

TODAY'S VERSE

1 Corinthians 4:5 Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God

Meet Lincoln



Lincoln is an adorable 3 month old male orange tabby domestic shorthair cat available for adoption from The Animal Welfare League of Montgomery County (AWL) since 7/20/24. Wyatt is vocal, snuggly, and loves to play! Lincoln is ready to find his forever home! AWL is open Monday - Friday from 12:15p-5p and Saturday's from 9:30a-3p. Come say hi, snuggle cats, walk dogs, or lend a helping hand!!

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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!

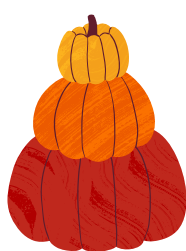
October

Tomorrow, we kick off the spookiest month of the year, October! See you in September? Well, only for a few more hours and then the 10th month of the Year of our Lord 2024 begins. Come on along with us for a stroll through some of the numbers that make up October!

8 The name of the month – October – actually comes from the Latin word octo, which means eight. That's what month it was in the Roman calendar.



2nd The second Monday in October, this year it's 10-14-24, is officially recognized as Columbus Day, marking the landing of Christopher Columbus in the New World (on 10-12-1492).



10-13-24 That's the date Comet C/2023 A3 will pass at its closest spot to good, ol' Mother Earth. Don't fret though, the comet will actually be about 27 million miles away. We should still be able to see it with the naked eye starting around Oct. 11 and continuing until around Oct. 20. By the way, the comet is named that because it was spotted by the Tsuchinshan Chinese Observatory and the Asteroid Terrestrial-impact Last Alert System.



10-22-24 The comet isn't the only thing going on in the October night sky. The peak of the Orionid meteor shower should occur on Oct. 22, remaining pretty active through mid-November. With the right conditions, you should be able to see 10 to 20 meteors per hour. The Orionids are dust from Halley's Comet. Also, on Oct. 28, the Hunter's Moon, also known as the blood moon, will rise above the horizon. And on Oct. 14, there will be a solar eclipse – although viewing in Indiana won't be as spectacular as last time!



180,610

The miles per hour the comet is traveling at. If you have a small telescope by checking the location and then checking it again in 10-15 minutes.

\$12,000,000,000!

Yep, that's 12 billion – with a B! That's about how much we're planning on spending this Halloween. No worries, Christmas is still way higher. We spent around \$220 billion last year!



86 And we wrap up this edition of By The Numbers with how many shopping days you have until Christmas! Remember, you read it here first!

TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

It's critical for kids, especially teens to get plenty of sleep to help with mood, school performance and appetite.

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



THREE THINGS You Should Know

- Approximately 600 Indiana National Guard soldiers with the 38th Infantry Division bid farewell to loved ones during a departure ceremony at Camp Atterbury recently. The troops deployed to the Middle East in support of Operation Spartan Shield. The deployment is slated for about nine months, with the soldiers' mobilization lasting approximately a year.
- As the excitement of summer vacations fades, the reality of back-to-school routines and the onset of cooler weather can leave many people feeling a bit down. So what do we do about it? Well, a recent survey by Mission Connection involving 3,000 respondents, sought to uncover the September events that Hoosiers most look forward to as a way to lift their spirits. The top three events that emerged are an end of summer road trip, fall foliage viewing and attending a harvest festival.
- What are the odds that you'll celebrate your 100th Birthday? The Census Bureau reports that about 101,000 Americans will reach that milestone in 2024 and that the numbers of centenarians in the U.S. will grow steadily in the coming years. More importantly, the National Council on Aging reports that America's seniors "are healthier overall and living independently for longer." Take Helen Denmark in Birmingham, Alabama. She turned 108 years of age recently and says that she stays young by "drinking wine, eating dessert, and flirting with men with mustaches."

TODAY'S QUOTE

"You have to believe in yourself when no one else does."
Serena Williams

TODAY'S JOKE

What happens when winter arrives?
Autumn leaves.

MONTGOMERY MINUTE

The Master Gardener annual Plant Exchange is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 5 from 9 a.m. to noon at the 4-H Fairgrounds in the Exhibit Building. Bring a plant, take a plant, come enjoy talking with other gardeners. If you do not have anything to trade, come anyway and get something new for your garden. For more information check our Facebook page Master Gardeners of Montgomery County (Indiana).



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

Butch Says Those Little "Treasures" Mean a Lot



A few of Butch's "little treasures"



BUTCH DALE Columnist

I would wager that many of you have a little "treasure chest" put safely away in your home...perhaps a jewelry box, a cigar box, a miniature wooden chest, or even a shoebox...where you keep those private keepsakes of your life. Those mementos and souvenirs likely don't mean much to others, and they may have no monetary value, but they mean a lot to you.

I have an old cigar box from the early 1960s where my little treasures are kept. I keep a few others in an old glass cabinet near the den. Sometimes when I show these to others, they are puzzled as to why I kept these items all these years. But I explain that each item evokes a special memory of a person or event...and makes me smile. One of the items is a very worn silver dollar. My Uncle Jim never had any children of his own, so when he visited my family, as he was leaving, and with a big smile on his face, he often passed out dollar bills to each of us five kids. In those days a dollar could buy lots of candy, or in my case, 20 packs of baseball cards. But one time, when I was about 11 years old, Uncle Jim gave me a silver dollar. I never spent it, and have kept it all of these years. That old worn silver dollar reminds me of Uncle Jim.

As a youngster growing up on the farm, I spent hours and hours searching fields for Indian arrowheads. My Dad had found several while tilling the soil, and he had given those to me. But I wanted to find one myself. One afternoon, while I was searching for pretty rocks in a field behind our house, I spied a broken, sparkling crystal geode...and right beside it was a beautiful white arrowhead! I never found another one by myself, but I still have that one!

In the late 1950s, the Darlington basketball coach, Emerson Mutterspaugh, scheduled a Major League baseball player to come to our school for an athletic banquet. Carl Erskine, a

➡ See BUTCH Page A3

Wabash on U.S. News' Best Liberal Arts Colleges List



Pioneer Chapel sits at the heart of the Wabash College campus.



Photos courtesy Wabash College

Wabash College Professor of Economics Joyce Burnette leads an in-class discussion.

Wabash College improved its rankings in multiple categories as it continues to be rated among the best national liberal arts colleges in the 2025 U.S. News & World Report's annual Best Colleges rankings, released Tuesday. Data was collected nearly 1,500 colleges and universities in the report.

"Wabash is always pleased to appear in national rankings, including in the top tier of national liberal arts colleges in this guide," said Wabash College President Scott Feller. "We encourage prospective students and their families to visit our campus and see for themselves the passion we have for educating young men. It's easy to sense that passion when people sit in on classes, meet our professors, attend sports practices, and talk with our students. Wabash is a student-centered institution and everything we do is focused on providing a world-class education for our young men."

Wabash is tied for 55th among national liberal arts colleges, ranking the College in the top-third nationwide. That is an improvement of four spots over the 2024 rankings. Wabash was ranked 29th nationally by U.S. News as a Best Value School, a measure of both academic quality and cost, which was the second-highest value ranking for any school in the Great Lakes

Colleges Association.

Wabash ranked 61st in Undergraduate Teaching Programs, which focuses on schools whose faculty and administrators are committed to teaching undergraduate students in a high-quality manner. College presidents, provosts, and admissions deans who participated in the annual U.S. News peer assessment survey were asked to nominate up to 15 schools in their Best Colleges ranking category that have strength in undergraduate teaching.

Additionally, the College was ranked 63rd on the Top Performers on Social Mobility list, a 19-spot improvement over 2024. U.S. News said that Wabash is "more successful than others at advancing social mobility by enrolling and graduating large proportions of disadvantaged students awarded with Pell Grants."

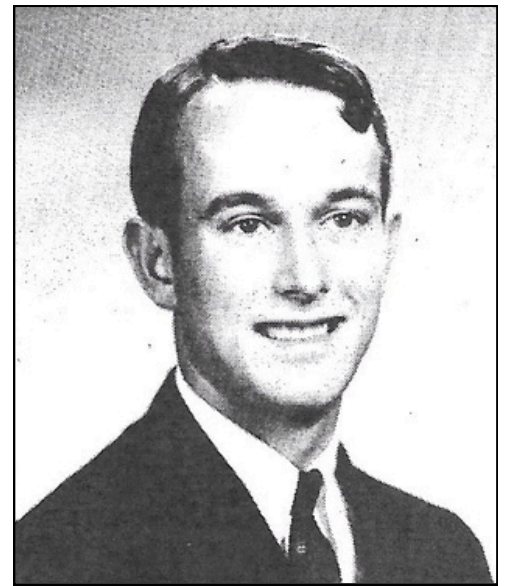
"Outstanding teaching and providing students of all backgrounds the opportunity to improve their economic standing and their lives are traditional pillars of the Wabash experience," said Todd McDorman, Dean of the College and Professor of Rhetoric. "As the U.S. News rankings indicate, Wabash faculty are deeply committed to the education and success of their students.

Likewise, Wabash is a place that provides students many pathways for securing their long-term future. The sort of recognition offered by U.S. News says to prospective students and their families that Wabash is a school that should definitely be on their list of potential college destinations."

The U.S. News rankings are based on a weighted breakdown of the following criteria: peer assessments (20%), graduation rates (16%), graduation rate performance (10%), faculty salaries (8%), financial resources (8%), Pell graduation rates (5.5%), Pell graduation performance (5.5%), first-year retention rates (5%), borrower debt (5%), earning potential vs. a high school diploma (5%), standardized tests (5%), student-faculty ratio (4%), and full-time faculty (3%).

These rankings continue a strong rankings season for Wabash where the school was ranked in 40% of The Princeton Review's 50 rankings lists for 2025, each identifying the top 25 colleges nationally (of the 390 profiled) in those specific categories. The College had 12 top-10 rankings, including No. 2 nationally for internship opportunities, No. 4 for its alumni network, and No. 5 for great financial aid, career services, and great professors.

Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia



Do You Recognize This 1966 New Market Grad?

HINT:
 He was the leading scorer on the Purple Flyers basketball team in both 1965 and 1966.

Answer on Page A3

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Sandwiches BBQ Pulled Pork Chicken Salad on Croissants Turkey Cranberry cream cheese with avocado and bacon Turkey Club Croissants	Comfort Food Million dollar spaghetti bake Jalapeño peach chicken or pork chops Pork loin with blueberry balsamic sauce Pork loin with bacon and apple chutney Chicken and noodles Beef and noodles Sliced pork loin with Tuscan cream sauce or garlic Parmesan cream sauce Lemon garlic or Tuscan salmon Salisbury steak Stuffed chicken breast Chicken pot pie pasta white chicken cheese enchiladas Kfc bowls Lasagna Meatloaf
Sides Italian pasta salad Loaded bacon ranch potato salad Southern potato salad Creamy slaw Assortment of chips	Desserts Gourmet brownies Many flavors of Cheesecake pudding cups Chocolate chip cookie dough stuffed croissants Assortment of cookies Mini Lemon, Brownie, and cinnamon roll bites
Catering Options Fruit boards Fruit and Vegetables trays Meat and Cheese trays Boxed Lunches Charcuterie Board Taco, Pasta, Potato, Salad, and Nacho Bar	

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FIND YOUR READERS' CHOICE BALLOT ON PAGE A6

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Wearing Used Clothes



CARRIE CLASSON
The Postscript

I wear used clothes.

I remember going to clothing stores years ago and buying new clothes. But about the time I stopped wearing business suits and flying in airplanes for work, I started going to used clothing stores. Then I discovered online consignment stores and, since then, I've hardly bought a new item of clothing except socks and shoes and underwear.

I like used clothes.

Of course, I like the prices. I've always been frugal and when I see how much a pair of new jeans cost or a new dress, I am shocked. But buying used clothes also eliminates buyer's regret. If the jeans I bought refuse to stay on my hips, or the color of a top is brighter than I like, or my sister tells me I look like an automatic car wash in the new dress I bought for Christmas (and once you see a thing like that, it's hard to unsee), I can donate the clothes to another used clothing store and let them go on their merry way to the next customer, guilt-free.

My mother tells me she wore almost exclusively hand-me-downs as a child, which is not surprising since she was the ninth of 11 children, and most of them were girls. She remembers when she got what she called her "Joyce coat," which delighted her to no end because, instead of coming from several sisters before her, this coat had been owned by only one person—a neighbor named Joyce—before my mother got it. There is a picture of her standing in front of the farmhouse wearing her Joyce coat, and she looks very pleased.

I was much more spoiled and usually had new clothes as a child. I occasionally got hand-me-downs from a neighbor across the street who was the same age as me but much taller. Lynn was the youngest in her family

and the only girl, so she had a lot of nice clothes that she quickly outgrew. I remember I got a beautiful green dress from Lynn that required about an hour to iron. My mother was grateful when I also outgrew it.

These days, I occasionally wonder where my clothes came from.

It sometimes feels wicked to imagine my clothes living on someone else's body. I imagine there are people who wouldn't like the idea, and that's why they buy new clothes. But I have lived in plenty of houses where other people have lived, so the idea that my clothes have had another life is not troubling.

Still, it would be interesting to know the history of my clothes. They are usually in good shape and a lot of my used dresses still have the tags on and little bags of extra buttons, which I promptly lose. I wonder why a particular dress never worked out. I wonder if it was purchased for some occasion that never materialized. I wonder if that was disappointing. Maybe it was bought to wear when the owner lost 20 pounds that remained stubbornly where they were. I will never know. But at some point, someone decided it would be better to get a few pennies on the dollar than to keep it in their closet, and that is where every dress I own has come from.

"Where have you been?" I want to ask. The dress remains mum. And that's OK.

I imagine my dress had a very dull life, living in someone's closet, never being worn. It makes me want to put that dress on and make sure I have an especially good time while wearing it.

Till next time,
Carrie

And Now Hear This



DICK WOLFSIE
Funny Bone

My wife convinced me to get hearing aids about three years ago. However, I frequently forgot to wear them. I had to keep asking, "What?" After a while, it annoyed my friends and family, so I added a little variety, like, "Say what?" and "Excuse me?" When I returned to New York for a fall visit, I asked, "Are you talking to me?" Mary Ellen kept telling me I wasn't hearing well. I'm not sure she was correct. I think the proper grammar is "You are not hearing good," but I need to check that with my editor, who happens to be my wife, so now the case is closed.

Years ago, I began to realize I needed glasses. This kind of problem is usually more self-evident. You don't need your spouse to point out vision issues. You get a lot of practical feedback walking into a glass door or putting on two different colored socks...or a sneaker and a loafer.

When Mary Ellen realized I was having trouble driving at night and reading a menu, she told me I wasn't good looking, or maybe she said you don't look well. This time, I didn't care about the grammar. I didn't like the sound of either one.

Back to hearing aids. They are relatively easy to use. You put them in your ears, both of them; then you put both of the hearing aids into both of your ears. Then, at night, you take them out of both of your ears. I'm glad I read the directions. I am quite good at inserting them, although sometimes I would put them in the wrong ears, making it more challenging to understand people on my right. Sorry, I don't mean that politically.

I fell asleep the other night in my La-Z-Boy while listening to music in the family room, so I neglected to remove the devices from my ears. I thrash around when I doze, so when I woke up, they had fallen out, lost somewhere in my chair, I assumed. The search began. First, I felt around the insides of the cushion. I did find two pencils, three dimes, and my Costco card. I also found a cluster of dog hair, which is pretty troubling because we haven't had a dog for 10 years.

My wife is usually quite helpful in situations like this. The last time I thought I had misplaced my glasses, she pointed out I was still wearing them, so her question, "Did you check your ears?" seemed quite reasonable.

Mary Ellen then asked me if the hearing aids had a Bluetooth connection that might emit a tiny sound to alert me of their location. How could I hear that if I can't hear the doorbell ringing?

No, they weren't in my ears, lost in the cushion, or on the floor. Because I take prescription sleep meds, I wondered if I could have unknowingly wandered about the house in my sleep, a possible side effect of this drug. I checked the bathroom, the laundry room, and the second bedroom. I finally found them in a very unlikely place. They seemed to work fine...after I defrosted them.

— 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.

↓ BUTCH From Page A1

native of Anderson, was an All Star pitcher for the Brooklyn and Los Angeles Dodgers, and had two no-hitters to his credit. I was thrilled to meet a real Major League pitcher! Like many youngsters, most of my baseball card collection disappeared later on, but I still have my 1959 Topps Carl Erskine card in my cigar box.

In junior high, the science teacher had my class write reports about an animal or bird...our choosing. I decided to write my report about the blue jay since there were a few of those beautiful birds on our farm. I wrote the report and even drew a picture of a blue jay at the top of the first page. As I walked to the end of our lane, while waiting for the schoolbus to arrive, I happened to look down...and there in the grass was a blue jay feather! When I arrived at school, I taped the feather to my report, and when the teacher returned it, I was elated to see "A+ VERY GOOD" written in red ink. Yes, I still have that report and that blue jay feather.

I have several other keepsakes, such as my 10-year pin for perfect Sunday school attendance at the Methodist church, a red and white Darlington High School ball point pen, a little gold medal awarded to me for winning the county pole vault competition my senior year in 1966, various school awards, my report cards, photos, etc. And of course I have my gold badge that I wore when I was county Sheriff, and a sheriff watch that my wife bought for me after I was elected. I wore a necklace and cross under my police uniform shirt, but I gave that to one of my sons to wear when he served in the Army in Iraq...and I wanted

him to keep it.

A few years ago, a classmate of mine who lived in the farmhouse where I grew up, called and said he had found something that I might like to have. That afternoon, he brought to me some pliers. The pair of pliers was rusted and pitted terribly, but I immediately recognized them. It was a wire cutter type that had belonged to my Dad, who had carried it in a leather holder on his belt every day while working on the farm. I wouldn't trade that pair of pliers for anything. When that same house caught fire the next year and had to be demolished, that classmate brought me a piece of wood from the upstairs bedroom where my brother and I slept. Yes, I still have that piece of wood, but I cut a section off and gave it to my brother for his "treasure."

I have many more keepsakes in my "memory collection." I would like for my kids to perhaps keep some after I am gone, but many of the items have no meaning to them. If they are like me, they have their own little mementos and odds and ends to look at now and then, to fondly remember, and cherish.

Everyone owns items that cost quite a bit...from pricey jewelry to electronics to vehicles and more. These are nice, but when we are older the items that we value most are the little things...in that private box in the drawer.

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:

Jim Slavens



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“I Can’t Sleep Doc”



JOHN R. ROBERTS, M.D.
Montgomery
Medicine

Insomnia is a major public health issue in the United States, with one in four adults experiencing insomnia symptoms each year and one in ten suffering from chronic insomnia. The economic impact is substantial, with over \$10 billion spent annually on sleep-related treatments and an estimated \$40 billion lost in worker productivity. Insomnia also has serious implications for physical and mental health. Importantly, insomnia is not a disease but a symptom of an underlying condition, often multifactorial. In this article, I will explore some of the causes of insomnia.

There are three main types of insomnia: transient, short-term, and chronic. Transient insomnia lasts less than a week and is often due to temporary stressors or environmental changes like sleeping in an unfamiliar location or a noisy, bright room. Short-term insomnia can last from one to six months and is usually linked to more persistent stress. Chronic insomnia, lasting more than six months, often stems from underlying medical or psychological conditions, the most common being anxiety and depression.

Short-term and transient insomnia are often related to stress. Whether the stress is work-related, personal, or external, these factors can temporarily disrupt sleep. Environmental issues such as excessive noise, light, or an unfamiliar bed can also make sleep difficult. Chronic insomnia, however, tends to have deeper causes. Anxiety frequently leads to difficulty falling asleep due to racing thoughts and an inability to turn off mental activity. Individuals with a strong desire to multitask or constantly feel unfinished with daily responsibilities are often affected. Depression also plays a major role in chronic insomnia, especially in the form of "terminal insomnia," where individuals wake up early and struggle to get back to sleep.

Physical conditions contribute significantly to insomnia. Chronic pain from conditions like arthritis or Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (ME/CFS) makes restful sleep challenging. Breathing difficulties from conditions like Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) or congestive heart failure cause frequent nighttime awakenings. Additionally, insomnia is now recognized as a symptom of Long COVID, where persistent fatigue and discomfort make quality sleep difficult.

Sleep disorders and neurological conditions further compound sleep issues. Restless Leg Syndrome (RLS) often prevents people from falling or staying asleep due to an irresistible urge to move the legs. Sleep apnea disrupts breathing throughout the night, causing multiple awakenings and leading to poor sleep quality. These repeated interruptions can severely affect a person's health if left untreated.

Substances like caffeine play a significant role in sleep disturbances. Caffeine, found in coffee, soda, and energy drinks, can remain in the system for up to eight hours, preventing people from falling asleep. This is particularly an issue for teens and college students, who may use caffeine to stay awake for schoolwork or social media but then find themselves unable to sleep later. Sleep medications, whether over-the-counter or prescription, can provide short-term relief but pose their own challenges. Many users become dependent on them, requiring higher doses to achieve the same effect. Discontinuing them can lead to rebound insomnia, where sleep problems worsen after stopping medication. For older adults, sleep medications are particularly risky due to side effects that increase the likelihood of falls and serious injuries like fractures or traumatic brain injuries.

Alcohol is often wrongly

believed to help with sleep. While it may induce drowsiness initially, alcohol disrupts the deeper stages of sleep, particularly REM sleep, which is crucial for cognitive function and emotional regulation. Prolonged use of alcohol as a sleep aid can lead to persistent sleep deprivation, contributing to mental health issues such as anxiety and depression.

Shift workers, who work non-traditional hours, face unique sleep challenges. Their disrupted circadian rhythm can make it difficult to sleep during the day or stay awake at night, a condition known as shift work sleep disorder. Similarly, those who habitually stay up late and sleep in can develop sleep phase delay insomnia. Over time, irregular sleep schedules can make it difficult to establish a normal sleep routine.

Insomnia, though often dismissed as a minor issue, has far-reaching consequences for both physical and mental health. Its causes are multifaceted, ranging from psychological conditions like anxiety and depression to physical ailments and lifestyle factors. A comprehensive approach is needed to address insomnia, focusing on identifying and treating the underlying causes rather than merely alleviating the symptom itself. In the next column, I will explore prevention strategies and treatment options for sleep disorders.

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

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READER'S CHOICE 2024

Back in the Day with Butch Dale



This is a photo of Martin Booher hauling in the largest log ever taken to the Darlington sawmill. He loaded it himself, with the help of his two strong and well-trained horses, Jim and Dick. Unfortunately the oak log's weight ruined the spokes of the wagon wheels. This log produced 1600 board feet of lumber!

The Paper OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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Powerful, Sophisticated 2024 Chevy Colorado Z71 Makes You Wonder If You Really Need That Full-Size Pickup After All



1975 Chevy C10



1982 Chevy S10



2024 Chevy Colorado Z71



CASEY WILLIAMS
Auto Reviews

I love my dad, but he sometimes lives in the 1980s. He still believes he needs a full-size pickup to tow my parents' camper and fishing boat. When I was a kid, he drove a 1979 Chevy C10 full-size pickup, with the 167 horsepower 5.7-liter V8. Towing capacity? Around 6,000 lbs. He could be forgiven, though, because the compact S10 of the day moved 2,000 lbs. less. But, Chevy's smallest truck today, the 2024 Colorado Z71, tows up to 7,700 lbs. How may surprise you.

The Colorado Z71 is a hunky lad with its black mask of a grille, squinty LED headlamps and chiseled hood. The crew cab body flaunts its wares with crisp beefy fenders hulking over 18" wheels wearing all-terrain tires. Around

back, check pre-wiring for trailers, hitch receiver and spray-in bedliner. Concealed storage in the tailgate, household-style power plug and tie-down points make activities more convenient. The bed's a little short for commercial work, but large enough to haul mulch or a couple of bicycles.

Interiors crib Chevy's new EVs like the Blazer and Silverado. Big air vents, red stitching, and textured vinyl are suave, but can also be easily wiped down after a day of play. Our Z71 added luxury touches like heated/ventilated front seats, heated leather-wrapped steering wheel and Bose audio. There's no sunroof, but devices connect easily with wireless Apple CarPlay, Android Auto, and a charging pad. Drivers even get an underbody camera for navigating challenging trails.

There are some missing controls, however. There's a volume knob, but none for tuning. One must swipe or tap-tap on the touchscreen. No matter the system, all cars should have two knobs. On my way to get coffee early one morning, I looked for the headlamp switch. The stalk has wipers and brights ala old-school GM, but only the trailer brake controller is on the left dash. Headlamps are automatic, so it makes sense, but manual controls are hidden on the touchscreen! OK, but really?

At least safety will be of little concern as the truck comes with automatic emergency braking, lane keep assist, adaptive cruise, front/rear pedestrian alerts, and rear seat child reminder.

My dad would lose his entire kit over this truck's 2.7-liter

"TurboMax" four-cylinder engine. But, he should just chill as it whips up 310 horsepower and 430 lb.-ft. of torque – sent to the road through an 8-speed automatic transmission and electronic four-wheel-drive. That's a fair bit more than my dad's old Chevy pickup on which I learned to drive and it gets considerably better fuel economy too: 19/23-MPG city/highway.

A key advantage of driving a smaller pickup is maneuverability. The Colorado actually fits in my urban driveway, can squeeze down narrow side streets and is easier to parallel park. The Z71 off-road suspension soaks up potholes in the city and bridge joints on the highway...and absorbs the rough stuff beyond streets. Going slow or fast, the Colorado's turbo-four seemed always to have power in reserve.

I don't suspect I'll ever get my dad to buy a smaller four-cylinder pickup, but the Colorado Z71 is a smart choice for many. It does everything most full-size pickup owners need, but with enhanced efficiency and maneuverability. It's also priced reasonably, starting under \$30,000 and coming to \$47,550 as-tested – about the same as a proper mid-

size crossover. Competitors include the Ford Ranger, Nissan Frontier, Toyota Tacoma, Honda Ridgeline, and similar GMC Canyon.

Storm Forward!

Send comments to Casey at AutoCasey@aol.com; follow him on YouTube @AutoCasey.

Likes

- Turbo-four engine
- Buff styling
- Twin-screen interior

Dislikes

- No tuning knob
- No headlamp switch
- No sunroof

2024 Chevy Colorado Z71

Five-passenger, 4WD Pickup
Powertrain: 2.7-liter T-4, 8-spd
Output: 310hp/430 lb.-ft.
Suspension f/r: Ind/Solid axle
Wheels f/r: 18"/18" alloy
Brakes f/r: disc/disc
Towing capacity: 7,700 lbs.
Fuel economy city/hwy: 19/23-MPG
Assembly: Wentzville, MO
Base/as-tested price: \$29,800/\$47,550

Thank you for reading
The Paper

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READER'S CHOICE 2024

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Vote for your favorite business!

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	<input type="checkbox"/> Rod Curran	<input type="checkbox"/> York Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram	<input type="checkbox"/> Brown	<input type="checkbox"/> Red Hawk Choppers	<input type="checkbox"/> Larry's Motorcycles	Bike Shop	<input type="checkbox"/> Eliza's	<input type="checkbox"/> Wesley Thrift Shop	<input type="checkbox"/> Trader Bucks	<input type="checkbox"/> Just Because	<input type="checkbox"/> Goodwill	<input type="checkbox"/> Marianne's	<input type="checkbox"/> Simpler Times	Car Wash	<input type="checkbox"/> Soft Cloth	<input type="checkbox"/> Laserwash	<input type="checkbox"/> Great Details	<input type="checkbox"/> Morris Neal Detailing	Auto Repair Shop	<input type="checkbox"/> Pomp's Tires	<input type="checkbox"/> Jared Brock	<input type="checkbox"/> Froedige	<input type="checkbox"/> JTR	<input type="checkbox"/> Etter Ford	<input type="checkbox"/> Kenny Vice Ford	<input type="checkbox"/> Surb's	<input type="checkbox"/> Wilson's	<input type="checkbox"/> York Dodge Jeep Ram	<input type="checkbox"/> Jim Neal	<input type="checkbox"/> McKinney's Auto Repair	<input type="checkbox"/> Miethe's Auto Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Miller's Used Tire	<input type="checkbox"/> Morris Neal	<input type="checkbox"/> Muffs and Tails	<input type="checkbox"/> AT&T	<input type="checkbox"/> Blankenship	<input type="checkbox"/> Harwood's	<input type="checkbox"/> Mike's Tire	<input type="checkbox"/> Nathan's Repair	<input type="checkbox"/> Nicholas	<input type="checkbox"/> Platt's	<input type="checkbox"/> Pipher's	<input type="checkbox"/> Stevenson's	<input type="checkbox"/> Tarter's	Carpet Cleaners	<input type="checkbox"/> Service Master	<input type="checkbox"/> Menard's Carpet Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Rainbow International	<input type="checkbox"/> May's Carpet Care	Carpet/Flooring Store	<input type="checkbox"/> Zahn's	<input type="checkbox"/> Home Depot	<input type="checkbox"/> Town & Country	<input type="checkbox"/> Flooring Gallery Plus	Caterer	<input 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Fire Department	<input type="checkbox"/> Waynetown	<input type="checkbox"/> Crawfordville	<input type="checkbox"/> Walnut Twp	<input type="checkbox"/> Waveland	<input type="checkbox"/> Ladoga	<input type="checkbox"/> Madison Twp.	<input type="checkbox"/> Coal Creek	<input type="checkbox"/> New Market	Flower Shop	<input type="checkbox"/> Milligan's	<input type="checkbox"/> Just Because	<input type="checkbox"/> Country Hearts	Funeral Home	<input type="checkbox"/> Burkhardt	<input type="checkbox"/> Family & Friends	<input type="checkbox"/> Hunt & Son	<input type="checkbox"/> Porter	<input type="checkbox"/> Sanders - Shoemaker	<input type="checkbox"/> Machledt	<input type="checkbox"/> Servies-Morgan	Furniture Store	<input type="checkbox"/> Crossroads Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/> Rent-a-Center	<input type="checkbox"/> Walmart	<input type="checkbox"/> American Rental	<input type="checkbox"/> Big Lots	<input type="checkbox"/> Cabbage's and Kings	<input type="checkbox"/> Caldwell's Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/> Stevensen's Mattress	Gas Station	<input type="checkbox"/> F&F Mart	<input type="checkbox"/> Kroger	<input type="checkbox"/> New Ross Mini Mart	<input type="checkbox"/> Sunoco Midwest Clean Fuel	<input type="checkbox"/> Casey's	<input type="checkbox"/> Bal Hinch	<input type="checkbox"/> Circle K	<input type="checkbox"/> County Market	<input type="checkbox"/> Marathon	<input type="checkbox"/> Walmart	<input type="checkbox"/> Sunoco (Linden)	Gas / Propane Company	<input type="checkbox"/> Amerigas	<input type="checkbox"/> Ceres Solutions	<input type="checkbox"/> Vectren	<input type="checkbox"/> Oversepek	<input type="checkbox"/> Skelgas (Ferrel Gas)	<input type="checkbox"/> Newtown Farm Service	Gift Shop	<input type="checkbox"/> Simpler Times	<input type="checkbox"/> In his Time	<input type="checkbox"/> Reclaimed by Grace	<input type="checkbox"/> Milligan's	<input type="checkbox"/> Cracker Barrel	<input type="checkbox"/> Denhart's Mercantile	<input type="checkbox"/> Just Because	<input type="checkbox"/> Harvest Inn	<input type="checkbox"/> Heathcliff	Golf Course	<input type="checkbox"/> Crawfordville Country Club	<input type="checkbox"/> Rocky Ridge	<input type="checkbox"/> Turkey Run	<input type="checkbox"/> Crawfordville Municipal	Grain Elevator	<input type="checkbox"/> New Ross Grain	<input type="checkbox"/> Newtown Farm Service	<input type="checkbox"/> Waynetown Ag Center	<input type="checkbox"/> Cargill	<input type="checkbox"/> Westland Co Op	<input type="checkbox"/> ADM Grain	Grocery Store	<input type="checkbox"/> Kroger	<input type="checkbox"/> F&F Mart	<input type="checkbox"/> Wal Mart	<input type="checkbox"/> Four Seasons	<input type="checkbox"/> Greg's	<input type="checkbox"/> Ladoga Grocery	<input type="checkbox"/> Bal Hinch	<input type="checkbox"/> Jarcho Minimart	<input type="checkbox"/> Dollar General	Excavating Service	<input type="checkbox"/> Busse	<input type="checkbox"/> Arthur	<input type="checkbox"/> Douglas	<input type="checkbox"/> Glenco						
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Wingate Gets Piece of OCRA Grants

Indiana Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch and the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs announced that three communities, including Wingate, would be getting Water Infrastructure Grants.

These allow communities to complete a holistic study of potential issues and opportunities across their drinking,

wastewater and stormwater infrastructure. By completing this planning, communities will be able to make decisions regarding their most urgent water needs while understanding how each system works in context with other utility systems.

Wingate is going to receive \$90,000. In addition to Wingate, Water Infrastructure Planning Grants were

also awarded to the Town of Winamac (\$90,000) and the town of Napoleon (\$60,000). Funding for OCRA's CDBG programs originates from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant program and is administered for the State of Indiana by OCRA. For more information, visit in.gov/ocra/cdbg/.

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Lunch with the League Wednesday

The election is quickly approaching. Every day, the various media outlets talk about this poll, that poll, margin of error. One candidate is reported to be ahead by a certain percentage, yet, the other candidate is also reported to be ahead. And the polling information changes by the day! If you wonder what it all means, join the League of Women Voters at Fusion 54 for a two-part series on elections and polling. The first one is Wednesday and the second is at the end of the month on Oct. 31. Both begin at noon.

On Wednesday, Shamira Gelbman, political science professor at Wabash College and students from her Election Polling course, will present a discussion about how election polls are conducted,

what the margin of error is, how it is applied and what to consider when hearing about the polls in the news and on social media.

Gelbman's students will be conducting exit polling on Election Day, so the Oct. 31 discussion will center around exit polling. She will discuss the polling the students will be conducting and the uses and misuses of exit polling. Gelbman earned her Ph.D. in government at the University of Virginia in 2008 and has been on the Wabash faculty since 2012, teaching a wide range of courses on American politics.

Both events are free and open to the public. Lunch will be provided for this series, courtesy of a grant from the Community-Engaged Alliance.

Popular Chamber Christmas Auction Coming

The chamber is already in the holiday spirit! The Christmas Auction will be on Thursday, Nov. 7, which will take place on the third floor of Fusion 54 in beautiful downtown Crawfordsville. The event begins at 5:30 p.m. There will be a live auction with bid calling by Edwards Auctioneering, a silent auction, live music by Adam Moody from the Durham Home, hors d'oeuvres by The Juniper Spoon and a cash bar.

If you would like to promote your organization on Facebook, the Chamber Informant newsletter and at the event, you can donate items for the auction by dropping them off at the chamber office on the fourth floor of Fusion 54 before Oct. 21.



Photo courtesy Crawfordsville / Montgomery County Chamber

Chamber events always bring people together in the spirit of camaraderie and commerce.

The chamber appreciates the sponsors for the Christmas Auction. The Main Event Sponsor, Campbell Ag Service. The Hors d'oeuvres Sponsors: Tri County Bank & Trust, Nucor, Surb's Tire, Austin Earl from Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance, and The Juniper Spoon; Silent Auction Sponsors; Shop Small Shop Handmade and

Franciscan Health; and the Drink Sponsors; Ken's Liquor Store, Crawfordsville Audiology, The Lane House, The Montgomery County Youth Service Bureau, Wonderfully Simple HR Consulting and Morgan's Glass & Paint.

This event is open to the public. Tickets to attend cost \$20 per

person or \$30 a couple. The event is likely to sell out so don't hesitate to purchase tickets. You can purchase tickets from the calendar on the website: crawfordsvillechamber.com. Questions can be answered by emailing ssommer@crawfordsvillechamber.com or calling (765) 362-6800.

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Lemon garlic or Tuscan salmon
Salisbury steak
Stuffed chicken breast
Chicken pot pie pasta
White chicken cheese enchiladas
Kfc bowls
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Meatloaf

Sandwiches
BBQ Pulled Pork
Chicken Salad on Croissants
Turkey Cranberry cream cheese with avocado and bacon
Turkey Club Croissants

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Loaded bacon ranch potato salad
Southern potato salad
Creamy slaw
Assortment of chips

Catering Options
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Fruit and Vegetables trays
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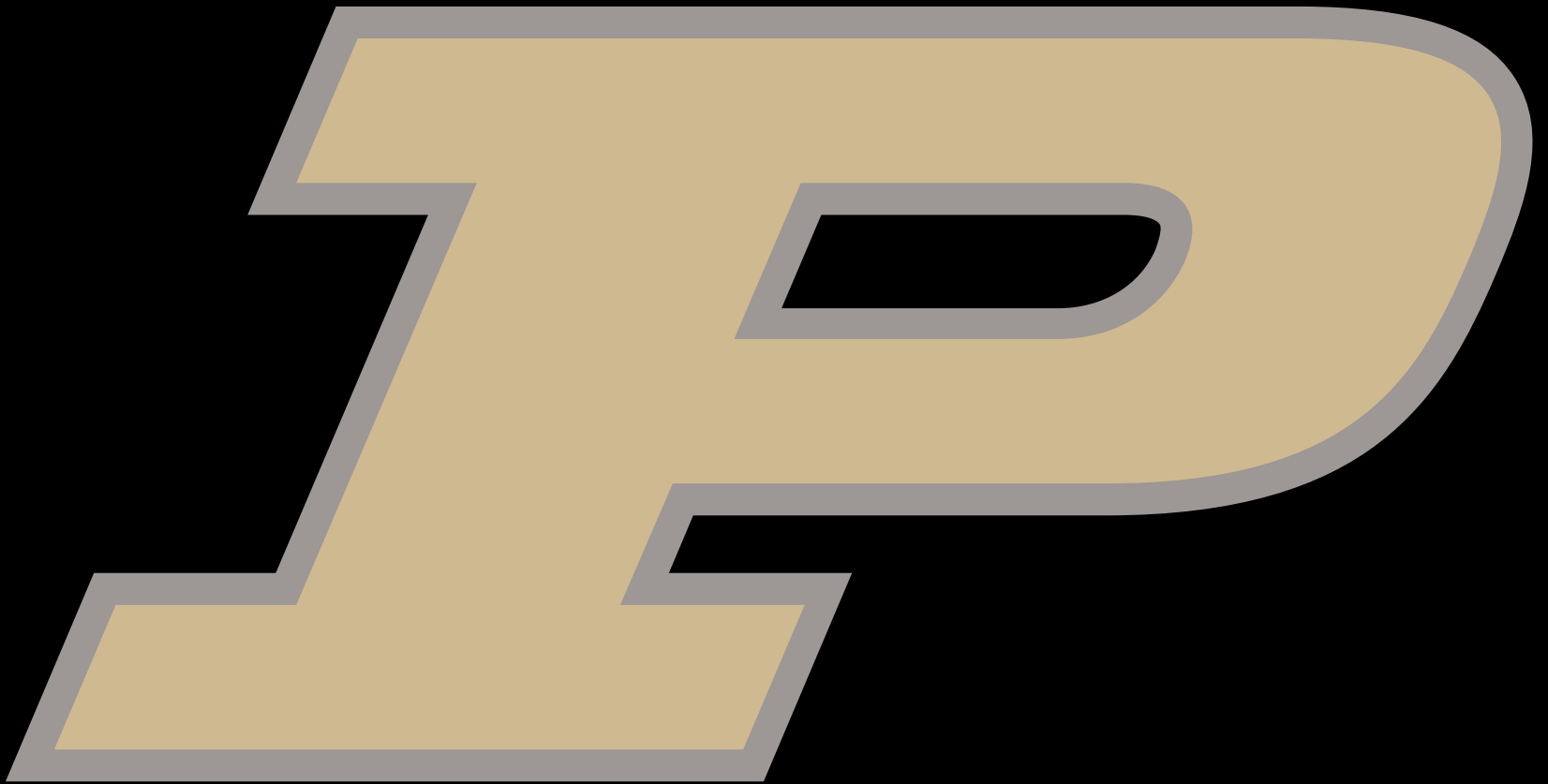
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The Paper of Montgomery County

September 2024



Stroll Down Memory Lane With Look at All-Time Purdue Greats



KENNY THOMPSON
Columnist

In the wake of that nightmare last Saturday in Ross-Ade Stadium, one that evoked angry comparisons of Ryan Walters to arguably the worst head coach in Big Ten football history (Darrell Hazell), this week's column will conjure a sweet dream.

Putting together a Purdue dream team is difficult when comparing the different eras of college football, especially statistically. The Boilermakers claim 11 players enshrined into the College Football Hall of Fame yet none of the three quarterbacks (Bob Griese, Mark Herrmann, Mike Phipps) would be my Dream Team QB in 2024.

On the other hand, Leroy Keyes was ahead of his time in the 1960s with his running, receiving, passing and kicking skills. He was a pretty good cornerback, too, earning a second berth on the 1987 Purdue Football All-Century Team at that position in addition to running back. Having watched or listened to Purdue football since 1970, I'm reminded that even during the lowest periods in Boilermaker history there have been all-time greats who gave fans something to cheer about. You'll read about a few of them below.

OFFENSE

Quarterback – Drew Brees. Part of the “worst” Big Ten recruiting class of 1997, Brees left Purdue with two NCAA marks, 13 Big Ten records and 19 Purdue standards. He was the 2000 Maxwell Award winner as the nation's outstanding player and the Chicago Tribune Silver Football winner as the Big Ten Most Valuable Player after guiding Purdue to its second Rose Bowl in school history. A technicality is keeping Brees

out of the College Football Hall of Fame but he's a sure bet to be a first-year selection to the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

Running back – Leroy Keyes and Otis Armstrong. Purdue's “All-Time Greatest Player” remains so more than 35 years after being bestowed that honor. Keyes is still the only two-time Consensus All-American in school history (1967-68). He finished third as a junior and runner-up to O.J. Simpson as a senior for the Heisman Trophy. Keyes was the first Boilermaker to rush for 1,000 yards in a season and led the nation in scoring (114 points) as a junior. He set school records for career touchdowns (37), points (222) and all-purpose yards. Keyes was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1990.

Armstrong was a star from the beginning, rushing for 1,009 yards as a sophomore in 1970 to break Keyes' single-season record. Armstrong's final game saw him rush for 276 yards against Indiana, which remains the school single-season record. Armstrong rushed for 3,315 yards in three seasons. He was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 2012.

Fullback – Mike Alstott. The only three-time Purdue MVP in school history. Alstott holds the records for rushing yards in a season (1,436 in 1995) and career (3,635). He also is the standard bearer for 100-yard rushing games in a season (9) and career (16). The only player in Purdue history with more than 2,500 rushing yards and 1,000 receiving yards.

Wide receiver – Rondale Moore. Only three freshmen in NCAA major football history have been voted consensus All-Americans: Herschel Walker, Adrian Peterson and Moore. Moore debuted in 2018 with a bang, breaking Otis

Armstrong's record for all-purpose yards with 313 against Northwestern. Moore was the Big Ten Freshman and Wide Receiver of the Year. Injuries impacted his sophomore and junior seasons.

Wide receiver – Taylor Stubblefield. Former NCAA record-holder with 316 career receptions from 2001 to 2004. His 3,629 receiving yards ranked second to teammate John Standeford's 3,788. Stubblefield set the Purdue record with 16 receiving touchdowns as a senior, a year that saw him earn consensus All-America honors and become a Biletnikoff Award finalist.

Tight end – Tim Stratton. The first winner of the John Mackey Award presented to the nation's best tight end. Stratton set the school record with 204 receptions from 1998 to 2001, a mark since broken by John Standeford, Taylor Stubblefield and Dorian Bryant. Stratton is one of four Boilermakers to be selected first-team All-Big Ten three times.

Offensive line – Matt Light. Joe Tiller changed Light's destiny in 1997 when he was converted to offensive tackle from tight end during a redshirt season. From 1998 to 2000, Light started 37 consecutive games and was a first-team All-Big Ten selection in 2000. Light would go on to earn three Super Bowl rings with the New England Patriots, earning a spot on the franchise's 50th anniversary team in 2010.

Offensive line – Alex Agase. The first of four offensive linemen on my list who were also All-Century selections. Agase played just one season at Purdue in 1943 before heading off to serve in World War II. But that season was memorable as Agase helped the Boilermakers

go 9-0 and win the Big Ten championship. Just as he did in 1942 at Illinois, Agase earned All-America honors at Purdue. He was elected to the College Football Hall of Fame in 1963.

Offensive line – Pete Quinn. The All-Century team center, Quinn started four seasons and anchored a line that helped Purdue go 19-4-1 in 1979 and 1980. Quinn also does a mean Elvis Presley impression.

Offensive line – Tom Bettis. All-Century selection at guard who was an All-American in 1954 before a nine-year NFL career.

Offensive line – Karl Singer. Another holdover from the 1987 All-Century team, Singer was an Associated Press All-American in 1965.

Kicker/Punter – Travis Dorsch. The 2001 Ray Guy Award winner as the nation's best punter, Dorsch was also an All-America placekicker. He was the first player in Big Ten history to earn first-team all-conference honors as both a punter and a kicker. Dorsch led the nation in 2001 with a 48.4 average per punt and graduated as the Big Ten leader in field goals (68) and kicking points (355).

DEFENSE

Line – Ryan Kerrigan. One of two Boilermakers to have won Big Ten Defensive Player of the Year honors, Kerrigan was a unanimous All-American in 2010. He set the Big Ten and FBS record with 14 fumbles forced. Kerrigan's 33.5 sacks rank second in Purdue history.

Line – Dave Butz. The 6-7, 280-pound Butz could have played basketball at Kentucky for Adolph Rupp but became a Lombardi Award finalist at Purdue. A consensus All-American as a senior in 1972, Butz was selected to the All-Century team and elected into the College Football Hall of

Fame in 2014.

Line – Jeff Zgonina. The 1992 Big Ten Defensive Player of the Year, Zgonina earned that honor with 13 sacks and 28 tackles for loss. He still holds school records for single-game (7), season (28) and career (72) tackles for loss.

Line – Chuck Kyle. As one of just four Boilermakers to earn three first-team All-Big Ten honors, Kyle was an easy choice for the All-Century team. Kyle was a consensus first-team All-American in 1968, a season capped by a school record 27 tackles against Indiana.

Linebacker – Kevin Motts. Ask a Purdue fan who holds the record for career tackles and they probably won't answer Motts, whose 520 stops have been a school record for 45 years. An underrated Boilermaker who was part of some outstanding defenses in the late 1970s along with the next guy on the list.

Linebacker – Keena Turner. The All-Century selection led Purdue in tackles for loss in three consecutive seasons. Turner racked up a combined 48 tackles for loss during his junior and senior seasons He went on to earn four Super Bowl rings with the San Francisco 49ers.

Linebacker – Gregg Bingham. The All-Century selection was a two-time first-team All-Big Ten pick in 1970 and 1972. Bingham was even better in the NFL, starting 173 regular season games over 12 seasons. He recorded 21 interceptions and recovered 14 fumbles.

Cornerback – Rod Woodson. Parade All-American at Fort Wayne Snider. Consensus All-American at Purdue. Pro Football Hall of Famer. Woodson was a three-time

Montgomery Memories

first-team All-Big Ten defensive back who had 11 career interceptions, three of which he returned for touchdowns. Elected to the College Football Hall of Fame in 2016.

Cornerback – John Charles. The 1967 Rose Bowl MVP earned his All-Century selection with versatility that included a then-school record 24.6-yard kickoff return average as a senior. He made 11 stops in the 14-13 Rose Bowl victory against Southern California.

Safety – Stuart Schweigert. Owns the Purdue career interceptions record with 17. Only Rod Woodson (445) has more tackles as a defensive back than Schweigert's 360. Two-time first-team All-Big Ten and the Big Ten Freshman of the Year in 2000.

Safety – Tim Foley. Another of the Rose Bowl championship players on the All-Century team, Foley was an All-American as a senior in 1969 and earned berths on three All-Big Ten teams.

Head coach – Jack Mollenkopf. At the helm for Purdue's greatest sustained run of success from 1956 to 1969, Mollenkopf went 84-39-9 with a Rose Bowl title and a share of the 1967 Big Ten crown. His final four seasons at Purdue

saw the Boilermakers go 9-2, 8-2, 8-2 and 8-2. Mollenkopf's 57 Big Ten wins remain the Purdue standard. Purdue was ranked No. 1 in the country for the first five weeks of the 1968 season. His teams went 11-2-1 against Indiana and 10-4 vs. Notre Dame. Mollenkopf was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1988.

Offensive coordinator – Joe Tiller. His "basketball on grass" offense brought Purdue back from a decade of despair. Tiller guided Purdue to 10 bowl games, including the Rose Bowl following the Big Ten championship season in 2000. Tiller was 87-62 at Purdue, including a 10-2 mark against Indiana.

Defensive coordinator – Jim Young. Thanks to his success as Michigan's defensive coordinator under Bo Schembechler from 1969 to 1972, Young became a head coach at Arizona, Purdue and Army. Young coached Purdue's only 10-win team in 1979 and won the Peach, Bluebonnet and Liberty Bowls. His 120-71-2 collegiate record earned Young a place in the College Football Hall of Fame in 1999.

Kenny Thompson is the former sports editor for the Lafayette Journal & Courier and an award-winning journalist. He has covered Purdue athletics for many years.



Leroy Keyes



Rod Woodson



**Montgomery
County
Sports Report**

Ryan Walters' Hot Seat Part of Pattern With Purdue Football



KENNY THOMPSON
Columnist

It's a scenario I've seen far too many times in the 50-plus years I've been following Purdue football.

A successful coaching era ends, followed by a string of losing seasons. Jack Mollenkopf to Bob DeMoss and Alex Agase. Jim Young to Leon Burtnett, Fred Akers and Jim Colletto. Joe Tiller to Danny Hope and Darrell Hazell.

It's just 15 games into Ryan Walters' tenure at Purdue after replacing Jeff Brohm. However, it doesn't take Nostradamus to foresee that Boilermaker football is heading down a familiar path.

With a chance to rinse out the bitter taste of the worst home loss in school history to Notre Dame, Purdue instead looked out of sorts in a 38-21 loss at Oregon State.

While the running back tandem of Devin Mockobee (16 carries, 168 yards, 1 TD) and Reggie Love (10 carries, 66 yards, 1 TD) were solid, Hudson Card turned in one of the worst passing performances in the past 30 years in a Purdue uniform: a mere 56 yards on seven completions in 17 attempts.

The highest paid assistant coach in Purdue football history, offensive coordinator Graham Harrell, offered this on Monday when asked why the passing game has been so poor the last two games: "We just got to execute better, to be honest with you."

No kidding.

The rushing defense, gouged for 362 yards and six touchdowns by Notre Dame, looked the same against Oregon State. Jam Griffin's 137 yards paced a Beavers ground

game that piled up 341 yards and four touchdowns.

"We played three and a half quarters of football," defensive coordinator Kevin Kane said on Monday. "Within that first three and a half quarters we were physical, we tackled well. ... They played the way we expect them to play and how they've shown to play throughout the course of spring and fall."

The game may have started on NewsNation (home to Chris Cuomo, Dan Abrams and the promise of "News for All America") and ended on the CW, but the lower production standards for the game weren't so awful that an objective viewer would agree that the defense played well for 50 minutes.

True, the score was just 24-7 after three quarters and seven of those were courtesy of a fluke interception return for a touchdown. However, Walters showed little faith in the defense during the fourth quarter by calling for an onside kick with just under seven minutes to go, all three timeouts in his pocket and a 31-21 deficit. The Beavers recovered the desperation kick and went on to score the clinching touchdown.

Walters admitted he's aware of the grumbling from a fan base that showed such faith in him that they sold out the season ticket package following a 4-8 debut.

"So you know what's being said. You know what's going on," Walters said Monday. "I'm not naïve to it. That's part of being in this profession, being in a competition arena, like you have a fan base that is as passionate as ours is, you're going to hear frustration and rightfully so.

"It's not unexpected. When we turn this thing around and win some games, you'll start hearing the other side of that noise and that can be just as toxic as well." That would be a nice problem to have.

I've written that Purdue would not be the 18th place team in the Big Ten, as predicted by the league's media. Northwestern and UCLA still may make that forecast accurate but fans weren't the only ones with higher expectations.

A top 10 transfer class and a top 30 high school recruiting class raised hopes in this corner that this year's ceiling could be six wins and a minor bowl. In no way did I foresee Purdue having its worst season since Colletto's third team went 1-10 and winless in the Big Ten in 1993.

The inability of Purdue football to sustain success goes back to the 1930s. Jim Phelan led the Boilermakers to an undefeated Big Ten championship season in 1929 – the only outright Big Ten title in school history – before departing for the University of Washington. Assistant coach Noble Kizer, like Phelan a former Notre Dame player for Knute Rockne, took over and won two Big Ten titles.

Had Kizer not contracted a fatal kidney disease that forced him from the sideline after the 1936 season, Purdue's football fortunes would be different. Kizer was 42-13-3 in seven seasons. No Boilermaker coach in the 20th or 21st centuries has approached that .750 winning percentage.

After Kizer, Purdue tried to strike gold again with a second Phelan assistant. But Mal Elward went 16-18-6 before

resigning to join the U.S. Navy in 1942. Yet another assistant coach, Elmer Burnham, was promoted. Purdue collapsed to a 1-8 record before Uncle Sam came to the rescue.

Thanks to the Marine Corps and the Navy providing the talent through a campus training program, Burnham went 9-0 and won a Big Ten title. Most of that talent was gone by 1944 and so was Burnham, who got the job security he craved with a long-term contract to serve as head football coach and associate professor of physical education at the University of Rochester.

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For the fourth consecutive time, Purdue officials promoted an assistant to replace Burnham. Cecil Isbell was 29 when he became head coach at his alma mater. Only a year earlier Isbell retired from a potential Pro Football Hall of Fame career with the Green Bay Packers to come back to West Lafayette.

Technically, Isbell wasn't a losing coach, going 14-14-1 in his three seasons. But his peak of 7-3 in 1945 with freshman quarterback Bob DeMoss tumbled to 2-6-1 a year later when most of the competition welcomed home their war veterans. Isbell left to become head coach of the first Baltimore Colts franchise in the All-American Football Conference.

For the first time since 1922, the Purdue administration went outside for a new coach. Stu Holcomb was a top assistant at Army from 1944 to 1946, an era that saw the Black Knights go 27-0-1 with three national championships.

Holcomb had his moments, notably the 1950 victory at Notre Dame that ended the Fighting Irish's 39-game unbeaten streak and the 1952 co-Big Ten championship. But when Holcomb resigned to become athletic director at Northwestern after the 1955 season, he departed with a 35-42-4 record.

Jack Mollenkopf got the nod over fellow Purdue assistant Hank Stram to replace Holcomb. It worked out for both men. Stram had a Pro Football Hall of Fame coaching career, mainly with the Kansas City Chiefs. Mollenkopf forged College Football Hall of Fame credentials from 1956 to his 1969 retirement, going 84-39-9.

Hoping to build on Mollenkopf's final four seasons (9-2 with a Rose Bowl win, 8-2, 8-2, 8-2), Purdue turned to a logical replacement. Bob DeMoss had won several big games as interim head coach when Mollenkopf had health issues. DeMoss also developed quarterbacks Dale Samuels, Len Dawson, Bob Griese and Mike Phipps.

Despite having the greatest recruiting class in Purdue football history at his command (Dave Butz, Otis Armstrong, Darryl Stingley, Gregg Bingham, Gary Danielson, etc.), DeMoss was gone after three seasons and a 13-18 mark. An ill-advised switch to the Wishbone offense in 1972 produced an 0-3 start. Reinstalling the traditional Purdue offense, the Boilermakers were an Otis Armstrong slip at Michigan

away from a share of the Big Ten title at 7-1 and a Rose Bowl berth.

Alex Agase was up next and he was a popular choice. A member of the undefeated 1943 team, Agase somehow led Northwestern to back-to-back Big Ten runner-up finishes in 1970-71.

That popularity waned after four losing seasons. Agase (18-25-1) will be remembered for beating two teams atop the Associated Press rankings: 31-20 at No. 2 Notre Dame in 1974 and No. 1 Michigan 16-14 in 1976.

Agase's replacement, Jim Young, brought most of his staff from Arizona to West Lafayette. Young and offensive coordinator John Mackovic brought with them an exciting offense that was balanced between pass and run. I can still hear the roar from the Ross-Ade Stadium crowd the first-time quarterback Mark Herrmann dropped back into the shotgun formation. Young directed the only 10-win season in Purdue football history but entered a brief retirement from coaching with a 38-19-1 mark following the 1981 season.

Those who don't learn from history are doomed to repeat it. Purdue officials proved to be very slow learners by once again promoting an assistant coach. Other than a magical 1984 season that saw the Boilermakers defeat Notre Dame, Michigan and Ohio State for the first time in the same year, Burtnett could never sustain his former boss' success. He departed with a 21-34-1 mark.

The less said about Fred Akers (12-31-1), who once requested a meeting with yours truly to discuss being positive about his squad, the better.

Ironically, the next two Purdue football coaches were the offensive and defensive

coordinators on Burtnett's 1984 Peach Bowl team. That fact was the only thing Jim Colletto and Joe Tiller had in common.

Colletto restored discipline and renewed emphasis on the running game with Mike Alstott, Corey Rogers and a capable cast of backs. What he couldn't do was win on a consistent basis, quitting in frustration near the end of the 1996 season with a 21-42-3 record.

Tiller vowed to win a championship at Purdue when he returned from the University of Wyoming. He did in 2000, returning the Boilermakers to the promised land of Pasadena, Calif., and the Rose Bowl.

But time and declining health caught up with Tiller, who left with an 87-62 record and 10 bowl appearances. Tiller wanted his defensive coordinator, Brock Spack, to be his replacement. Wisconsin assistant Paul Chryst was athletic director Morgan Burke's first choice. The compromise choice was Danny Hope, formerly offensive line coach at Purdue who had guided Eastern Kentucky to the Ohio Valley Conference title in 2007.

Hope was fired in 2012 with a 22-27 record. One of the hottest names in the coaching market, Darrell Hazell of Kent State, was paid more money than any football coach in Purdue history only to win nine games in three and a half seasons.

Like Tiller, Jeff Brohm brought hope and winning (36-34 with memorable victories against Ohio State and Tennessee) back to Ross-Ade Stadium. However, Purdue was no competition against the pull of Brohm's hometown. Days after leading the Boilermakers to the Big Ten Championship game for the first and probably last time in 2022, Brohm departed

for the University of Louisville. Of course, having written all of this, watch Purdue go out Saturday and notch a Homecoming victory against Nebraska. In which case, to quote the late great Gilda Radner and her Emily Litella character, "never mind."

Kenny Thompson is the former sports editor for the Lafayette Journal & Courier and an award-winning journalist. He has covered Purdue athletics for many years.

Montgomery County Sports Report



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