

Title

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

Manning, as one might expect, was great. But so was the supporting cast, from household names to no-names.

That's what made this win so special.

Manning, the Super Bowl MVP, summed it up best.

"We did it together," said Manning, wearing a white T-shirt proclaiming the Colts champions. "Everybody did their part."

"We stayed together, and it was just a great team win."

It was also a great win for the city of Indianapolis, a fact not lost on the vocal but comparatively smaller block of Colts fans who filled the 76,000-seat south Florida stadium.

As the final seconds ticked down on a dreary, rainy night, blue-jerseyed fans clad in clear plastic ponchos stood, screamed and applauded their appreciation for the perfect ending of a story-book season.

And there was no shortage of story lines.

Barely a month ago, with their defense struggling, the Colts were all but written off as contenders.

Manning was going to have to wear the "Can't win the big game" tag another year; the defense was going to have to be rebuilt; and Dungy was going to continue to be regarded as a pretty good regular-season coach who couldn't get his team to a championship.

Those storylines are history. This performance made sure of it. Statistically, the Colts have had better games. But in terms of character, poise and physical and mental toughness, this was their finest hour.

No obstacle was too great to overcome. Not fumbles, not interceptions, not botched extra points, not missed field goals — not even an opening kickoff returned for a touchdown.

Favorites heading in, the Colts played like it when their backs were against the wall.

That's what champions do. "We stayed together, never panicked and came away with a great win," Manning said. "It's hard to put into words. I'm proud to be a part of this team."

"Everybody did their part. Manning certainly did his, completing 25 of 38 attempts for 247 yards and a touchdown and providing unwavering leadership in the face of adversity."

But he wasn't the only rock of determination.

Addai, the rookie running back, ran for 77 yards and caught 10 passes for 66 more. But Rhodes, the veteran running back, ran for a game-high 113 yards and a touchdown.

Wide receivers Wayne and Harrison made critical catches at critical junctures, and the entire defense, the source of relentless criticism throughout the season, delivered when it counted most.

The Colts thwarted Bears quarterback Rex Grossman all evening and came up with critical turnovers and critical junctures. The biggest was second-year defensive back Kelvin Hayden's 56-yard interception return for a touchdown in the fourth quarter for the game's final points.

Hayden, filling in for starter Nick Harper, who re-aggravated an injury and couldn't finish, is a seldom-used backup whose contribution personified what was truly, pardon the cliché, a team effort.

"I'm so proud of our guys," Dungy said. "Our guys just hung tough and played so hard."

When it was over, Colts owner Jim Irsay was presented the Vince Lombardi Trophy by NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell in a brief ceremony at midfield.

After expressing sympathy for victims killed and injured in a tornado near Orlando earlier in the week, Irsay held up the silver trophy and proclaimed: "Now, we're world champions."

There's no longer any doubt. And they plan to celebrate accordingly.

"Now's the time to party," safety Bob Sanders said. "Now we can let loose and enjoy it."

So can fans.

They've earned the right to, as well.

Rick Morwick is sports editor of the Daily Journal. Send comments to morwick@thejournalnet.com.

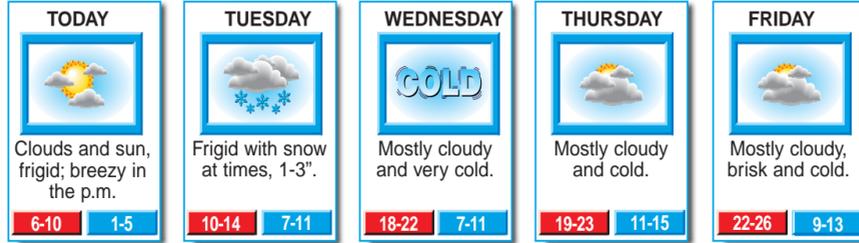
LOTTERIES

Here are the winning numbers selected Saturday:

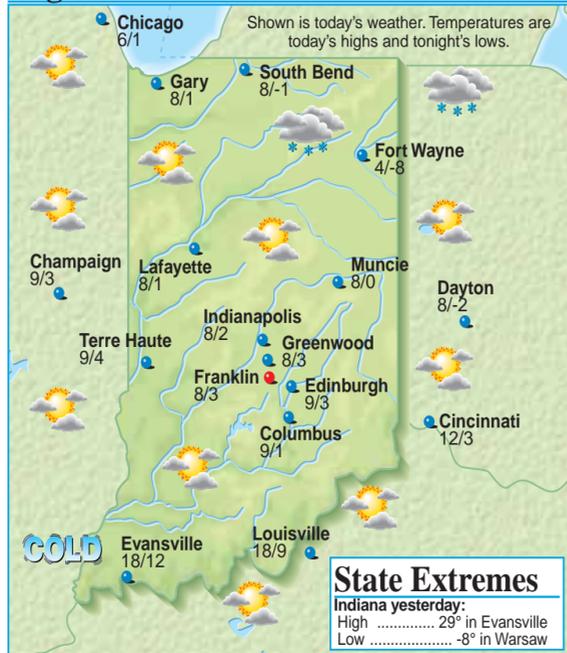
Daily Three Midday: 5-8-9.
Daily Three Evening: 8-6-0.
Daily Four Midday: 7-9-8-3.
Daily Four Evening: 7-8-6-9.
Lucky Five Midday: 10-11-17-28-29.
Lucky Five Evening: 4-10-18-24-30.
Hoosier Lotto: 8-14-16-26-27-38.
Jackpot: \$15 million. (No winners. New jackpot: \$15.5 million.)
Powerball: 12-13-20-33-42. **Powerball:** 37. **Power Play:** 5. **Jackpot:** \$20 million. (No winners. New jackpot: \$27 million.)
 For Sunday's Hoosier Lottery drawings, visit www.thejournalnet.com or see Tuesday's Daily Journal.

WEATHER

AccuWeather® five-day forecast for Johnson County



Regional weather



Regional summary

Indianapolis/Greenwood: Brisk and bitterly cold today with clouds and sun. Bitterly cold tonight. Snow tomorrow, accumulating 1-2 inches. Wednesday: Frigid.

Edinburgh/Franklin: Frigid today with clouds and sun; breezy during the afternoon. Frigid tonight. Snow tomorrow, accumulating 1-2 inches. Wednesday: Very cold.

Today in weather history™

On Feb. 5, 1961, more than 22.5 inches of snow fell in Newark, N.J. Snow at Gardenville, N.Y., piled up 61 inches deep by the storm's end.

Regional cities

City	Yest. Hi/Lo/W	Tues. Hi/Lo/W	City	Yest. Hi/Lo/W	Tues. Hi/Lo/W
Anderson	12/-2/c	16/3/sn	Indianapolis	15/-1/pc	10/9/sn
Bloomington	21/2/pc	15/10/sn	Kokomo	14/1/s	15/2/sn
Chicago	4/-6/pc	10/2/sf	Lafayette	13/-3/pc	13/8/sn
Cincinnati	18/5/pc	16/9/sn	Louisville	25/14/s	25/18/sn
Evansville	29/10/s	27/19/sf	Muncie	11/-2/c	13/6/sn
Fort Wayne	6/-6/c	10/3/sn	South Bend	5/-7/sf	11/3/sf
Gary	7/-5/pc	12/4/sn	Terre Haute	19/0/pc	15/8/sn

Sun and moon

Sunrise today 7:48 a.m.
 Sunset tonight 6:09 p.m.
 Moonrise today 9:44 p.m.
 Moonset today 9:25 a.m.

Last New First Full
 Feb 10 Feb 17 Feb 24 Mar 3

AccuWeather UV Index™



Weather Trivia™

What is the record high for the United States in February?

105°F (at Montezuma, Ariz., Feb. 3, 1936)

Wind Chill Today

How cold it feels based on temperature and wind speed.

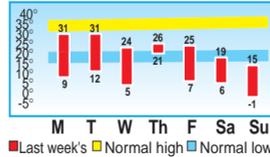
8 a.m. Noon 4 p.m.
 -9° -8° -7°

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 58
 Month to date 200
 Normal month to date 150

Weekly temperatures



River stages

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

Station	Fld	Stg	Chg
White River			
Mooreville	9	8.03	-0.03
White River (East Fork)			
Edinburgh	12	4.67	-0.07

AccuWeather.com Almanac

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2007

Statistics for Indianapolis through 5 p.m. yesterday.

Temperature
 High 15°
 Low -1°
 Normal high 37°
 Normal low 20°
 Record high 69° in 1890
 Record low -12° in 1996

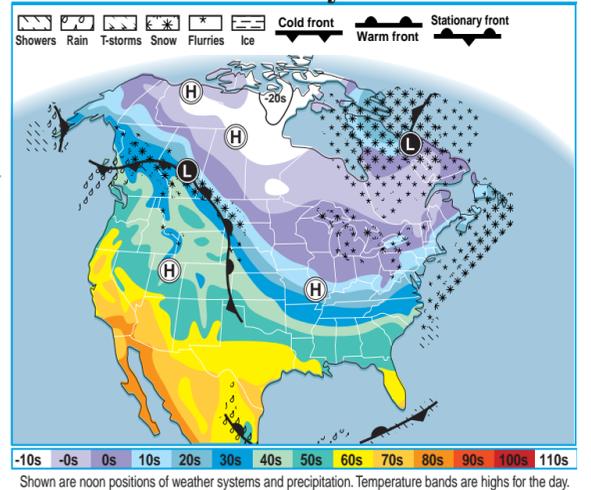
Precipitation
 24 hrs. ending 5 p.m. yest. 0.00"
 Month to date 0.01"
 Normal month to date 0.32"
 Year to date 4.42"
 Normal year to date 2.80"

Wind
 Average dir./speed W at 16.2 mph
 Highest speed 26

Humidity
 Yesterday's average 62%
 Today's average 67%

Air quality
Indianapolis Source: IAPC
 Yesterday 30
 0-50, Good; 51-100, Moderate; 101-151, Unhealthy (sens. grps.); 151-200, Unhealthy

National weather today



National cities

City	Yest. Hi/Lo/W	Tues. Hi/Lo/W	City	Yest. Hi/Lo/W	Tues. Hi/Lo/W
Albany, NY	19/9/pc	15/7/c	Houston	65/37/pc	68/50/pc
Atlanta	53/28/pc	42/38/pc	Jacksonville	60/40/pc	58/35/s
Atlantic City	32/20/pc	25/13/pc	Kansas City	24/4/s	32/13/pc
Baltimore	31/19/pc	21/12/pc	Las Vegas	69/38/s	71/45/s
Boston	27/20/s	22/14/pc	Los Angeles	88/53/s	73/49/s
Buffalo	9/2/sf	14/10/sf	Louisville	25/14/s	25/18/sn
Burlington, VT	18/11/pc	7/5/sf	Memphis	42/26/pc	44/37/pc
Champaign	15/-5/pc	11/3/sn	Miami	72/64/sh	72/61/pc
Charleston, SC	58/35/pc	49/34/s	Milwaukee	-1/-10/sn	13/3/sf
Cheyenne	46/7/pc	54/22/pc	Minneapolis	-3/-13/s	9/-7/sf
Chicago	4/-6/pc	10/2/sf	Nashville	33/19/sf	37/28/pc
Cleveland	6/-1/sf	14/8/sf	New Orleans	56/33/c	58/44/s
Columbia, SC	56/28/pc	48/33/pc	New York	31/18/s	18/18/pc
Columbus, GA	56/30/pc	52/37/s	Philadelphia	30/19/pc	22/10/pc
Dallas	59/29/s	68/46/pc	Phoenix	74/44/s	77/50/s
Denver	45/1/pc	57/25/pc	St. Louis	28/6/pc	29/14/sf
Des Moines	6/-9/pc	17/-2/sn	Salt Lake City	46/21/sh	45/29/pc
Detroit	8/-2/sf	12/6/sf	San Francisco	58/43/pc	63/48/pc
El Paso	62/27/s	68/40/s	Seattle	52/41/r	50/39/c
Fairbanks	9/2/pc	9/-10/s	Tampa	67/49/c	66/48/pc
Honolulu	78/60/s	80/70/s	Washington, DC	35/21/pc	26/19/pc

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

Crash

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

doesn't know what the changes will be.

Emergency workers said the vehicle was so heavily damaged they were unsure what type of vehicle it was when they arrived. The top of the vehicle had to be cut off to remove the people inside, which took about 45 minutes.

Witness statements conflicted on whether the driver of the vehicle, Ted Alexander, 60, stopped before crossing the tracks. The crossing is marked with a stop sign but no crossing arms or flashing lights.

Neighbors said motorists rarely stop at the crossing where at least one train comes through daily. But some wondered if flashing lights would make a difference for drivers who don't pay attention to the crossing.

Crossing the intersection can be dangerous for motorists who do not stop because they may not be able to see an oncoming train, police said.

Motorists who didn't come to a full stop at the tracks Sunday got a ticket and a lecture from sheriff's deputies, who came to the intersection to warn drivers about the danger of not stopping before crossing. A makeshift memorial with bouquets of flowers and a few cards reminded drivers of the accident.

The Alexanders' vehicle was eastbound on Stones Crossing Road and was struck at the crossing about a half-mile west of State Road 135.

The train hit the vehicle on the passenger side and sent it airborne. The vehicle landed on the driver's side in a ditch near the tracks, emergency workers said.

The train was northbound, about a mile long and hauling about 50 cars of coal.

The conductor was unsure of



An emergency worker looks at the wreckage from an SUV-train accident on Saturday in the Center Grove area.

the train's speed, but typically a train carrying that size load would be going between 20 and 25 mph. The train had little damage, Johnson County Sheriff's Maj. Randy Werden said.

Sheriff's deputies are investigating the accident.

Witnesses said that the vehicle slowed before crossing the tracks and that the car stopped and then went onto the tracks. Ted Alexander could not remember any details about the accident when deputies interviewed him Saturday, Werden said.

The train conductor told police the vehicle approached at a high rate of speed and stopped. Part of the vehicle already was on the tracks, and then the vehicle continued forward, according to police reports.

The train struck the vehicle once and then again when the vehicle was airborne, the conductor told police. The conductor said he was not able to stop when he saw the vehicle, according to reports.

Motorists who do not come to a full stop at the stop sign but slow before the crossing might not be able to see an oncoming train, authorities said.

Houses line the sides of the tracks. The stop sign is in a position where motorists can see down the tracks. But if motorists don't stop there, they might not be able to see an approaching train, Werden said.

At least one train comes through the crossing every day. Motorists rarely stop before crossing, said Sandra "Diane" Sutliff, who lives just west of the crossing.

She wonders if installing flashing lights would be beneficial since people likely would still ignore them, she said.

Nine out of 10 cars roll through the intersection without making a complete stop, said Mary Nichols, whose house is just east of the tracks.

Nichols, who has lived in her home for 18 years, said the train Saturday was traveling a different

direction than most trains, which usually are southbound. She wonders if the driver didn't look that direction, expecting the train to come from the other way.

The tracks have always been a concern, especially when her daughter would leave for swimming practice at Center Grove High School at 5 a.m., she said.

Nichols grew used to listening for the train whistle and then breathing a sigh of relief, knowing her children had made it across the tracks safely, she said.

Vehicles back up at the tracks every day just after 3 p.m. when classes end at the high school, said Susan Davis, who lives on the west side of the tracks.

The crossing is 1.5 miles east of Center Grove High School. Davis continually tells her children to be careful when crossing the tracks and to turn down their music, come to a full stop and look in both directions for an approaching train, she said.

"A lot of people think there's

nothing coming," she said.

Davis worries because she doesn't always hear the train whistle.

The conductor told police he blew his whistle as he approached the tracks Saturday because he saw vehicles crossing in front of him.

Davis wants lights and crossing arms installed. At the least, she'd like to see a larger sign and some flashing lights. And she would like all rail crossings in the area to be marked the same, she said.

At some roads, such as Smith Valley Road, there are flashing lights. At others, such as Stones Crossing and Olive Branch roads, there are only stop signs, she said.

"Anyone who lives here knows you stop there, but take someone who doesn't," she said.

Police are unsure where the vehicle was traveling Sunday.

Ted Alexander was in fair condition at Wishard Memorial Hospital in Indianapolis on Sunday.

Tina Alexander, 41, and Zachary Alexander, 9, were taken to Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis.

Both were listed in critical but stable condition Sunday.

The train conductor, Mark S. Brown, 51, Bloomfield, was treated for chest pain at Morgan Hospital and Medical Center in Martinsville. His condition was not available Sunday morning.

Police are unsure if the passengers were wearing seat belts. No one was ejected from the vehicle, Werden said.

All three boys were in the middle seat of the vehicle. The rear seat was empty.

Jacob and Travis Findley were sitting on the driver and passenger sides and Zachary Alexander was in the middle.

Jacob Findley died soon after the accident from his injuries. His brother, Travis, suffered brain injuries and died later that night.

Boys

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

in both sixth and seventh grade.

Teachers were considering Jake for an award this month based on his hard work and his positive attitude, Burton said.

"We'd like to have a room full of Jake Findleys," she said.

Both boys were quiet, not what anyone would consider a class clown, teachers said, but that didn't make them stand out any less.

Jake was younger than his classmates and smaller, but he worked as hard as he could to keep up with the other students, Taylor said.

"He was one of those boys you really enjoyed being around," she said.

Travis tried to help in any way he could, whether it was giving his teacher a hand or trying to aid classmates who were struggling with a lesson, Gallman said.

"You didn't have to ask him to do anything," she said.

Though she didn't know Jake well, she remembered him coming into the school to pick up his brother after his mother had knee surgery.

The boys were a reflection of their wonderful family, she said. Classes will be difficult today, teachers said.

Taylor has seen Jake at least once a week since he first started sixth grade last year, she said.

Jake was in her advisory class, which is a small group that meets once a week. She also taught him language and science in sixth grade.

Now they have to face their

weekly gathering on Wednesday without him.

Gallman wants her class to remember Travis and share their memories of him. She wants the children to make cards or a book for his family.

She plans to set aside time for the class to talk, grieve and share memories, questions and concerns.

"In that room, we're like a little family," she said.

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