PULLOUT ACTIVITY AND ENTERTAINMENT DIRECTORY

Free Time

YOUR GUIDE TO FINDING SOMETHING TO DO

CHEAP THRILLS

SWEET TREATS

Pan flies again

GREENED UP

Flowers and patios show off

Wondering how to spend free time?

A new section devoted to southside events debuts Thursday. Find the best place to celebrate St. Patrick's Day, where Peter Pan flies again and what you can do for next to nothing.

DAILY JOURNAL

www.thejournalnet.com

TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2006 | Johnson County, Indiana | 50 cents

WEATHER

Today
Skies: Partly sunny
Temps: High 48; low 28

MAP, PAGE A10

INSIDE

Asian firms gain ground
Toyota and Kia increase their U.S. presence as General Motors and Ford struggle.
Page B4

NATO to lead in Afghanistan
U.S. troops will serve under foreign commanders in a combat situation for the first time since World War II.
Page A9

Make your selections
March Madness is setting in as basketball fans make their tournament picks. Get your NCAA women's tournament bracket inside.
Pages B1, B3

COMING UP

Spring break bound
Indiana residents flock to Florida for spring break or family vacations. Where are some other hot spots families can go to get away? Your guide to vacation fun.

Fighting continues
Sunday will mark three years of war in Iraq. A look at the impact on the southside, the soldiers and the people they leave behind.

Three of a kind
Tony, Joe and Jarrod Epkey are former Center Grove High School standouts who are teammates once again on the Ball State University men's tennis team.

The other sport
The Franklin College Grizzlies baseball team labors in the shadow of basketball and football. But the baseball team is nationally ranked and features players who have already won National Player of the Week honors.
THIS WEEK

DEATHS

Franklin
Dorthea May Parkhurst, 96
Roscoe Floyd Sneed, 77
Greenwood
Lucille I. Asher, 84
Fern Jean Carter, 74
The Rev. Charles Richard "Dick" Heath, 82
Edna F. Roberts, 74
Indianapolis
Oscar Williams, 82

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Major Moves compromise reached

BORROR

MEEKS

INSIDE

An analysis of the politics surrounding Major Moves and a look at other developments from the statehouse.
Page A2

Bill, including new route for I-69, must be OK'd today

Staff and wire reports

INDIANAPOLIS

Two top lawmakers said Monday they had reached a tentative agreement on Gov. Mitch Daniels' Major Moves transportation plan and the authority it would give the governor to lease the Indiana Toll Road.

Republican Rep. Randy Borror of Fort Wayne and Senate Appropriations Chairman Robert Meeks, R-Lagrange, said they believed the proposed compromise, allowing much of the planned Interstate 69 extension to become a tollway and pushing a route change, could pass the both GOP-controlled House and Senate.

The compromise would not allow the I-69 extension to pass through Perry Township in Marion County without later approval from the legislature.

If the road cannot pass through Perry Township, it likely would not pass through Johnson County. That decision could postpone improvements to State Road 37.

Earlier versions of the governor's plan passed each chamber with few yes votes to spare, but the plans had some major differences between them.

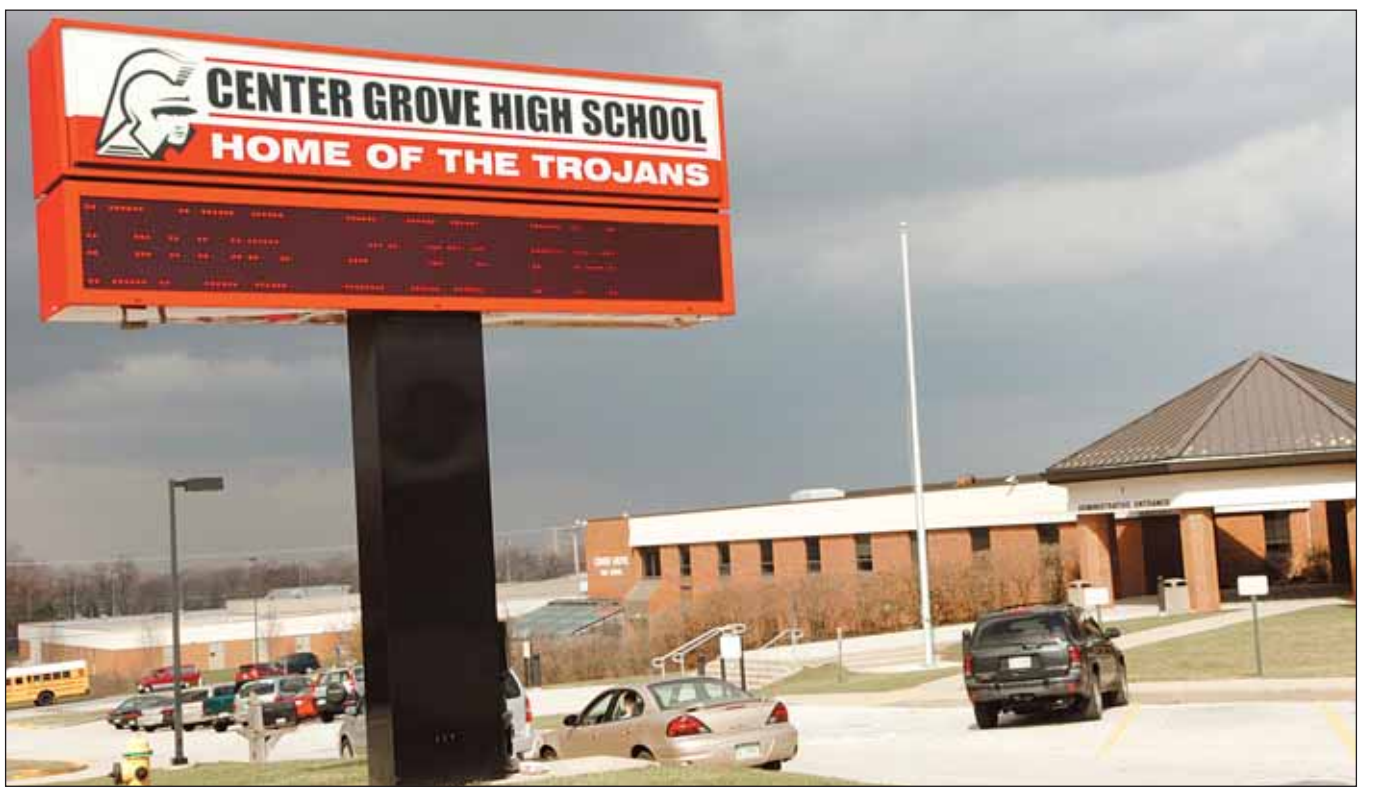
Daniels was in Lafayette Monday to help announce that Toyota Motor Corp. planned to build up to 100,000 Camrys a year at a Subaru plant in that city, creating 1,000 new jobs. He issued a written statement later commending key lawmakers for working out their differences on the highway bill.

"With thousands of jobs at stake, there are few compromises that I wouldn't agree to," he said. "Ones reached in the past few days are all acceptable, especially given the enormous upside to

(SEE **ROUTE**, BACK PAGE)

CENTER GROVE HOSTAGE PLOT

Boy talked of killing principal, parents



STAFF PHOTO BY SCOTT ROBERSON/sroberson@thejournalnet.com

Four Center Grove students police say planned to hold their classmates hostage were charged Monday with conspiracy to commit criminal confinement with a deadly weapon. The teens reportedly planned to carry out their plan March 3 or March 7.

Prosecutor charges four as juveniles for now

By Paige E. Wassel
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A teenager called his plan to hold students hostage at Center Grove High School a lifelong dream.

He told his friends he was sick of school, life, his parents and being teased, and he didn't care if he ended up dead.

The 15-year-old said he would kill his parents, staff and students if he needed to and recruited other students to play roles in his violent plan, according to court documents.

The boy's plans were released Monday as the Johnson County prosecutor charged four teens with conspiracy to commit criminal confinement with a deadly weapon, which is a Class B felony if committed by an adult.

FORTNER

HONEYCUTT

Editor's note: Photos of other charged teens were unavailable.

Steven A. Honeycutt, 15, Brian L. Crae, 15, Christopher W. Fortner, 15, and Travis Crabtree, 16, were charged with the crime as juveniles.

The law typically protects the identities of juveniles; but when they are charged with a crime that would be considered a felony if committed by an adult, their names must be released, Johnson County Prosecutor Lance Hamner said.

The teens must next attend individual hearings in Johnson County Juvenile Court to hear the charges against them and possible penalties for their actions.

This week, the prosecutor's office will work with juvenile probation investigators to determine the culpability level of each boy. That information will help Hamner decide which teens, if any, he should request be tried in adult court.

Only Crabtree has a prior record in Johnson County, according to information provided by the juvenile court.

Hamner called the case scary.

"In this situation, we have

(SEE **CHARGES**, BACK PAGE)

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THE QUESTION

Should the teens charged in a plot to bring guns into Center Grove High School and take a principal hostage be tried as adults?

HOW TO VOTE

Vote and offer comments on the Daily Journal's Internet edition, www.thejournalnet.com. This is an unscientific poll. Readers who don't have access to the Internet are welcome to mail or fax comments.

Write: Daily Journal, P.O. Box 699, Franklin, IN 46131.

Fax: 736-2766.

Franklin debates smoking limits

City council hears from both sides; no action taken

By Jason Michael White
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Franklin is considering a citywide smoking ban that would include restaurants, bars and clubs. City council members do not plan to vote on a ban for two weeks at least, but that did not stop members of the community from having their say now.

The proposed ban's most outspoken foes and allies packed into city hall for a meeting Monday night so the council could hear their input.

Why stop with cigarettes, one man asked in jest.

A person can die in minutes from severe allergies to a peanut, he said. Maybe the city should ban peanut butter. And get rid of McDonald's and Krispy Kreme doughnuts, too, because, let's face it, those are not exactly good for a person's cholesterol, he said.

A Franklin College student cried at the loss of unborn infants who she said die from secondhand smoke. Soon after, a woman shared her story of having to work in a business that allowed smoking

(SEE **SMOKING**, BACK PAGE)

STAFF PHOTO BY SCOTT ROBERSON/sroberson@thejournalnet.com

Mary Barnaby, owner of Franklin's Don and Dona's restaurant, speaks out against a smoking ban at Monday's city council meeting.

STAFF PHOTO BY SCOTT ROBERSON/sroberson@thejournalnet.com

A truck approaches flooded County Road 250S west of U.S. 31 on Monday morning. Young's Creek has flooded over many county roads due to the recent rains.

Goodbye rain, hello frozen ground

By Michael W. Hoskins
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Water-logged yards and ditches could freeze by week's end.

Spring-like thunderstorms rolled through Johnson County over the weekend and Monday morning, leaving yards flooded and at least five roads closed in the southern part of the county.

Now, forecasters are warning Hoosiers to get ready for a return of winter weather.

Temperatures are expected to drop into the 20s by Friday, causing standing water to be at least near freezing. Flurries are possible Thursday and Friday, National Weather Service meteorologist Crystal Pettet said.

"We're not getting anything colder than what is typical," she said. "That's where we should be at this time year; that is considered seasonable."

The normal low at this time of year is 31 degrees.

Johnson County's skies cleared and the rain stopped by late Monday morning. The temperature reached 66 degrees by 3 p.m., WISH-Channel 8 reported.

Hours earlier, a thunderstorm roared across the county and added to the rainfall that had fallen since Thursday. A tornado watch expired about noon for central Indiana, but flood and wind warnings remained in effect for most of the day.

Wind caused two electric wires in Franklin to touch, knocking out power to about 2,500 Cinergy customers shortly after 8 a.m., said company spokeswoman Angeline Protogere.

Power was restored at 9:05 a.m. to all but 15 customers, and everyone had power

(SEE **RAIN**, BACK PAGE)