

SCOOP

KEEP THE KIDS' STUFF IN ITS PLACE

PAGE A6



PREP GYMNASTICS

FRESHMAN WINS VAULT TITLE

PAGE B1

HIGH SCHOOL

STATE AIMS TO REDUCE DROPOUT RATE

PAGE A8

DAILY JOURNAL

www.thejournalnet.com

MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2006

Johnson County, Indiana

50 cents

WEATHER



Today

Skies: Breezy, chance of snow
Temps: High 44; low 24

MAP, PAGE A8

COMING UP

Three of a kind

Brothers Tony, Joe and Jarrod Epke are former Center Grove High School standouts who are teammates



once again on Ball State's tennis team.

Hobby to career

Lenny Scantland has turned his passion for sports cards into a business, going from a collector to a sports card connoisseur.

Belly dancing

The latest exercise trend is all in the hips.

THIS WEEK

FREE TIME

Send in your events

A new section devoted to events, activities and things to do on the southside and in central Indiana debuted Thursday in the Daily Journal. Free Time helps you pick the best activities for your family and allows you to plan your outings weeks in advance.

We need you to submit your events, activities and meetings so we can publicize them.

The best way to get your event publicized is to get the information to us at least three weeks in advance. Make sure to include all pertinent information and a phone number in case we have any questions. Send photographs if possible.

E-mail the information to freetime@thejournalnet.com or mail it to Free Time, Daily Journal, P.O. Box 699, Franklin, IN 46131.

DEATHS

- Bargersville
Mark E. Bunch, 65
Franklin
- Lucille Aileen Smith, 103
Mabel Whitaker, 103
Greenwood
- Judy Ann Lautenbach, 52
Whiteland
- Jeffrey K. Clymer, 50
Indianapolis
- David Hollandsworth, 73
Elsewhere
- Dorothy M. Ferrell, 78
Harold O. Hawley, 79
Elden W. "Bus" Reynolds, 88
Earl L. Ridlen, 79

INDEX

- Accent.....A6-A7
- Classified.....B6-B8
- Comics.....B5
- Editorials.....A4
- Obituaries.....A5
- Police, fire.....A3
- Sports.....B1-B4
- Southside.....A3
- TV listings.....A7
- Weather.....A8

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THE WAR IN IRAQ: U.S. ENTERS FOURTH YEAR

THE FOG OF WAR

Effects of conflict touch many parts of life



Staff Sgt. Douglas Piper, left, holds his acrylic prosthetic eye beside his wife Sherry in their home in Richmond Hill, Ga. Piper was wounded in 2003 by a grenade in Baghdad, Iraq, and lost his eye after the blast crushed the bones around his right eye socket.

Grenade blast crippled vet's memory

By RUSS BYNUM
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RICHMOND HILL, Ga. — Nicholas' first steps, his first time Liam, his newborn, smiled — Staff Sgt. Douglas Piper lived to see them. Then his scarred memory erased even those precious moments.

"I can't remember what

LEARN MORE

Find questions and answers with a mother whose son was deployed on Page A2, and a look at a support group for deployed troops' families at www.thejournalnet.com.

they did yesterday," Piper says. "Sometimes, I can't remember what I did yesterday. The days are broken." Iraq left the 30-year-old

Piper in his own personal fog of war, one in which remembering the moments and days since April 2003 can be as confusing a puzzle as predicting his civilian future.

Three years ago, in the war's first month, Piper became one of the more than 17,000 U.S. troops wounded in action. A grenade blast in Baghdad, Iraq,

(SEE BLAST, PAGE A2)

Edinburgh restaurants see business increase

By PAIGE E. WASSEL
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The growth of Camp Atterbury over the past few years has meant more work — and more money — for some businesses in Edinburgh, about two miles from the base.

The boom hasn't affected all businesses or brought long-term residents to the town. But restaurants and hotels

have served more customers as more soldiers have been sent to the military base in southern Johnson County for training.

Soldiers started coming to the base in the fall of 2002, and Camp Atterbury started training troops being deployed to Iraq in 2003. Maj. Mike Brady said.

Since that time, as many as 4,000 soldiers at a time may

(SEE BUSINESS, PAGE A2)



Amanda Garrett prepares a pizza for delivery at the Snappy Tomato restaurant in Edinburgh.

Getting better a long process for Center Grove resident



Lance Cpl. Klay South has had 16 surgeries to heal injuries sustained in Iraq.

By SHERRI EASTBURN
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Three years have passed since the United States went to war in Iraq. And it's been 16 months since Lance Cpl. Klay South was shot in the face while serving in Fallujah.

The Center Grove resident is working out again.

He's gained back more than 50 pounds, lost while he was in a hospital

bed fighting for his life.

He is steadier on his feet. He's working to regain his short-term memory.

And his speech has greatly improved as doctors have worked to reconstruct the inside of his mouth.

"I have to take eight different types of medicine a day," South said. "I kind of live with pain." South, who joined the Marine Corps in 2001, was the first one

(SEE PROCESS, PAGE A2)

TIMELINE

Key events since the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq and overthrow of Saddam Hussein

2003

March 20: U.S. and allied troops launch Operation Iraqi Freedom.

April 9: Baghdad falls to American troops.

July 13: U.S.-named 25-member Governing Council of prominent Iraqis takes office.

Dec. 13: Saddam captured.

2004

March 8: Iraqi Governing Council signs interim constitution.

June 28: Occupation authority turns formal power over to interim government.

Oct. 6: Top U.S. arms inspector finds no evidence Saddam's regime produced weapons of mass destruction after 1991.

2005

Jan. 30: Iraqis elect 275-seat National Assembly. Most Sunni Arabs boycott voting.

March 29: National Assembly convenes.

July 17: First criminal case filed against Saddam, stemming from killing of 148 Shiite villagers over 1982 assassination attempt against dictator.

Aug. 28: Constitutional committee signs draft charter after long negotiations.

Oct. 15: Iraqi voters approve constitution in referendum.

Dec. 15: Iraqis elect new parliament, with Shiite parties winning biggest bloc, but not enough to govern without other groups.

2006

Feb. 22: Bomb damages Shiite shrine in Samarra, touching off sectarian bloodshed that threatens to push Iraq into civil war.



STAFF PHOTO BY SCOTT ROBERSON/
sroberson@thejournalnet.com
Greg Johnson shoots hoops in his Center Grove area living room, which he converted into a basketball court.

Interior design with a hoop

Living-room court keeps madness alive year-round

By SHERRI EASTBURN
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The wide open space, hardwood floor and 20-foot ceilings said "great room" to every other house hunter.

But to Greg Johnson, it screamed "basketball court."

In this Center Grove area abode, friends gather to play some two on two and watch the big screen TV at the same time.

To point out the versatility of his living room, which doubles as a basketball court, Johnson dribbled a basketball across the floor.

A shot from the corner is 21 feet, Johnson said as he stopped, turned and shot for the hoop, which is mounted 10 feet up on a wall.

Since the fireplace is exactly 17 feet away from the net, the slate around the fireplace serves as the free throw line.

There's very little fluff in this room.

The TV and stereo hug one wall. The couch, table and a lone lamp are shoved against the opposite wall.

No rugs. No plants. No knick knacks.

(SEE HOOP, BACK PAGE)

Terrorism exercise scheduled

By MICHAEL W. HOSKINS
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Terrorists will strike New Whiteland on a Saturday in May. But don't panic. It's only a drill.

A mock disaster is being planned for Johnson County to help the region test emergency management, hospital and public safety response and how schools and health officials react to the situation.

The scenario: a crop-dusting plane sprays a deadly chemical agent near Break-O-Day Elementary School on May 6.

"This is going to be a big deal," county emergency management director Forrest "Tug" Sutton said. He was intentionally vague about some details so the reaction isn't spoiled.

(SEE EXERCISE, BACK PAGE)

CLOSE TO HOME: NEW WHITELAND

SOME THINGS NEVER CHANGE

Tracy Plaza Barber Shop island of stability in rapidly growing area

By SHERRI EASTBURN
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In many ways, the Tracy Plaza Barber Shop makes customers feel like they've stepped into Mayberry instead of New Whiteland.

The many regular customers

are always greeted by name.

In most instances, barbers also know who their clients' favorite NASCAR drivers are and who they root for in the Super Bowl.

Children know where to find the jar filled with suckers. And the soda cooler, which is nearly 20 years old, is always stocked beside the coat rack.

More than 40 years ago, Ed Ward, 61, was a high school graduate in Seymour, working with his father in a declining dairy business.

In search of new careers, they both attended barber school and graduated together.

(SEE CHANGE, BACK PAGE)



STAFF PHOTO BY SCOTT ROBERSON
New Whiteland barber Ed Ward cuts hair Friday at his barbershop in Tracy Plaza, off Tracy Road near U.S. 31.