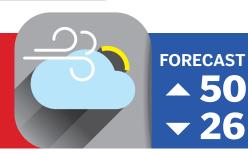
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LADIES MARCH IN

Iowa's Clark headlines the stories to watch for in NCAA women's tourney



TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2024



Gov. DeWine declares emergency after severe storms that killed 3

COLUMBUS (AP) — The Cohio's governor has covers declared a state of emergency in 11 counties across central Ohio struck by severe weather last week.

Gov. Mike DeWine also The Covers Covers Covers Covers Darke, Richlar Covers Covers

Gov. Mike DeWine also activated the Ohio National Guard to help officials in one county, Logan County, where three deaths were confirmed, with the cleanup of storm debris on public property. DeWine announced the emergency declaration Sunday.

The declaration also covers Auglaize, Crawford, Darke, Delaware, Hancock, Licking, Mercer, Miami, Richland and Union counties. It orders all relevant state departments and agencies to lend their services, equipment, supplies, and personnel to aid in response and recovery efforts, the governor's office and

Thursday night's storms claimed three lives in the Indian Lake area of Logan County, one of the hardesthit regions.

The storms also left trails of destruction across parts of Kentucky, Indiana and Arkansas. About 40 people were injured and dozens of homes were damaged in one Indiana community. Tornadoes were also reported in Illinois and Missouri.

The National Weather Service confirmed nine tornados in Ohio, including an EF-3 tornado that began in southern Auglaize County near Fryburg and continued through the Lakeview area in northern Logan County. Forecasters say EF-3 tornados can pack winds up to 136 to 165 mph.

EF-2 tornados – which forecasters say can have winds up to 111 to 135 mph -- were confirmed in central Union County and in Darke and Miami counties as well as in Crawford/Richland counties.

Victims from deadly tornado identified

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

The three individuals that were killed have during the Thursday, March 14, tornado that ravaged the Indian Lake community have been identified.

All three residents have Lakeview addresses, according to the Logan County Sheriff's Office.

Two of the individuals were residents of the Geiger Mobile Home Park in Lakeview, and another was a resident on Orchard Island in Washington Township.

Neal A. Longfellow, 69 of Lakeview, was identified among the wreckage on Orgchard Island.

Marilyn Snapp, 81, and Darla Williams, 70, both of Lakeview were found deceased by first responders during search and rescue operations at the Geiger Mobile Home Park in the aftermath of the tornado.

The victims were found among the debris left behind by the deadly tornado, according to official reports. The Logan County Coroner was notified and their bodies were transported to the mobile morgue that had been set up at the St. Mary of the Woods Church.

The confirmed death toll is still at three, the sheriff's office reported Monday.



A drive-up point of distribution has been established in downtown Lakeview for distributing items of need to affected residents. (DOWNTOWN LAKEVIEW PHOTO)

Drive-up hub opened in Lakeview for distributing items of need to affected residents

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

In the wake of the recent tornado that swept through Lakeview, the downtown business community has united to provide essential assistance to those affected by the disaster. Spearheaded by local business partnerships, a drive-up donation center has been established behind The Depot, serving as a central hub for distributing items of need.

The center offers a wide range of essential items to aid residents in the recovery process. Totes are available for packing essentials, and once these are gone, boxes will be provided to accommodate additional distributions.

A variety of items are available, including water, toiletries, feminine products, non-perishable food items, snacks, granola, pet food, stuffed animals, blankets, and coats.

As recovery efforts continue, organizers encourage community members to contribute what they can to support their neighbors in need. Every contribution helps Lakeview rebuild in the aftermath of the tornado.

'I thought it was the end'

Storm survivor shares account of when tornado came through

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

Mangan, the EF3 tornado that ravaged the Indian Lakearea on Thursday, March 14, destroyed her home and trashed nearly all her possessions.

But it spared her life. And in the days immediately following the devastation wrought by the deadly twister that killed three people, injured dozens more and displaced hundreds of residents in Lakeview, Russells Point even into portions of Huntsville, Mangan has experienced the sense of togetherness, perseverance and resilience that makes the Indian Lake community so unique.

"I thought it was the end, that this is when my life would end," Mangan said, recounting her experience Thursday night as the tornado blew over and through her residence at

205 N. Oak St., Lakeview.
Mangan said she'd been talking with her daughter Samantha Blinn on the telephone about the best place to shelter as the warnings were issued.



Dustin Blinn, background left, works on the property of his mother-in-law Stacy Mangan at 250 N. Oak St., Lakeview. Mangan survived the deadly tornado, but her home was destroyed. (SUBMITTED PHOTO)

"All of a sudden it sounded like a train, I tried grabbing my dogs and cat but was only able to grab one of my little dogs while the other two ran due to the noise," Mangan said. "I hunkered down in the hallway where there were no windows right as (the tornado) hit with a blanket around me.

"The roof lifted and dropped back down a good 3-4 times followed by the windows bursting out and doors blowing open."

When the storm passed Mangan was able to get a sense of just how much damage the storm caused. Her house was destroyed.

"As soon as it stopped I walked out to my bedroom where water was pouring through the ceiling," she said. "My house has two spots where it almost ripped apart and the back

half was torn to pieces."

Mangan said she was pulled from the rubble in the pitch dark by her son-

in-law, Dustin Blinn.
"He went over checking and helping those he could," she said. "He took me to his house that wasn't hit (only) 10 minutes

away."

When they returned in the morning, the daylight laid bare the extent of the destruction caused by the tornado

"My street was destroyed. (There were) houses in piles. (The) neighbor's roof was in my backyard," she said.

Since then, Mangan, her daughter and son-in-law and several other friends and family members have set about working to help others displaced by the tornado, that may be without help or a

network of support.

"Dustin has provided generators to multiple families, dropped off gas to multiple families, cut up trees and removed debris for anyone he can," Mangan said. "Indian Lake (Schools) delivered food and drinks as we cleaned up. Buckeye at the Lake provided hot pizza. The support has been amazing."

Samantha said that in addition to her husband, her brother and sister and family friends all have pitched in to help not just her mom, but others in the neighborhood who need help.

"The clean up has been sad but also happy," Samantha said. "The community has been absolutely amazing and I can't believe the support being given."

Samaritan's Purse sets up disaster response site in Bellefontaine

BY SHARYN KOPF BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

Something's different at Vineyard Christian Fellowship (VCF). Extra cars in the parking lot. Large RVs next to the playground. And people in orange t-shirts going in and out all through

the day.

The church at 624
Township Road 55 was chosen to be the base camp for the Samaritan's Purse disaster response team. They're here to help homeowners in the Indian Lake region recover from the March 14 tornado catastrophe.

With volunteers and

chaplains arriving in
Bellefontaine from around
the country, the team will
assist with roof tarping,
debris cleanup and chainsaw work. Out-of-state
helpers will eat and sleep
at VCF for at least three
days. The response team
anticipates being here
until April 6.
But Jaime Keoshian, the

But Jaime Keoshian, the program manager from North Wilkesboro, NC, said they will stay as long as they're needed.

"Families are usually overwhelmed. They don't know where to begin because rarely have they gone through something

like this," Keoshian said.
"Our mission is to share
the love of God by helping
with immediate physical
recovery needs and providing comfort as they
process through the loss."

Local volunteers are welcome to join the efforts. Here's what you need to know:

• Required orientations are held at 7:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. every Monday through Saturday from now until Saturday, April 6, at VCF or 606 State Route 708, Russells Point. Each volunteer will be given a pass card for registration and only needs to

go through orientation once.

• Contact the site at least 24 hours in advance of the date you want to serve by calling 937-935-

• They have projects for everyone. Those who aren't able to handle heavy physical labor can hand out tools, organize the trucks or simply minister to the residents.

• Day volunteers need to bring their own bagged lunch, water and hand sanitizer.

See PURSE on Page 2



Volunteers with Samaritan's Purse finished up orientation at Vineyard Christian Fellowship on Monday afternoon with a prayer. (EXAMINER PHOTO I SHARYN KOPF)

Local C

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"It's gittin' so children are neither seen or heard unless we sit up all night."

Written prior, 1931, by Kin Hubbard, a world-famous newspaper humorist and father of late T.E. Hubbard, former Examine owner/publisher

Indian Lake High School to remain primary polling location for Indian Lake residents on Election Day

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

Indian Lake High School's Auxiliary Gym will still serve as the primary polling location for a significant portion of the Indian Lake area despite the aftermath of Thursday's weather event. Officials have confirmed that the facility will be

operational for Election Day today, Tuesday, March 19th, providing voters with the opportunity to cast their ballots as usual.

Residents of Bloomfield, Stokes, and Washington Townships, as well as the Villages of Lakeview and Russells Point, can expect polling activities to proceed without interruption

at the high school from 6:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m.

The high school has been used as a donation collection point and a shelter for those impacted by the tornadoes last week.

The decision to maintain the high school as a polling site underscores the resilience and determination of the community.

Thursday's terrifying tornado turns dad and daughter into heroes

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

would agree

emergency first responders are heroes, and that has never been more true given how they have stepped up to help after the devastating tornado struck our community.

But extraordinary events some times make heroes out of ordinary peo-

That is the case with a local father and daughter Ross and Taylor Duff who found themselves in a terrifying situation during the deadly weather event. They rose to the occasion.

Taylor, 12, was babysitting Charlie and Andrew Haubert, ages 7 and 6, respectively, in the Haubert's Indian Lake area home when the twister hit.

Taylor, in only her second time ever babysitting, was able to speak to her dad before the two lost communication because of the storm.

Continued from Page 1

provided, volunteers can

take their own tool belts

• Volunteers are

responsible for their own

at least 14 years old. Youth

ages 14 and 15 must be

parent/legal guardian.

Those who are 16 and 17

need an adult chaperone unless they're part of a

must complete a Youth Leader Covenant.

Youth group teams

Wear appropriate

clothing—long pants, sturdy boots, work gloves.

There's also a chance the

clothes could be ruined

during the labor so plan

• Each volunteer will

Samaritan's Purse short- or

volunteers, including six

Response Team Chaplains and two cooks, over the

next few weeks. Though the

number will fluctuate dur-

ing that time, they had 67

people from all over the

VCF will host dozens of

accordingly.

receive an orange

long-sleeved t-shirt.

Billy Graham Rapid

accompanied by a

youth group team.

and small hand tools.

transportation.

· While some tools are

• Participants must be



SUBMITTED PHOTO I ROSS AND TAYLOR DUFF

She calmly and very maturely took the Haubert boys to the home's crawl space and covered them to keep them from harm while the nightmarish, freight train-sounding storm passed near the home.

Ross, who was unable to get to his daughter initially because of the storm. sprang into action and literally moved heaven and earth, and lots of stormrelated obstacles and debris to get to her and the Haubert boys.

The Haubert home was spared from significant damage, although some of their neighbors were not as fortunate.

United States sleeping in

throughout the church on

Samaritan's Purse after her

town of Midland, Michigan,

suffered its own disaster in

May 2020 when two dams

failed, unleashing a torrent

of water on Midland

makeshift bunkrooms

Keoshian joined

Monday night.

The children are all safe

and sound.

Ross sustained a broken leg during the night's events. He's now home from the hospital, but will need several weeks to heal and recover.

Go to www.examiner.org to read Ross Duff's account of events via a Facebook post,

Editor's Note: We are certain there are many stories of heroic actions and neighbors helping neighbors after Thursday's devastating weather. We hope to tell them all. If you know of individuals, first responders or groups who you feel deserve recognition, feel free to share their stories with us at news@examiner.org.

damaged homes.

position.'

"I asked the Lord how I

The team saw 90 people

could do more," she said,

tant program manager

show up on Monday to

help out. For more infor-

mation on how you can

join them, visit spvolun-

"and He led me to an assis-

■ BELLEFONTAINE BEAT

POLICE & FIRE

OVI stops recorded

Two impaired driving arrests were recorded over the St. Patrick's Day weekend by officers of the Bellefontaine Police Department.

Grant Westerman, 25, of Bellefontaine, was arrested for drunk driving following a traffic stop that occurred around 2:30 a.m., Sunday, March 17, near the intersection of Lake Avenue and Main Street. Officers on patrol initially observed a vehicle driven by Westerman along the 300 block of south Detroit St.

The defendant reportedly was weaving in and out of his lane of travel and officers began to follow the vehicle. A series of marked lanes violations were reported including crossing over the double-yellow median. Upon making contact with Westerman, some signs of alcohol impairment were observed including the odor of alcoholic beverage and slurred speech.

Field sobriety tests were administered, but were not successful. The defendant was arrested and transported to the police station. A breath tests was administered and measured a .192 blood-alcohol content.

Westerman was charged with operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs, and for the traffic violations and was released to a sober driver.

• Kevin Smith, 34, of Bellefontaine, was charged with OVI, marked lanes violations and improper use of a firearm following a 2:13 a.m. traffic stop executed Sunday, March 17, in the area of north Madriver Street near east Sandusky Avenue.

Officers on patrol observed a vehicle driven by the defendant commit several violations of marked lanes while traveling in the area of south Main Street near Auburn Avenue. The vehicle was also speeding, officers report, traveling 50 mph in a posted 25 mph zone.

Upon making contact with Smith following the stop, he reportedly was heavily impaired and several open containers of alcohol were observed inside the vehicle.

Field sobriety tests were not successful and the defendant was transported to the police department and agreed to a breath test, which measured a .263 bloodalcohol level.

His vehicle was searched due to the open containers and officers also located a loaded handgun inside the car.

He was charged with OVI, having weapons under disability, as well as for the traffic violations and was lodged in the Logan County Jail.

A look back into the headlines...

75 Years Ago

SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 1949

Richard Linn, 805 1/2 south Main street, has reenlisted int the U.S. Air Force at Patterson Field, Dayton. He is a Master Sergeant and his enlistment is for a three-year period. The young man served for seven years with the Air Force overseas, in England and more recently in Alaska. He was honorably discharged on Jan. 17, 1949.

Mrs. Felma Harper Washington, formerly of Bellefontaine, now residing in Waynesburg, Pa., will present a song recital Sunday evening at the Grace A.M.E. church in this city.

50 Years Ago

TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 1974

Ray Kronenberger of Kronenberger Realty, Russells Point, was elected as president of the Indian Lake Area Chamber of Commerce.

Danny M. Kelly of the Bellefontaine Police Department was among the 25law enforcement officers who completed 10 weeks of intensive basic police training at the State Highway Patrol Academy in Columbus.





ALSO AVAILABLE ONLINE @ www.examiner.org

■ OBITUARIES Roger Carl Beaverson

Roger Carl Beaverson, 85, of Belle



Center, passed away Friday afternoon, March 15, 2024, at Dublin Methodist Hospital.

Roger was born in Fayette, Ohio, on October 19, 1938, to the late Carl and Grace (Zuvers)

Beaverson. He was also preceded in death by his brother Russell Beaverson.

Roger married Brenda Sullivan on April 28, 1967, at the Belle Center United Presbyterian Church, and she survives. He is also survived by their children: daughter Sheri Lynn (Steve) Deerhake of Columbus, sons Gregory James (Wendy) Beaverson of Woodstock, and Derin Carl (Mayla) Beaverson of Rushsylvania; five grandchildren: Gracie, Megan, Emily, Henry, and Maya Beaverson; five sisters: Doris Leininger of Quincy, Michigan, Carol Pfund of Wauseon, Mary Ferris of Morenci, Michigan, Mabel Hudson of Delta, and Glenda Towers of Fayette. He is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

A veteran of the US Army, Roger served in Korea during the Vietnam Era. After moving from northwest Ohio to Belle Center in 1965, Roger worked at the Herald-Voice newspaper for many years. He was a member of and deacon at the Belle Center United Presbyterian Church, a member of the American Legion Willard Stout Post 266 in Belle Center, and a co-founder of the Murray Griffin Memorial Park, also in Belle Center. Roger was a fan of all sports, but especially loved baseball. He attended the George Barr Baseball Umpire School in Lakewood, FL and from there went on to umpire in the Minor Leagues for a time. He enjoyed following the University of Cincinnati Bearcats football and basketball programs as well as the Cincinnati Reds. Roger loved pets, and always insisted on having a house dog or cat as well as many outside. After retiring from Honda in 2004, he very much enjoyed driving for his friends in the Belle Center Amish community. After his daughter's diagnosis of Lupus SLE, Roger organized and hosted an annual Lupus Golf Outing fundraiser for many

Friends may call on Thursday, March 21, 2024, from 4 pm -7 pm at the Belle Center United Presbyterian Church, 202 Walnut St. Belle Center, Ohio, and on Friday, March

22, from 10 am – 11 am at the church. Pastor Ted Dennis will officiate Roger's funeral service on Friday, March 22, at 11 am at the church. Burial will follow the funeral in Fairview Cemetery, Belle Center, with veteran honors provided by members of the Logan County Honor Guard.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, P.O. Box 5014, Hagerstown, MD 21741-5014.

Eichholtz Daring & Sanford Funeral Home, Belle Center, is honored to serve the Beaverson family and encourages anyone to share a fond memory or message of condolence at www.edsfh.com.

Mike Robinson

Mike Robinson, 64, of Lakeview, OH



passed away early Friday morning, March 15, 2024, at his home after a long courageous fight with cancer.

Mike was born on July 20, 1959, in Bellefontaine,

OH, a son of the late George "Fred" and Fonda Sue Miller Robinson. He was also preceded in death by a brother, Tim Robinson.

Mike is survived by his sisters, Terri (Paul) Ferguson of Lakeview, and Tonjia Miller of Bellefontaine, his brother, Scott (Jodi) Robinson of Harpster, OH and several nieces and nephews including a special nephew, Dustin (Jeana) McClain.

Mike was a former truck driver. He was a veteran of the United States Army. Mike was an outdoorsman at heart who enjoyed hunting deer, pheasant and rabbit, trapping, and fishing. He was an avid fan of NASCAR, the Cleveland Browns, and especially University of Michigan.

Funeral services will be 1:00 pm, Thursday, March 21, 2024, at Shoffstall Funeral Home, 205 S. Main St, Lakeview, with visitation from noon to 1:00 pm. Burial will be in Huntsville Cemetery with military rites performed by the United States Army and Logan County Veterans Honor Guard. It is encouraged that attendees wear their favorite sports apparel.

Memorial contributions may be given in Mike's memory to Doyle R. Miller Amvets Post #39 or Logan County Cancer Society c/o Mary Rutan Hospital.

Arrangements are in the care of Shoffstall Funeral Home, Lakeview. Condolences may be expressed at *shoffstallfuneralhome.com*.

DEATH NOTICES

STOKES Marlene S., 86 of Bellefontaine passed away Monday, March 18, 2024 at St. Rita's Medical Center in Lima, OH. A Graveside Service will take place at a later date in Highland Memorial Cemetery.

Mary Statue is missing at Indian Lake, blown away by the tornado

SPECIAL TO THE EXAMINER

She would have turned 60-years old this August. Constructed in 1964, the nearly 20-foot tall statue of Our Lady of Fatima was taken away by the powerful EF3 tornado of March 14, 2024. She has not been seen since.

The statue was the idea of George B. Quatman, Sr., founder of a non-profit organization, the American Society of Ephesus, Inc. ("ASE"), which owns the statue and the shrine property at Russells Point, Ohio. Mr. Quatman died on September 15, 1964, at age 74, just two weeks after the statue's formal dedication. Known by many as "Our Lady of the Lake," the shrine was built in Russell's Point, Ohio during the summer of 1964 after six years of planning overlooking beautiful Indian Lake from the location named "St. Mary's Point". It was unveiled in June 1964 and sixty years ago, it was reported that, "Hundreds of people walked, came by car and by boat Sunday to see the 43-foot Our Lady of Fatima Monument unveiled at San Juan Park on St. Mary's Point." (Lima News, June 29, 1964). The original unveiling was attended by religious and political leaders, as well as media.

Bill Quatman, grandson of George B. Quatman, Sr., and current Chairman of



ASE, said, "We are determined to find the Mary statue and to build it back. While we likely cannot use the original statue, we will build something equally impressive and respectful." Mr. Quatman visited the site this weekend and said local residents begged him to build back. "We knew that the shrine was important to the community, but we have been overwhelmed at the requests to build her back." The statue and shrine were formally dedicated on August 30, 1964 to St. Mary of the Woods Catholic Church of Russell's Point. Each August, a Catholic mass is held at the shrine property, often celebrated by the Archbishop of Cincinnati and the priest from St. Mary of the Woods.

Many local residents remember that George B. Quatman purchased the former Sandy Beach Amusement Park at Russell's Point, renaming the resort as the "San Juan" Ballroom and Resort, after Saint John, the beloved disciple and protector of the Virgin Mary in her later years. It was Mr. Quatman's goal to make the resort a place where women would feel safe and protected, much in the way Saint John cared for Mary. Extensive improvements were made to the park property by Mr. Quatman and all proceeds from the enterprise went to charity. The cost of the construction of the Our Lady of Fatima statue came solely from the operation of

DD AWARENESS MONTH SPOTLIGHT

Early Intervention Services

FROM THE LOGAN COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

arly Intervention is a service offered by Logan County Board of Developmental Disabilities, providing support to families with children under the age of 3 who have a qualifying developmental delay or a qualifying medical diagnosis.

Services are provided in the family's home since children under the age of 3 learn best in their natural environment with their primary caregiver.

The EI team collaborates with the family on what their strengths and needs are. This helps develop outcomes important to the family, which will assist with the child's developmental progress.

The team provides coaching to the family, so they know how to work on development in every setting such as mealtime, riding in the car, bath time and play time.

Among the EI team members are a service coordinator, developmental specialist, occupational therapist, speech therapist, physical therapist, nurse, dietician, hearing and vision specialists, and an early childhood mental health consultant.

The team collaborates with the family to ensure all the necessary support is available. The EI team not only looks to enhance the skills of the child, but also works to ensure the entire family has the needed support.

EI Director Liz Rose and Developmental Specialist Kellie

Lemly, recently met with Linda, mother of Delanie, who is enrolled in EI services, to find out what EI means to her family

Delanie was born in January of 2022 to her parents, Andrew and Linda. She has been enrolled in EI services with the Logan County Board of Developmental Disabilities since August of 2022.

Shortly after Delanie was born, she was diagnosed with spina bifida, which is a condition present from birth where a part of the spinal cord is exposed through a gap in the backbone that can lead to paralysis and other complications

Linda was told that her daughter would never walk due to her condition. Because Linda's older child was previously enrolled in EI, she knew she could call and refer Delanie to receive the support she needed.

Linda shared that her EI team has helped her learn about spina bifida and shared resources for Delanie and her whole family. She also noted that she can text the EI team with questions, and she will receive quick responses. Being a parent of a child with spina bifida can be stressful and her EI team helps her cope with her stress and find solutions for the day-to-day needs for her family.

When asked what she wants other parents to know about EI, Linda stated, "If parents feel something is needed for their child, the EI team will do whatever they can to help."

Linda was scared that Delanie would not walk. She was afraid for her daughter's future and what to do for her, but EI helped Linda build confidence to assist Delanie in learning to walk. Now Delanie is walking and even running on her own!

"Do not set limits on your child. Allow them to learn new skills," Linda said. "You never know what your child can do if you do not give them the chance to try."

Linda's advice to other parents of children with developmental delays is to be patient with yourself and your child. She expressed that it is a lot of work to be a parent, but there



Delanie, left, being held by her mother Linda, receives early intervention services throaugh the Logan County Board of Developmental Disabilities. (SUBMITTED PHOTO)

are always a way to help your child. Parents should always look at all of their options and not just rely on what you are told initially.

Linda shared that EI services have provided everything she has expected and more for her family. She feels that the EI team is available even between scheduled visits for

phone calls or texts for information or support.

For more information about EI Services, call (937) 292-5900 or go to logancbdd.org and click on the EI tab. You can refer your child directly to EI by calling (937) 292-3065.

Parents and caregivers can refer their own child if there is a concern with development; a doctor referral is not required.





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GENERAC

TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2024

South Carolina, Iowa, USC and Texas are the top seeds in the women's NCAA Tournament

Ohio State seeded No. 2

BY DOUG FEINBERG AP BASKETBALL WRITER

Dawn Staley and South Carolina could see some familiar faces on their path to trying to finish off an undefeated season.

The Gamecocks, who are the No. 1 overall seed in the women's NCAA Tournament, are looking to become the 10th women's basketball team to go unbeaten for an entire sea-

They had a chance last season before falling just short against Caitlin Clark and Iowa in the Final Four. The Hawkeyes received the other No. 1 seed in the Albany Regional. The two teams wouldn't potentially face off until the national championship game this time. Iowa is a one-seed for the first time since 1992.

USC and star freshman JuJu Watkins earned the Trojans' first No. 1 seed since 1986 as the top choice in a Portland Regional. Texas earned the fourth No. 1 seed, its first since 2004, and will play Drexel in the other Portland Regional opener. There was debate whether Texas or Stanford would get the fourth No. 1

"To say we talked about it more than once was an understatement," said NCAA selection committee Chair Lisa Peterson. "What it came down to was Texas had to play three tourna-



lowa guard Caitlin Clark celebrates as time expires during the overtime win against Nebraska in the final of the Big Ten women's tournament March 10 in Minneapolis. (AP PHOTO/ABBIE PARR)

ment teams to get to the (Big 12) championship."

South Carolina coach Dawn Staley's squad has been challenged a few times this year, including needing a buzzer-beating 3-pointer from Kamilla Cardoso to win the semifinals of the SEC Tournament over Tennessee, but has always pulled through. The Gamecocks, who are a No. 1 seed for the fourth consecutive year, will play the winner of Sacred Heart and Presbyterian in the first round of the tournament.

"I always feel good to be the No. 1 overall seed and

to be undefeated," Staley said. "I'm excited because we get a chance to know what our path is to win the $national \ \hat{c} hampionship$ and, all great teams, a lot of familiar faces that are in our region. But we have to take it one game at a time and that's what we'll do on Friday.'

Cardoso will miss the opening game after getting ejected for fighting in the SEC title game. The Gamecocks would have her back for a potential secondround matchup against either North Carolina or Michigan State. South

Carolina beat the Tar Heels earlier in the season.

"Fortunately for us, it's someone we played without for four games this season," Staley said. "We know we're a better basketball team when Kamilla Cardoso is in the lineup.'

Joining the Gamecocks in the Albany Region are No. 2 seed Notre Dame, third-seeded Oregon State and fourth-seeded Indiana. South Carolina opened up its season against the Irish, routing them in Paris.

Clark, who became the NCAA's all-time leading scorer this year, is trying to win her first title. The Hawkeyes open up against the winner of Holy Cross and UT Martin. Joining the Hawkeyes in their region are No. 2 UCLA, defending champion and third-seeded LSU and fourth-seeded Kansas State. The Tigers beat the Hawkeyes for the

The other top teams in USC's bracket are Ohio State, UConn and Virginia Tech. The Huskies were the last team to go undefeated in a season, running through the 2015-16 season.

national championship last

Texas could have to con-

tend with No. 2 Stanford, No. 3 North Carolina State and fourth-seeded Gonzaga.

The NCAA changed its format last season and is having two regional sites for the Sweet 16 and Elite Eight rounds. Albany, New York, hosts one and Portland, Oregon, the other. Once again the top four teams in each region will host the opening two rounds.

The tournament begins Wednesday with two First Four games. The full madness starts with 16 games Friday and 16 more the next day. The Final Four will be played in Cleveland this year for the first time since 2007. The national semifinals are on April 5, with the championship game two days later.

Tennessee continued its streak of appearing in all 42 NCAA Tournaments. On the other end, Presbyterian, California Baptist, Columbia and Texas A&M-Corpus Christi are all making their first appearance.

The Lions were one of the last four teams in the field. Just outside the field of 68 were Penn State, Washington State, Miami and Villanova.

"There were seven or eight schools we talked about," Peterson said of the final few spots. "That conversation lasted over two days."

The Atlantic Coast Conference and Southeastern Conference both have eight teams in the field. The Big Ten, Pac-12 and Big 12 each have



San Francisco 49ers defensive end Chase Young looks on before an NFL football game against the Washington Commanders on Dec. 31 in Landover, Md. The New Orleans Saints have agreed to terms of a one-year contract with free agent Young. The contract agreement, announced Monday. (AP PHOTO/DANIEL KUCIN JR., FILE)

Former Ohio State star defensive end Young signs 1-year deal with Saints

have agreed to terms of a one-year contract with free agent defensive end Chase Young, a move that provides reinforcements to an edge pass rush that periodically struggled to pressure quarterbacks last season.

"I definitely plan to add a good piece," Young said in a video conference with New Orleans reporters Monday night. "I'm going to let my play do the talking."

Saints defensive ends combined for 14 sacks last season, led by Carl

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Granderson's 8 1/2, and the club ranked 29th in the NFL. in sacks per pass attempt.

Young, who turns 25 in April, was drafted second overall out of Ohio State by the Washington Commanders in 2020, when he was named the AP Defensive Rookie of the Year. But he was sidelined by major knee injuries in his second pro season that also kept him out for much of 2022.

"Injuries definitely hindered a few things," Young said. "It's all about the process, all about the journey. I know what I can do."

Last season, Young saw rookie campaign, playing in 16 games with the Commanders and San Francisco 49ers, who acquired him in a midseason trade. He had 7 1/2 sacks during the regular season and had another in the Niners' Super Bowl loss to Kansas City.

"I feel like in every area of my game, I can grow. I'm still a young player," Young said. "I'm going to do my best to make sure (the Saints) know they didn't pick the wrong one."

Sports Illustrated will continue operations with new publisher

BY JOE REEDY AP SPORTS WRITER

Sports Illustrated will continue operations after the company that owns the brand agreed with a new publisher for its print and digital

products. Minute Media took over on Monday after reaching a licensing agreement with Authentic Brands Group. On Jan. 19, Authentic announced that it was revoking The Arena Group's publishing license after Arena failed to make a quarterly payment.

Authentic had been in negotiations with Arena, Minute Media and other publishing entities over

the past two months. Authentic will acquire an equity stake in Minute Media, which also publishes the online sites The Players' Tribune, FanSided and 90min. Other terms, including the length of the deal, were not announced.

"Sports Illustrated is the gold standard for sports journalism and has been for nearly 70 years across both print and digital media. The weight and power of that distinction cannot be understated. At Minute Media, our focus will be to take that legacy into new, emerging channels, enhancing visibility, commercial viability, and sustainable impact, all while ensuring that the SI team is inspired to



The Sports Museum curator Richard Johnson, right, stands near an exhibit that displays cover photos from the sports magazine Sports Illustrated in the museum at the TD Garden, in Boston, Dec. 17, 2015. Sports Illustrated will continue operations after the company that owns the brand reached an agreement with a new publisher for its print and digital products. (AP PHOTO/STEVEN SENNE, FILE)

flourish in this new era of media," Minute Media founder and CEO Asaf Peled said in a

statement. What this means for the writers and others who produce Sports Illustrated remains to be seen.

Minute Media will begin meeting with SI employees over the next couple of weeks as it determines how much of the staff it will retain, according to a person with knowledge of the transition. The person spoke to The Associated

Press on condition of anonymity because the person was not authorized to speak publicly

SI co-Editor in Chief Stephen Cannella told employees in a memo to continue operating as if it were business as usual for now. We have said from the start

that our top priorities are to keep Sports Illustrated alive, uphold the legacy of the institution and protect our union jobs. We look forward to discussing a future with Minute Media that does that," said Emma Baccellieri, an SI staff writer and vice chair of the employee union that the NewsGuild repre-

The Arena Group acquired publishing rights from Authentic in 2019 for at least 10 years, but it had many hurdles. In December, it fired chief executive officer Ross Levinsohn when the magazine's alleged use of AI-generated stories drew public backlash.

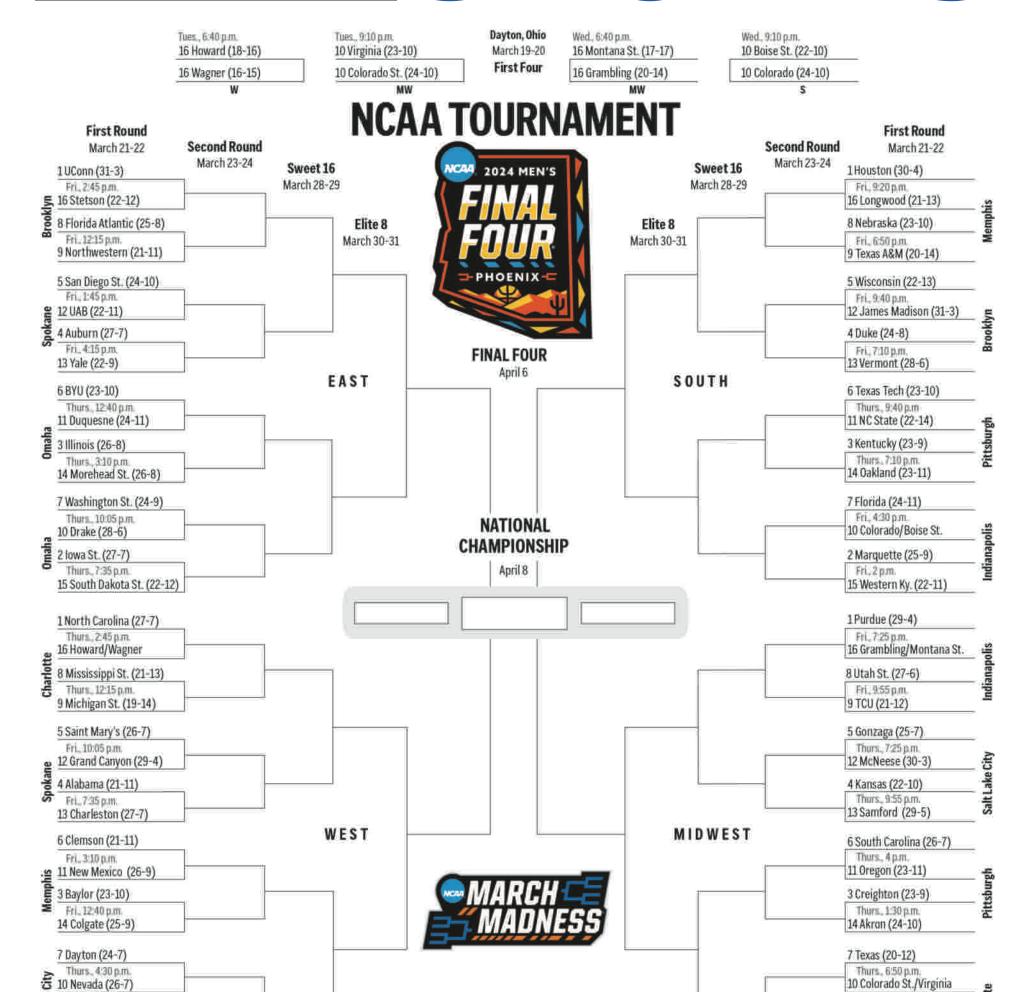
Sports Illustrated has had a rough six years. It was acquired by Meredith Publishing in 2018 as part of the purchase of Time Inc., which started the magazine

Less than a year later, Meredith sold the magazine's intellectual property to Authentic for \$110 million. Authentic owns the intellectual property of many brands and stars, including Marilyn Monroe, Elvis Presley, Muhammad Ali and Reebok.

Once a weekly publication, Sports Illustrated was reduced to biweekly publishing in 2018 and became a monthly in 2020.

eMail: sports@examiner.org

ONLINE @ examiner.org/sports



First Four teams hope to do some bracket busting

All times EDT

DAYTON (AP) — A year ago, Fairleigh Dickinson landed in the First Four and by the following weekend became one of the most improbable bracket-busters in NCAA Tournament history.

2 Arizona (25-8)

Thurs, 2 p.m.

15 Long Beach St. (21-14)

After routing Texas Southern in Dayton, the 16th-seeded Knights — one of the shortest teams in the tournament facing the tallest — upset No. 1 seed Purdue 63-58, only the second time a No. 16 seed had beaten a top-seeded team.

'Anybody has a chance. Anything can happen, no

matter what's going on," said Donald Copeland, the coach of an injury-depleted Wagner team that opens this year's First Four against Howard on Tuesday night. "Now our path is probably different, but it gives you motivation to want to hopefully achieve something like that.'

The winner of that game will advance as the No. 16 seed to face top-seeded North Carolina on Thursday in the West Region.

In an unusual twist, the First Four brings together

both Colorado and Colorado State. Both fin-

ished 24-10.

Six Pac-12 teams went into the tournament ahead of Colorado, despite the Buffs being the runner-up in the conference tournament. They play Boise State (22-10, 13-5 Mountain West) in the late game on Wednesday, with the winner moving on as the 10th seed to face seventh-seeded

Colorado State draws Virginia (23-10, 13-7 ACC) in the late game on Tuesday

Florida in a South regional.

for the right to move on as the 10th seed in the Midwest to play No. 7 seed Texas. Virginia has made 10 NCAA appearances in the last 12 seasons under coach Tony Bennett and won the

national title in 2019. "It's a great opportunity for us to kind of test ourselves and see where we're at as a program. At this point there are no cupcakes," said Isaiah Stevens, Colorado State's top scorer at 16.5 points.

"The way I look at this is. we're a 10 seed in the NCAA Tournament, and we just get to play one more game than everybody else," said Rams coach Niko Medved. "That's a pretty cool deal."

MAKING A NAME Wagner, a school with around 2,000 students in Staten Island, New York, returns to the NCAA Tournament after a drought of 21 years.

Howard — the Seahawks' opponent on Tuesday — was in last year, but hopes to make a better showing this time around.

Wagner (16-15, 7-9

Northeast Conference) finished in sixth place in the conference in the regular season. After losing their final two regular-season games, the Bison won three straight in the NEC tournament, beating Merrimack in the final, despite Copeland's rotation being down to seven players because of injuries.

Thurs., 9:20 p.m.

15 Saint Peter's (19-13)

In fact, it got so bad that Damen Mazil, the quarterback of the Wagner football team, was added to the roster in February for some depth.





Entertainment

TikTok creators warn of economic impact if app sees ban, call it a vital space for the marginalized

BY LEAH WILLINGHAM ASSOCIATED PRESS

Alex Pearlman shut the door on dreams of a standup comedy career almost a decade ago, pivoting from the stage to an office cubicle where he worked a customer service job.

Then he started posting random jokes and commentary about pop culture and politics on TikTok. Just over 2.5 million followers later, he quit his nine-to-five and recently booked his first nationwide tour.

Pearlman is among the many TikTok creators across the U.S. outraged over a bipartisan bill passed by the House of Representatives on Wednesday that would lead to a nationwide ban of the popular video app if its Chinabased owner, ByteDance, doesn't sell its stake. The bill still needs to go through the Senate, where its prospects are unclear.

Content creators say a ban would hurt countless people and businesses that rely on TikTok for a significant portion of their income, while

also arguing TikTok has become an unrivaled platform for dialogue and community.

Pearlman, who lives outside Philadelphia, said TikTok has transformed his life, allowing him to live a dream, provide for his family and spend the first three months of his newborn son's life at home. His customer service iob only offered paternity leave equivalent to three weeks off, with two weeks paid.

"I don't take a day for granted on this app, because it's been so shocking," said Pearlman, 39. "In reality, TikTok has been the driver of American social media for the last four years. Something will step into that place if TikTok vanishes tomorrow. Whether or not that will be better or worse, Congress has no way of knowing.

TikTok, which launched in 2016, has skyrocketed in popularity, growing faster than Instagram, YouTube or Facebook. The push to remove the app from Chinese authority follows concerns from lawmakers, law enforce ment and intelligence officials about the insecurity of user data, potential suppression of content unfavorable to the Chinese government and the possibility that the platform could boost pro-Beijing propaganda, all of which TikTok denies.

To date, the U.S. government hasn't provided any evidence showing TikTok shared U.S. user data with Chinese authorities.

The move comes as the pandemic saw huge growth in digital marketing as people were stuck at home consuming — and creating — content at levels not seen before. Jensen Savannah, a 29-

year-old from Charlotte, began making TikToks of her travels around the Carolinas during the pandemic. Now a full-time influencer, she has tripled her income since leaving her telecommunications sales job.

"'Śocial media Influencer' is almost to be looked at as the new print and the new form of radio and TV advertising," she said. "It's going to bring your dollar much farther than it is in traditional marketing.

Some creators describe it as a digital equalizer of sorts, providing a platform for people of color and other marginalized groups to get opportunities and exposure.

"I've always had Twitter, I've had Facebook, I've had Instagram. But TikTok was the first one where, if you want to find somebody who looks like yourself and represents you in any type of way, you can find it," said Joshua Dairen, a Black, 30-year-old content creator in Auburn, Alabama. Dairen makes videos about his state's ghost stories, urban legends and history.

Growing up, he loved researching everything paranormal, but he didn't see a lot of Black representation in the field. Exposure on TikTok has led to jobs writing freelance pieces and contributing to documentaries about paranormal occurrences and unsolved mysteries. The app also gave Dairen the flexibility and confidence to open his own coffee shop, where he gets visits at least once a day from fans of his work.

He thinks banning TikTok

sets "a dangerous precedent about how much power our highest levels of government

Others say the app is both a financial and social safety

Chris Bautista, a food truck owner in Los Angeles catering to television and movie sets, started using TikTok during the pandemic to connect with members of the LGBTO+ community and show support for those who might be having a hard time.

Bautista, 37, grew up in a conservative Christian community outside LA and didn't come out until his late 20s. As a young person, he struggled with his mental health and considered suicide. He wanted to create a platform he could have used as a teenager, one showing that someone like him could go to that dark place and come out the other side a "well-adjusted, confident person.'

"I just find the corners of TikTok that I find myself in to be so wildly important and profound," according to Bautista, who said it would be "heartbreaking" if the app was

Bautista didn't start posting with the intention of monetizing the experience, but money from projects tied to the app came at the right time: If it wasn't for the extra income he earned through TikTok during the pandemic and then the Hollywood strikes last year, his business would have shut down.

Almost since its inception, concerns have been raised about the addictive nature of the app, especially for young audiences whose minds are still developing. Marcus Bridgewater, a former private school teacher and administrator who owns his own business and posts TikTok gar dening videos, wants Congress to be focused on those issues, and not whether the app is Chinese-owned.

Social media is a powerful tool," said Bridgewater, who lives in Spring, Texas. "And powerful tools are just that: They are capable of helping us transcend ourselves, but in their transcendence, they're also capable of completely severing us from those we

■ COMICS

MODERATELY CONFUSED

Jeff Stahler

DENNIS THE MENACE





REALITY CHECK

Dave Whamond

NOW YOU'RE

RUBES

Leigh Rubin

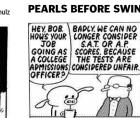


PEANUTS





Charles Schulz



NON-SEQUITUR





CROSSWORD

ACROSS 1 Online

5 Mosquito barrier

8 Unruly kid

12 Valentine border

13 I love

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of being subdued 18 Dressing

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36 Smoked an e-cig craft shop 38 "Treasure Island" mono-

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50 Eight (Pref.)

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DOWN

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19 Martini liquor

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27 PC program 28 "My

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31 Hosp. workers 34 Beliefs

lioness 36 Moving

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39 Reverent 40 Acknowledge

41 Opulent 42 Division word 43 Nullify

44 Worndown

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verse 46 Deli

loaves letters



AND WE CAN'T CONSIDER RACE, DUE TO THE SUPREME COURT. AND NOW WE CAN'T LOOK AT





MIND INC.

FULFILLMENT

ASKING, BUT.









Answer to previous puzzle

9 4 1 8 7 3 6 5 2

5 | 6 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 9 | 7 | 3 | 4

3 5 7 1 8 6 4 2 9

8 | 1 | 9 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 3

6 2 4 9 3 5 1 8 7

2 9 6 3 5 7 8 4 1

1 7 5 4 2 8 3 9 6

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3 2 5 6 4 9 1 8

■ SUDOKU

KING FEATURES

8 5 9 6 8 9 3 5 4 1 8 6 4 5 3 1 4 8 4 8 9 8 3 5 9

Difficulty: ★★ 3/19

■ Horoscopes

ROYAL STARS | FROM KING FEATURES SYNDICATE By Georgia Nicols

M T G S V A I L E E R P U E R T C A U U N R E A L O N E T O T A L

Solution time: 21 mins.

E L V I R A I I N A P B E E T T A T A A H E R R U J I N

RATS

HONE Saturday's answer

48 Business 10

14 13 16 17 20 21 22 24 29 25 26 28 31 32 38 39 41 42 43 45 46 48 49 52 54 55

stay for the next four weeks, casting HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, You are both dreamy and practical. You have lots of energy to pursue your

goals, while doing it with enthusiasm. This is a fun-loving year for you. Let your hair down, party and schmooze with others. Have good times, but don't lose sight of your objectives. Enjoy! The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-P 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Today the Sun enters your sign, which means it's all about you in the next four weeks. Expect people and favorable situations to be attracted to you. Today you feel sympathetic toward a family member. You might want to help. Tonight: Power struggles. TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
**** Be prepared to be low-key for

the next several weeks. Although you might be competitive with groups and hang out with creative types, on the whole, you'll be glad to stay in the background and ponder what you want for your new year ahead (after your birthday arrives). Tonight: Opinions! GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

why you have lofty plans in the mix.

*** Money issues are on your mind today; nevertheless, you're entering a popular window for the next four weeks. Expect to hang out with young-er people more than usual. Certainly, your ambition will be aroused, which is

you in a flattering spotlight. This is a major bonus! Make the most of this advantage. Tonight: Guard your

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★ Take a breather today. Work alone or behind the scenes. Meanwhile, in the next four weeks, travel will appeal to you. You need a change of scenery. You also might explore avenues in medicine, the law, higher educa-

tion or publishing. Looking good! Tonight: Competition.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

** A discussion with a friend (prob-A discussion with a friend (probably a female) could be important to you today. It's a good time to think about future goals. In the next four weeks, you will be interested in self-improvement, both to your body and your health, as well as your daily habits. Think positive! Tought Solityde.

its. Think positive! Tonight: Solitude.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★ Do be aware that some people www Do be aware that some people might know personal details about your private life today. Meanwhile, for the next four weeks, the Sun will be opposite your sign, which means your energy will be a bit challenged. Get more sleep. Give yourself permission to take naps. Tonight: Pushy conversations.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

*** Do something different to shake
up your day. This will satisfy your desire for a bit of adventure. Meanwhile, get ready, because you're going to bust your buns working hard in the next four weeks to get things done. You've got a to-do list, and you intend to

and fun activities with kids will be your primary focus. It's a lovely, creative window for you as well. Meanwhile, entertain and pull things together at home. Tonight: Avoid zealots. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

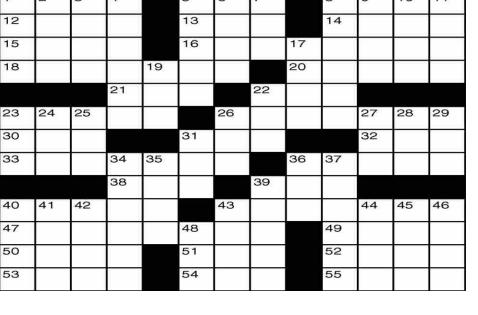
**** The way to enjoy this day is to accommodate and cooperate with others. This is no biggie. You're an excelent negotiator. Meanwhile, in the next four weeks, your focus on home, family and washes a more till beginning. and perhaps a parent will be primary Tackle some home repairs. Tonight: Check your finances. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) **** The pace of your days will accelerate in the next few weeks because your agenda is busy! You've got places

to go, people to see and things to do You will read and study more. Today you want to get better organized. Excellent choice. Tonight: Patience. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) *** It's a playful day! Accept invita-tions to socialize. Enjoy the company of friends and children. Meet your pals

for happy hour. You will also notice that in the next four weeks, your focus on money, cash flow and earnings will be stronger. Tonight: Improvements.

BORN TODAY Actor Bruce Willis (1955), actress Glenn Close (1947), comedian, actor Fred Stoller (1958) *** Find more Georgia Nicols horoscopes at georgianicols.com.

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Don't let the stairs limit your mobility! Discover the ideal solution for anyone who strug-gles on the stairs, is concerned about a fall or wants to regain access to their entire home. Call AmeriGlide today! 1-844-861-0514.

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Put on your TV Ears and hear TV with unmatched clarity. TV Ears Original were originally \$129.95 - NOW WITH THIS SPECIAL OFFER are only \$69.95 with code MCB59! Call 1-855-537-1275

Replace your roof with the best looking and longest last-ing material – steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer – up to 50% off installation + Additional 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-866-335-2531

Safe Step. North America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty.
Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-877-602-5348

The bathroom of your dreams in as little as 1 day. Limited Time Offer - \$1000 off or No Payments and No Interest for 18 months for customers who qualify. BCI Bath & Shower. Many options available. Quality materials & professional installation. Senior & Military Discounts Available. Call Today! 1-855-955-1352.

Trouble hearing your TV? Try TV EARS' Voice Clarifying Wireless TV Speaker. Better than a soundbar and/or turning the TV volume way up. Special, limited time \$50 off offer. Call TV Ears. Use code MBSP50. Call 1-888-406-1450

FINANCIAL LLC Timeshare Cancellation Experts. and fees cancelled in 2019. Get free informational package and learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consulta-tions. Over 450 positive re-Call 844-881-7118.

FOR RENT

NOTICE

Housing advertisements published in this newspaper are subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise discrimination based on race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age (including children), handicap or familial status. This also includes limitation to number of persons desired. The Bellefontaine Examiner will knowingly accept advertising which is in violation of the law.

STORAGE

540/33 SELF-STORAGE 1st month free, free locks, beside Love's Gas Station 540 near 33. Call 593-0000.

ALI **AMERICAN** Storage. Monthly rentals. Free locks. Behind Harbor Freight. 592-9100.

REAL ESTATE

PUBLISHERS NOTICE All real estate advertising this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation discrimination." Familia status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodilivina ans, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in the newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll free telephone number for the hearing impaired 1-800-927-9275.



FINANCIAL

NOTICE **LENDING OPPORTUNITIES**

Borrow Smart. Contact the Ohio Division of Financial Institutions' Office of Consumer Affairs BEFORE you refinance your home or obtain a loan. BEWARE of requests for any large advance payment of fees or insurance. Call the Office of Consumer Affairs toll free at 1-866-278-0003 to learn if the mortgage broker or lender is properly licensed. (This notice is a public service of the Bellefontaine Examiner.)

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE

The Bellefontaine Examiner does not knowingly accept Help Wanted ads from em-ployers covered by the Fair Labor Standards Act if they offer less than the legal minimum wage or fail to pay at least time and one-half for overtime hours.

LEGALS

LEGAL NOTICE Sheriff's Sale of **Real Estate**

In the State of Ohio, Logan County, Court of Common Pleas THE HUNTINGTON NATIONAL BANK, Plaintiff.

AARON GERMAN AKA AARON M. GERMAN, Defendant Case No. CV-23-10-0298

In pursuance of an Order of Sale in the above entitled action, I will offer for sale at public auction online at https://logan.sh eriffsaleauction.ohio.gov/ on Wednesday, the 17th day of April, 2024, at 1:00 o'clock p.m. If the property remains unsold after the first auction, it will be offered for sale at auction again on Wednesday, the 24th day of April, 2024 at the same time and place, the following described real estate, to wit:

A copy of the complete legal description can be found in the Logan County Recorder's Office, OR Volume 1258, Page 623.

SHORT LEGAL DESC: 0004 3651

Said premises located at: 408 E. Lake Ave., Bellefontaine, OH 43311 Said premises appraised at: \$135,000

Appraisals are completed by viewing the outside of the property only Required deposit \$5,000

TERMS OF SALE: Property cannot be sold for less than two-thirds for the the appraised value. If the judgment Creditor is the purchaser, no deposit is required. All third party purcĥasers deposit(s) shall be made in accordance with the guidelines as set forth in Ohio Revised Code Section 2329.211.

TERMS OF SECOND **SALE:** Property to be sold without regard to the minimum bid requirement subject to payment of taxes and court costs: deposit and payment requirements same as the first auction.

Pursuant to ORC 2329.21 purchaser shall be responsible for those costs. allowances and taxes that the proceeds of the sale are insufficient to cover.

Randall Dodds, Sheriff Logan County, Ohio Carlisle, McNellie, Říni, Kramer & Ulrich Co., LPA Attorneys for Plaintiff 216-360-7200

LEGAL NOTICE Sheriff's Sale of **Real Estate**

March 19, 26; April 2, 2024

In the State of Ohio, Logan County, Court of Common Pleas THE HUNTINGTON NATIONAL BANK, Plaintiff,

RUTH A. SOUDER FKA RUTH A. ROCK **Defendant** Case No. CV-23-10-0304

In pursuance of an Order of Sale in the above entitled action, I will offer for sale at public auction online at https://logan.sh eriffsaleauction.ohio.gov/ on Wednesday, the 17th day of April, 2024, at 1:00 o'clock p.m. If the property remains unsold after the first auction, it will offered for sale at auction again on Wednesday, the 24th day of April, 2024 at the same time and place,

LEGALS

the following described real estate, to wit:

A copy of the complete legal description can be found in the Logan County Recorder's Office, OR Volume 1088, Page

SHORT LEGAL DESC: 00009904 and 00009904

Said premises located at: 3472 State Route 274, Huntsville, OH 43324

Said premises appraised at \$300,000 Appraisals are completed by viewing the outside of the property only.

Required deposit: \$10,000

TERMS OF SALE: Property cannot be sold for less than two-thirds for the the appraised value. If the judgment Creditor is the purchaser, no deposit is required. All third party purchasers deposit(s) shall be made in accordance with the guidelines 2329.211. as set forth in Ohio Re-Section

TERMS OF SECOND SALE: Property to be sold without regard to the minimum bid requirement subject to payment of taxes and court costs; deposit and payment requirements same as the first auction.

Pursuant to ORC 2329.21 purchaser shall be responsible for those costs, allowances and taxes that the proceeds of the sale are insufficient to cover.

Randall Dodds, Sheriff Logan County, Ohio Carlisle, McNellie, Rini, Kramer & Ulrich Co., LPA **Attorneys for Plaintiff** 216-360-7200

March 19, 26; April 2, 2024

LEGAL NOTICE Sheriff's Sale of **Real Estate**

In the State of Ohio, Logan County, Court of Common Pleas UMB BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CA-PACITY, BUT SOLELY AS LEGAL TITLE TRUS-TEE FOR PRL TITLE TRUST I, Plaintiff

RICHARD L. ZOOK Case No. CV23-11-0335

In pursuance of an Order of Sale in the above entitled action, I will offer for sale at public auction online at https://logan.sh eriffsaleauction.ohio.gov/ on Wednesday, the 17th day of April, 2024, at 1:00 o'clock p.m. If the property remains unsold after the first auction, it will offered for sale at auction again on Wednesday, the 24th day of April, 2024 at the same time and place, the following described real estate, to wit:

A copy of the complete legal description can be found in the Logan County Recorder's Office, OR Volume 366, Page 516. Said premises located at:411 East Buckeye Street, Belle Center, OH 43310

PPN: 39-022-06-18-006-000 Said premises appraised at \$125,000

Appraisals are completed by viewing the outside of the property only. Required déposit \$5,000

TERMS OF SALE: Property cannot be sold for less than two-thirds for the the appraised value. If the judgment Creditor is the purchaser, no deposit is required. All third party purchasers deposit(s) shall be made in accordance with the guidelines as set forth in Ohio Revised Code Section 2329.211.

TERMS OF SECOND **SALE:** Property to be sold without regard to the minimum bid requirement subject to payment of taxes and court costs; deposit and payment requirements same as the first auction.

Pursuant to ORC 2329.21 purchaser shall be responsible for those costs, allowances and taxes that the proceeds of the sale are insufficient to cover.

Randall Dodds, Sheriff Logan County, Ohio Robert R. Hoose #0074544

Attorney March 19, 26; April 2, 2024

LEGALS

LEGAL NOTICE WHEREAS, INVENTO-RIES AND APPRAISE-MENTS HAVE BEEN FILED IN THE PROBATE COURT, LOGAN COUNTY, OHIO BY THE EXECUTORS AND AD-MINISTRATORS OF THE

John Richard Jackson II, Executor of the Estate of Jacqueline Jackson, Dec'd Deborah Minnich, Administrator of the Estate of Joseph M. Minnich, Dec'd

NAMED

FOLLOWING

PERSONS TO:

Notice is hereby given to the surviving spouse, if any; next of kin, if any, fiduciaries, attorney and attorneys, if any; representing any of aforementioned persons or any other interested person that said Inventories and Appraisements are now on file in the office of said court, being suspended for hearing and confirmation until the 28th day of March, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. and that day and hour set for hearing when, if no exceptions are filed thereto or to any thereof any time prior to five days before the date set for hearing, or to the date which such hearing has been continued, until finally disposed of.

Kim Kellogg-Martin, Judge Natasha R. Kennedy, Judge Logan County Family Court Probate Division By Ashley Anderson Probate Deputy Clerk March 19, 2024

Notice of Public Hearing

The Village of Rushsylvania, Logan County, OH, Planning Commission will hold a public hearing concerning proposed amendments to the Village of Rushsylvania Zon-Ordinance ing Wednesday, March 27, 2024, at 6:30 PM at the Village Building. The building address is 182 Rush St. in Rushsylvania, OH 43347.

The proposed amendments, initiated by motion of the Planning Commission, propose to amend Article V Supplementary District Regulations by creating Section 571 Keeping of Animals & Poultry, propose to amend Article XI Definitions by amending the definition of agriculture, and propose to amend the Official Schedule of District Regulations in Arti-

The text and map(s) of the proposed amendment will be available for examination at the Rushsylvania Post Office lobby between the hours of 12:01 AM and 11:59 PM for a period of 10 days prior to the public hearing. The building address is 106 Sandusky St. N in Rushsylvania, OH 43347. A copy will also be available online at https://www.rushsylvaniaoh.com/.

After the conclusion of such hearing, the matter will be submitted to the Village of Rushsylvania Council for its action.

Morgan Mitchell Village of Rushsylvania, Fiscal Officer

March 19, 2024

#114411.

NOTICE FOR BIDS Notice is hereby given that bids will be received at the office of the Logan County Commissioners, Columbus Ave., 117 E. Suite 100, Bellefontaine, Ohio, 43311, March 26, 2024, Ohio Standard Time for the purpose of furnishing the 2024 Federal Aid Logan County Pavement

Marking Program PID

Bids must be submitted electronically via the Bid Express website. Bid packet materials may be viewed online for free at www.bidexpress.com/bus inesses/34509/home. bidders must first register on the Bid Express website and create a Digital ID. Registration and Digital ID creation are free. A fee will be incurred for those who wish to bid electronically on pay-per-solicitation basis; alternatively, you may subscribe to have unlimited access to all Bid Express solicitations and

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LEGALS

email notifications. Bidders must be ODOT Pre-Qualified: "Work Type 45-Pavement Markings" and shall be ings" and shall be pre-qualified at the time of the bidding, at the time of award, and throughout the life of the construction contract.

The Bidder and all Contractors and Subcontractors shall be pre-qualified at the time of the bidding, at the time of award, and throughout the life of the construction contract.

By signing the specified contract proposal, of which ODOT LPA Tem-plate (ODOT Spec Book and LPA Spec Book) revised January 01, 2023 has been incorporated, the bidder agrees to all of the below provisions.

Bidders shall comply with previsions of the federal Davis Bacon prevailing wage requirements.

work, disputes, change orders and termination shall comply with the State of Ohio Department of Transportation Construction and Material Specifications dated January 01, 2023.

As specified in Ohio Revised 153.54, a bidder must submit a bid guaranty in the form of either (1) a bond for the full amount of the bid or (2) a certified check, cashier's check, or letter of credit in the amount of 10% of the bid. The Logan County Commissioners and Ohio Department of Transportation are to be named as obliges.

Bidders shall comply with previsions for contractor liability insurance no less than the amount specified in the State of Ohio Department of Transportation Construction and **Specifications** Material 107.12.

Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) Goal is

The Board of Commissioners reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any defects in the bids.

The Notice to Bidders is posted at www.bidexpress.com/businesses/345 09/home and may be viewed on Logan County Engineer's website at: http://lceo.us/Bid_Documents/index.html

By Order of the Board of Logan County Commissioners De De Doss, Clerk/Administrator March 5, 12, 19, 2024

NOTICE FOR BIDS

Notice is hereby given that bids for the furnishing of labor, equipment and material required for the completion of the subject project will be received at the office of the Logan County Commissioners, 117 E. Columbus Avenue, Suite 100, Bellefontaine, Ohio, 43311, on Tuesday, April 02, 2024, at 11:00 A.M. Ohio Standard Time. Bids must be submitted

electronically via the Bid Express website. Bid packet materials may be viewed online for free at www.bidexpress.com/bus inesses/34509/home. bidders must first register on the Bid Express website and create a Digital ID. Registration and Digital ID creation are free. A fee will be incurred for those who wish to bid electronically on pay-per-solicitation basis; alternatively, you may subscribe to have unlimited access to all Bid Express solicitations and email notifications.

Bidders must be ODOT Pre-Qualified: "Work Type 10 - Flexible Paving" and shall be pre-qualified at the time of the bidding, at the time of award, and throughout the life of the construction contract. The Bidder and all Con-

tractors and Subcontractors shall be pre-qualified at the time of the bidding, at the time of award, and throughout the life of the construction contract.

By signing the specified contract proposal, of which ODOT LPA Tem-plate (ODOT Spec Book and LPA Spec Book) revised October 2023 has been incorporated, the bidder agrees to all of the aforementioned provi-

sions. Bidders shall comply with previsions of the federal Davis Bacon prevailing wage requirements

LEGALS

A11 work, disputes, change orders, rejection, and termination shall comply with the State of Department of Ohio Transportation Construction and Material Specifications dated January 1,

As specified in Ohio Revised 153.54, a bidder must submit a bid guaranty in the form of either (1) a bond for the full amount of the bid or (2) a certified check, cashier's check, or letter of credit in the amount of 10% of the bid. The Logan County Commissioners and Ohio Department of Transportation are to be named as obliges.

Bidders shall comply with previsions for contractor liability insurance no less than the amount specified in the State of Ohio Department of Transportation Construction and Material Specifications 107.12.

Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) Goal is 6%. A DBE utilization plan shall be submitted for the bid to be considered awardable. This process is outlined in Article 24 of the ODOT LPA Template. The Notice to Bidders is posted at www.bidexpress.com/businesses/345 <u>09/home</u> and may be viewed on Logan County Engineer's website http://lceo.us/Bid Documents/index.html

By Order of the Board of Logan County Commissioners De De Doss, Clerk/Administrator

March 12, 19, 26, 2024

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS/ PŘOPOSALS (RFQ)

The Logan County Board of Commissioners will be receiving Statements of Qualifications (SOQ) from qualified Consultants to perform necessary functions related to its PY2024 Community Housing Impact and Preservation Program (CHIP). Scope of work includes the development of a grant application, convening the Logan County Housing Advisory Committee as required for the grant application, preparing an environmental review record. carrying out a fair housing program, performing residential property in-(including lead-based paint risk assessments & clearances), overseeing pest inspections, and administration implementation of the CHIP Grant. All such proposals must be responsive to the scope of services section of this RFQ and must complete and meet the criteria outlined herein. Responses to this RFQ will be used to select qualified consultants to perform the required grant writing, planning, and grant administration assistance needed by Logan County. These services are financed with federal Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) funds from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and administered by the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD). Since Logan County is seeking a professional service which may be available from several qualified consultants, the County elected to follow the competitive negotiation method of procurement outlined in 2 CFR Under 200.317. method, the County will receive qualifications and proposals from interested consultants until the designated date and time listed below. The Logan County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to reject all proposals and to negotiate various details of the proposals with the parties which have submitted them. If the County does negotiate any aspect of the proposals with any of the parties, it will provide all parties an opportunity to negotiate on the same point. The County reserves the right to select the specific

issues on which it will ne-

gotiate and will not nego-

tiate any issues other than

those it selects. Purpose

of Request for Qualifica-

tions: A contract will be

executed between the se-

LEGALS

lected consultant and Logan County for a period necessary to complete all the requirements of the CHIP Program. The project work outlined is to be completed by the selected consultant with supervision by the County. The State CHIP grant application must be submitted to ODOD by June 21, 2024. All CHIP activities must be completed by February 28th, 2027. As this is a competitive grant, ODOD has not yet determined County's PY2024 CHIP grant award, but it is estimated to be approximately \$700,000 with additional local matching funds. Consultant's must submit a work plan outlining how the consultant will address each element of ODOD's CHIP requirements with their proposal. CONTENT OF PROPOSAL: The County will review and evaluate the statements of qualifications filed based on the following content.

·a. Date the consultant's business was established and brief history of the organization.

•b. Experience or technical expertise of the consultant and its personnel in connection with federal and state program requirements, specifically as they relate to administrative, financial, and monitoring requirements of the CDBG, HOME In-vestment Partnerships Program (HOME), and other federal and state

housing programs. c. Experience in carrying out lead-based paint risk assessments and lead clearances on single family residential properties.

•d. Capacity of the consultant to perform the work within time limitations (taking into consideration the consultants current and planned future workload) and names of key staff who will be working on the project.

e. Project references related to the above business areas.

 f. A cost proposal clearly detailing the total lump sum fixed costs for the various project tasks to be completed during the contract period. The fixed fee will include all costs ing, photographs, and other expenses relating to the completion of the pro-

SCOPE OF SERVICES:

Interested consultants provide should County with the following scope of service informa-

tion: A. Planning Process

Assist the County with a community planning process that addresses the requirements outlined in the CHIP application instructions issued by the Office of Community Development (OCD). At a minimum, this includes preparing and submitting the Planning Requirements Table with the following elements:

1. Complete a Community Services Resource Guide for the service area. The comprehensive community services guide must provide information and referral agency contact information, service area, name of program and services provided by the agency, and identification of the population served. 2. Undertake research and assessment. Answer OCD questions regarding the service area's housing needs and community service collaboration. 3. Develop final recommendations for the CHIP program applieach cation. Indicate Program-eligible CHIP activity requesting funding, describe the level of need for each activity and the rationale for applying or not, and apply for the specific activities in the PY2024 CHIP program application.

Application CHIP Preparation Prepare and apply to the Ohio Department of Development OCD for funding under the PY2024 CHIP Program. The CHIP application will be consistent with the County's community housing priority needs and stakeholder recommendations. The application will be com-

LEGALS

pleted and electronically from the OCD, perform submitted via Ohio Community and Energy Assistance Network (OCEAN) no later than the OCD designated due date. All required public hearings, tables, narratives, attachments, signatures and sign offs will be completed as part of the application process.
•C.CHIP Program Design,

Administration, Housing and Program Implementation

•a. **Program Design:** Consultant will utilize existing procedures and critewhich will enable proper administration and implementation for all anticipated or potential funded activities including first-time homebuyer assistance, home repairs and/or housing rehabilitation for both owners and renters, lead based paint hazard reduction with temporary relocation, where applicable, and tenant based rental assistance.
•b. Administration:

•1. Coordinate all administrative tasks with County's appropriate department personnel.

•2. Complete Tier 1 environmental review. Establish outreach procedures.

 Set recipient qualifications criteria and priority rating scale. •5. Establish grant and

loan limits.

6. Determine family income criteria to determine grant/loan qualifications.

7. Establish contractor application procedure. Establish contractor minimum qualifications.

9. Determine bidding procedures. 10. Establish inspection

procedures. 11. Establish installation and materials specifica-

tions. 12. Design (or implement electronically, as quired) necessary forms for application, qualifications, data collection, inspection documentation, loan determination, construction payments and

drawdowns. 13. Maintain fiscal accounting procedures necessary to assure proper Construction iture of a counting for funds re-

ceived. c. Fair Housing:

1. Conduct all fair housing trainings as detailed in the Fair Housing Table, submitted as part of the CHIP application.

2. Complete all outreach and distribution of fair housing literature as detailed in the Fair Housing Table, submitted as part of the CHIP application.

3. Assure the County that all CHIP fair housing commitments and requirements have been met.

d. Program Implementation:

1. Promote the program throughout the project area and to eligible applicants using any marketing methods necessary.

2. Assist interested households in applying for CHIP assistance.

3. Maintain contact with other resources and coordinate in obtaining non-CHIP funds, where possible.

Recruit and screen qualified contractors for participation. 5. Rank and select appli-

cants for assistance based on all current HUD, and local polices. 6. Perform on-site inspec-

tions of homes to determine structural deficien-7. Determine improve-

ments that can be pro-

vided within program limits and maximum grant levels or loan payment ceilings. 8. Develop cost estimates for work to be performed.

9. Package bid information for the homeowner including work specifications. 10. Serve as liaison be-

tween owner and contractors, including technical assistance during bidder's on-site visit, bid opening, bid award, and pre-construction conferences. 11. Prepare necessary pa-

perwork to close loans, authorize grants, execute HOME written agreements for HOME funded prepare projects, draw-down for funds ing executive Order 12372

LEGALS

project set-up in OCEAN, and complete construction contracts for signature by owner and contractor.

12. Issue written orders to begin construction. 13. Initiate client files to

document income eligibility, construction loan/grant transactions, and construction close out.

14. Supervise construction and perform inspections of work in progress.

15. Approve equipment and materials to be installed to comply with program specifications. 16. Approve changes in construction; ohtain owner and contractor written agreement for changes.

17. Conduct or contract for lead assessments and clearances for applicable CHIP activities.

18. Recruit lead abatement contractors/supervisors to perform evaluation and lead hazard reduction, consistent with the HUD Guidelines for the evaluation and treatment of lead-based paint in housing.
19. Coordinate rehabilita-

tion/repairs with the Ohio Historic Preservation Of-

20. Approve requests for payment and when needed, obtain owner's written approval. 21. File all mortgages with

the County Recorder. 22. Implement the home-

buyer counseling program for participants in any homebuyer assistance activities. Coordinate with mortgage lend-23. File all completed

documents and maintain records consistent with all HOME, CDBG and Ohio Housing Trust Fund (OHTF) requirements. 24. Report project pro-

gress to the County and its CHIP partners on a quarterly basis. 25. Provide necessary re-

location services and financial assistance for CHIP clients in compliance with HUD and/or OCD requirements.

•D. Regulatory Issues: General Program and

•a. General Program Regulations: All activities to be undertaken shall be performed in compliance with the following regula-

tions, as applicable:
•1. HOME-funded activities: Current edition of the HUD HOME rules.

 CDBG-funded activities: Current edition of the HUD Community Development Block Grant program.

•3. Ohio Housing Trust Fund activities: Current OHTF rules and regulations.

•4. Equal Opportunity and Fair Housing: Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. •5. Section 3 of the US Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended.

•6. Executive orders 11625 and 12432 for Minority Enterprise Business (MBE) and 12138 for Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) outreach and recruitment. Every effort will be made to encourage the use of MBE/WBE contractors and suppliers in the rehabilitation program. The project administrator will maximize participation through widespread and targeted marketing and public relations.

•7. Environmental views: Conduct individual project compliance reviews, including consulta-tion with the Ohio Historical Preservation Office (OHPO). •8. Labor standards re-

quirements under 24 CFR 92.354, when applicable. Davis-Bacon requirements, however, are not applicable to client residential. •9. Lead Paint require-

ments, per 24 CFR 92.355. HUD regulations for Lead-based Paint Hazard Reduction in Low Income Housing. •10. 24 CFR 92.356 rules

regarding conflict of inter-•11. 24 CFR 92.357 rules

regarding debarment and suspension. •12. 24 CFR 92.359 regard-

LEGALS

Intergovernmental review. •13. OCD Housing Hand-

book, including all ODOD policy notices.
•14. 24 CFR 92.351 Af-

firmative Marketing. Stan-Construction

dards: The OCD Residential Rehabilitation Standards (RRS) will be the primary guidelines for the preparation of rehabilitation specifications for individual homes. Each house rehabilitated with CHIP funds will meet the RRS Standards. In addition, the following construction standards shall be adhered to where applicable to rehabilitation or new construction:

•1. Residential Code of Ohio

•2. Ohio Building Code

•3. Ohio Plumbing Code •4. Ohio Mechanical Code National Electric Code

(NFPA 70) •6. International Energy Conservation Code

7.International Fuel Gas Code 8.Applicable local building codes or zoning re-

quirements 9. County Board of Health, Premises Sanitation Regulations

•E. Post Grant Management: The County shall be responsible for activities which are identified as post-grant management requirements.

•F. Monitoring and Recordkeeping: The County shall be responsible for activities which are identified as monitoring and record-keeping requirements.

PROPOSAL EVALUATION:

The County will evaluate the proposal based on a point system. The following represent the key factors which will be considered, and the points assigned to each: •A. Experience with Fed-

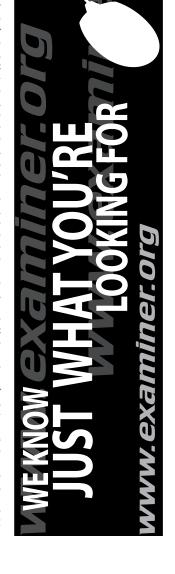
eral/State compliance: 20 Points •B. Consultant's CHIP

specific experience: 25 Points •C. Capacity to perform

work: 20 Points •D. Qualifications of key personnel: 20 Points

•E. County discretionary points: 15 Points

Negotiations will begin with the top candidate selected. If negotiations are not successful, the process will begin again with the candidate rated second and so on. Upon completion of successful negotiations, a contract will be executed with the County. Consultants are invited to submit their response to the RFQ in a sealed envelope. original and one copy of your response are to be received no later than 2:30 p.m., March 28th, 2024. Logan County Commissioners Office 117 East Columbus Avenue, Suite 100 Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311 March 12, 19, 2024





March Madness features several **NBA** prospects. **But they likely** won't get drafted among 1st picks

BY STEVE MEGARGEE AP SPORTS WRITER

Anyone watching the NCAA Tournament exclusively to get a closer look at the top prospects in the upcoming NBA draft is in for a disappointment.

Only one of the top five players in last year's draft came directly from college, as the Charlotte Hornets took Alabama's Brandon Miller with the second overall pick. There are similar forecasts for this year's draft, with international players such as Zaccharie Risacher and Alex Sarr atop most projections.

Even so, there are some players in the 68-team field who should hear their names called on draft night, even if they aren't necessarily among the first handful of picks. Here's a rundown of some of the most notable pro prospects seeking to make their impact on March

There's one notable name missing from this list: Purdue center Zach Edey.

In a previous era, Edey's status as a 7foot-4 center and likely two-time consensus national player of the year would make him a sure top-10 pick. But he's a big man who stays right around the basket much more often than today's NBA centers, as evidenced by the fact he has attempted just two 3-point shots in his entire college career.

Edey has gotten better each year at Purdue and has the type of glittering resume that will get him drafted at some point, but it's likely the players on this list will get selected before him.

STEPHON CASTLE, UConn Castle struggled with a knee injury early in his freshman season but came on strong late in the regular season while showcasing the upside that made him a top-10 recruit.

Castle had 21 points against St. John's and Seton Hall and had a 20point performance against Providence. He averages 10.8 points and has been named Big East freshman of the week a record 11 times. Castle's 3-point shot needs work, but the 6-foot-6 guard has shown enough this season to merit a first-round selection if he opts to enter the draft. UConn has another potential first-round prospect in center Donovan Clingan. Although Clingan has been the more productive player this season, Castle has the greater pro upside.

ROB DILLINGHAM, Kentucky Dillingham's speed and ability to provide instant offense should translate to the next level. The 6-3 freshman averages 15.4 points and has made nearly 45% of his 3-point attempts. His 35point performance in a loss to Tennessee serves notice to his long-term potential. He had 27 points and seven assists in Kentucky's SEC Tournament loss to Texas A&M.

In Dillingham and Reed Sheppard, Kentucky has a pair of freshmen who should get taken in the first round if they choose to enter the draft.

KYLE FILIPOWSKI, Duke Filipowski was regarded as a likely first-round pick if he had chosen to enter last year's draft, but the 7-footer instead decided to return for a sophomore season in which he has collected 17.1 points and 8.2 rebounds per game. Filipowski has made himself a better prospect by improving his overall and 3-point shooting percentages over his freshman performance.

He has also evolved into more of a playmaker by improving his assist totals and reducing his turnovers. Jared McCain is another Duke player who could get drafted in the first round.

DALTON KNECHT, Tennessee Knecht has made the greatest impact of any college basketball transfer this season. After beginning his career at Northeastern (Colorado) Junior College and playing two seasons at Northern Colorado, this 6-foot-6 guard has compiled 21.1 points per game as a fifth-year senior at Tennessee. He scored 40 against Kentucky, 39 each against Auburn and Florida and 37 against North Carolina.

There will be questions about whether Knecht can defend at the NBA level. He also will be 23 at the time of the draft, making him older than most prospects. But his pure scoring ability should get him taken somewhere in the first round.

JA'KOBE WALTER, Baylor This top-10 recruit is considered a quality NBA prospect because of his scoring ability. The 6-5 guard has backed that up in his freshman season by scoring 14.2 points per game. Although Walter is shooting below 40%, his profile suggests he can improve in that area.

If Walter enters the draft, he likely would become the second Baylor guard to get taken in the first round in as many years after the Utah Jazz selected Keyonte George with the 16th overall pick in 2023.

CODY WILLIAMS, Colorado Williams, the younger brother of Oklahoma City Thunder forward Jalen Williams, was a top-10 recruit when he signed with Colorado. The 6-8 forward hasn't put up overwhelming statistics his freshman year at Colorado, but he's making over 55% of his shots and 40% of his 3-point attempts while playing exceptional defense. It wouldn't be a surprise if Williams is the first college player drafted this year.









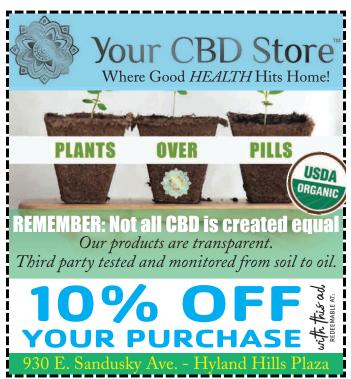
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