

MARKETS

The Associated Press

Indianapolis grain

Estimated grain prices Monday at Indianapolis-area elevators: Corn: cash \$2.08, March \$2.10. Soybeans: cash \$5.86, March \$5.87. Wheat: \$3.48.

Eastern Cornbelt direct hogs

Eastern Cornbelt Lean Value Direct Hogs report for Monday: Trend: Barrows and gilts were 97 cents higher compared with previous day's close.

Base-market carcass basis plant-delivered: 0.9 to 1.1 square inches of back fat, \$43.50-\$54.05; weighted average \$52.64. Net prices, including premiums: 0.9-1.0, \$43.50-\$55.55; 1.0-1.1, \$43.50-\$54.05; 1.1-1.2, \$43.50-\$52.91. Daily movement estimate: 6,435.

Wall Street

NEW YORK — Stocks ended a listless session little changed Monday as cautious investors found few reasons to put money into the market, even as upbeat remarks on Alcoa Inc. and General Motors Corp. helped prop up the Dow Jones industrials.

Monday's aimless trading followed steep losses late last week, with Wall Street still uneasy about the possibility of more interest rate hikes from the Federal Reserve. On Friday, upbeat employment data fueled worries about economic strength, another reason for the Fed to stay its course.

Art Hogan, chief market strategist for Jefferies & Co., said data on jobless claims later this week should draw a reaction from traders as they try to decipher the Fed's stance on inflation and the pace of domestic employment growth. For now, however, Wall Street will be idle without much news to drive it, he said.

"I think we're going through this natural vacuum in the news cycle where we have a quiet economic calendar and the fourth-quarter earnings reports are slowing down," Hogan said. "It's difficult to generate any interest in the market."

At the close of trading, the Dow rose 4.65, or 0.04 percent, to 10,798.27. The Dow lost 113 points last week after gaining almost 240 points the week before.

Broader stock indicators were mixed. The Standard & Poor's 500 index added 0.99, or 0.08 percent, to 1,265.02, and the Nasdaq composite index fell 3.78, or 0.17 percent, to 2,258.80.

Bonds slipped, with the yield on the 10-year Treasury note rising to 4.54 percent from 4.53 percent late Friday, although the yield curve remained inverted as the two-year note edged up to 4.61 percent. The U.S. dollar was mixed against other major currencies, while gold prices slipped.

News that Iran has stopped cooperating with U.N. officials over its nuclear arms program sparked fears about disruptions from one of the world's biggest oil suppliers and drove crude futures above \$66 early in the session. However, a barrel of light crude slid 26 cents to settle at \$65.11 on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Among the Dow industrials, Alcoa rose \$1.45 to \$32.03 after JPMorgan analysts boosted the stock to "overweight" on indications that the market is ignoring strong aluminum prices and their potential impact on the company's earnings. JPMorgan also upgraded rival Alcan Inc., which added \$1.72 to \$49.78.

American International Group Inc., another Dow component, rose 66 cents to \$66.01 after The Wall Street Journal said the insurance firm is near a deal with regulators to settle accounting fraud and other allegations.

Several analysts said GM, the world's biggest automaker, may consider cutting its dividend and review bids for a majority stake in finance unit General Motors Acceptance Corp. GM gained 19 cents to end at \$23.34.

Apparel retailer Talbots Inc. said it was buying women's clothing designer J. Jill Group Inc. for about \$517 million in cash, trumping an earlier bid from Liz Claiborne Inc. J. Jill surged \$4.37 to \$23.57, while Talbots dropped 93 cents to \$26.34 and Liz Claiborne fell 5 cents to \$34.27.

The stock report after the close of markets Monday:

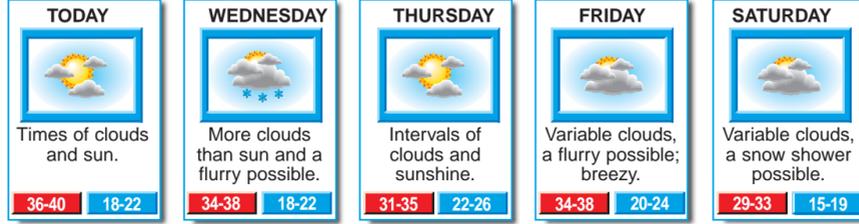
Table with columns: Company, price, change -x. Lists various companies like AES Group, AT&T Corp, Alcoa, Allstate, ArvinMeritor, Best Buy, BP Amoco, Cinergy Corp, Comm Health Sys, Cummins, Diageo, Duff & Phelps, Exxon Mobil, Fifth Third Bank, First Indiana Bank, General Electric, General Motors, Guidant, Heartland Bancshrs, IBM, Invin Bank, KeyCorp, Kimball Int'l CIB, Kroger, Lilly Co, Lincoln Bancorp, Marsh Class B, MainSource, National City Corp, Navistar, Owens-Illinois, Pepsico, Phelps Dodge, Sara Lee Corp, Schlumberger, Sprint Corp, Third Century Bncp, Vectren, Verizon, Wal-Mart, Walt Disney, WellPoint.

LOTTERY

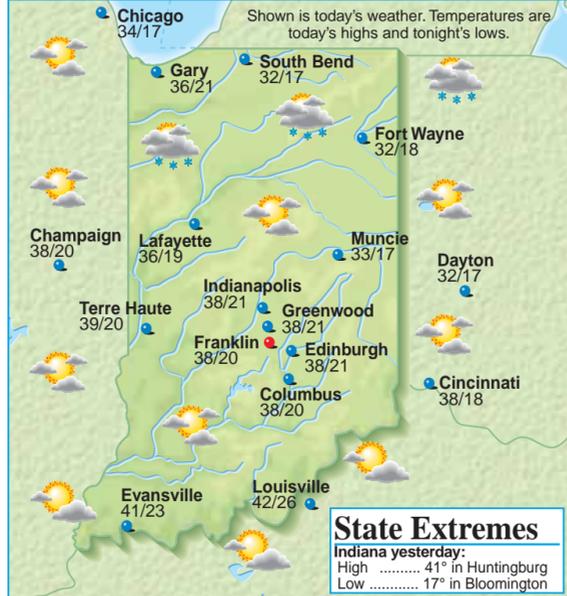
Here are the winning numbers selected Monday in the Hoosier Lottery: Daily Three Midday: 8-3-5. Daily Three Evening: 4-0-6. Daily Four Midday: 1-5-3-1. Daily Four Evening: 9-4-4-8. Lucky Five Midday: 11-17-19-25-36. Lucky Five Evening: 16-17-19-28-35. Hoosier Lotto jackpot: \$3 million. Powerball jackpot: \$210 million.

WEATHER

AccuWeather® five-day forecast for Johnson County



Regional weather



Regional summary

Indianapolis/Greenwood: Intervals of clouds and sunshine today. Partly cloudy tonight. Times of clouds and sunshine tomorrow. Edinburg/Franklin: Times of clouds and sunshine today. Partly cloudy tonight. Clouds and some sunshine tomorrow; a flurry possible.

Today in weather history

On Feb. 7, 1954, the temperature in Los Angeles soared to 91 degrees.

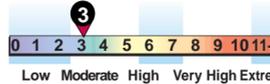
Regional cities

Table with columns: City, Yest. Hi/Lo/W, Wed. Hi/Lo/W, City, Yest. Hi/Lo/W, Wed. Hi/Lo/W. Lists cities like Anderson, Bloomington, Chicago, Cincinnati, Evansville, Fort Wayne, Gary, Indianapolis, Kokomo, Lafayette, Louisville, Muncie, South Bend, Terre Haute.

Sun and moon



AccuWeather UV Index™



Weather Trivia™

When was the worst ice storm in the United States? Jan. 28-Feb. 1, 1961, Texas to New England, \$100 million damage.

Wind Chill Today

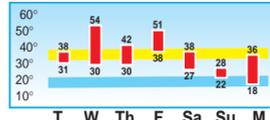


Heating Degree Days

Index of energy consumption indicating how many degrees the average temperature was below 65 degrees for the day with negative values counting as zero.

Yesterday: 38. Month to date: 182. Normal month to date: 224.

Weekly temperatures



River stages

Fid: flood stage. Stage: in feet at 7 a.m. Monday. Chg: change in previous 24 hours.

Table with columns: Station, Fid, Stage, Chg. Lists White River, White River (East Fork), Mooresville, Edinburg.

AccuWeather.com Almanac

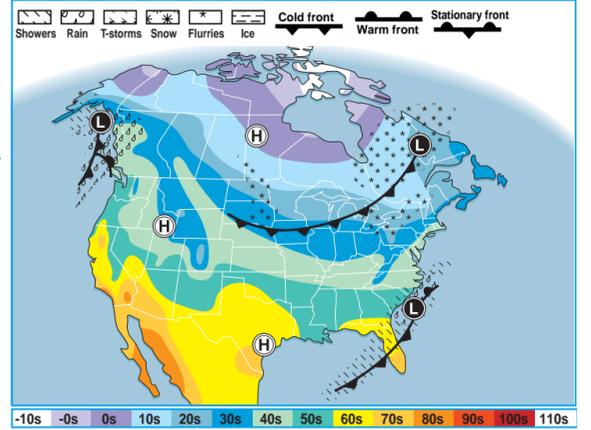
Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2006 Statistics for Indianapolis through 5 p.m. yesterday.

Temperature, Humidity, and Precipitation statistics for Indianapolis.

Air quality

Indianapolis Source: IAPC Yesterday: 41 0-50, Good; 51-100, Moderate; 101-151, Unhealthy (sens. grps.); 151-200, Unhealthy

National weather today



National cities

Table with columns: City, Yest. Hi/Lo/W, Wed. Hi/Lo/W, City, Yest. Hi/Lo/W, Wed. Hi/Lo/W. Lists cities like Albany, NY, Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, Buffalo, Burlington, VT, Champaign, Charleston, SC, Cheyenne, Chicago, Cleveland, Columbia, SC, Columbus, GA, Dallas, Denver, Des Moines, Detroit, El Paso, Fairbanks, Honolulu, Houston, Jacksonville, Kansas City, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Louisville, Memphis, Miami, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Nashville, New Orleans, New York, Philadelphia, Phoenix, St. Louis, Salt Lake City, San Francisco, Seattle, Tampa, Washington, DC.

Advertisement for Service Experts featuring a 'CALL TODAY! 781-2580' offer and '\$50 OFF Any Duct Cleaning' promotion.

Garton mulls insurance change • Smoking

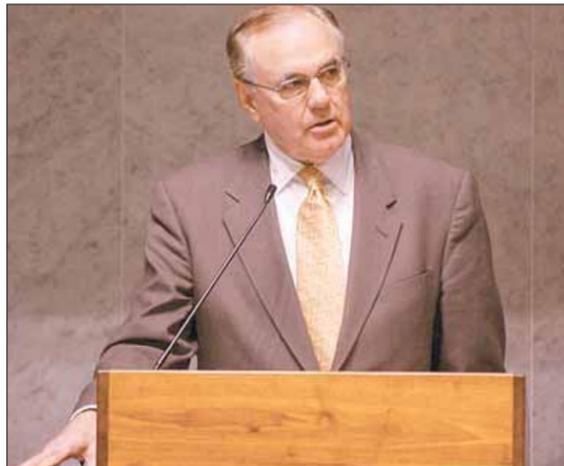
By Dave Evensen THE REPUBLIC (COLUMBUS) devensen@therepublic.com

State Senate President Pro Tem Robert Garton, R-Columbus, said he is considering changes to an insurance plan that provides lifetime health insurance benefits to state senators who have served more than six years.

In January, House Speaker Brian Bosma, R-Indianapolis, hearing criticism for the plan, said he would end the program in the House, and those representatives elected or re-elected in November will have to pay the full cost of the state insurance plan upon retirement if they want themselves, families and ex-spouses covered.

Garton said six retired senators are under the plan, which allows them to remain covered by the state's health insurance as if they were still employees. State employees, including legislators, choose among health-care plans that cost between \$3,826 and \$14,511 per year, depending on coverage and the number of people under the plan. The recipient pays no more than 24 percent of the premium.

Under provisions adopted in bills in 2001 and 2002, long-serving, retired lawmakers and surviving spouses pay the same per-



State Senate President Pro Tem Robert Garton, R-Columbus, presides over a session of the Senate last week at the statehouse in Indianapolis.

centage for the same coverage as if they were still employed.

On Monday, Garton acknowledged that the plan is a fringe benefit but fired back at critics of the plan.

"Why it's being characterized as it is, I don't know," he said. "There are editors around the state of Indiana that have no idea" of the realities facing lawmakers.

Pressed

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

Businesses and state and local governments across the country are instituting strict rules that don't allow smoking in restaurants, bars and within certain distances of building entrances. Supporters cite lower health-care costs, more economic development in cities and towns and better overall health when people aren't exposed to secondhand smoke.

Members of Partnership for a Healthier Johnson County and the county's board of health want to see all of the county's workplaces under a smoking ban, said Jane Blessing, coordinator for the program.

Some local officials have heard talk of a possible ordinance and are waiting for more information.

County commissioner Mitch Ripley said he would like to hear more information about an ordinance and expects to see a presentation within the next few months.

His concern is whether residents in the county would support a ban, he said. A survey Blessing's group would have to be used for property tax relief.

Neither of the funding proposals cleared committee in the House, although the tax- and budget-writing House Ways and Means Committee did take some testimony on the IACT plan.

But both plans would give local governments at least some new revenue to spend beyond property taxes, and Espich said he is opposed to that. House Speaker Brian Bosma, R-Indianapolis, also has said that approving long-term financing alternatives would be difficult in a session that is to end by March 14.

tors; adapting to changes in Medicare; and looking at the percent of premium paid.

In response to allegations that there were no hearings about the insurance proposal when it was implemented, Garton said they conducted a hearing that lasted more than an hour.

State Rep. Luke Messer, R-Shelbyville, said he supported Bosma's reform but added care should be taken not to cut legislators' benefits too much. To do so might cut into the pool of those available to serve in the legislature, he said.

Discussion continued Monday on Major Moves, which passed the House and now sits in the Senate. Some supportive Republicans are now calling it a \$9 billion proposal, as the company that plans to lease Indiana Toll Road also plans to add more than \$4.5 billion in upgrades to the route.

Garton said he believes Crane Naval Base, which would be accessed by a tolled I-69 extension, is at stake in the Major Moves bill.

"If you don't have access to it, it could be on the block again," he said.

"The opposition is real on this toll road issue," Garton added. "I get more e-mail against it than any other proposal right now."

ordered shows that residents would like to see a ban, she said.

The survey of 604 county residents showed that 72 percent would support a ban or law similar to the one in Greenwood throughout the county, according to a report from interviewers at the Indiana University Public Opinion Laboratory.

Members of the board of health plan to draft an ordinance at a meeting this month and pre-

sent it to commissioners, said Debbie Swinehamer, a member of the county's board of health. The ban would cover unincorporated parts of the county.

One by one, health advocates will lobby council members in Franklin and the county's towns, such as Bargersville and Whiteland, to approve rules that would ban smoking in restaurants and businesses. Those bans would cover the rest of the county.

Jim Trisler works in Greenwood and smokes when he goes out for dinner or lunch in the city, an activity he is not allowed to do in Monroe County, where he lives, because of a smoking ban there.

Whether smoking is a good habit is irrelevant, Trisler said. The issue is whether the government should take away his freedom to choose to eat in a restaurant that allows smoking, he said.

Greenwood Mayor Charles Henderson said supporters made good arguments about how government is responsible for regulating safety, but at the same time, he said he does not know where government should draw the line.

He supports excluding bars and lodges from the ban, so consumers still have some choices.

Deer said regulating smoking because of health concerns is similar to regulating fast-food intake because too much fast food can cause health problems, too.

Consumers have a choice whether to eat in a restaurant that allows smoking, and that choice should not be restricted, he said.

The vote Monday is a first step for the proposal. The city council must vote on it a second time. That vote could come as early as Feb. 20.

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Daniels said on Friday, after bills had cleared their house of origin and were sent to the other chamber, that getting alternative funding through the legislature this year was still possible.

"We cannot move away from property taxes if local government has nothing to move to," Daniels said.

"Time is scarce, and I know he (Kenley) doesn't want to use it for no purpose, but I haven't given up and I hope he won't."

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