



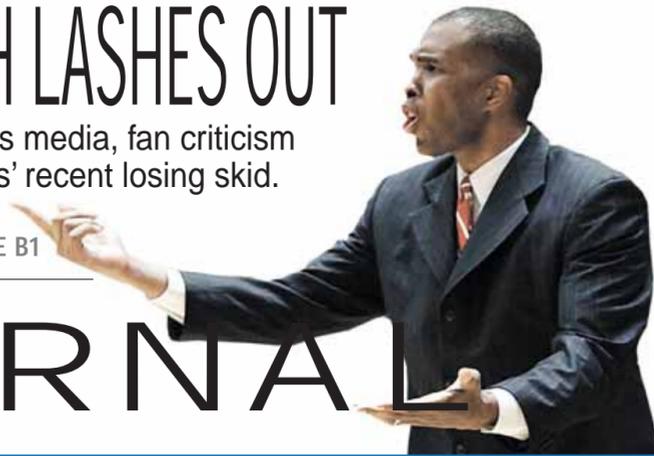
## REMEMBERING THAT FIRST KISS

PAGE A6

## IU COACH LASHES OUT

Davis blames media, fan criticism for Hoosiers' recent losing skid.

PAGE B1



# DAILY JOURNAL

www.thejournalnet.com

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2006

Johnson County, Indiana

50 cents

## WEATHER



Today

Skies: Partly sunny  
Temps: High 48; low 36

MAP, PAGE A12

## COMING UP

## Help, advice for parents

Is your baby developing on schedule? How can learning a foreign language benefit your child? What can you do to help your teen be a safe driver? Find out in Southside Parent.

WEDNESDAY

## Ready to rumble

On Daytona 500 weekend, grab an exclusive poster of NASCAR's greatest: Ned Jarrett, Richard Petty, Bobby Allison, Benny Parsons and Junior Johnson. In an exclusive chat, you'll get the inside track on the fistfight that defined the sport.

## Today's best lyrics

Vote for the No. 1 song of this generation in a contest with Billboard magazine.

USA WEEKEND

## FYI

## Legislators plan town hall meeting in Franklin

State Rep. Woody Burton, R-Greenwood, will conduct his final town hall meeting of the 2006 legislative session in Franklin on Wednesday.



BURTON

Burton will be joined by State Rep. David Yount, R-Columbus, and State Sen. Robert Garton, R-Columbus, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Franklin City Hall, 55 W. Madison St.



GARTON

The legislators hope to address community concerns about legislation being passed in this year's session.



YOUNT

## DEATHS

Bargersville  
Gladys Mae Neal, 70  
Franklin  
H. Ruth Hill, 91  
Lewis A. Oliphant, 77  
Indianapolis  
Martha O. Harter, 80  
James Thomas Russell, 70  
Elsewhere  
Alice Elizabeth Selch, 94

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# Husband denies role in death

## Prosecutor mum about new details in 2003 incident in which woman died



L. SMITH



M. SMITH

By PAIGE E. WASSEL  
DAILY JOURNAL STAFF WRITER  
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More than two years after Linda L. Smith's death, her husband maintains he didn't kill her.

Michael B. Smith said he felt relieved to be arrested in her death because it would give him

the chance to clear his name in court, defense attorney Thomas Barr said.

Smith, 61, pleaded not guilty to a charge of murder at an initial hearing Monday in Brown County Circuit Court in Nashville.

Linda Smith died in 2003. Michael Smith was arrested Friday. Prosecutors wouldn't say

what, if any, new information prompted them to make the arrest.

Barr questioned why it took so long to file the murder charge in the case when the defense was aware of no new evidence since the early days of the investigation, in a statement he read Monday.

He said the laboratory and DNA

evidence presented after Linda Smith was found dead on Nov. 9, 2003, did not prove anything.

"The smoking gun that the prosecutor's been waiting for has never surfaced because, quite frankly, there isn't one," he said.

Barr declined to offer any

(SEE DEATH, BACK PAGE)

## ON THE MENU

# Seeing (less) red

## Hurricane blamed for local shortage of tomatoes

By PAIGE E. WASSEL  
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Juicy beefsteaks, rich romas and sweet grape tomatoes have been costing some restaurants more to keep on the menu.

The tomato shortage, blamed in part on Hurricane Wilma, forces restaurant owners to choose to pay more for tomatoes or cut the red salad stacker from their menu offerings.

In one instance, a local restaurant owner reported paying \$50 for a case of tomatoes that cost \$19 a month ago.

Many local restaurateurs said they've absorbed the cost of rising tomato prices instead of doing without the red fruit or passing the cost on to their patrons.

In the past month, costs have gone up significantly, Bargersville restaurant owner Mick Trotter said. He relies on tomatoes as a menu staple for homemade sauces and salads at his Italian eatery, La Trattoria Authentic Italian Cuisine.

## INSIDE

Want to sidestep higher prices spurred by hurricane damage? We'll give you some tips. Back Page

The price of a case of tomatoes has more than doubled to \$50. Trotter estimated the jump costs the restaurant an extra \$100 to \$150 per week. He figures he probably isn't making any profit from his \$2.50 tomato salad, a dish of tomatoes, red onions and cheese.

"It's a popular salad, unfortunately," Trotter said.

La Trattoria has cut back on putting tomatoes on house salads, but he has few other ways to cover costs right now, he said.

"You can't just reprint your menus every week to go with the market price of tomatoes," Trotter said.

Kathy Kirkland, co-owner of Don and Dona's in downtown Franklin, agreed that most

(SEE RED, BACK PAGE)



STAFF PHOTO BY MATT DOOLEY/mooley@thejournalnet.com  
Mick Trotter, owner of La Trattoria Italian restaurant in Bargersville, relies on tomatoes for his menu. A 25-pound box of tomatoes that until recently cost about \$15 now runs as much as \$54.



# Southside churches ask: What's in a name?

By MICHAEL W. HOSKINS  
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Don't count on a church name or a signpost out front to incorporate words like "Methodist," "Baptist" or "Evangelical."

Some Southside congregations are dropping denominational ties in their names to make worship

more appealing to people from various religious backgrounds.

"We don't focus on the name so much and are looking beyond labels to spread the message to as many people as possible," said Ben Williamson, pastor at Covenant Community Church in Greenwood, which dropped Evangelical Methodist from its name. "We're a safe place for all

walks of life to find answers to life's toughest questions."

The church has always been a community congregation, Williamson said, but only recently have denominational ties been dropped, he said.

"Just the name can be confusing enough when you're trying to get new members into your church," he said.

Nationwide, churches have dropped or downplayed denominational identities to create a broader appeal for people shopping for a church home, according to local pastors.

The trend of shortening names goes hand in hand with larger churches and programs outside

(SEE NAME, PAGE A5)

three years in prison for the Class D felony.

Reed told police that he lightly tapped his daughter, Leanna, to feed her, but a doctor classified bruises on the baby's face, abdomen and other areas as clear child abuse, police said.

Dr. Roberta Hubbard at Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis examined the then-3-month-old girl hours after Reed called paramedics on Nov. 21, 2004, to

(SEE INFANT, PAGE A5)

# No victor yet in fight over CG football turf

By JO ELLEN WERKING WEEDMAN  
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More than two years after the Trojans played their first football game on artificial turf, Center Grove officials are working on a deal to get two subcontractors paid.

The company hired by the school district to install the turf hasn't paid two of the companies that supplied services or equipment for the project.

School officials have withheld about \$130,000 from Quest Turf, the Muncie-based company hired by the school to install the turf, and are hoping they can use that money to pay the two companies still owed money, said Bill Long, assistant superintendent.

Adaco, a local excavating company, and Field Turf, a Canadian company that supplied some of

(SEE TURF, BACK PAGE)



DAILY JOURNAL FILE PHOTO

Center Grove High School football players stretch before a game in August 2003, the first ever on the school's new artificial turf. Two subcontractors who helped install the field still have not been paid, school officials said.

# Greenwood father pleads guilty to harming infant

By PAIGE E. WASSEL  
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A Greenwood man pleaded guilty to hurting his baby daughter, whom doctors found bruised after she was scalded by bath water and taken to a hospital.

Adam Reed, 21, was convicted Monday in Johnson Circuit Court on a charge of battery causing injury. Judge Mark Loyd has not yet determined a sentence, but Reed could face six months to

three years in prison for the Class D felony.

Reed told police that he lightly tapped his daughter, Leanna, to feed her, but a doctor classified bruises on the baby's face, abdomen and other areas as clear child abuse, police said.

Dr. Roberta Hubbard at Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis examined the then-3-month-old girl hours after Reed called paramedics on Nov. 21, 2004, to