

MARKETS

The Associated Press

Indianapolis grain
Estimated grain prices Wednesday at Indianapolis-area elevators: Corn: cash \$3.76, March \$3.81. Soybeans: cash \$7.16, March \$7.19. Wheat: July \$3.91.
Eastern Cornbelt direct hogs
Eastern Cornbelt Lean Value Direct Hogs report for Wednesday:
Trend: Barrows and gilts were 76 cents lower compared with previous day's close.
Base-market carcass basis plant-delivered: 0.9 to 1.1 square inches of back fat, \$58.50-\$69.59; weighted average \$64.25.
Net prices, including premiums: 0.9-1.0, \$58.50-\$71.09; 1.0-1.1, \$58.50-\$69.59; 1.1-1.2, \$58.50-\$67.09.
Daily movement estimate: 6,894.

Wall Street
NEW YORK — Wall Street ended a fractious session slightly higher Wednesday after falling oil prices hurt energy stocks and overshadowed a stronger-than-expected productivity reading. A Federal Reserve official's comments on interest rates also soured the market's early good mood.
A robust sales forecast from Cisco Systems Inc. gave a boost to technology stocks, however. The Labor Department's productivity figures for the fourth quarter were nearly double what had been expected but failed to offset concerns about falling oil prices.
The productivity data initially seemed to overshadow comments from Philadelphia Fed President Charles Plosser that an improving economy might force the central bank to raise short-term interest rates. Plosser said the productivity gains were helping consumers but that it was too soon to declare the threat of inflation neutralized.
Despite indecision shown by the Dow Jones industrials, which were up for much of the day but ended essentially flat, stocks rose moderately overall. Advancing issues outnumbered decliners by about 3 to 2 on the New York Stock Exchange, where consolidated volume came to 2.62 billion shares, compared with 2.63 billion Tuesday.
The Dow inched up 0.56, or less than 0.01 percent, to 12,666.87. The Dow moved past 12,700 for the first time, trading as high as 12,700.28. The previous trading record of 12,683.93 was set Friday.
Broader stock indicators showed more substantive gains. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 2.02, or 0.14 percent, to 1,450.02, and the tech-focused Nasdaq composite index, responding to Cisco's news, rose 19.01, or 0.77 percent, to 2,490.50.
Bonds rose following the economic data, with the yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note falling to 4.74 percent from 4.77 percent late Tuesday. The dollar was mixed against other major currencies, while gold prices fell.
Light, sweet crude settled down \$1.17 at \$57.71 per barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange. It had been up briefly after the Energy Department's weekly domestic inventory data showed a small decrease in crude stockpiles.

The stock report after the close of markets Wednesday:
price change -x
The AES Group 21.94 +0.20
AT&T Corp. 37.16 -0.35
Alcoa 32.15 -0.70
Allstate 61.54 -0.13
ArvinMeritor 19.39 -0.05
Best Buy 50.79 -0.05
Boston Scientific 17.36 -0.14
BP Amoco 63.48 +0.23
Comm Health Sys 37.28 +0.23
Cummins 140.06 +0.60
DaimlerChrysler 62.82 -0.25
Diageo 79.50 -0.41
Duff & Phelps 10.99 +0.01
Duke Energy 19.99 -0.07
Exxon Mobil 74.79 -0.35
Fifth Third Bank 40.91 +0.38
First Indiana Bank 24.33 +0.09
General Electric 36.10 -0.21
General Motors 33.70 +0.27
Heartland Bancshrs 14.60 —
IBM 99.54 -0.01
Irwin Bank 21.62 -0.33
KeyCorp. 39.38 +0.28
Kimball Int'l CIB 22.85 -0.73
Kroger 26.14 +0.42
Lilly Co. 54.42 -0.22
Lincoln Bancorp 19.70 —
MainSource 16.96 +0.03
National City Corp. 38.05 +0.03
Navistar 47.75 +1.01
Owens-Illinois 23.14 -0.01
PepsiCo 64.50 +0.11
Phelps Dodge 122.00 +0.07
Sara Lee Corp. 17.00 -0.37
Schlumberger 64.45 -0.42
Sprint Corp. 18.05 +0.30
Third Century Bncp 11.55 —
Vectren 28.62 +0.25
Verizon 38.09 +0.01
Wal-Mart 48.58 —
Walt Disney 35.48 +0.29
WellPoint 81.80 +1.65

Washing
Dieters got a new tool Wednesday to help them take off the extra pounds, the first government-approved nonprescription diet pill.
The Food and Drug Administration said the fat-blocking weight-loss pill orlistat, which has been available by prescription, can be sold in a reduced-strength version over the counter.
The new version will be sold as "alli" by GlaxoSmithKline PLC. Xenical, the prescription version, is made by Roche Holding AG.
Dr. Charles Ganley, FDA's director of nonprescription products, stressed that the drug is intended for use along with diet and exercise programs.
"Using this drug alone is unlikely to be beneficial," Ganley said at a telebriefing.
While some dietary supplements make weight-loss claims, Ganley said this is the first non-prescription drug approved by the agency for that purpose.
Ganley said in trials, for every five pounds people lost through diet and exercise, those using orlistat lost an additional two to three pounds.
When taken with meals, orlistat blocks the absorption of about one-quarter of any fat consumed. That fat, about 150 to 200 calories worth, is passed out of the body in stools, which can be loose as a result. About half of patients in trials experienced gastrointestinal side effects.
The agency recommended users take a multivitamin when using this drug.
The new drug would contain half the dose of Xenical prescription capsules. The price has not been set but is expected to run \$1 to \$2 a day, company officials said. The company estimated 5 million to 6 million Americans a year would buy the drug over the counter.
The Food and Drug Administration said the most common side effect of the product is a change in bowel habits including loose stool and some oily spotting. Eating a low-fat diet will reduce the likelihood of this side effect.
FDA said people who have had organ transplants should not take OTC orlistat because of possible drug interactions. In addition, anyone taking blood-thinning medicines or being treated for diabetes or thyroid disease should consult a physician before using orlistat, the agency said.

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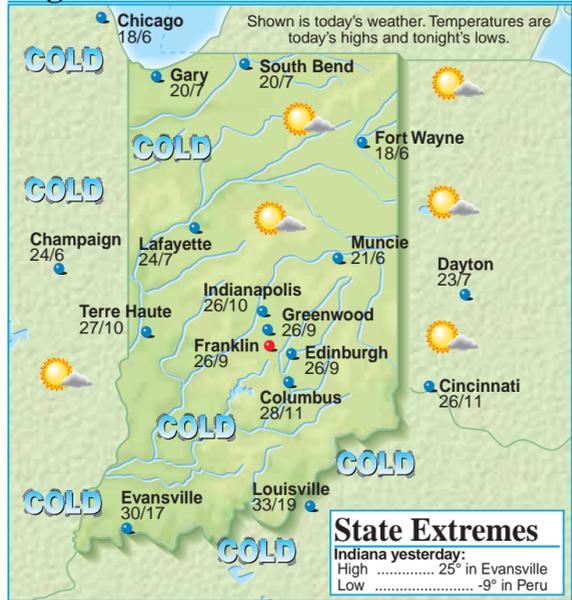
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WEATHER

AccuWeather® five-day forecast for Johnson County

Table with 5 columns: TODAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY, MONDAY. Each column shows weather icons and temperature ranges (e.g., 24-28, 7-11).

Regional weather



Regional summary

Indianapolis/Greenwood: Breezy and quite cold today with clouds and sun. Partly cloudy and frigid tonight. Very cold tomorrow and Saturday with some sunshine.
Edinburgh/Franklin: Very cold today with clouds and sun. Partly cloudy and frigid tonight. Partly sunny tomorrow. Saturday: Quite cold with clouds and sun.

Today in weather history

An arctic outbreak on Feb. 8, 1835, dropped the temperature to zero at Charleston, S.C., and to 8 degrees at Jacksonville, Fla.

Regional cities

Table with 4 columns: City, Yest. Hi/Lo/W, Fri. Hi/Lo/W, and another set of Hi/Lo/W. Lists cities like Anderson, Bloomington, Chicago, etc.

Sun and moon

Sunrise today 7:45 a.m.
Sunset tonight 6:12 p.m.
Moonrise today none
Moonset today 10:27 a.m.

AccuWeather UV Index

Highest Today in Johnson County
Values indicate the exposure to the sun's ultraviolet rays.

Weather Trivia

What is sea smoke?
An arctic fog that is produced when cold air crosses warmer water.

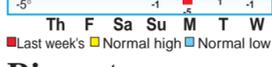
Wind Chill Today

How cold it feels based on temperature and wind speed.
8 a.m. Noon 4 p.m.
-2° 10° 19°

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.

Weekly temperatures



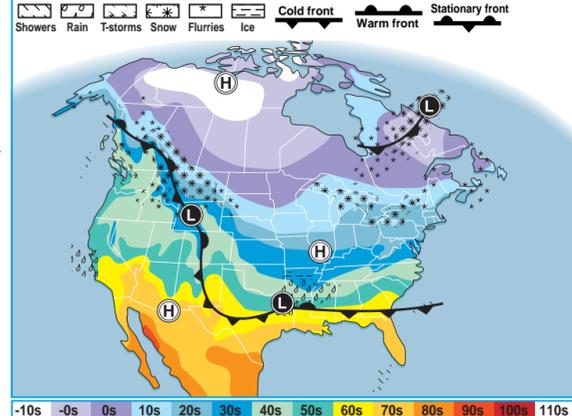
River stages

Table with 4 columns: Station, Fld Stage, Stage Chg. Lists White River, White River (East Fork), etc.

AccuWeather.com Almanac

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2007
Statistics for Indianapolis through 5 p.m. yesterday.
Temperature: High 13°, Low -1°, Normal high 37°, Normal low 20°, Record high 66° in 1925, Record low -11° in 1982.
Precipitation: 24 hrs. ending 5 p.m. yest. trace.
Humidity: Yesterday's average 70%, Today's average 55%.
Air quality: Indianapolis Source: IAPC. Yesterday 57.
Unhealthy (sens. grps.): 151-200; Unhealthy.

National weather today



National cities

Table with 4 columns: City, Yest. Hi/Lo/W, Fri. Hi/Lo/W, and another set of Hi/Lo/W. Lists cities like Albany, NY, Houston, Jacksonville, etc.

Weather (w): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, f-ice.

Advertisement for Benjamin Franklin Heating, Air Conditioning, Plumbing & Drain Cleaning Experts. Includes phone numbers and service call offers.

FDA approves first nonprescription sale of diet pill

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"Using this drug alone is unlikely to be beneficial," Ganley said at a telebriefing.
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Board

She gave this example: At one of his last board meetings, Poe pointed out a low spot on Commerce Drive that could become a potential hazard for student drivers at the new high school.
He made it a point to become familiar with the site for the school and the surrounding area, she said.
When Poe joined the board, decisions were not as complicated, he remembered.
For one, board members felt like they understood their constituents better, he said.
The district had the same boundaries, but not all of the housing developments that are found today.
Fewer subdivisions made it easier to make decisions for the district, he said.
Most of the people had lived in the area for most of if not all of their lives, he said.
"Now, lots of people have only

lived here for a year or two. That isn't a good or bad thing, but different, and it changes the way you make decisions," he said.
With a shifting population base, the board can't assume it can make decisions based on a certain set of criteria, he said.
More meetings, forums and workshops are needed to get public consensus on matters, he said.
Delbert Jarman was superintendent for the district from 1990-94.
"Poe had a community focus and their interest at heart," Jarman said.
Poe said he is concerned about the long-term effect of consolidating township schools, which occurred before he was a school board member.
"When parents know each other and know the teachers, they have higher marks. Union Elementary proves that," he said.
Poe said he includes Union

Elementary in his list of facilities he is proud of, even though the most recent addition to the school was made in the 1950s.
At consolidated public schools, even in rural Indiana, parents can never hope to know all of the teachers, he said.
Parents have to drive too far to take their students to practice, and they don't bother to go to the basketball games if their children aren't on the team.
One of the new facilities built while he was on the board was Creekside Elementary on the west side of Franklin.
Parents in the Hopewell area told him they were upset that the elementary had been taken out of their community, he said.
Poe said he thought that when Hopewell Elementary was closed and a new building was built, student achievement would have been raised.

No state approval is needed, Dietrick said.
The railroad company often hires a contractor and oversees the work because the upgrades often require modifications to the railroad tracks and the equipment must be tested before trains can come through, said Chris Rund, spokesman for Indiana Rail Road Co., which owns the tracks at Stones Crossing Road.
The county highway director said he believed he would have more information about who has authority over the crossings by the end of the week.
Ripley said if the county has the authority to fix the crossings, he will look for any way to afford the projects and is open to suggestions from residents.
"I'm asking anybody and everybody to help get this done. We need to go every direction possible to get this done," he said.

Crossing

state legislators are looking for ways to improve the crossing and find money to work on others in the county.
Every year, money from the federal government pays for upgrades to about 30 railroad crossings in Indiana. After the money runs out, which totaled about \$7 million this year, no more projects can be done, Dietrick said.
The four projects Ripley has made a priority — Stones Crossing, Smokey Row, Olive Branch and Whiteland roads — are far down on the list, ranging from 1,009 to 2,165 out of 6,060, according to the department of transportation.
No projects in Johnson County are on the current list of crossings to be upgraded, according to the department.
Those rankings are based on information kept in a federal transportation database. Crossings are ranked by what the depart-

ment believes are most dangerous based on traffic counts, the number and speed of trains, and the history of accidents, Dietrick said.
If a crossing is not selected to be upgraded with the federal money, it is up to the owner of the road, in this case the county for the four roads commissioners suggested, to make upgrades from the minimum requirement.
For county roads, the minimum requirement is cross bumps at the railroad, or the X-shaped signs that say railroad crossing. Stop signs are an improvement from the minimum requirement, Dietrick said.
All four of the crossings Ripley listed have stop signs but no cross arms or flashing lights.
One resident said those aren't the only ones in the county that need upgrades.
Bill Drake's home sits next to a crossing on Stop 18 Road, and daily he sees vehicles go over the

tracks without stopping. The crossing is marked with a stop sign, but no lights or cross arms. Motorists have difficulty spotting a train unless they come to a full stop and inch up to the tracks, he said.
"I've said for years to my friends and neighbors that there's going to be a big (accident) at this crossing," he said.
Drake said he hopes the county and cities will look at other crossings where improvements are needed.
The county highway department has also been working on a list of other crossings that need to be upgraded, Ripley said. He is unsure how those can be funded.
Commissioners have asked the highway department director to look into who upgrades railroad crossings and where the money comes from. The county had believed the state or railroad company would need to approve work to crossings, he said.

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Bulbs

"This is an expensive venture, so if that is what the manufacturer says, we will follow that recommendation to extend the life of them," Goley said.
When Custer Baker Middle School was built, the same kind of bulbs were installed at its football field. The process helped the bulbs last 10 years.

LOTTERY

Here are the winning numbers selected Wednesday in the Hoosier Lottery:
Daily Three Midday: 2-9-0.
Daily Four Midday: 2-6-5-0.
Lucky Five Midday: 4-11-18-31-35.
Here are winning numbers selected Tuesday in the Hoosier Lottery:
Daily Three Evening: 8-1-6.
Daily Four Evening: 7-2-7-7.
Lucky Five Evening: 12-20-25-33-34.
Mix and Match: 1-4-11-23-24.
Hoosier Lotto jackpot: \$15.5 million.
Powerball jackpot: \$27 million.
For Wednesday evening's lottery numbers, see Friday's Daily Journal.