



COOKING

CHILI FOR THE BIG GAME

PAGE A6



ROAD TO THE SUPER BOWL

COLTS RELY HEAVILY ON RUNNING BACK

Soft-spoken rookie Addai explodes on the field to take full advantage of his opportunities.

PAGE B1

DAILY JOURNAL

www.thejournalnet.com

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2007

Johnson County, Indiana

50 cents

WEATHER



Today

Skies: Mostly cloudy
Temps: High 38; low 20

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FYI

Franklin resident's 'Today' appearance Thursday

Franklin resident Buzz Bay, one of five people profiled in a book about coping with illness, will be featured on NBC's "Today" between 7 and 9 a.m. Thursday.

The show appears on WTHR-Channel 13.

The book is by Richard Cohen.

Bay was interviewed by Meredith Viera, the show's co-host. Cohen is her husband.

The book is expected to be published in eight months.

"Today" will profile the five people in the book.

Bay, diagnosed with cancer in 2000, was recommended by the Indiana lymphoma society and was chosen for the book two years ago.

Bay, who works at a hospice, hopes his appearance on the show and in the book will increase awareness of the need for hospice volunteers.

WEB EXTRAS

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DEATHS

Franklin

Leah Margaret Bensheimer, 82
Chileen Enoch Doty, 83
Doretta Angie Scherschel, 91

Edinburgh

Clarice Sanders, 88

Greenwood

Daniel Foster Armstrong, 75
Paul A. Tony Battreall, 77
Cynthia Elaine Ewick, 45
Mary Jane Smith, 85

Martinsville

Teresa Gail Lane, 38

Indianapolis

Ada C. Castor Beavers, 93

Elsewhere

Connie S. (Woodall) Bray, 54
Ryan Michael Hobbs, 30
Donavan Reed Rasmussen, 2

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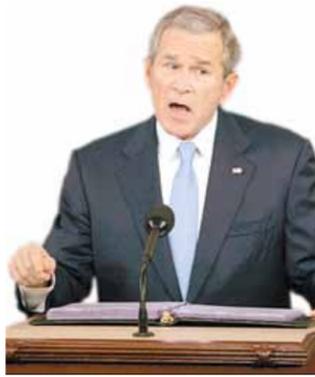
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STATE OF THE UNION President's proposals at a glance



WAR IN IRAQ
Calls the war on terror "a generational struggle that will continue long after you and I have turned our duties over to others. That is why it is important to work together so our nation can see this great effort through. Let us find our resolve and turn events toward victory."

HEALTH CARE
Wants to make employer-financed benefits taxable income after a deduction of \$15,000 for families and \$7,500 for individuals. Eighty percent of workers with health insurance through their jobs would see a tax cut.

EDUCATION
Would allow poor children in struggling schools to transfer to private schools. The current No Child Left Behind law allows children in the worst schools to move to better public schools, not private schools.

ENERGY
Wants a 20 percent cut in gasoline usage by 2017 and spurns appeals from environmentalists to impose mandatory ceilings on U.S. greenhouse gas emissions.

President Bush spoke to a skeptical nation and Congress on Tuesday night, urging everyone to accept his unpopular plan to send more troops to Iraq, saying it represents the best hope in a war America must win.

While facing a political showdown with Democrats and even fellow Republicans, Bush also touched on health care, education and energy.

See stories, Page A2

INDIANA COMMERCE CONNECTOR

BELTWAY SHOWDOWN

Proponents, foes sound off at Senate hearing



STAFF PHOTOS BY SCOTT ROBERSON/sroberson@thejournalnet.com

State Sen. Tom Wyss directs the audience to a couple of spots on the map that shows the Indiana Commerce Connector, near Indianapolis,

and the Illiana Expressway, near Gary, during a homeland security, transportation and veterans affairs committee meeting Tuesday.

By ANNIE GOELLER

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Supporters of a proposed toll road through central Indiana outnumbered landowners and residents who oppose the project at a hearing Tuesday when legislators started analyzing the proposal.

About 30 people spoke about the proposed beltway, with the majority favoring it. Everyone who spoke in favor of the proposed Indiana Commerce Connector represented a government agency or an organization, such as engineer or carpenter unions or a county economic development group.

More than 10 residents and a member of an environmental group spoke against the toll road.

Supporters, including the Johnson County Development Corp., said the project would bring jobs and economic development to the state and relieve traffic. A handful of officials and groups from southwest Indiana said they support the beltway because it would help the state build the Interstate 69 extension between Indianapolis and Evansville.

Three Franklin residents spoke against the bill and asked legislators to either get



Franklin resident Rebecca Morrison, left, opposes the proposed beltway, and Pendleton Town Council member Dan Henderson approves of the tollway. They were two of several views Senate committee members heard Tuesday in Indianapolis.



more information before approving the route or not approve the project at all.

At least two lawmakers are considering amendments in relation to opponents' concerns that the proposal is going before legislators too early in the process and won't require any more approvals.

Residents brought up concerns including the types of businesses that would

(SEE BELTWAY, BACK PAGE)

WHAT THEY SAID

More than 30 people spoke to a committee of legislators about the proposed toll road through central Indiana, which has been packaged into a bill with a northwest Indiana road. Here is what they said:

Supporters

Petersburg Mayor Jon Craig: Toll road would help build and complete Interstate 69 extension, which would bring businesses and jobs to the southern Indiana city.

Don Henderson, Pendleton Town Council: Supports toll road regardless of where the route is located near Pendleton. State should support road so that future generations will benefit from the jobs. "Shame on us if we let them down."

Bob McQuary, state building trades: Will help bring more jobs to state and connect workers with Honda plant in Decatur County.

Opponents

Bill McAlister, Indianapolis: Concerned with way bill is written; people should be able to communicate about legislation.

Kirk Boller, New Palestine: "Hancock County is more laid back than Indianapolis. People like farmland." Need to weigh development against land that will be lost. Truckers will avoid the toll road, and it will probably not help traffic on Interstate 465.

Plan: School to grow by 58%

Center Grove's board gets first look at proposal

By SARAH LIPPS

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Architects at Center Grove are forming a plan for just how big the high school could get, what could be torn down and when the work could take place.

The proposal calls for the building to grow by 58 percent to 860,249 square feet. Under the plan, the high school faculty would have until May to develop the right model for teaching students.

A timeline, designed with the help of administrators, outlines the steps that must be followed in the expansion process for the next six months.

The school board has not approved any of the proposals.

At a work session Monday, board members got their first look at the ideas the architects laid out.

The architects' plans would create a school large enough for 3,431 students, the largest enrollment projected for the high school by 2025.

Board members did not question at a work session Monday whether the school should be built for the maximum projected enrollment, the timeline or costs.

The plans are meant to be scrutinized by the school board, which will choose the building options, chief financial officer Paul Gabriel said.

"Before we bring forward a statement that says here is the scope and budget of the project, we need to spend a lot of time and hammer on all of this," he said.

Several board members asked about the specifics of the designs and how architects had come up with the plans.

Board members questioned

(SEE BOARD, PAGE A9)

Flag-nappers want beer from Bears fan

By CANDACE BEATY

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Something didn't sound right to Kevin Barnard on Monday night. He couldn't hear the familiar sound of his Chicago Bears flag flapping in the wind.

Sure enough, the flag was gone. On Tuesday morning, he found a ransom note left on his car.

With the two Super Bowl-bound teams located just a few hours apart, rivalries between longtime fans are brewing.

Barnard's Franklin home is in enemy territory. He hasn't hidden his Bears loyalty all season, and no one had a problem with it until Sunday. Now his flag is gone, and he may have to answer to unknown hostage takers to get it back.

(SEE FLAG, PAGE A9)



STAFF PHOTOS BY SCOTT ROBERSON

Someone stole a Chicago Bears flag from the front porch of the Franklin home of Kevin Barnard, left, who stands in front of his house with his 7-year-old son, Austin. A ransom note was found on his car Tuesday.

Woman on foot faces off with SUV over parking spot

By JOSEPH S. PETE

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Not all the hits at the RCA Dome on Sunday took place on the gridiron, police say.

A 57-year-old man bumped a Greenwood woman with his sport utility vehicle while she was standing in an open parking space to save it for a friend's car two hours before kickoff, the woman told police.

Kenneth Jones, a salesman from Coatesville, pulled his 2006 Chevrolet Trailblazer into a metered spot on West Washington Street and waved for Crystal Lockaby, 25, Greenwood, to move.

Lockaby held her ground and gestured for him to stop, she told police.

She said that he then bumped her with the front of his vehicle several times while she attempted to move. He ran over Lockaby's right foot and ankle, according to the police report.

Charges have not been filed, and no one has been arrested. Lockaby was treated and released from Wishard Memorial Hospital. A paramedic on the scene suspected ligaments were torn in her right ankle, according to the police report.

An X-ray revealed a slight

(SEE WOMAN, BACK PAGE)