . . . a pit bull . . . on me. It bit my leg, clamped down and shook my leg like an old rag, ripping my pants to shreds. I had a large bruise on my leg for over a month.

(4)-Age 50 . . . While teaching at Clinton Prairie high school, a student dared me to try pole vaulting during PE class. "Sure, I can still do it!" Well, I did it and luckily didn’t pull any muscles or

break my neck. That evening, feeling young again, I went out to feed my mother-in-law’s pet donkey. Instead of walking through a gate, I decided to jump over a 3-ft high hog panel. Dumb decision. My hind foot caught the top of the panel, and I landed on concrete . . . my knee striking a broken-off steel fence post. It felt like someone had hit me with a hammer as hard as they could. I am pretty sure that I chipped a bone, but I never went to the doctor. That knee still causes me trouble. It never ends. Last year I decided to remove the tin roof from an old garage. By myself. Dumb decision. I fell off an 8-ft ladder and tore a ligament in my elbow. Well, folks, I could list many, many more incidents of dumb decisions during my lifetime. Regarding the subsequent injuries, in the spirit of John Houseman, the spokesman for Smith Barney . . . "I had injuries the old-fashioned way . . . I EARNED them!"

John “Butch” Dale is a retired teacher and County Sheriff. He has also been the librarian at Darlington the past 35 years, and is a well-known artist and author of local history.

Butch Dale’s Flashback Trivia

**Answer:
Gary Quigg**

FOR SALE

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Wabash.

ASSISTANT VOLLEYBALL COACH

Wabash College invites applications for the position of Assistant Volleyball Coach, tasked with aiding the Head Coach in all aspects of a competitive NCAA Division III volleyball program. Experience playing, coaching, and/or recruiting in intercollegiate volleyball is preferred. A bachelor’s degree is required.

Duties include, but are not limited to: successful recruitment of academically and athletically prepared volleyball student-athletes; the highest commitment to student-athlete health and well-being; and directing skill instruction and development. Adherence to institutional, conference, and NCAA Division III policies and procedures is required.

The position is a part-time stipend appointment, and not eligible for benefits. If interested, please upload a cover letter, resume, and contact information of three professional references by clicking on “apply now” at www.wabash.edu/employment.

Wabash College, a liberal arts college for men, seeks faculty and staff committed to providing quality engagement with students, high levels of academic challenge and support, and meaningful diversity experiences that prepare students for life and leadership in a multicultural global world. We welcome applications from persons of all backgrounds. EOE.

Wabash.

ASSISTANT LACROSSE COACH

Wabash College invites applications for the position of Assistant Lacrosse Coach, tasked with aiding the Head Coach in all aspects of a competitive NCAA Division III lacrosse program. Experience playing, coaching, and/or recruiting in intercollegiate lacrosse is preferred. A bachelor’s degree is required.

Duties include, but are not limited to: successful recruitment of academically and athletically prepared lacrosse student-athletes; the highest commitment to student-athlete health and well-being; and directing skill instruction and development. Adherence to institutional, conference, and NCAA Division III policies and procedures is required.

The position is a part-time stipend appointment, and not eligible for benefits. If interested, please upload a cover letter, resume, and contact information of three professional references by clicking on “apply now” at www.wabash.edu/employment.

Wabash College, a liberal arts college for men, seeks faculty and staff committed to providing quality engagement with students, high levels of academic challenge and support, and meaningful diversity experiences that prepare students for life and leadership in a multicultural global world. We welcome applications from persons of all backgrounds. EOE.

Montgomery County Medicine: Nail Fungus?



JOHN R. ROBERTS, M.D.
Montgomery Medicine

I have removed a lot of toenails in the course of my career. Usually, it's a last ditch effort to

where the nail grows over the end of the toe.

OM can have various appearances. The most common is characterized by a thickened nail that becomes opaque and may even become brownish in color. The nail becomes brittle and a white or yellow substance (keratin) may build up under the nail. Other types may simply present with a milky discoloration of the nail, or just redness around the edge of the nail.

help someone get rid of their toenails that were infected with fungus. The medical term for a fungal infection of the toenails or fingernails is tinea unguium, also known as onychomycosis (OM).

This condition is generally more of a nuisance than a real health threat. However, infected nails can become quite enlarged and painful. Diabetics and people who have poorly functioning immune systems need to be concerned about OM. Infected nails can lead to inflammation of the skin around the nails and entry of skin bacteria that can lead to serious skin and even bone infections in these patients.

Treatment of OM can be very difficult and is most effective if the exact organism can be identified along with determining what antifungal agents will kill it. Most dermatophytes respond to common antifungal medications. Since there is no blood supply within the nail to deliver medication, it can take weeks or months for medications to work as the diseased nail is replaced with treated, healthy nail tissue.

Most people visit their doctors for OM because of disfigured nails. It is the most common nail disorder in adults and affects up to 13 percent of North Americans. It is 30 times more common in adults than children.

Topical treatment of OM usually only works for very mild cases involving less than half the nail. Effectiveness is limited by the medication's ability to penetrate into the nail to kill the fungus. The most commonly used agent is ciclopirox (Penlac®).

OM is caused by two major species of fungi, *Trichophyton rubrum* and *Trichophyton interdigitalis*. These organisms are known as dermatophytes, meaning they live by feeding on hair, skin and nails. These types of fungi account for up to 99 percent of OM.

The oral antifungals terbinafine (Lamisil) and itraconazole (Sporanox) are also very effective. These agents are more popular because of shorter treatment regimens (around 12 weeks), higher cure rates, and fewer side effects. They can occasionally inflame the liver, so it is important to obtain baseline blood tests before treatment and to monitor liver tests every 4-6 weeks throughout treatment.

Yeasts and molds cause the remaining cases. It's often difficult to tell what organism is causing the infection without growing the organism in culture media or doing DNA testing in a lab.

Mycologic cure rates (no evidence of fungal growth on culture) for oral medication varies from 25 to 50 percent depending on the study. Clinical cure rates (normal-appearing nails) may reach 75 percent. Fingernails typically respond to treatment much better than toenails.

OM is a condition that we are seeing with increasing frequency. This is likely due to the large number of dermatophytes that traveled to North America by hitching a ride on people who lived in or visited West Africa and/or Southeast Asia. The fungi thrive in the those warm, moist climates.

The recurrence rate of abnormal nails varies in different studies, but is about 20 percent three years after therapy. Factors that may lead to increased relapse rates include very thick nails, age, trauma, and disease on the outside edges of the nails.

Risk factors for developing OM include a history of fungal infection in the family, increasing age, poor health, trauma to the nail complex, warm moist climate, and participation in fitness activities. Sharing shower facilities is also a risk factor, as is wearing shoes that do not allow adequate air circulation.

If there is marked involvement of the nail, many physicians will also advise surgical removal of the infected nail. This helps speed recovery from the infection while taking oral medication. Following adequate treatment, the nail may take up to a year or so to return to normal.

The fungi can invade the part of the nail under the cuticle (matrix), the skin beneath the nail (nail bed), or the nail itself (nail plate). There are actually up to five types of OM depending on what part of the nail complex is involved.

The most common type of OM starts when fungus from the bottom of the foot invades the underside of the nail at the outside corners

– Dr. John Roberts is a retired member of the Franciscan Physician Network specializing in Family Medicine.

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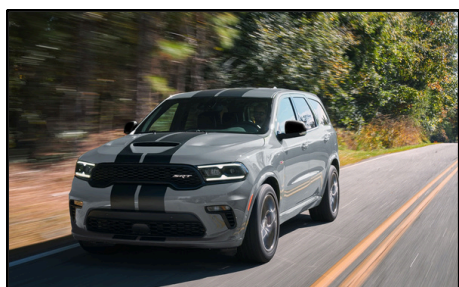
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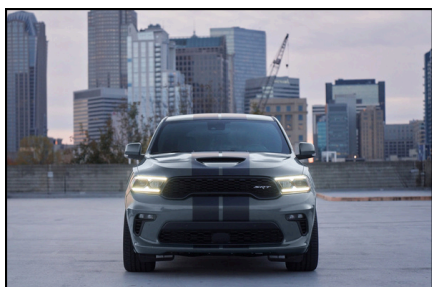
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Announcing Last Call for the 2024 Dodge Durango SRT 392 HEMI!



2024 Dodge Durango



It's been fifteen years since the divorce of Mercedes and Chrysler, but there are living remnants of those nuptials. Buried beneath swaggering muscle car bodies of the Dodge Charger and Challenger is basic architecture from the late-'90s E-Class driven like demons by HEMI engines. They'll be recognized as the best muscle cars of all time.

There's another place you can find German-American engineering: Beneath the Durango three-row crossover that was co-developed with previous-generations of the Mercedes M-Class and Jeep Grand Cherokee. However, you better act fast if you want the 2024 Dodge Durango SRT 392 "Last Call Edition" we have this week.

It definitely has an exuberant personality, what with the black hood graphics, snarling air extractors, yellow pinstripes, and 20" satin black wheels. Check the 392 fender decals and yellow brake calipers too. The Durango's muscular fenders, sleek roofline, and menacing

black mesh grille have aged gracefully, but serve notice to get out of your family's way. You've got places to go – and toot sweet!

The attitude continues inside with yellow piping on the deeply bolstered sueded seats, thick flat-bottom steering wheel, and carbon fiber trim. Sueded headliner, stitched dash, and deeply bolstered front seats foreshadow a hefty window sticker. Given heated and ventilated front seats, heated middle-row captain's chairs, and booming 19-speaker Harman Kardon audio system, it's also quite comfortable. The power sunroof welcomes fresh air.

The dash echoes Chargers with its driver-centric lay-out that harbors a large touchscreen. The gauges feel a bit "last-generation", but it's all clear and intuitive. I'm still a fan of Chrysler's control system that combines a touchscreen with simple icons, voice controls, and redundant knobs/buttons below for key audio and climate functions. Wireless charging eases phone connections. Stay safe with adaptive cruise, automatic emergency

braking, lane keep assist, blind spot warning, and rear cross path detection systems.

This doesn't have the supercharged Hellcat engine, but rather a normally-aspirated 6.4-liter HEMI V8 conjuring 475 horsepower and 470 lb.-ft. of torque. It'll wake your neighbor's spouse with its bellowing SRT exhaust. All the power shifts to the all-wheel-drive system through an 8-speed transmission. Fuel economy is terrible at 13/19-MPG city/highway, but fossil hugging really isn't the vibe.

I've thoroughly enjoyed this Durango and last-generation Grand Cherokee. There's a heavy German road feel that clearly comes from Mercedes DNA, but that raucous HEMI could only rumble from America. Clicking through the drive modes adjusts the suspension firmness, steering heft, and throttle response from wafting comfort to bone-jarring track days. I left it in Auto for the best balance of handling and comfort. Sport is for weekend backroads while Track should only be used, well, on a track.

Only 1,000 units of the

Durango SRT 392 AlchEMI "Last Call" edition will be built before production ceases in July. After that, there will be a short run of Hellcat-powered Durangos for 2025 before production closes altogether in December. We don't yet know if the Durango will join the Grand Cherokee on its new Fiat-derived architecture or roar off down its final two-lane road, but we'll surely miss the family crossover for muscle car enthusiasts.

The price already reflects collector potential. While the base Durango starts at a very reasonable \$39,670, the SRT 392 "Last Call" begs closer to six figures (\$91,785 to be exact). Yikes. No competitors combine German engineering with American power, but the Mercedes-AMG GLE 53, BMW X5 M, and Cadillac Escalade-V are in-fact assembled in the U.S.

2024 Dodge Hornet Offers Affordable Alternative to Durango, Speaks with Own Accent

If you're still recovering from the nearly six-figure price of the Dodge Durango 392, let's travel from Germany to Naples, Italy from where the compact Dodge Hornet crossover hails. Essentially an Alfa Romeo Tonale clone with muscular Dodge styling, it makes a strong case as an affordable performance crossover with a touch of heritage.

Forget HEMIs; the base Hornet GT harbors a

2.0-liter turbocharged four-cylinder engine delivering 268 horsepower and 295 lb.-ft. of torque. Run 0-60 mph in just 5.6 seconds. Or, choose the R/T plug-in hybrid with 32 miles range. An abundant 288 horsepower and 383 lb.-ft. of torque move it 0-60 mph in 6.5 seconds. See, you don't need a HEMI to take the kids to school!. Koni shocks, Brembo brakes, and torque-vectoring AWD ensure the Hornet remembers its Italian roots when roads become fun.

I drove a Hornet GT a year ago and the similar plug-in Alfa this spring. The Hornet cribs Alfa with deeply bolstered black leather sport seats, flat bottom steering wheel, and red stitching throughout. Flatscreen gauges are concise and the slick center screen looks artful. I have no complaints about wireless Apple/Android connectivity, sumptuous Harman Kardon audio, or dual-zone automatic climate control. Safety is enhanced by adaptive cruise, lane-centering steering, and automatic emergency braking. Blind spot warning, rear cross path detection, and surround-view camera come too.

Like the Durango, the Hornet has snarling air extractors on its hood, angry logos on its flanks, and looks menacing with 18" black wheels, but the curvy muscular sheetmetal would look as sexy in Tuscany as Tucson. Prices start at a much more palatable

\$31,400.
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Send comments to Casey at AutoCasey@aol.com; follow him on YouTube @AutoCasey.

- Likes
- Angry styling
 - Luxury interior
 - HEMI V8
- Dislikes
- Older gauges
 - Angry price
 - Being discontinued

2024 Dodge Durango SRT 392

Seven-passenger, AWD SUV

Powertrain: 6.4-liter V8, 8-spd

Output: 475hp/470 lb.-ft.

Suspension f/r: Adap. Ind/Ind

Wheels f/r: 20"/20" alloy

Brakes f/r: disc/disc

Fuel economy city/hwy: 13/19-MPG

Assembly: Detroit, MI

Base/as-tested price: \$43,845/57,450



Dodge Hornet GT



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Readers' Choice Awards 2024

Readers' Choice

Voting is under way in The Paper's ever-popular Readers' Choice promotion! This year, in order to open the ballot boxes to even more people, we are including the ballot in our Print AND Online Editions. And, in the spirit of votes coming out of suitcases after midnight, rigged elections and false claims, we are going back to the future with paper ballots only! No, we're not requiring voter registration or ID – heck, we still encourage everyone to vote early and vote often – but we are setting up the ballot so you can use pencil, pen, magic marker, blood from a turnip . . . whatever you like. Simply mark the box next to the person, place or thing you are voting for and send (or drop off) the ballot to **The Paper of Montgomery County, 127 E. Main. St., Crawfordsville, IN 47933** – or email it to **ttimmons@thepaper24-7.com**. We'll tabulate everything and announce our winners at the end of the promotion! And be sure to watch for RC '24 ads in The Paper!

Accountant <ul style="list-style-type: none">Rod CurranMike GabyH&R BlockEd HensleySteve SelbyOremus AccountingChecks & BalancesGamble & RichardsonLarry McBrideJackson-HewittWorld FinanceFaye HemphillMike Mitchell	<ul style="list-style-type: none">York Chrysler Dodge Jeep RamBrownKenny Vice FordLashley'sGarcia'sChristi Hubler ChevroletJ&J AutoNu Start MotorsRhodes AutosAuto Parts StoreNAPAAutozoneO'Reilly Auto PartsAdvance	Bike Shop <ul style="list-style-type: none">Red Hawk ChoppersLarry's Motorcycles	Computer Repair <ul style="list-style-type: none">Livesay PC & Software InnovationsPhantom PointEdge Information Technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">MaxwellPriceSlavensConnerHamiltonTNTNeedham's Excavating	Hair Salon <ul style="list-style-type: none">Hair CellarBeauty Bar on The BoulevardBlondie'sEssentialsSavvy ChicNogginzGreat ClipsCost CuttersHairportKM StudioFiestaHairloomB. RykerRedheadsStop OneCordal Cuts (Misty)A Head of HairEnglewoodLavender & HopsMerle NormanMichelle Perry StudioCrossersHair HeavenCK & CoBeauty VaultSmartStyle	Investment Broker <ul style="list-style-type: none">Edward Jones – SouthJoe SadowskiEdward Jones (Brad Gonzo)Edward Jones (Tyler Baer)Terry Daniels	Music Store <ul style="list-style-type: none">Music on GrantWabash Revisited	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Barry Mathison, MDJoshua Krumenacker, MDKyle Graper, MDKatie L. Towles, MD,Dan Hessler, MD,AnesthesiaOdell Smith, MDJon M. Hoversland, MD, OB/GYNAtul Chugh, MD	Best Cookie <ul style="list-style-type: none">SubwayMcDonald'sSteak n Shake																													
Alarm Company <ul style="list-style-type: none">Haley's Lock Safe & KeyB&RAlraxm	Auto Repair Shop <ul style="list-style-type: none">Pomp's TiresJared BrockFroedjeJTREtter FordKenny Vice FordSurb'sWilson'sYork Dodge Jeep RamJim RatcliffMcKinney's Auto RepairMiethe's Auto CareMiller's Used TireMorris NealMuffs and TailsATSBlankenshipHarwood'sMike's TireNathan's RepairNicholasPiatt'sPipher'sStevenson'sTarter's	Carpenter <ul style="list-style-type: none">Jim BiddleKeesee & SonsTown & Country HomecenterWoodkeyHard Hats & HammersDonovanIsenbergRatcliffHumphrey's ConstructionAnglinC-ville Property Services	Contractor <ul style="list-style-type: none">BiddleHoss ConstructionInside and Out-Ryan OrrWoodkeyAkers ConstructionHard Hats & Hammers Construction LLCHemphillDC ConstructionDonovanIsenbergRatcliffHumphrey's ConstructionAnglinC-ville Property Services	Factory <ul style="list-style-type: none">NucorRandom HousePace DairyAcuityLSC CommunicationsMidwest Bale TiesCrawford IndustriesCSIInternational Paper	Farm Equipment Dealer <ul style="list-style-type: none">Bane-Weiker EquipmentAHWBooth's	Fast Food Restaurant <ul style="list-style-type: none">Culver'sWendy'sSteak n ShakeBeijingBuffalo Wild WingsSubway (US 231)Subway (WalMart)Subway (Darlington Ave.)McDonald's (North)McDonald's (South)Dairy QueenLong John SilversBurger KingArby's	Hardware Store <ul style="list-style-type: none">Ace HardwareHome DepotTown & CountryLadoga HardwarePalmer'sWaynetown Hardware	Landscape / Lawn Care Provider <ul style="list-style-type: none">Crawfordsville OutdoorDavidson'sHutsonLight's Lawn CareMcKissey Lawn CarePro GreenCowboy MowingRhett WeliverTurner LandscapingVitaGreenEvergreenGreenLawnAX Lawn CareDave JanssenGet Green Lawn Care	Health Club <ul style="list-style-type: none">Crossfit 54Park & RecPowerhousePlanet FitnessElavus CrossFitIron Smith's GymAnytime Fitness	Health Food Store <ul style="list-style-type: none">SunflowerLighthouse Natural LivingOne Step CloserElderberry EverythingHealthie's	Heating / Cooling Company <ul style="list-style-type: none">Hay-Bush MechanicalMyersEdward's Heating & CoolingCox & PritchettCookKnuth Heating and CoolingBryantSummers	Home Builder <ul style="list-style-type: none">Jim BiddleRatcliff HomesChismGary HieslertLivesay ConstructionTK HomesGary EstepKing Builders	Home Health <ul style="list-style-type: none">C-ville DocsCrawfordsville Home Health CareFranciscan Home Care	Hospital / Medical Center <ul style="list-style-type: none">Franciscan Health CrawfordsvilleSt. VincentIU/Arnett HealthWitham	Meat Processor <ul style="list-style-type: none">Four Seasons MarketMoody MeatsMiller Quality MeatsThis Old FarmBack 40 AmishLadoga Frozen Foods	Mexican Restaurant <ul style="list-style-type: none">Little MexicoEl CharroRancho BravoMI CorcelBlue Cactus Tacos & TequilaAki Les Voy Takeria	Mini-Storage <ul style="list-style-type: none">DariliciousCulver'sBig DipperLindy FreezeDairy QueenSteak n ShakeEmporium 109Ice Creams La MichoacanaU-Haul	Mom and Pop Store <ul style="list-style-type: none">Simpler TimesReclaimed by GraceRT InsuranceFarmers / Nick GrimesClare InsuranceDarrin BechtelAllStateAustin EarlNorthwestern Mutual / Jack WyattState Farm / Chad BudreauState Farm / Chris BouwkampState Farm / Jason WagnerFarmers Insurance / Ryan LoveHannamAmerican Family - Patrick BissellTarter Insurance AgencyMichelle HunleyMichoacana Agency / Barry Bruce	Monument Company <ul style="list-style-type: none">Allen MonumentsC-ville MonumentsClements	Moving Company <ul style="list-style-type: none">Superior Moving Red BallU-Haul	Internet Service Provider <ul style="list-style-type: none">MetronetAT&TTDSHughes NetComcast/Xfinity	Museum <ul style="list-style-type: none">General Lew Wallace StateAT&TLane PlaceCarnegie MuseumRotary Jail Museum	Physician <ul style="list-style-type: none">John Roberts, MDScott Douglas, MD	Best Cup of Coffee <ul style="list-style-type: none">Good to Go EspressoJoshua Cup1832 Brew	Nurse Practitioner <ul style="list-style-type: none">Jamie Barton, ANP-BCAimee Barnett, NP-CStephanie Ross, FNP-CJennifer Mertl, FNP-C, MSNCorinna Cain, ANP-BCJill Reisman, PA - C, MSPenny Hunsberger, MS, RN, AGNP	Best Doughnut <ul style="list-style-type: none">Jack's DonutsWarehouse BakeryCasey'sKrogerWalMart	Police Department <ul style="list-style-type: none">Montgomery County Sheriff'sCrawfordsvilleWaynetownBen HurHickory CreekWilliamsburg	Post Office <ul style="list-style-type: none">CrawfordsvilleNew RossWavelandWaynetownLadogaLindenNew Richmond	Preschool <ul style="list-style-type: none">Creation StationLittle Mountie PreschoolNew BeginningsDiscoveryWilson DevelopmentalHand in HandLittle CreationsRainbows and RhymesMontessori	Print Shop <ul style="list-style-type: none">Town & CountryScaggs/Largent Screen PrintingHaywardPhantom NeonN'PrintCoons Trim	Radio Station <ul style="list-style-type: none">WCDC 106.3WIMC 103.9WCVL	Real Estate Agency / Agent <ul style="list-style-type: none">Steve ZacharyCarpenter RealtyGreg MorrisonCall BridgesSarah BroadwaterFC TuckerChad HessDavis-Morrison RealtyFaye HemphillAction RealtyAmerican DreamJulie HessLarry WaltersLeslie PyleHalderman Real EstateClark DeHive RealtyKasey FergusonGina Tollini	Real Estate Agency / Agent <ul style="list-style-type: none">Steve ZacharyCarpenter RealtyGreg MorrisonCall BridgesSarah BroadwaterFC TuckerChad HessDavis-Morrison RealtyFaye HemphillAction RealtyAmerican DreamJulie HessLarry WaltersLeslie PyleHalderman Real EstateClark DeHive RealtyKasey FergusonGina Tollini	Septic & Sewer Services <ul style="list-style-type: none">Dutcher TrrenchingScott Septic & PortablesRoto Rooter	Best French Fries <ul style="list-style-type: none">McDonald'sCulver'sBarefoot BurgerArby'sAlice's RestaurantNeighborhood CafeCreeksideThe Breakfast Co.	Best Milk Shake <ul style="list-style-type: none">DariliciousBig DipperCulver'sDairy QueenSteak n ShakeLindy FreezeEmporium 109	Best Tenderloin <ul style="list-style-type: none">SunocoCulver'sAlice's RestaurantFrancis & MountCreeksideNeighborhood Cafe	Welding - Fabricator <ul style="list-style-type: none">New Market WeldingJarrod Zachary WeldingB & L EngineeringC&F FabricatingSugar Creek FabricatorsPeacefield Wood & Welding

Kenny Thompson Talking Big 10 & Boiler Walkons





KENNY THOMPSON
Columnist

Ranking the best to worst football coaching jobs in the Big 10 (Plus 8)

As the new reality sets in on college sports, especially football, it will become apparent that the worst head coaching jobs in the Big Ten and SEC will still be better than 90 percent of the positions in the ACC, Big 12 and other conferences.

Why? Money.

The Big Ten's television contract will bring an estimated \$100 million to each of the 16 vested schools in 2025. Oregon and Washington will have to wait to receive full shares. SEC schools are receiving a reported \$78 million apiece, with that payout to increase annually over the next decade.

ACC schools are locked into a contract that disperses approximately \$30 million to each school, which has angered Florida State and Clemson enough to make a legal attempt to break the grant of rights to the conference through 2036. Schools in the Big 12 reportedly earn slightly more, nearly \$32 million apiece.

Money hasn't changed everything. There are some schools where it's easier to win than others. Michigan, Ohio State, Penn State and Southern California will always have an easier time than the Purdues, Indianas and Northwesterns.

So keep in mind that my rankings of the best Big Ten coaching jobs doesn't mean that the schools in positions 5 through 18 can't win on a consistent basis. Wisconsin and Iowa were terrible when I was growing up in Lafayette but one (or two) right coaching hires changed the direction of those programs.

1. Michigan – The reigning national

champions are the only NCAA Division I FBS program with 1,000 victories. Having won more than 73 percent of their games (1,004-353-36), the Wolverines hold a 39-game edge on Alabama. Michigan claims 12 national championships and 45 Big Ten titles.

2. Ohio State – Right behind Alabama in all-time victories with 964, the Buckeyes have almost as many Heisman Trophy winners (7) as national championships (8). Ohio State has prospered in a state that produces enough talent to fill several college rosters on an annual basis.

3. Southern California – Even when the Trojans have down years, their records would be cause for celebration elsewhere. Eleven national championships, eight Heisman Trophy winners, 875 all-time victories and 37 conference championships. It may take a while for USC to earn No. 38, though.

4. Penn State – The Nittany Lions job lost some luster from the child sexual abuse scandal that sent longtime assistant Jerry Sandusky to prison and ended Joe Paterno's 46-year tenure as head coach. But the pressure to win like Paterno remains for current coach James Franklin, whose 88-39 record over 11 seasons is mostly viewed as not good enough. Penn State has 930 all-time wins, two national championships under Paterno and four Big Ten titles since joining the league in 1993.

5. Oregon – The "nouveau riche" of the Big Ten thanks to Nike co-founder Phil Knight's constant influx of cash and garishly colored uniforms and basketball court, the Ducks are soaring entering their first Big Ten football season. Since 2000, Oregon has won eight conference titles but is still seeking that elusive national championship.

6. Nebraska – Before moving to the Big Ten in 2011, the Cornhuskers (917 all-time wins) were a force to be reckoned with. From 1962 to 1997, Bob Devaney and Tom Osborne led Nebraska to five national championships and 20 conference championships. The program hasn't won a conference title since 1999 and hasn't recovered fully from the decision to fire Osborne's successor, Frank Solich, even though he won 58 games in six seasons.

7. Washington – For such a successful program (775 all-time wins, a national championship, 18 conference titles), the Huskies have had their ups and downs thanks to poor coaching hires in between successful eras. Losing Kaelin DeBoer to Alabama after last season's march to the national title game was a setback entering a much more competitive Big Ten.

8. Iowa – On Dec. 9, 1978, the fortunes of Hawkeye football changed when Hayden Fry was hired. Under Fry and his successor, Kirk Ferentz, Iowa has amassed five Big Ten titles and 339 victories. The program will almost

certainly reach the 700-victory mark in 2024. Consistently mediocre to poor offenses are stopping the Hawkeyes from taking the next step up the college football ladder.

9. Wisconsin – Since Barry Alvarez came to Madison in 1990, the Badgers have been known for a power running game and a physical defense. That style of play helped Alvarez win three Big Ten titles, three Rose Bowls and compile a 119-72-4 record. Alvarez was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 2010. Successors Bret Bielema (68 wins, 1 Big Ten title) and Paul Chryst (67 wins, 3 West Division titles) fell short of Alvarez's lofty standards. It remains to be seen if the first non-Alvarez protégé, Luke Fickell, can keep Wisconsin in the upper half of the new Big Ten (plus 8).

10. Michigan State – The Spartans' glory years of the 1950s and 1960s are faded memories in East Lansing. Six claimed national championships and three Big Ten titles were achieved during that span. Nick Saban and Mark D'Antonio had their moments (Surprisingly, Saban was 0-3 against Purdue's Joe Tiller and never won a bowl game with the Spartans). Scandal has plagued Michigan State a few times in recent years, most recently Mel Tucker losing his job amid sexual misconduct accusations.

11. UCLA – It'd be easy to say that all you need to know about this job is that Chip Kelly preferred to be Ohio State's offensive coordinator than Bruins head coach. It's not easy to win at a basketball school and even tougher when a national brand is located just a few miles away in the same city. But a good coach can win here. Terry Donahue (1976-95) retired as the winningest coach in school and Pac-10 history. Not one of his five successors lasted more than seven years. The sixth, first-year coach DeShaun Foster, didn't make a good first impression at Big Ten Media Days.

12. Minnesota – The lack of a good in-state recruiting base lowers this ranking. The Gophers have seven national championships but none in my lifetime (I'm 63). Its most recent Big Ten title was a share with Purdue and Indiana in 1967. During the Big Two-Little Eight era of the late 1960s into the 1990s, Minnesota was an afterthought. Even Lou Holtz couldn't win in Minneapolis. Current head coach P.J. Fleck has the school's best winning percentage (.595) since Hall of Famer Bernie Bierman's .716 mark from 1932 to 1950.

13. Illinois – It is a mystery why a state school with such a fertile recruiting base manages to underachieve on a consistent basis. Barely above .500 (632-625-50) all-time, the Fighting Illini have won with great coaching. Bob Zuppke won four national titles and eight Big Ten titles from 1913-41. His successor,

Ray Elliot, went 83-71-11 over the next 18 seasons and won the first Rose Bowl in the longstanding Big Ten-Pacific conferences series. Since 1960, the Fighting Illini have had two coaches forge winning records: Mike White (47-41-3) and John Mackovic (30-16-1).

14. Purdue – One could flip a coin to determine the next three spots in these rankings but we'll give the Boilermakers a slight edge based on being 44 games above .500 compared to the losing records of the schools below. The Boilermakers win when they have the right head coach and a very good to great quarterback. Jack Mollenkopf and Bob Griese/Mike Phipps. Jim Young and Mark Herrmann. Joe Tiller and Drew Brees/Kyle Orton. Competing in the Big Ten (plus 8) will be, to borrow a line from *The Godfather Part II*, "difficult but not impossible."

15. Maryland – A basketball school first and foremost, the Terrapins have showed signs under Mike Locksley that they can become a consistent winner in the Big Ten. Locksley's teams have gone 3-0 in bowl games and have put together three consecutive winning seasons for the first time in school history since Ralph Friedgen's first three seasons in 2001-03.

16. Rutgers – Winners of the first collegiate football game and first national championship in 1869, things have gone downhill since. One conference title in its history (2012). Current head coach Greg Schiano has the most victories at the New Jersey school. The bad news is his record is 86-94.

17. Northwestern – The Wildcats joined Indiana as the only NCAA Division I schools with 700 losses last season even though the Wildcats had a winning season for the first time since the COVID year in 2020. High academic standards not only make it difficult to recruit high school players, but they also limit the transfer portal market. Football is such a low priority in Evanston that the new Ryan Field capacity will be 35,000, down from 47,130.

18. Indiana – The first NCAA Division I program to lose 700 games, the Hoosiers are 206 games below .500. To have a winning record, IU would have to go 13-0 over the next 16 seasons. Adding to the misery is being located in a basketball state whose top football talent is raided by Notre Dame, Ohio State and Michigan on a regular basis.

After NCAA Change, Let's Run Through History of Boiler Walkons

Jim Rowinski and Aidan O'Connell are among the most unexpected Purdue success stories during my 45-year sportswriting career.

Both began their collegiate careers as non-scholarship players, more commonly known as walkons. By the time they departed West Lafayette, Rowinski and O'Connell were not only on scholarship but good enough to play professionally.

There's a distinct possibility the walkon will go the way of the 10-team Big Ten Conference if the House vs. NCAA settlement agreement is approved by the Northern District Court of California.

The settlement sets firm roster limits for every NCAA sanctioned sport and would permit each school to offer scholarships up to that limit. For example, major college football was mandated to allow 85 scholarships but could have another 35 walkons on the roster.

House sets college football's roster limit at 105. The agreement also permits football to offer partial scholarships for the first time, but the days of 120-man rosters are over for now.

Not every school will issue 105 full football scholarships. If there were an extra 20 scholarship players at Purdue, and all from within the state of Indiana, the tuition bill to the athletic department would approach \$200,000 a year.

Men's basketball scholarship limit/roster cap will increase to 15 from 13. Using the Boilermakers' 2024 national runner-up squad as an example, half of their four walkons would not have been on the team had the settlement been in effect a year ago.

Here's a quick breakdown of how the proposed settlement affects the other sports sponsored by the Purdue Athletic Department.

- Women's basketball remains at 15
- Baseball 34 (up from 11.7 scholarships)
- Softball 25 (up from 12)
- Women's volleyball 18 (up from 12)
- Wrestling 30 (up from 9.9)
- Men's cross country 17 (up from 12.6)
- Women's cross country 17 (down from 18)
- Men's golf 9 (up from 4.5)
- Women's golf 9 (up from 6)
- Men's track and field 45 (up from 12.6)
- Women's track and field 45 (up from 18)
- Women's soccer 28 (up from 14)
- Men's swimming/diving 30 (up from 9.9)
- Women's swimming/diving 30 (up from 14)
- Men's tennis 10 (up from 4.5)
- Women's tennis 10 (up from 8)

For those thinking Purdue may have to eliminate sports, it's got a thin cushion to work with since the NCAA mandates a minimum of 16 sponsored sports for FBS schools. The

earliest the new roster limit/scholarships rules would go into effect would be the 2025-26 school year.

Until then, let's celebrate the walkon by looking back at notable non-scholarship football and men's basketball players at Purdue.

Mike Augustyniak – Turned down by Indiana, Ball State, Indiana State and Saint Joseph's College, the fullback from Leo would start for Purdue in the Peach and Bluebonnet bowls. Augustyniak then spent three seasons with the New York Jets.

Rick Brunner – Told he was too small (5-8, 145 pounds) to play high school football, Brunner beat the odds by first walking on, then earning a scholarship from Purdue as one of its best wide receivers of the 1980s. After football, Brunner became a police officer in Boynton Beach, Fla. Suffering from depression, Brunner took his life on Jan. 29, 1994.

Lamar Conard – Questions about his speed led to no major offers for Conard during his senior year at Elkhart Central. Conard walked on at Purdue, where in 1997 he became the first walkon given a scholarship by coach Joe Tiller. Conard became a three-year starter at cornerback and is now back at his alma mater as running backs coach under Ryan Walters.

Nick Hardwick – The future 11-year Pro Bowl center for the San Diego Chargers didn't play football at Lawrence North. But Hardwick's wrestling skills came in handy when, inspired by Drew Brees and the 2000 Boilermakers, he decided to walkon in 2001. By his senior year in 2003, Hardwick developed into a second-team All-Big Ten center and was taken in the third round of the 2004 NFL Draft by the Chargers.

Zander Horvath – Indiana wanted the Mishawaka Marian graduate to play linebacker as a preferred walkon. Purdue offered a chance to remain at running back. To the Hoosiers' regret, Horvath rushed for nearly 1,200 yards at Purdue and played one season for the Los Angeles Chargers after being selected in the seventh round.

Mark Jackson – To get Purdue coaches' attention as a freshman walkon wide receiver from Terre Haute South, Jackson dove for every poorly thrown football even though the Boilermakers were practicing on artificial turf. Trainer Denny Miller gave Jackson the nickname "Turf" from all the burns the receiver accumulated on his knees. As a fifth-year senior in 1985, Jackson caught 43 passes for 732 yards and five touchdowns. The Denver Broncos selected Jackson in the sixth round of the 1986 NFL Draft, and he would play nine seasons with three Super Bowl appearances.

Devin Mockobee – The first act of Ryan Walters as Purdue head coach was to give the running back a scholarship. Mockobee earned that grant by rushing for 968 yards and nine touchdowns as a redshirt freshman. He repaid Walters' faith in 2024 with 807 yards and six touchdowns. This fall, Mockobee will seek to become Purdue's first 1,000-yard rusher since Kory Sheets in 2008.

Seth Morales – There would never have been "Brees to Morales" in 2000 against Ohio State had the fleet wide receiver not decided to take a shot at Big Ten football after a season at Butler. Coach Joe Tiller tried to discourage Morales, who insisted on being given a chance. After watching Morales in practice, Tiller came to the conclusion that "maybe he'll be a better player than we thought he would be." Earning a scholarship before the 2000 season, Morales started every game for the Big Ten champs.

Aidan O'Connell – The quarterback rose from seventh on the depth chart to a two-time second-team All-Big Ten selection who led the Boilermakers to a memorable Music City Bowl win against Tennessee and the 2022 Big Ten West Division title. O'Connell started 10 games for the Las Vegas Raiders in 2023 after being drafted in the fourth round.

Jermaine Ross – Recruited to Purdue on a track scholarship, Ross decided to walk on the football team as a wide receiver for coach Fred Akers in 1990. The Jeffersonville native became a two-year starter who parlayed his breakout senior season (31 receptions, 493 yards, 3 TDs) into a five-year NFL career, mostly with the Rams.

Kevin Sumlin – Told he was too small (6-1, 178) to play linebacker in the Big Ten, Sumlin was driven to prove his skeptics wrong. As a redshirt freshman in 1983, Sumlin led Purdue with 91 tackles. When he graduated, Sumlin's 375 total tackles placed him among the top 10 in school history.

Jacob Thieneman – The eldest of the three Thieneman brothers to play at Purdue, Jacob had to wait two seasons to get on the field after walking on. As a redshirt junior in 2017, Jacob started all 13 games at strong safety. His interception in the final moments ensured a victory against Arizona in the Foster Farms Bowl. A shoulder injury and a staph infection during his senior season opened the door for his brother, Brennan, to receive more playing time. Despite the setbacks, Jacob earned a tryout with the New York Giants.

Brennan Thieneman – Three starts during his sophomore season in 2018 was a prelude to a breakout junior season. Now on scholar-

ship, Brennan started eight games at safety. He started all six games during the abbreviated COVID season in 2020.

Let's give honorable mention to comedian Jim Gaffigan, who after graduating from Chesterton High School walked on in the mid-1980s for one season before transferring to Georgetown to earn a business degree.

While performing at Purdue in 2007, Gaffigan recalled his brief Big Ten football career.

"I have so many fond memories from Purdue," Gaffigan is quoted as saying by Fox Sports. "Most seem to involve walking. I walked onto the football team and walked away after I didn't like getting my head bashed in. I remember walking to some classes that were, for some reason, at 7 a.m., walking to Hardee's at 11:30 at night, finally buying a bike, and then walking after it fell apart after two days. Go Boilers."

Rowinski was one of three notable walkons with the Purdue men's basketball program over the past 40-plus years.

The 6-8, muscular center came to Purdue as a student but answered a call to try out for coach Lee Rose's "Renegade" squad that would serve as a practice opponent for the varsity. Given a scholarship by Gene Keady, Rowinski gained national attention during the 1983-84 season by helping the Boilermakers win an unexpected Big Ten championship.

Rowinski was selected the Big Ten's Most Valuable Player after averaging 15 points and 6.7 rebounds. He was drafted by the Utah Jazz and spent parts of three NBA seasons with Detroit, Philadelphia and Miami.

The Purdue basketball staff had no idea who Willie Deane was when the guard came to West Lafayette from Boston College in 1999 after his father was transferred to Fort Wayne by General Electric.

After making the team as a walkon, Deane had a breakout performance in a 72-69 upset of No. 1 Arizona in the 2000 John Wooden Classic at Indianapolis. He scored 16 points, including the final four that sealed the victory. Deane earned first-team All-Big Ten honors in 2003 and left Purdue ranked 26th on the career scoring list with 1,328 points. Deane played professional basketball overseas until 2018.

Grady Eifert followed in the footsteps of his father, Greg, who was a starting forward for the 1984 Big Ten champions. It took Grady only one season to earn a scholarship, and he eventually started all 36 games for the 2019 Elite Eight squad.

Eifert is now part of former Purdue assistant Micah Shrewsbury's staff at Notre Dame.



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