



THE WAR AGAINST TERRORISM

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AT THE MOVIES

# BAND-CAMP GIRL BORN FOR CAMPY ROLE

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# DAILY JOURNAL

www.thejournalnet.com

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2006

Johnson County, Indiana

50 cents

## WEATHER



Today

Skies: Partly cloudy  
Temps: High 38; low 11

MAP, PAGE A8

## YOU SHOULD KNOW

### High-profile designer's sale has too high a profile

It's not quite the running of the bulls in Spain, but it appears the annual Vera Bradley sale is so popular that officials fear a stampede. The Fort Wayne designer is scaling back the number of customers it will allow into the first day of its outlet sale this spring.

The annual four-day event includes thousands of handbags, luggage and accessories at discounted prices. Last year, 8,000 shoppers paid \$10 each for a chance to go to the company's Foundation Day Sale, a daylong ticketed preview that raises money for the Vera Bradley Foundation for Breast Cancer.

Ticket prices for 1,500 shoppers who want to go to the May 3 fund-raiser's morning session will be \$25. Another 3,500 tickets will be available for the afternoon session and will sell for \$10.

The remainder of the sale, from May 4-6, will be free and open to the public.

## NEWS

### Ex-Edinburgh coach to be honored by community

Before former Edinburgh High School coach Steve Hollenbeck enters the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame in March, he'll receive another honor.

Hollenbeck, who taught and coached at Edinburgh for 35 years, will be the guest of honor at Edinburgh's home boys basketball game Tuesday against Southwestern (Shelby).

Hollenbeck, a former Columbus High School basketball player and Indiana All-Star, will receive a plaque and be recognized at halftime. The game begins at 7:30 p.m.

## DEATHS

Franklin

Margie M. Baker, 95  
Rhonda Diane O'Neill, 58

Greenwood

Grace E. Humes, 97

Indianapolis

Melvin J. Boland, 75

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## COLLEGE BASKETBALL: IU'S MIKE DAVIS RESIGNS

# Davis: 'I wanted it to be on my terms'

## IU coach to walk away with \$800K buyout



AP PHOTO

Indiana coach Mike Davis walks to the middle of the court in Assembly Hall before talking to his team in Bloomington on Thursday.

Davis will resign at the end of the season after coaching Indiana for six years following the firing of Bob Knight.

## Hiring of replacement won't come until after Final Four

By MICHAEL MAROT  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### BLOOMINGTON

Mike Davis' departure from Indiana came as surprisingly quickly as his rapid ascent.

Just a couple dozen yards from where he was named Bob Knight's successor in 2000, Davis walked into in a crowded room and announced he would resign at the end of the season. He was still wearing a crimson Hoosiers' sweater as he urged fans to unite behind the program.

"Don't be sad for me. Please don't be sad for me," Davis said as his wife watched from the side. "This is like the MasterCard commercial. You know, it's priceless what God has given me to be the head basketball coach here."

The embattled heir to one of college basketball's best-known programs made his decision public with five games left before the Big Ten tournament and his six-year record at 109-76. Indiana

(13-9, 5-6) has lost four straight games and is just 3-7 since a promising 10-2 start that put the team in the national top 10.

Indiana President Adam Herbert said he had planned to wait until after the season ended to evaluate whether Davis would return as coach next year, but Davis wouldn't wait.

Herbert said Davis, 45, initiated discussions before the Connecticut game on Feb. 4. They met again afterward and eventually agreed on an \$800,000 buyout, a hefty price for an athletics department that has run a multi-million dollar deficit in recent years. Davis was scheduled to earn about \$800,000 with outside income over the final two years of his contract.

At the news conference, Herbert and athletic director Rick Greenspan extolled Davis' successes — becoming the first coach in school history to win 20 games and reach the NCAA

(SEE COACH, BACK PAGE)

## INSIDE

A look at possible replacements, plus Daily Journal writers weigh in on what went wrong during Davis' tenure.

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## IN HIS OWN WORDS

Excerpts from statement of Indiana coach Mike Davis during news conference in which he discussed his resignation:

### On need for unity in basketball program

"If you support me, don't be sad. Be happy and be excited about the direction that this program is in, and let's try to unite Indiana basketball again."

### On timing of resignation announcement

"I know this might sound like bad timing, but I wanted to move forward with my future, my career. I want Indiana to have plenty of time to search for a coach. ... I want our players to get it out of their minds whether or not coach Davis was coming back."

### On rewards in being IU basketball coach

"I look around this room, I see a lot of friendly faces. Don't be sad for me. Please don't be sad for me. This is like the MasterCard commercial. You know, it's priceless what God has given me to be the head basketball coach here."

### On passion of fans for IU basketball

"This is a great day for Indiana basketball. Trust me, it is. I understand the passion that the fans have for the basketball program. I am disappointed that I couldn't continue to take this team to a national championship game every year."

## Mild winter spells unusual problems for firms

By MICHAEL W. HOSKINS  
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Dave Mears likes snow, ice and everything about winter weather. But his business depends on it.

However, this year's warm spell is melting away his hopes of a money-making season, at least the traditional way.

The Greenwood business owner's usual winter activities of snow removal and salting have been replaced by warmer weather jobs, such as cleaning up construction sites, clearing sidewalks and driveways and taking down trees.

Warm weather, sporadic snowfall and little ice have altered winter routines for businesses and governments. Some are using the mild winter to gear up for the next year.

"This up-and-down winter has really affected us on the downside," said Mears, who owns Mears Cleaning Service on Polk Street. "We've had to find other kinds of work that we're not accustomed to, and business is bad across the board."

January was one of the warmest on record, although snowfall was more than an inch above normal, National Weather Service

(SEE WINTER, BACK PAGE)



FILE PHOTO

Greg Fennig, left, and his daughter Kortni take advantage of unseasonable warmth on the golf course Dec. 28.

## WHAT THEY OFFER

A look at what foreign languages county high schools offer

**Center Grove:** French, German, Japanese and Spanish

**Edinburgh:** French and Spanish

**Franklin:** French, Spanish, Japanese and Latin

**Indian Creek:** Spanish and Japanese

**Greenwood:** French and Spanish

**Whiteland:** French and Spanish

## Et tu, Indian Creek? Students want to bring back Latin

By JO ELLEN WERKING WEEDMAN  
DAILY JOURNAL STAFF WRITER  
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Two Indian Creek students planning careers in medicine want their high school to offer a Latin class to help prepare them for the working world.

About 20 of their classmates think bringing the so-called dead

language back to life at Indian Creek High School is a good idea. They presented it Tuesday to the school board.

"I want to be some kind of doctor, and other kids may want another chance at a different language if they're struggling with a foreign language now," said Ben Woodworth, one of the students who started the petition.

Woodworth, 15, and classmate Carly Swanberg, 16, were talking with their history teacher about options for foreign language classes at the high school. They found out that the teacher used to teach Latin at Indian Creek, but the course had been cut.

"We were interested in how we could get them to offer it again, so we found out if students were

# Driver won't face charges

## Prosecutor says slap didn't rise to criminal level

By JO ELLEN WERKING WEEDMAN  
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A Nineveh-Hensley-Jackson bus driver who slapped a special-needs student on his bus will not face criminal charges.

Stephen L. Pottorff, 54, was fired this week after he stopped his bus on Jan. 30 and slapped a 9-year-old autistic boy on the face, but the county prosecutor has decided to not charge him with a felony.

In order for felony charges to be filed, Pottorff's behavior would have to be both cruel and excessive, Johnson County Prosecutor Lance Hamner said.

"Because it was a one-time incident, it doesn't meet the state Supreme Court standards for both cruel and excessive," he said.

The N-H-J school board voted 5-0 Tuesday to fire Pottorff. A videotape showed the driver stopping the bus, walking to where the child was sitting and slapping him on the cheek.

The boy's 8-year-old sister told her parents about the incident when she got home. They notified school officials, who began investigating immediately.

(SEE SLAP, BACK PAGE)

# Felony filings on rise

## Other counties saw bigger jumps

By PAIGE E. WASSEL  
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More people are going to court to be tried for serious crimes in Johnson County and other counties in central Indiana.

County prosecutors reported an increase in the number of cases in which felony charges were filed. Felonies cover crimes such as robbery, drug manufacturing and murder.

In Johnson County, the number of felony cases filed grew by 10 percent from 2004 to 2005.

The increase is on track with the county's population growth and doesn't reveal an increase in any particular crime, Johnson County Chief Deputy Prosecutor Brad Cooper said.

"As population grows, the

(SEE FILINGS, BACK PAGE)

interested in taking it and then went to see our counselor and principal," Swanberg said.

The teacher, they said, is willing to teach the course again.

Woodworth presented the petition and some of his research to the school board Tuesday.

"(The students) weren't

(SEE LATIN, BACK PAGE)