



In Brief

CUTPL offers spring storytimes

Culver-Union Township Public Library will offer a "Welcome Spring!" storytime program. Toddler Time will be held Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. for children 18 months to 3 years old. Pre-school storytime is Thursdays at 11:15 a.m. (ages 3 to 5). Spring storytimes will run for eight weeks beginning Tuesday, March 1 and concluding April 21. Registration for storytime is required as space is limited. Register in the children's department or by calling 574-842-2941.

Community meal at Grace March 15

Grace United Church of Christ will hold its monthly community meal on Tuesday, March 15 at 6 p.m. All are invited to this free, ecumenical event whose purpose is to share a friendly meal in a welcoming, community atmosphere. The meals are held on the 15th day of each month in the basement of the church.

Annual VFW fish fry March 26

Culver's VFW Post 6919 is sponsoring, with the assistance of Culver Fire, EMS and Police Depts., an all-you-can-eat fish fry to benefit the Culver Food Pantry, Saturday, March 26 from 4 to 7 p.m. Cost is \$4 for children 12 and under and \$8 for adults. Fish will be prepared by the Tyner IOOF Lodge. Doors are open to the public at 108 E. Washington Street. Carry out orders are available at 574-842-3886.

Wesley's Got Talent April 10

How well do you really know your friends, neighbors, and coworkers and their talents? What talents *should* they keep a secret? If they're involved at Wesley United Methodist Church in Culver, they won't be a secret for long! The church will shine a spotlight on its members' various talents Sunday April 10, starting at 2 p.m. in the church Fellowship Hall. All are invited join the fun of this silly show for families with magic tricks, a unicyclist, a martial-arts demonstration and much more.

Free computer classes at Culver library

Culver-Union Township Public Library will con-

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Science, close-up

ABOVE: Students in Wesley United Methodist Preschool's senior class visited Culver Academies' science building recently for a look at the animals in biology instructor Steve Winet's lab, and chemical experiments in chemistry instructor Igor Stefanic's lab. In the PHOTO AT TOP, examining a "mystery jar," are Karsen Hoffman and Ben Blessman. In the BOTTOM PHOTO, checking out a snake, are (left to right) Makenna Strycker, Sophie Blessman, Gwendylan Gilley, mom Stacie Collins, and Madison Collins.

PHOTOS SUBMITTED/JILL GAVLICK, JENNIFER LUTTRELL

Culver teachers at the statehouse

Local faculty discuss controversial legislation, perception of their profession

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

Last week was a memorable one for Indiana politics, and that may go double for six Culver Community Schools teachers, who (using personal days on their own time) spent the day at the Indiana Statehouse in Indianapolis last Tuesday, in the midst of heated protests and attention surrounding two controversial pieces of legislation.

Most of the statewide and even national attention last week focused on so-called "right-to-work" legislation advocated by the Republican-led House of Representatives. Much of the controversy pertained to union-related matters. Culver's teachers were at the Statehouse, in fact, when it was announced that Democrat lawmakers had fled that day to Illinois as a means of blocking the legislation.

Besides that bill, Democrats also objected to House bill 1003, which would give state-funded vouchers to low-and-middle income Hoosiers towards sending their children to private schools.

The day before, February 21, Culver Community School Superintendent Brad Schultdt sent a letter to Culver parents urging them to contact legislators to fight the bill, which he said would cut just under \$1 million from the corporation's budget, forcing the closure of Monterey Elementary School, pushing more than 30 students into classrooms, and costing 10 to 15 jobs corporation-wide (his letter may be read on the school's website at www.culver.k12.in.us).

Culver Elementary kindergarten teacher Janna VanDePutte, sixth grade teacher Missy Trent, and music teacher Kim Morrison joined Monterey Elementary sixth grade teacher Todd Shaffer, fifth grade teacher Pam Craft, and second grade teacher Lisa Moise in the journey, where they were some of the approximately 1,100 protesters at the statehouse that day.

Morrison describes the visit as "such a good experience," See Teachers page 3



CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

Music to bank on

Chad Van Herk, familiar to many in Culver as the manager of the local First Farmers Bank, charmed his audience at Culver's REAL Meals last week with a mixture of original and familiar songs, which he sang to his own guitar playing. The audience was singing along with his last two numbers, "What a Wonderful World" (popularized by Louis Armstrong) and the Guy Lombardo classic, "Enjoy Yourself." Van Herk said he's been playing for more than 14 years and even has cut a CD a few years ago, which is available online.

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Customer Name: Collins & Co (Plymouth); Size: 10 in

Raising voices for teachers

ABOVE, RIGHT: Culver Community Schools elementary teachers spent the day last week at the Indiana statehouse in the wake of proposed legislation which would shift funds from public schools to private around the state. Pictured are (front row, left to right) Pam Craft, Kim Morrison, and Janna VanDePutte; back row, Lisa Moise, Todd Shaffer, and Missy Trent. SEE STORY BELOW.

PHOTO SUBMITTED/KIM MORRISON

Census' Culver numbers could hurt, says Council

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

Recently-released census figures have come in indicating Culver's population is down by about 200 persons, a matter which will impact the town of Culver's funding in coming years.

This was part of the discussion at last week's regular meeting of the Culver Town Council, during which Town Clerk Casey Howard ran some of the numbers.

The year 2000 census indicated Culver had a population of 1,539, said Howard, while the 2010 poll shows 1,353. Council member Ed Pinder asked Howard if she had any theories as to the change.

"Many people said they never got the questionnaire," replied Howard. "No one came to door."

Pinder, who said he also was never contacted by mail or visit, and made a trip downtown on his own to register, agreed. "I think they missed some," he added.

Council member Ralph Winters noted Culver's population grew between the 1990 and 2000 census, adding part of the current change may be the number of local homes being purchased by part-time residents whose regular home is out of town or even out of state. He said in years past, the town has requested a re-count (and had to pay for the count from its own coffers), which indeed increased the numbers.

Either way, Howard pointed out that "even only 200 people will hurt us. That's obviously true with property taxes, but there's MBH (Motor Vehicle Highway funding), Local Road and Street (funding), the Riverboat fund...it's (a change of) over 10 percent of our population."

(See accompanying article for more information on local and county census figures). In other Council actions, Culver Boys & Girls Club board chairman Alan Loehr accepted a check for \$5,000 from the town towards the club, whose annual membership he said is over 350 elementary aged students in the Culver school district, See Census page 7

Library will take credit cards, expand internet speed

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

The Culver-Union Township Public Library is on its way to accepting credit card payments for overdue fines, damages, and other fees patrons may incur, following a vote February 15 at the library board's regular monthly meeting.

The vote is actually just part of a series of steps, and technically allows Evergreen -- the Indiana State Library-based computer cataloging and circulation module utilized by Culver and many public libraries around the state -- to accept fine and fee payments on behalf of the library. Library staff member Theresa Hudson told the board that, once all steps have been implemented, library patrons can pay fees at home or from any internet terminal by logging into their account and using their credit card. The State Library would charge each library a three percent fee for handling the payments, with the remainder deposited directly into a bank account designated by the library. Library Director Colleen McCarty said patrons have been asking staff when credit card payments will be an option here, which is presently not the case.

The board also voted, following a slideshow presentation from library IT head Andrew Baker, to increase the bandwidth of the library's public internet service by shifting from its current speed of three megabits per second, which now See Library page 2



PHOTOS SUBMITTED/DON FREESE AND *SUSAN SHAFFER

Lions supper nets \$1,100 for food pantry

Library from page 1

costs the library around \$205 per month (or \$2,460 annually). Baker said the library could increase its bandwidth -- which would increase the speed of service to patrons using its public computer terminals -- by 50 percent via an additional T1 data line, at \$295 per month (or \$3,450 annually). However, transition to a fiber optic line would be three and one-third times faster than the present speed, an increase to 10 megabits per second. The monthly cost would be \$443, or \$5,316 per month. However, Baker said fiber optic is actually a better value when calculated in terms of megabits per dollar.

Baker also shared internet usage statistics with the board, noting at peak times that the library's bandwidth is "maxed out" and exhibits significant delays in function. After brief discussion, the board approved the fiber optic line for future use.

During her Director's report, McCarty noted \$1,445 in donations have come to the library in honor of the late Rita Lawson, a board member for the past several years.

She also discussed statistics gleaned from recently-purchased equipment to count the number of people entering and exiting the library each day, adding around 5,785 people came in during January. Board member Carol Saft encouraged honing hours during the day when counts are taken, in order to best determine which hours might be optimal for closing the library, in order to facilitate the possibility of Sunday hours at the library, as had been discussed at prior meetings.

McCarty also said Dr. Jean Preer, a professor with Indiana University's School of Library and Information Sciences, will speak at the Culver library in April on the topic of intellectual freedom in public libraries, an event which is open to the public. McCarty urged board members to attend.

During the Treasurer's report, library Financial Manager Jim Faulkner said the library's annual report is complete and will be published before the end of February.

Faulkner also explained recent problems with the library's accounting software, which he said he's working with the vendor to resolve. Saft suggested investigating options for other software, which board member Alfred Nyby said is a possibility, adding the current software costs the library around \$2,700 per year.

The board voted, at McCarty's request, to add to the library's existing policy an addition that, when a Level 1 emergency is declared by Marshall County -- such as was the case recently due to a blizzard -- the library should close. McCarty noted such declarations make it illegal to travel, besides emergencies, in the county.

Board member Peg Schuldt, who also sits on Culver's Parks and Recreations board, made her monthly report to the library board, noting the park board reorganized in February with officers remaining the same (Leroy Bean is board president, Tammy Shaffer vice president, and Schuldt herself secretary). The park board, she said, accepted a quote for new fencing on the east end of the park, planned for this summer, and approved new benches in the Vandalia Village area of the park. The park board's monthly meetings will now commence at 7:30 p.m. instead of 7 p.m. as before.

Name: FULL- SEETHER; Width: 30p11.5; Depth: 10.5 in; Color: Black plus one; File Name: 00114855; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Pacific Coast Concerts; Size: 31.5 in

Culver's Lions Club offers "hats off" to the people of the four-county area that came out on a cold Friday evening recently to eat some of the finest chili this side of Texas and to financially support the Culver Food Pantry.

"The Culver Lions and the Culver Community Council of Churches salute you," says Lion Don Freese. "Your generosity resulted in \$1,100 going to the Culver Food Pantry.

"We also want to thank the Youth Community Service groups from the Culver Community H.S. (CAVS)," adds Freese, "and the Academies Service group for the students that donated their time in making this fund raiser a great success."

LEFT PHOTO: One of the CYCO youth assisting people at the supper with their food and drinks. The young lady in the picture is Cassie Back from the Culver Community High School and a member of the CAVS.. *TOP PHOTO: Among those helping out at the chili supper are (front row, left to right) Pat Birk, Marilyn Kelly, Sue and Dave Bendy, Ellen Freese, Jean Rakich. Back row: Makenna Strycker, Kayla Shaffer, Nancy Strycker, Alex Shaffer, Mike Overmyer, Dan Adams, Dennis Lewandowski, and Don Freese.

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patible with Kindle readers, which are proprietary to a specific online business), or using similar devices (or MP3 players) to listen to high quality audio books.

Three items at a time may be checked out for seven or 14 days, says McCarty. If the item isn't on hold, it can then be re-borrowed for the same duration. And overdue fines won't be accruing via Overdrive. Once an item is due, it simply becomes unavailable and can't be kept out late. Those patrons owing fines or having other "stops" on their cards which prevent them from checking out items at the library will also be unable to use Overdrive until their account is resolved. Patrons may also place up to three active "holds" on checked-out Overdrive items, with email notification when they come in.

"(This is) making materials accessible to people who have a desire to use digital media," says Gaskill. "It's all free and relatively open, and our patrons will be able to enjoy these new formats, and they don't have to pay anything to download the components to do that."

McCarty and Gaskill note a software download will be required the first time Overdrive is used, but the program is "pretty user friendly" and assistance is available from library staff, besides on the Overdrive site itself. The library plans to offer a class in the near future, for those who desire them.

Culver's library, as well as the more than 90 fellow Evergreen libraries around the state that are also making use of Overdrive, will purchase more titles on an ongoing basis for the site, but McCarty stresses the library will also continue purchasing print books and audio books on compact disc, as in the past, for those not using digital devices. Adding downloadable music and movies may also be in the cards down the road, she adds.

"Technology changes the role a library plays in the community," says McCarty, "and by extending our lending options through online services like this, the library continues to improve and meet the needs of the public. We are excited about it. We've had patrons asking for it."

Overdrive joins paid research databases the library already offers its patrons through its website, including Newspaper Archive, INspire, and genealogy services Ancestry.com and Heritage Quest.

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Death notice

Virgil

Leonard Vigil
Feb. 19, 2011

CULVER — Leonard Vigil, 63, died Saturday, Feb. 19, 2011. He is survived by his daughter, Delila (Martin) Cramer; two granddaughters; and a nephew. Visitation took place from 5 to 9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 25 at Connally/Compton Funeral Directors Chapel, 4400 W. Waco Drive, Waco, Texas, with a Rosary service at 6 p.m. Funeral services took place at 10 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 26 at the funeral chapel. Condolences may be made to the family via the funeral home's website at www.Connally-Compton.com. Johnson-Danielson Funeral Home, Plymouth, assisted the family with local arrangements.

Culver kids can get ‘fancy’ March 12

Are you ready to get fancy? On Saturday, March 12 at 10:30 a.m., the Youth Services Department at the Culver-Union Township Public Library will host its third annual Fancy Nancy tea party. Attendees are encouraged to wear their “fanciest” attire (which is a fancy word for clothes) for tea, snacks, a “fancy” craft, and Fancy Nancy stories. Children are required to be accompanied by a “fancy” adult for this event! For questions or additional information please contact the library at 574-842-2941 or www.culver.lib.in.us.

REAL Services menu

To share a meal at REAL Meals, call Ruth Walker at the nutrition site (the Culver beach lodge) before 11 a.m. the day before for reservations, at 574-842-8878. A donation is suggested for each meal.	green pepper, mashed potatoes, green beans, what roll, fruit cup, cookie, and milk.	dinner salad and dressing, oyster crackers, peaches, angel food cake, and milk.
Thurs., March 3: Chili, baked potato and sour cream, oyster crackers, cottage cheese, Mandarin oranges , and milk.	Mon., March 7: BBQ Pork on a Bun, baked beans, mixed vegetables, pineapple dessert, and milk.	Thurs., March 10: Meatballs and noodles with gravy, mashed potatoes, baby carrots, dinner roll and margarine, pears, and milk.
Fri., March 4: Stuffed	Tues., March 8: Oven Fried Chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, bread and ,margarine, applesauce, and milk.	Fri., March 11: Macaroni and cheese, peas, cauliflower, bread and margarine, fruit, and milk.
	Weds., March 9: New England clam chowder,	

Community calendar

Thurs., March 3 Kiwanis Club mtg., noon, Culver Public Library	a.m., Culver Public Library	p.m., train station-depot
Fri., March 4 Computer class, 10 a.m., Culver Public Library	Tuesday tea and crafts, 1 to 3 p.m., Market Basket & Co., SR 17.	Thurs., March 10 Kiwanis Club mtg., noon, Culver Public Library
Sat., March 5 Quilting group, 9 a.m., Culver Public Library	OA, AA meeting (open), 6:30 p.m., Culver Public Library	Spring storytime, 11:30 a.m., Culver Public Library
Sun., March 6 Adult basketball, 1 to 3 p.m., Culver Middle School Gym (see Brief)	Al-Anon mtg., 7 p.m., Grace United Church of Christ Zion fellowship hall	
Mon., March 7 Knitting group, 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., Culver Public Library	Weds., March 9 Genealogy mtg., 10 a.m., Culver Public Library	Name: MARCH
Computer class, 6 p.m., Culver Public Library	Culver history program, noon, Culver Public Library	ADS; Width:
Tues., March 8 Story time, 10 a.m., Culver Public Library	Hooked on Books discussion group, 3:30 p.m., Culver Public Library	
Spring storytime, 10:30	TOPS mtg., 3:30 p.m., Grace United Church of Christ	
	Lions Club mtg., 6:30	

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PHOTO SUBMITTED/JEAN FLEMING OVERMYER

Who says the lake’s only fun in summer?

The ice may be on its way off Lake Maxinkuckee, but it was a good winter for home-made skating and hockey rinks like this one, offshore at the Fleming cottage on West Shore Drive. Clearing the ice there for winter fun is a longtime tradition, says Jean Fleming Overmyer, and a longstanding one of the past at many lake properties (many locals will recall the ice being cleared at the public beach and Culver Academies, in decades past, for similar winter fun.

Academies Choir invited to Germany, international broadcast:

Culver Academies Choir will join a combined chorus of select singers from every age group -- high school, college, and adult -- in the high-profile, four-day Mozart International Choral Festival June 29 through July 3, in Salzburg, Germany. The festival culminates in a performance of Mozart’s Mass in C “Coronation,” K.317, and additional selections, in the historic Salzburg Dom. Professor Janos Czifra, director of music at the Dom, (which is the same position Mozart held) and Dr. Eph Ehly, will co-direct the concert, accompanied by a professional Austrian orchestra and European soloists. The choir will be singing in the very venue in which Mozart himself composed numerous works of sacred music for the city of Salzburg. "This festival will undoubtedly provide the musical stimulation and kind of experience that raises the level of musicianship and dedication to the performing arts for all participants," says choir director Stacey Warren. "We will take what we glean from this incredible opportunity back to our campus classrooms to continue our great work of offering musical excellence to the Culver community." Further, this March, the choir will travel to Fort Wayne, Ind., to sing in a television studio for a program airing as part of the series, “Worship for Shut-Ins.” Due to the wide distribution of the show, Culver Academies Choir members whose parents are overseas, or serving in active duty, will be able to view this international broadcast on one of four satellites. The show has a flagship station which is WPTA TV-21 (ABC affiliate). That, in Indiana, is broadcast in Evansville, Terre Haute, LeSea Broadcasting in South Bend, and Indianapolis. From there it is broadcast in Chicago and Rockford as well as Marion, Illinois. It’s uploaded to DirectTV Channel 377 (nationwide), and via four international Satellites. Reception has been very positive from local audiences, who have had opportunities in recent months to hear the choir perform at the Lake Max Film Festival in September, the Academies' annual Vespers service in December, and at St. Mary of the Lake Catholic Church last fall.

Teachers from page 1

and she, VanDePutte, and Trent say they generally felt supported by others there, as they carried signs made by CES art teacher Joyce Lyman. "All day long we were thanked," recalls VanDePutte of the mood of protesters, including union members from various other professions. The three CES faculty members expressed concern over the impact on students of various aspects of the proposed legislation, such as private schools’ ability to retain choices as to which students they accept and don't, likely leaving students facing greatest physical and intellectual challenges to public schools. "It would slowly turn public schools into schools for the disabled," says Trent. Other concerns include the complexities of public funds going to private religious schools (though supporters of HB1003 point out public funds already support tuition to private Christian universities in Indiana), and the low performance of many of Indiana's existing charter schools. It's likely, however, that Culver's teachers share a sense of demoralization with teachers around the country less from specific legislation – in spite of all the concern it gives them for students' well being and their own jobs -- as from a widespread sense they feel of teachers becoming scapegoats for problems in public education, as demonstrated in recent forums such as the documentary film, "Waiting for Superman." Morrison, Trent, and VanDePutte say they're disheartened at what they read and hear in the media and via negative comments in online discussions, and the like. "There are big misconceptions about teachers out there," says VanDePutte. "(For example), we can choose to be in the union or not; we're not forced. And people don't know we have to do continuing education on an ongoing basis, to have our teaching licenses renewed." The three add that most teachers arrive at work before 7:30 a.m. and still have two to three hours of work each evening following the 3:15 end of the school day, in addition to what amounts to a full workday on the weekends grading papers, answering emails, and posting grades to the computer. Lunch breaks are usually spent assisting students, and "prep time" allotted each teacher daily is almost always spent in working with students, notes Trent. Another misconception, says Trent, is that teachers "can do anything and not be fired. I'm nervous whenever I get an evaluation!" She also says many teach summer school, redo their classrooms, or take continuing ed classes through teachers’ official “off” months in the summer. Morrison adds that many teachers take part in extra committees and activities to assist at the school, from keeping score at ballgames, to service-oriented projects (such as Soup for the Soul, a charity fundraiser Trent spearheads, the READ reading enhancement program chaired by VanDePutte, or the Morrison-led Cultural Enrichment Committee -- which seeks private donations to fund music and lectures for the students at the school). "People have come to expect this," says VanDePutte. "We do it because we all enjoy working with the kids, or else you'd never make it." "No teacher says, 'I'm going to be a teacher for the money!'" agrees Trent, adding, "I can tell you there's not one person in that school (CES) I wouldn't have as a teacher for my kids." The teachers agree being in a small school like Culver, students and faculty are "lucky." Where some larger schools experience communication problems, VanDePutte notes, "It's nothing for us to see our Superintendent in the building, or get an email directly from him." "I love Culver," Morrison affirms. "It's so nice to be in a little school like this." The three are quick to note administration at Culver is very supportive. Instead, their concern is with the impact of legislation on a state and even federal level, in addition to the general atmosphere of animosity towards teachers of late. Trent says the situation has led to one in which "kids' hunger, empathy, (and the like are neglected), but we’re supposed to just care about how to take a test." Morrison echoes the other teachers' worries that character development and civic awareness take a back seat to a frenetic emphasis on skills specific to passing tests. "We have no time to teach the things that kids need to know to be good citizens," she explains. "Within our classrooms," adds VanDePutte, "we're expected to teach many different abilities which were not there before." The three say they plan to return to the statehouse March 5 for a rally there. They're glad they went last week, where they feel they saw democracy in action, regardless of one's position on the issues. And they hope people remember, as VanDePutte puts it, “We do all this for the kids.”

Childish choices and scape-goating teachers

I debated writing this column until, I noticed the topic of Culver Boys & Girls Club Unit Supervisor Cory Monnier’s debut column (it’s slated as a monthly feature), on this same page (and we should be back next week with another installment of “If These Walls Could Talk,” the historical column on Culver’s buildings).



View from Main Street

By Jeff Kenney
editor

This week, in conjunction with our cover story, I wanted to say a few words about teachers, education, and parenting. Let me start by emphasizing that, if there’s one thing I’ve concluded after spending the past several days thinking about the issues surrounding recently-proposed legislation in Indiana (see the story on page 1), it’s that all of this is quite complex. If anyone tells you otherwise, they’re doing what we all too often do best: oversimplifying a tough issue.

I have no intention of discussing the “right-to-work” legislation around which so much controversy swirled last week around Indiana. I’m not going to stick my two cents in about the voucher bill, either.

Instead, I felt compelled to say something about teachers themselves and the job(s) we expect them to do.

I’ll qualify this by saying I’m biased and unbiased in a couple of ways. My wife, first of all, was a licensed elementary school teacher in the state of Indiana, and even before we married, I heard a fair amount through her of what’s on the minds of teachers. I’m also a product of the Culver Elementary School with a daughter who finished seven years there last year, and both my daughter and I have great memories and warm feelings for the school and its faculty. On the other hand, my wife and I have chosen to home-school our youngest children, for reasons that have nothing to do with the quality of the faculty at CES.

Wherever we might stand on legislative issues, and whatever side of the political fence, I have to say I’m rather disgusted with the current trend towards bashing public school teachers, be it in the media or on the street. This isn’t because I’m under the illusion that every teacher is 100 percent dedicated, that there exists no corruption or aren’t areas in the world of public education which could stand some improvement. That’s true of virtually every profession, including my own.

Instead, I’m appalled at the lack of responsibility so many of us want to take for our own role in our children’s education and well-being as a *whole person*.

The fact is, a great many public school teachers have been nearing burnout for the past several years now, something many likely won’t tell you in so many words...and this certainly precedes the present legislation under consideration, which must seem to many teachers like pouring

salt into a an already-difficult wound.

Teachers are expected to perform virtual miracles. We’re fast approaching the point of being a post-literate society. Children spend a staggering amount of time in front of electronic media -- television, computer and internet, video games, hand-held music and movie players, and the like -- and are shoveled full of processed, high-sugar, high-salt foods on a fairly routine basis. Add to this the rampant phenomena of “helicopter parenting” and some very valid concerns over children’s safety in what feels like an increasingly dangerous world, and we’re left with communities in which children rarely are allowed to simply go outside and engage in active, imaginative play with other children.

Here I echo Cory’s column on this page, and encourage you to read up on the effects, statistically, of the problems I’ve just named, and brush up on how these factors -- among many others -- impact the difficulty of teaching children -- heck, the difficulty of getting them to sit still for more than five minutes without something electronic in their hands! (Let me point out that I’m not opposing all of these forms of entertainment in moderation and with a reasonable, intelligent amount of parental supervision and discernment, which are all too lacking in our culture today).

Add to this a radical shift in what’s expected of children today in terms of behavior and discipline, and how fewer parents actually support the teachers when little Johnny was reprimanded in school (the teacher, it’s presumed, must be wrong -- never the child).

Further, federal legislation has mandated that children with serious emotional, intellectual, and physical disabilities be integrated into regular classrooms. This is one of those difficult issues: we need inclusion, of course, and studies have shown pigeonholing students as “learning disabled” or “special ed” can be marks a child may struggle to lose even when he or she has overcome challenges and excelled educationally. Nonetheless, the presence of this dynamic in a classroom, especially where funding may be insufficient to provide enough aides to assist adequately, may greatly change what a teacher can accomplish in a given day.

By the time my wife left teaching in the public school, she was bringing home regular reports of teacher frustration: new standards (state and federal, rarely local) requiring more and more paperwork, and teachers to prepare students for more and more standardized testing, left teachers spending literally hours each day outside the classroom engaged in work which was of highly debatable value to the students themselves.

Most teachers, if they’ve stayed in their profession, have done so out of a desire to teach. Instead, many seemed to be finding themselves working evenings and weekends slogging through mountains of paperwork, and few of those are actual student papers, or work which would translate into new, innovative teaching techniques. My wife’s closest friend is a public school elementary teacher

in another state, and as much as she loves the kids and her work, it’s plain that the problem persists, and crosses geographic boundaries.

That, of course, only makes sense. In looking to “fix” public education and the problems plaguing many children going through American public education, scape-goating and finger-pointing -- and yes, legislation -- seem to ignore the looming elephant in the room: children are becoming increasingly difficult to teach because we, their parents and the adults in their communities, have fed into a rampantly anti-educational, anti-learning, and anti-discipline oriented culture which values the cheap, the tawdry, and the “self-fulfilling” over matters of greater value.

We’ve increased our worship of “stuff” and its acquisition, and the pursuit of our own selfish pleasures, and we’ve baptized such a philosophy in a thousand books, movies, articles, talk shows, TV dramas, and songs, and then celebrated many of these as great works. In effect, we’ve legitimized the worst in children’s own behavior: instant gratification, prioritizing our own pleasure, and the amassing of material goods, all in the name of supposed happiness and “self-fulfillment,” even though we have one of the highest suicide rates in the world.

It seems to me, with all that in mind, we’re having a hard time teaching our children to buckle down and listen, to grow up and stop bucking the authority of their educators, and to value intangibles like learning and sacrifice, when we ourselves have yet to learn those lessons -- when we’ve embraced notions that are basically the worst in young children’s behavior (and which kindergarten teachers around the nation work to eradicate in youngsters) and dubbed them “freedom,” “self-actualization,” and the pursuit of “personal fulfillment.”

And so, we take our children to the local public school and drop them off, becoming indignant that teachers find it difficult to enforce disciplines, expectations, standards, priorities, and methods of learning which so many of us undermine daily in our own homes.

The state, of course, can’t legislate away these problems, which I contend are much of what’s at the heart of whatever education crisis does exist in America.

But rather than feeding into the demonization of teachers, the state could put some of its energy into addressing the real crisis of an entire culture becoming increasingly hostile to lifestyle choices in which education flourishes.

Better still, and more to the point, perhaps the answer doesn’t lie with the state, but with each one of us as parents, as family members of children, and members of a community.


Maybe we can consider some of the suggestions Cory puts forth in his column here, at least as a starting point.


And perhaps the answer lies in each of us recognizing the impact of our own choices, and asking if we’re helping create an environment conducive to education for our children...and in which children start their first day of school ready and excited to listen, learn, and grow.

Let’s turn off the TV and video games

In being not that far removed from childhood myself, I can remember a life very different than I see youth living today. When I was a kid, I remember playing outside for hours with nothing more than a couple of friends and our imaginations. Today, youth are more inclined to sit inside and let TV or video games do the imagining for them. Who can blame them though? Playing cops and robbers with a couple of sticks, isn’t nearly as appealing as playing cops and robbers with a couple of Wii controllers. There is absolutely no denying that children’s auditory and visual stimulation thresholds have risen through the roof in the past decade. It takes so much more today to excite, motivate, and keep the attention of a child than it did even twenty or thirty years ago.

As the virtual worlds where children spend a majority of their time have become more and more lifelike, children have become more and more withdrawn from the actual real world. As parents can surely attest to, kids to-





BY CORY MONNIER, UNIT SUPERVISOR,
CULVER BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

day spend a majority of everyday with their nose stuck in some sort of electronic device. While electronic devices are not bad when used in moderation, it is very obvious that in today’s society, moderation went out the window a long time ago.

At the Culver Boys & Girls Club, we are making a concerted effort to find that balance between embracing technology, but at the same time, not letting it consume our programming. We favor interactive game devices like Xbox Kinect and Wii Fit, which give youth the oppor-

tunity to stay active, over your traditional sit and smash buttons variety. We also encourage youth to receive at least 60 minutes of pure traditional play time everyday. Whether it is playing a game of tag on the playground, or taking on their peers in a rousing game of Monopoly, our members are constantly being reminded that electronics do not have to consume their lives.

This is a trend that can easily be mimicked at home. No matter how much resistance or flak parents receive, it’s important to take a stand and turn off the TV and video games every now and then. On a nice day, challenge your children to venture outside to run and play, and by all means, join them. Institute a family game night, where once a week all electronics get turned off and everyone plays a fun board game together. I’m not proposing that parents should throw their TV and video games out, because they do serve some purpose, but I am suggesting to treat them as more of a reward for the kids. If we can get kids out from in front of the TV every so often, I believe that as a nation, we would be very pleased about the changes we’d see.

Name that Culver ‘citizen’



Last week’s Mystery Citizen solicited correct guesses from several readers, including Sue Roth, Joan Bess, Ann Maurer, Dick Zimmerman, and Julie Bess. She’s Emily Payson Ryman, whose local roots go back near the turn of the century, and whose grandfather, Col. Edward Payson, was the originator of the famous Moonlight Serenade on Lake Maxinkuckee, besides Emily’s own lengthy involvement in Culver Academies’ Summer Schools, among other endeavors.

Catching up on old business, Jan Johnson guessed Shelly (Good) Drang from the Feb. 24 edition of the paper.

This week’s Mystery Citizen has been a familiar face in Culver most of his life, and was most recently involved in an effort of much local note.

Guesses may be emailed to citizen@culcom.net, dropped off in one of our drop boxes (located at the Culver Public Library and Culver Coffee Company), or call the editor at 574-216-0075.

Name: MARCH ADS; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00114784; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Family Vision Clinic; Size: 8 in

Name: NEW; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00114584; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Culver Academies; Size: 8 in



ABOVE: Last week’s Mystery Citizen, Emily Ryman, then and now. LEFT: this week’s mystery citizen.



Sports



Cavs' historic run ends at semistate

By Dee Grenert
Staff Writer

girls basketball

ELKHART — Culver Community girls basketball skipper Tony Scheub's voice cracked, partly from emotion, partly, no doubt, from guiding his team through a memorable tournament run.

With that diminishing voice, he relayed a powerful message to his squad following its 47-43 semistate loss to Class 2A No. 1 Fort Wayne Luers at Elkhart's North Side Gymnasium Saturday.

"I told them I wanted them to walk out of here with their heads up," the first-year coach said. "They're the first team in school history to play in a semistate. The community supports them. I told the kids when we got here to take it all in, and I did the same thing, because you may never experience anything like this again. I can't say thanks enough for letting me come along for the ride. I know why I came here."

Senior Gwen Zehner, Culver's 6-foot-1 standout forward, certainly held her head high.

"It has been so much fun," she said. "I can't believe we've come this far. I looked at the other end of the gym, and the No. 1 team in the state has four people in their fol-

lowing, then I looked at our crowd, and I think our whole school was here. Our fans have been unbelievable. We did the best we could."



PHOTO/JAMES COSTELLO

Culver Community's Gwen Zehner (51), and Patrice McBee (30) guard Fort Wayne Bishop Luers' Brierra Young (21) during the Class 2A Northern Girls Basketball Semistate at Elkhart's North Side Gymnasium Saturday.

down the right baseline to put the Knights on top 42-38 with 2:32 to play. Luers maintained a multiple-possession edge the rest of the way.

Meanwhile, Culver, which went just one deep off the bench, struggled against Luers' full-court press down the stretch. The deeper Knights forced six fourth-quarter turnovers and held the Cavs to 3 of 13 from the field during the same span.

"When we got out of executing our stuff we had problems," Scheub said. "(Watts') play put us down two possessions, and we're not a very good team when we have to play from behind."

Luers actually threatened to blow the game open early. Boosted by a 15-6 first-quarter advantage on the boards, the Knights opened a 17-9 lead at the quarter break.

The Cavs, though, responded with a 12-2 run to reclaim the lead. With Luers showing a few possessions of 2-3 zone, senior Alison Zehner powered the spurt with two of her trio of first-half treys — each from the left wing — and senior guard Nicole Carnegie collected a steal and bucket to give Culver a 23-21 lead.

"When we came here to practice (Alison Zehner) was lighting it up, and that made me excited about this game watching her practice," Scheub said. "I'm not surprised to see her hit like that."

Alison Zehner scored a team-best 13 points for Culver and chipped in a pair of assists and steals apiece.

On the glass, 6-3 senior center Patrice McBee stabilized the rebounding war in the second quarter and dominated in the second half for Culver, finishing the day with 11 points and a game-best 17 caroms.

"We worked all week on rebounding," Scheub said. "We tell our post players that they've got to get nasty, and they weren't getting nasty. In the second half, they did. I love watching Patrice McBee rebound; she can get up there with anybody. I'm going to miss watching her rebound."

In the interior, the Gwen Zehner-McBee duo combined with Luers' own tall tandem of 6-1 Miracle Woods and 5-11 Brooke Ridley to put on quite an entertaining show. Gwen Zehner overcame foul trouble and complemented McBee with nine points, six boards and two blocked shots. Woods wound up with nine points, 14 rebounds and four blocked shots, while Ridley put up five points and nine boards.

Culver now bids farewell to the Zehners, McBee, Carnegie and Whitney Sanders — all four-year players.

"For the senior class to take me in like they did, I can't thank them enough," Scheub said. "The community support has been great. The reason I wanted to coach in a small community is because of the support."

• CLASS 2A SEMISTATE
FORT WAYNE LUERS 47,
CULVER COMMUNITY 43
At Culver
Score by quarters
Luers: 17 23 31 47
Culver: 9 25 32 43
LUERS (47): Brooke Ridley 2 1-2 5, Catherine Barnett 1 1-2 3, Addie Reimbold 0 0-0 0, Brierra Young 4 10-12 18, Hilary Watts 3 3-4 9, Miracle Woods 3 2-7 8, Morgan Skordos 2 0-0 4, Allison Butler 0 0-0 0. TOTALS: 15 17-27 47.
CULVER (43): Nicole Carnegie 3 1-2 7, Patrice McBee 4 3-6 11, Whitney Sanders 0 0-0 0, Alison Zehner 5 0-0 13, Kayla Shaffer 1 1-2 3, Gwen Zehner 4 1-4 9. TOTALS: 17 6-14 43.
3-point goals: Luers none, Culver 3 (A. Zehner); Turnovers: Luers 18, Culver 17; Rebounds: Luers 39 (Woods 14), Culver 35 (McBee 17); Assists: Luers 5 (Young 3), Culver 9 (Carnegie, Sanders, A. Zehner 2); Steals: Luers 7 (Woods 2), Culver 4 (A. Zehner 2); Fouls (fouled out): Luers 11 (none), Culver 20 (Sanders); Records: Luers 23-2, Culver 25-2 (final).

Culver ends regular season on high note

By Brent Glasgow
Staff Writer

BREMEN — With Indiana's version of March Madness mere days away, Culver capped the regular season on a high note Friday night.

After a tremendous start, Culver never looked back and topped Bremen, 54-39.

"We got them earlier in the year at the Bi-County Tournament but we knew this was going to be a dogfight, and we had some kids step up for us," Culver coach Kyle Elliott said. "I'm very proud of the kids' effort."

As it has much of the season, Bremen dug itself an early hole, and couldn't cut its deficit to less than 12 points over the final two quarters.

From a shooting standpoint, Culver (14-7) was perfect in the first quarter. The Cavaliers made all seven of their field-goal attempts and their only free throw try in taking an 18-4 lead. Culver did it against an unfamiliar lineup for Bremen (3-17), which started all four of its seniors on a night in which the school honored all of its senior winter athletes.

"Kyle was playing his seniors to start out the ballgame, which most coaches do on senior night," Elliott said. "We knew it was a little different lineup for them and thought we might be able to exploit it in catching them in a lineup they're not used to being in. But still, you have to put the ball in the hole and they did a nice job of that."

Jacob Box and Josh Brenneman combined for nine of Bremen's 11 points in the second quarter. The Lions were outscored by a basket in the period as Culver took a 31-15 halftime lead. Zoe Bauer led Culver with seven points in the first half, as five Cavaliers had at least three points.

A 3-pointer by Box and two baskets by Austin Huff trimmed Culver's lead to 34-22 early in the third quarter. It was one of four times in the second half Bremen pulled within 12, but Culver scored on the following possession each time to prevent a rally.

"That was big because Bremen just doesn't quit," Elliott said. "Our kids kept their poise and kept them from making a big run."

Bauer led Culver with 13 points, followed by Collin Stevens and Micah Budzinski with 11 apiece. Budzinski led all players with 10 rebounds, as Culver outrebounded Bremen 26-10 for the game.

Box led Bremen with 11 points, followed by Brenneman with 10.

Culver will have to wait and see who it will play in Friday's sectional semifinal at Winamac. The foe is likely to be one-

See Cavs page 8

Culver's first national fencing champ breaks records

By Jan Garrison

Culver Academies Communications

You can't blame Desirae Major for feeling a bit jet-lagged. She has spent nearly every weekend since the New Year crisscrossing the United States and even traveling to London for international fencing competitions. But the end result is Major can now lay claim to a title very few in her sport can: National Champion.

Major '12 (Olathe, Kan.) won the 20-and-Under women's saber

division at the Junior Olympics Feb. 18-21 in Dallas. She also finished third in the U18 division, even though she didn't have to enter that age group after her U20 victory.

She not only became Culver's first national champion fencer, she also became the first fencer from a high school program ever to win a national championship. Until her victory, fencing clubs have dominated the JO competition.

Major's JO triumph was a fitting climax to frantic pace through January and February. She spent Jan. 12-13 in Dallas at a nationally-sanctioned event, where she placed second in the U17 category and in the top 32 in the U20. On Jan. 19-20, she was in Phoenix for an international competition where she placed sixth in the U20 category. The next weekend, she was off to London for another international competition, where she placed 16th in the U17 age bracket.

"I'm really tired," she said after the London weekend. "It was a long flight back. I'd come back for four days and then fly out again."

After she got back, though, she helped Culver win the Great Lakes Conference championship after 18-year drought. Then it was time head back to Dallas for the Junior Olympics competition as part of the 17-member Culver contingent.

It appears all the travel and jet lag are paying off.

Name: WK #1 SPECIAL PARTS; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00114681; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Lakeside Auto Supply; Size: 8 in



PHOTO/PAUL PARE

Members of the Lady Cavs prepare for their semistate game Saturday. Front row, left to right: Nicole Carnegie, Suzie Guard (standing), Ali Overmyer. Back row: Patrice McBee, Chelsea Jones, Kayla Shaffer, Alison Zehner, Shakkira Harris, Abby James, Whitney Sanders, Kaitlyn Comiskey.

Name: OPEN HOUSE; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00114587; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Pilot News; Size: 8 in

Name: March special; Width: 30p11.5; Depth: 5 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00114923; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Bass Lake Pub; Size: 15 in

Council from page 1



CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY
Culver Boys & Girls Club board chairman Alan Loehr, right, accepts a check from Town Council president Ginny Munroe, left,

noon snack, playtime, homework help...my family has truly benefited from it.”

Audience member Bill Cleavenger, representing Culver’s Plan Commission, informed the Council the Plan Commission held a public hearing and voted to recommend an amendment to the current zoning ordinance as it pertains to the R1 designation in Culver. He explained the existing ordinance lacked a provision for professional corporations or businesses operating in the Residential R1 area, citing specifically the CPA firm operated by the Greason family on West Jefferson Street, at a location which isn’t their residence. Cleavenger asked the Council to consider a public hearing on the matter at their next meeting; Howard said that likely would take place at the March 29 meeting, due to advertising time constraints.

nearly 100 if whom attend the club daily.

Howard praised the impact of the club on her own children, whom she said have attended “from first grade on.

“It’s been a wonderful option for a working parent,” she said. “They get after-

The Council approved revised sidewalk specifications in Culver, at the request of Town Manager Michael Doss, including removal of rebar as a necessity in new curb and guttering, and a change from requiring an aggregate mix to a crushed limestone base, which Doss said is more solid and “tree friendly.”

Council members will consider a request from Police Chief Wayne Bean that his department be allowed to purchase a truck, at a cost of \$228,522, in part to aid in officers’ mobility during bad winter weather as has been experienced lately. Bean said the truck wouldn’t be put into the town’s regular vehicle rotation and so would last several years, and no tax dollars would be spent for it (instead it could be purchased using LECE funds). The Council will revisit the matter at its next meeting.

Approved by Council was \$2,127 for a technical service agreement for Culver EMS’ defibrulators, at the request of EMS Director Chuck Dilts, and \$1,140 in annual cost for remote data backups via Stallings Consulting.

Town attorney Jim Clevenger will send a final notice letter pending deduction of pay from a town employee who agreed to pay half the costs of having a tree removed from his property last year. Howard said the town paid the full amount, with Council approval pending payment of the other half from the employee, but payment was never made by the employee. She said the town has called, written letters, and had Cleavenger write a letter threatening deduction from his pay.

Winters updated the Council on a project it had contributed to financially about a year and a half ago, the construction of a Community Resource Center in Plymouth. Thanking the town, he said a contract has been let on the project, which has been several years in the works.

Pinder complimented Culver’s street crews for their work in recent weeks’ snow and ice events. “I look at other towns and other streets, and we just do better,” he said.



CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

CES-ers learn songwriting 101

Educational singer-songwriter Thaddeus Rex spent the day (and evening) recently at the Culver Elementary School, performing two concerts – one in the morning for the assembled students and one in the evening for area families and children – and leading a workshop for third graders from Culver and Monterey Elementary Schools on songwriting. Students were not only led through writing their own song collectively, but the song was recorded by the musician as a memento of the occasion for the children.

Rex even wrote a blog entry about his Culver experience at his website, www.thaddeusrex.com, which also lists the nationally-touring musician-educator’s schedule, awards, and other endeavors.

Arrest report

Wendy L. Crum, 47, Culver, was arrested Feb. 22 by the Marshall County Police Department for neglect of dependent-deprives education and neglect of a dependent-endangers life or health.

Glasses to be donated to Lions effort

CULVER — Family Vision Clinic/Dr. Mark Coutts O.D. is working with Lions Clubs International to donate eyeglass frames for its Lions Recycle for Sight program. The frames will be shipped to one of the 10 Lions Eyeglass Recycling Centers where they will be cleaned and prepared for distribution by Lions and other groups. Donated frames will be used both domestically and internationally to improve the vision of those who cannot afford eye care. With the frames, trained Lions volunteers and eye care professionals perform vision screenings and dispense the appropriate recycled glasses, free of charge, to needy children and adults.

Name: SPORTS SHOW; Width: 30p11.5; Depth: 10 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00114509; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Pilot News; Size: 30 in

Our township, county by the numbers

The preliminary Marshall County 2010 Census figures are in. Marshall County grew 4 percent during the last 10 years from 45,128 to 47,051. Nine out of 10 Marshall County townships grew with only Union Township losing population (a -1.4 percent decrease). Union also has more than a 20 percent housing vacancy rate. The largest city is Plymouth with a population of 10,033. Bremen is the largest town with 4,588; and Bourbon second at 1,810; Argos at 1,691; Culver at 1,353; and LaPaz at 561. Demographics include the fact that 34,402 of Marshall County’s population is over 18 years of age with 12,649 (27 percent) under the age of 18. Marshall County is predominately white with 40,000 classified as white, but more than 10 percent are classified as a minority. The totals show 220 black; 215 Asian; 1,896 as other; 720 multi-racial; and 3,971 as Hispanic, while 26 counties showed more than 10 percent minorities in the state. This information is available at www.stats.indiana.edu/topic/census.asp. During the next few months additional data will be released.

Sports briefs

Boys basketball

Eagles thump Cavemen

Jermaine Myers scored a game-high 23 points to lead CMA to a 59-37 basketball win at Mishawaka Friday.

Chier Ajou added 18 points and eight rebounds for the Eagles.

CMA 59, MISHAWAKA 37 At Mishawaka
Score by quarters
CMA: 17 26 45 59
Mishawaka: 9 13 22 37
CULVER MILITARY (59): Jermaine Myers 8 3-4 23, Hayes Barnes 2 0-0 5, Peter Bin 0 0-0 0, Eljay Murray 1 0-0 3, David Dilts 0 0-0 0, Aramonti Phillips 0 0-0 0, Chier Ajou 9 0-0 18, Juwan Brescacin 3 0-0 6, Hyeong-Woo Kan 0 0-0 0, Alex Dodane 1 0-0 2, Willie Strong 1 0-2 2, Nick Zalduendo 0 0-0 0. TOTALS: 25 3-6 59.
MISHAWAKA (37): T.J. Benner 1 0-0 2, Cody Childress 1 2-3 4, Danny Eggleston 1 0-0 2, Justin Frazier 0 0-0 0, Mike Louderback 1 0-0 2, Chris Mitchell 4 0-0 9, Christian Radcliff 1 0-0 2, Sam Schrader 1 0-0

2, Joey Schuster 0 0-0 0, Brandon Vanderhaggen 0 1-2 1, Javonte Young 4 4-5 13. TOTALS: 14 7-10 37.
3-point goals: CMA 6 (Myers 4, Barnes, Murray), Mishawaka 2 (Mitchell, Young). Total fouls: CMA 16, Mishawaka 11. Shooting: CMA 25-of-43 (58 percent), Mishawaka 14-of-48 (29 percent). Rebounds: CMA 30 (Ajou 8), Mishawaka 25 (Young 6). Turnovers: CMA 11, Mishawaka 10. JV score: Mishawaka 53 (Matt Carver 17, Danny Eggleston 17), CMA 43 (Charlie Kennedy 12) (OT). Varsity records: CMA 14-6, Mishawaka 10-10.

Culver drops NSC contest

New Prairie had four players in double figures as the Cougars claimed a 68-56 Northern State Conference win over visiting Culver Tuesday.

Josh Ruiz scored a game-high 17 for New Prairie, while Zach Rehlander had 15, Mike Wagner put up

13, and Mitchell Mrozinski scored 11 in the win, which lifts the Cougars to 9-11 overall and a 3-4 NSC mark.

Zoe Bauer put up 15 Culver, while Larry Clingler and Micah Budzinski scored 12 and 11, respectively.

Culver slips to 13-7 and 2-4 in the NSC. The Cavs will close out regular-season and conference play Friday at Bremen. Tip-off is slated for 7:30 p.m.
• NEW PRAIRIE 68, CULVER 56
At New Carlisle
Score by quarters
Culver: 7 26 44 56
New Prairie: 16 38 54 68
CULVER (56): Zoe Bauer 15, Scotty Brown 2, Micah Budzinski 11, Larry Clingler 12, Trent Elliott 6, Patrick McBee 0, A.J. Neace 0, Collin Stevens 10, Jacoda Anderson 0. TOTALS: 23 3-6 56
NEW PRAIRIE (68): Kyle Brammer 6, Mitchell Mrozinski 11, Zach

Rehlander 15, Josh Ruiz 17, George Stainko 6, Mike Wagner 13, Aaron Blagecki 0, Austin Ginter 0, Matt Winter 0, Derek Scott 0, C.J. Kowalski 0. TOTALS: 28 5-10 68
3-point goals: Culver 7 (Bauer 3, Elliott 2, Stevens 2), New Prairie 7 (Rehlander 3, Ruiz 3, Wagner). Total fouls (fouled out): Culver 14, New Prairie 11. Records: Culver 13-7 (2-4 NSC), New Prairie 9-11 (3-4 NSC). JV score: New Prairie 56, Culver 30.

Briefs from page 1

continue its session of free, two-hour computer classes in March. Sessions for the month of March include Microsoft Excel (Monday, March 7, 6 p.m. and Friday, March 11, 10 a.m.); Microsoft PowerPoint (March 14, 6 p.m., and March 18, 10 a.m.); Microsoft Publisher (March 21, 6 p.m., and March 25, 10 a.m.). These are hands-on classes and the library will provide computers. If you have your own laptop computer, feel free to bring it to the classes. For more information, call the Culver Library at 574-842-2941, visit our website at www.culver.lib.in.us or e-mail abaker@culver.lib.in.us.

Citizen on Facebook, web

The Culver Citizen newspaper will now be updating the community on local news via the popular social networking site, Facebook. Facebook users who will see updates, photos, and more from the Citizen as part of their daily Facebook routine. This joins the existing Culver Citizen webpage at www.thepilotnews.com/culver, where a greatly increased amount of news and information is now appearing, and in an even more timely fashion.

The weekly print edition of the paper will continue to be the central news ve-

hicle for Culver.

Friends of the Library accept donations

The Friends of the Culver-Union Twp. Public Library welcome donations of gently used books and media towards their first book sale of the year, Friday and Saturday, April 29 and 30, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the library, 107 N. Main Street in Culver. Books and other donated items may be brought to the front desk at the library any time during open hours. Those interested in joining the Friends are encouraged to do so. The next meeting will be Monday, April 4, at 1 p.m., in the library.

Community fish fry March 26

Culver’s VFW Post 6919 is sponsoring, with the assistance of Culver Fire, EMS and Police Depts., an all-you-can-eat fish fry to benefit the Culver Food Pantry, Saturday, March 26 from 4 to 7 p.m. Cost is \$4 for children 12 and under and \$8 for adults. Fish will be prepared by the Tyner IOOF Lodge. Doors are open to the public at 108 E. Washington Street. Carry out orders are available at 574-842-3886.

Open gym

Adult basketball continues from 1-3 p.m., at

the Culver Middle School Gym Sundays, through March 6.

This is for adults, in the local community/school district. Please bring your good sportsmanship and please do not bring your children. Cost to play (for insurance) is \$2 per Sunday. Call Ken VanDePutte, 574-274-9942.

Tuesday Tea and Crafts group meet in Culver

The Market Basket and Company, 13775 S.R. 17 Culver, will host a Tuesday Tea and Crafts group, Tuesdays in February, from 1 to 3 p.m. The groups meet and either bring a project to work on or purchase supplies to do a featured craft while taking part in an afternoon of crafting and tea. To learn more, or to register, visit The Market Basket and Company or call Kathy at 574-842-2145.

Culver boat slips available for rental

The Culver Park and Recreation Department has boat slips available for the 20-11 boating season. Interested individuals should contact Kelly Young, park superintendent at 574-842-3510 during the evening hours to inquire about the slips.

CMA earns 2 state berths at swim sectional

WARSAW — With no one challenging David DeVries at sectional, Culver Military Academy head coach Tom Duckett issued a special challenge to his star swimmer at the Warsaw Boys Swim Sectional Saturday: Lap the field.



PHOTO/JAMES COSTELLO

Culver Military Academy's David DeVries swims the 500-yard freestyle at the Warsaw Boys Swim Sectional last week. DeVries won the race and the 200-yard free-style, where he set a new school record, to advance in both events to the state finals.

have much of a race so you're point to have to make a race. What I want you to do is go out and lap the entire field,' and he worked on that and proceeded to do that."

The host Tigers easily won the team meet, winning nine of the 12 events for 401 points February 19, while CMA won the remaining three en route to second place, and Plymouth finished out its season in sixth.

In addition to DeVries' dual championships, junior Zach Grant provided a nice surprise for the Eagles with another championship swim in the 100-yard backstroke, clocking a 57.48 in the event on his way to a first state berth.

"Zach Grant was a complete surprise; the best he'd turned in in the dual meet season was a 1:03 in the 100 back," Duckett said. "I moved him in there from freestyle — he was going to be my 50 and 100 freestyler — and he was just showing something in practice that said he might be able to do the backstroke... I wasn't too sure if he could hold off the field because most of the boys were older than him and much bigger than he was, but he was able to hold them off."

Plymouth's lone senior Poaolo Palmitessa entered the preliminary round at Warsaw seeded first in both the backstroke and the 200-yard individual medley. He placed fifth in the back and missed a first state berth by roughly two and a half seconds in the IM to close out his career with the Pilgrims.

• WARSAW BOYS SWIM SECTIONAL

At Warsaw
Team results: WARSAW 401, CULVER ACADEMIES 259, COLUMBIA CITY 157, LOGANSPOUT 144, ROCHESTER 119, PLYMOUTH 108, PIONEER 65, HUNTINGTON NORTH 53, TIPPECANOE VALLEY 37, WABASH 33
200 medley relay: 1. Warsaw (Caleb Snyder, Gavin McGrath, Thomas Wack, Harrison Green) 1:43.23, 2. Culver Academies (David Devries, Leopoldo Burguete, Javier Bravo, Zachary Grant) 1:45.19, 3. Col. City 1:47.43, 4. Rochester 1:51.17, 5. Logansport 1:51.45, 6. Plymouth 1:53.48; 200 freestyle: 1. Devries 1:45.93, 2. Craig Wesley (WAR) 1:51.83, 3. Jorge De la Vega (CA) 1:52.53, 4. Dominick Cesaretti (WAR) 1:57.7, 5. Pablo Padilla Liaguno (CA) 1:59.73, 6. Michael Meadows (WAR) 2:00.31; 200 individual medley: 1. Tyler Arscott (WAR) 2:05.27, 2. Poaolo Palmitessa (P) 2:07.75, 3. Caleb Snyder (WAR) 2:15, 4. Kevin Hershberger (CC) 2:15.38, 5. Bravo 2:15.41, 6. Schuyler Hand (L) 2:19.77; 50 freestyle: 1. Mitchell Gauger (WAR) 21.58, 2. Cole Smith (CC) 22.47, 3. Green 23.19, 4. Patrick Easter (WAR) 22.95, 5. Bryan Devries (CA) 23.66, 6. AJ Hudkins (R) 23.91; Diving: 1. Michael Boyle (WAR) 517.65, 2. Kellen Lemler (WAR) 327.65, 3. Luke Doughty (H) 319.8, 4. Austin Highlen (WAR) 303.95; 100 butterfly: 1. Wack 56.49, 2. Craig 57.88, 3. Burguete 58.43, 4. Patrick Kays (R) 59.51, 5. Hudkins 1:00.12, 6. Webb 1:01.68; 100 freestyle: 1. Gauger 47.26, 2. Easter 50.09, 3. Smith 50.25, 4. Grant 50.93, 5. De la Vega 51.47, 6. Cesaretti 53.61; 500 freestyle: 1. D. Devries 4:46.54, 2. Nate Stone (WAR) 5:17.86, 3. Kays 5:21.28, 4. Meadows 5:24.07, 5. Logan James (L) 5:24.82, 6. Andrew Thrasher (WAR) 5:25.62; 200 freestyle relay: 1. Warsaw (Gauger, Craig, Easter, Green) 1:28.69, 2. Col. City (Garrett Vandersaul, Kyle Mertz, Hershberger, Smith) 1:34.87, 3. Culver Academies (Jose Herrera, B. Devries, Bravo, De la Vega) 1:35.13, 4. Logansport 1:39.52, 5. Rochester 1:39.73, 6. Plymouth 1:40.65; 100 backstroke: 1. Grant 57.48, 2. Max Carter (WAR) 59.02, 3. Dustin Clements (L) 58.97, 4. Snyder 59.28, 5. Palmitessa 59.36, 6. Phillip Zook (H) 1:00.84; 100 breaststroke: 1. Arscott 1:04.73; 2. Hershberger 1:05.29, 3. McGrath 1:06.29, 4. Burguete 1:06.99, 5. Joe Lopper (L) 1:09.13, 6. Hand 1:09.63; 400 freestyle relay: 1. Warsaw (Easter, Wack, Craig, Gauger) 3:18.27, 2. Culver Academies (De la Vega, Grant, Burguete, D. Devries) 3:20.23, 3. Col. City (Vandersaul, Justin Moss, Tucker Daniel, Mertz) 3:37.25, 4. Logansport 3:38.78, 5. Plymouth 3:41.28, 6. Pioneer 3:46.13.

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Harvey's state title no surprise

By James Costello
Sports Editor

Wrestling championships are often decided long before any championship match, before a wrestler even takes his place on the mat opposite his opponent.

If anyone was prepared to win Saturday's 73rd Annual IHSAA Individual Wrestling State Finals, it was Jeremiah Harvey.



PHOTO/JEFF BROWN

Culver Community senior Jeremiah Harvey's hand is raised in the air after his overtime championship win the heavyweight division at the IHSAA Individual State Wrestling Finals on Saturday, Feb. 19.

Daniel Meyer in the semifinals Saturday.

"The big thing is, almost all of his big ticket matches were overtime," said Culver head wrestling coach Mike Buschman. "That's the big key to me because it seems that all his matches are overtime and the ones that aren't overtime he's pinning the kid in a minute, and it's game over. Then when the chips are on the line and it's overtime, double overtime... I think he's learned from that not only his strategy in what to do on the mat but also in terms of how to handle himself mentally and emotionally and how to keep himself calm and under control."

Then there's the quality of Harvey's opponents. In addition to Howe and Hall, Harvey had beaten eighth-ranked Eric Forrest of Jimtown in Northern State Conference action. And his wrestling room partners were top-notch with a former Trine University All American in Culver assistant wrestling coach Lewis Bosley and another state-ranked wrestler in No. 5 189-pound teammate Matt Hurford.

"Those guys do a great job; they don't back up," Buschman said. "To Matt Hurford, every single thing is a competition, every single thing that happens in practice. It doesn't matter if it's a sprint, if it's a match, if it's a drill, and it didn't matter to him that Jeremiah was a state qualifier, every time they wrestled it was a competition, and that was huge for Jeremiah's success, that was huge for his ability to do what he did this weekend."

While the humble Harvey said he wasn't himself convinced he could win the state title until his 3-2 quarterfinal win over then-undefeated Meyer, Buschman said he was given a glimpse early in the year.

"I think the first time we really started to see a glimmer of what might happen was probably the first Saturday of the year," he said. "Not even so much when it was happening, but when we reflected back on the five guys he wrestled that Saturday, which he pretty much just buzzed right through, and they turned out to have 20, 25, close to 30-match seasons, about three or four of those guys, and we're looking back going 'Oh, wow, this could be a special season.'"

Indeed, Harvey's championship had a touch of destiny in it as Culver's girls basketball team won the school its first team regional at home Saturday night, and 500 fans stayed around at John R. Nelson Gymnasium to watch a live webcast of Harvey's state title match with Howe, willing him to victory from 100 miles away with chants of "Harvey! Harvey!"

"It's a great day to be a Cavalier. It's hard to put into words," said Culver Community High School principal Albert Hanselman following Harvey's win Saturday. "We hadn't ever won a team regional championship, and obviously, we never had a state champion, and now, for it to be happening on the same day; what are the odds of that? It's surreal."

"I found out (about the girls basketball championship) before my match so I kind of pushed myself in the last match to get the win and bring it home for Culver Community," said Harvey.

"It blew my mind to know how many fans were here (at Culver) watching me. It's awesome to know that you have so many fans watching you and everyone down at Consecoco watching you getting the state championship."

Harvey will leave Culver Community as one of the school's most decorated athlete ever, with the Cavaliers' first-ever state championship in wrestling as well as a whole host of decorations in football and track and field. But while the legacy he leaves as an athlete is important, it's his legacy as a person that makes him even more memorable, says Hanselman.

"Jeremiah works extremely hard. But as good an athlete as he is, he's an even better kid, and he's humble," said the Culver principal. "I called him (Friday) night to congratulate him after his first win. He said, 'Thanks, Mr. Hanselman,' and he said he was ready to prepare for the next day."

"He's going to play college football. Some school is going to get a very good football player, but they'll be getting an even better person. He's such a leader at our school, a quiet leader. Everybody loves that kid."

Cavs from page 6

loss North Judson, which beat Culver 72-35 in the teams' Dec. 29 meeting.

"It looks like it'll be Judson and I like to think we're a lot better team than we showed on that particular night," Elliott said. "I like where we're sitting in that bye bracket because it gives us more time to prepare. We'll enjoy this one and then get focused on Monday for North Judson."

Bremen will face Fairfield in the Westview sectional semifinal round. Fairfield won the teams' Feb. 5 matchup, 58-43.

• CULVER 54,

BREMEN 39
At Bremen
Score by quarters
Culver: 18 31 42 54
Bremen: 4 15 26 39
CULVER (54): A.J. Neace 2 1-2 6, Scotty Brown 0 0-0 0, Collin Stevens 3 3-4 11, Zoe Bauer 4 4-7 13, Trent Elliott 3 2-2 9, Patrick McBee 0 2-2 2, Micah Budzinski 4 3-6 11, Larry Clingler 1 0-2 2, Jacoda Anderson 0 0-0 0. Totals: 17 15-25 54.
BREMEN (39): Ben Hueni 1 1-2 3, Ty Holmes 0 0-0 0, Jesse Glinglie 0 2-2 2, Ethan Pike 0 0-0 0, Jacob Box 4 1-1 11, Josh Brenneman 5 0-0 10, J.J. Schafer 2 1-4 5, Austin Huff 3 0-0 6, Michael Ricketts 0 0-0 0, Mitch Huppert 0 2-2 2. Totals: 15 7-11 39.
Rebounds: Culver 26 (Budzinski 10), Bremen 10 (Box, Schafer 3); 3-point: Culver 5-16, Bremen 2-15; Turnovers: Culver 16, Bremen 10. Fouls: Culver 13, Bremen 19. Records: Culver 14-7, Bremen 3-17.