



City council zips through light agenda

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

Bellefontaine City Council wrapped up its agenda at its regular meeting Tuesday, Jan. 14, in 15 minutes flat.

Only one item was on the agenda at Tuesday's meeting, which the first reading of an ordinance authorizing the Service/Safety Director to accept, on behalf of the



city, a small parcel of real estate from the Board of County Commissioners in the vicinity of Cooper Avenue. The land that is to be annexed into the city measures approximately 1/3 of an acre and

the ordinance to accept the parcel will be up for a second reading at the next city council meeting.

As the Safety-Service Director, Law Director and Auditor were absent from Tuesday's meeting, the council was able to sail through Mayor David Crissman's report, as well as the short reports from both Chief of Police Chris

Marlow, and Captain Brian Wilson of the Bellefontaine Fire Department. None of the council members had questions for those who spoke, and there were no citizens who addressed the Council during the meeting.

The next council meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 28.

Top speller gets win on her birthday



2025 Logan County Spelling Bee champion Blakely Vollrath, spells a word Tuesday night. (EXAMINER PHOTO | SHARYN KOPF)

BY SHARYN KOPF
EXAMINER STAFF WRITER

Calipers. If you're wondering, it's a device that measures widths and distances. And it's the word that made Bellefontaine Middle School (BMS) student Blakely Vollrath this year's winner of the Logan County Spelling Bee on Tuesday, Jan. 14.

Blakely out-spelled 11 other local students, finally taking the prize in the 38th

round on Tuesday, Jan. 14, at the Holland Theatre.

Macie Marmon, the Benjamin Logan Middle School (BLMS) student who took second place, was a strong competitor as the two girls battled it out for more than 15 rounds before Blakely came out the winner.

The night was extra special for the county's best speller as she also celebrated

See BEE on Page 2

Old and new skills combined for a unique creation

BY SHARYN KOPF
EXAMINER STAFF WRITER

Art has always been of interest to Mark Amidon—drawing, painting, theatre—but when he was asked to compete in the Logan County Art League's Not So Bad Art by Good People contest, he didn't go with any of the standard mediums. Instead, he combined his job and a new hobby to create a sculpture he named "Space Flowers."

You could say this art piece had its genesis almost 40 years ago when Amidon moved back to Bellefontaine in 1988. That's when he took a job at Holden Brothers, a metal fabrication company in West Liberty.

"I started doing things with metal," Amidon explained, "and they taught me how to weld."

This isn't the first time he's turned scraps of metal into pieces of art. Over the years, Amidon has been known to make steel roses as gifts, so a bouquet seemed a good way to go. But flowers need a vase.

That's where his new hobby comes in. About a year ago, Amidon's dad, C. Forrest (Woody) Amidon, gave Mark a year of classes at the Cracked Pot Studio in Bellefontaine. Forrest started working with clay during the lockdown and thought his son would enjoy it as well.

He was right. Amidon loves the art form, though he admitted, "I'm not proficient, but I'm getting better."

As for calling it "Space Flowers," Amidon glazed the vase to represent the earth, with mountains and sky reaching into the atmosphere and touching the flowers floating there.

"I'm challenged by pottery," Amidon admitted. "I want to make things uniform and symmetric. I've learned to go with off-center. But the wheel is challenging and probably always will be."

Besides his dad, Amidon is

grateful to his mom, Katie; his daughter, Emily Alexander; and his wife, Molly, for their support. He mentioned his daughter in particular as she promised to "stuff the ballot box."

Amidon, who graduated from Bellefontaine High School in 1980, has been with Holden Brothers for 36 years. He's now the general manager there.

"It's a needful and beautiful thing to create art," Amidon concluded. "Just creating something is good for a person and the community."

The Not So Bad Art by Good People contest once again gathered art work by local celebrities to raise money for the Logan County Art League. Each piece will be on display at Citizens Federal Savings & Loan, 100 N. Main Street, Bellefontaine, weekdays during bank lobby hours until Friday, Jan. 31. People can vote on their favorite(s) by putting money (\$1=one vote) in the artist's box next to the particular piece.

The winner will be announced at the celebration event and dinner, which starts at 5 p.m. on Jan. 31 at Honey Birch Farm, West Liberty. Tickets for the dinner can be purchased online. Or you can find the form at logancountyartleague.org or by emailing art@logancountyartleague.org.



Mark Amidon presents "Space Flowers," a sculpture that combines metal welding with pottery. Amidon created it for the 2025 Not So Bad Art by Good People fundraiser. The piece is on display at Citizens Federal Savings & Loan, Bellefontaine, where people can vote for their favorite artwork through Friday, Jan. 31. (EXAMINER PHOTO | SHARYN KOPF)

LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

Yoder re-elected as BCS Board president

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

Colin Yoder was re-elected to lead the Bellefontaine City Schools Board of Education as president at the first board meeting of the year Monday evening, Jan. 13, at the Bellefontaine High School Sloan Distance Learning Center.

Mark Fissel also was re-elected board vice president at the board's organizational meeting.

Members approved their meeting schedule for 2025. Board meetings will be conducted Feb. 10, March 10, April 14, May 12, June 9, July 14, Aug. 11, Sept. 8, Oct. 13, Nov. 10 and Dec. 8.

Each monthly meeting will be conducted in the Distance Learning Center at 6:30 p.m.

The Bellefontaine Examiner and WPKO Radio were

See BELLEFONTAINE on P2



Himmeger to lead Ben Logan board

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

The Benjamin Logan Local School District Board conducted its annual organizational meeting Monday, Jan. 13, and re-elected Mark Himmeger as president and Deb Johnson as vice president for the 2025 calendar year.

Members set their 2025 meeting schedule as the third Monday of each month at 6 p.m., with the exceptions of Feb. 24 and June 23.

In the regular meeting that followed, High School Principal Alatorre shared a disappointing update on the Epic Schools Revamp Contest through Jostens:

"While Benjamin Logan Schools' submission was among the Top 3 finalists, Ohio Ethics Commission policies

See BENJAMIN LOGAN on Page 2



Logan County Public Transit ending Friday

RTC will continue offering limited transportation options for Logan County residents



BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

Due to a substantial reduction in state funding, RTC Services will cease its public transportation services in Logan County after Friday, Jan. 17.

Other than the lost state transportation dollars, RTC's finances and operations remain strong and will continue its efforts to support employment, connections and independence for individuals with disabilities, and meet transportation needs for the county's most vulner-

able residents, officials from the agency reported Tuesday, Jan. 14, in a press release.

RTC Transportation had provided general public transportation to Logan County residents and visitors by way of door-to-door, demand-response services. The organization catered to both ambulatory and non-ambulatory passengers.

PUBLIC TRANSIT SERVICES STILL AVAILABLE:

- Individuals with disabilities (Medicaid waiver and nonwaiver)
- Senior citizens needing rides for medical appointments (in partnership with the United Way)
- Eligible residents requiring NET-medical appointment transportation, work participation and Title XX services (in coordination with Job and Family Services)
- Individuals can contact RTC at (937) 592-0534, Option 1, to determine if they qualify for these services

Founded in 1970, RTC has expanded its services throughout the years, first offering limited transportation services for those with disabilities in 2008.

In 2014, Logan County

Commissioners approached RTC about taking over public transportation, which it did, rebranding the service RTC Transportation.

In July, 2024 RTC learned of a 40 percent decrease in funding due to statewide budget cuts. RTC worked with county commissioners to identify supplemental funding to fill the gap while continuing public transportation services.

With no alternative revenue source, RTC is unable to provide public transit for the county beyond this week.

"It has been an honor to serve Logan County in this capacity, and we are heartbroken that we can no longer support the public transit program," said RTC Executive Director Tonya Reed. "We remain committed to our work in the community helping those with disabilities live fulfilling and productive lives."

the forum

Renewable energy important to protect birds from climate change

A recent article ran in the *Bellefontaine Examiner* on Grange Solar, a proposed solar project in Logan County that would generate 500 MW of power. The article included mention of concerns over bird migration and stated National Audubon Society's support for solar energy.

At Audubon, we understand the importance of acting swiftly to protect birds, other wildlife and communities. The climate crisis facing birds is urgent. Two-thirds of North American bird species are at-risk of climate change. We still have time to reduce the carbon pollution that is driving climate change to avoid the worst fates for birds and our communities. But we need to act quickly to implement the solutions that are right in front of us.

Expanding responsible renewable energy, including solar, offers a lifeline to Ohio's birds and other wildlife. Audubon's work has demonstrated that we can advance renewable energy while protecting bird habitat at the same time by ensuring that projects are built in areas that avoid and minimize impacts to birds and their habitat. While there's no such thing as impact free energy, we must not lose sight of the bigger picture: the urgent need to address climate change.

Collaboration with wildlife experts will help ensure these projects achieve their full potential while preserving the natural world we all cherish. The Grange Solar Project has demonstrated a willingness to engage in proactive consultation with conservation stakeholders, like Audubon, to identify and address potential bird and wildlife impacts.

Transitioning to solar is a boon for our communities too. Projects underway in Ohio could add nearly 10000 MW of power to power our homes and businesses, helping to generate thousands of jobs and millions in local tax revenue. Ohioans across political affiliations recognize these impor-

tant benefits and overwhelmingly support solar development. Responsible renewable energy, like solar, is an opportunity to protect birds, other wildlife and our shared future.

Marnie Urso
Audubon Great Lakes senior policy director

'Remembering Patrick Henry'

To assist us in meeting that tremendous responsibility, they drafted Article V, empowering state legislators to join together and instruct Congress to call a Convention of States to propose amendments to the Constitution, if and when the need became obvious.

One such amendment, if proposed at Convention and then later ratified by the state legislatures, could impose maximum term limits on all federal officials and forever change the incessant insanity that is Washington, D.C., no matter which party is at the helm.

In their wisdom, the Founders wisely anticipated the day when the federal government would fail or refuse to respond to the demands of the states. They left us Article V to repair the defects in government perceived by We the Governed. They placed their trust in us... their confidence... their faith. To do anything less is to dishonor their legacy.

Inform yourself at www.conventionofstates.com and join the movement. Then call your elected state representatives and urge their support for an Article V Convention of States.

Had Enough Yet?

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For Liberty,
Brenda Mitchell
Bellefontaine

College 101 event offers alumni insights

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

Benjamin Logan's Student Government hosted the annual College 101 event Friday, Jan 10, featuring Benjamin Logan High School alumni sharing their college experiences and practical advice with current juniors and seniors.

The program featured discussions on transitioning to college life, maximizing opportunities and practical tips on academic and social integration.

Alumni speakers included Claire Rhodes from Ohio University, Lauren Hemmelgarn from Miami University, Michael Dilbone from Ohio Wesleyan University, Kylie Daniels from the University of Cincinnati, Alana Gibson also from Miami University, Lukas Hemmelgarn from Mercyhurst and Kara Reeves from Ohio Northern University.

They shared insights on

everything from the importance of college credit plus (CCP) classes, the benefits of taking on minors, and the realities of campus life including dorm living and the importance of extracurricular activities.

The breakout sessions provided a platform for students to ask questions about workload management with minors, the benefits of large versus small schools, and practical advice on maintaining mental wellness and hygiene standards in a new environment.

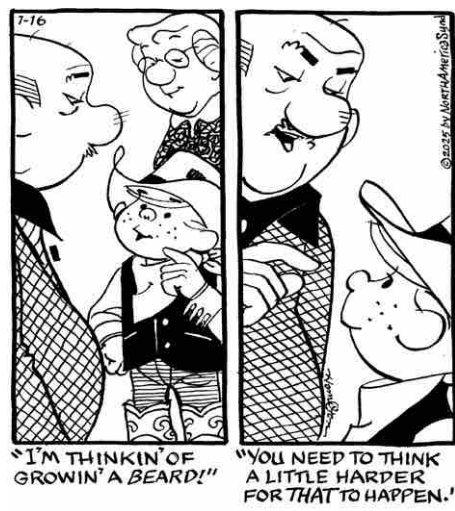
Benjamin Logan is committed to preparing its students not just academically but also by providing them with the tools and knowledge to succeed and thrive in their future educational endeavors. This annual event is a testament to that commitment, helping pave the way for students' success in college and beyond.

comics

MODERATELY CONFUSED



DENNIS THE MENACE



REALITY CHECK



RUBES



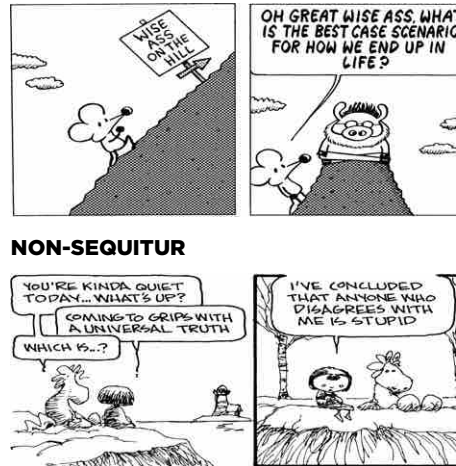
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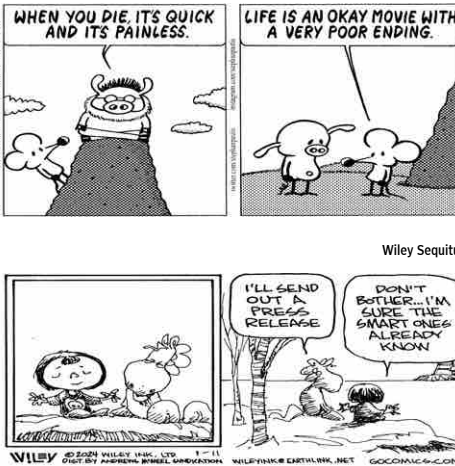
PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



NON-SEQUITUR



SUDOKU



CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Super-girl's first name

5 Platter

9 Author Tolstoy

12 Lay — the line

13 Cold War initials

14 Days of yore

15 Citrus producer

17 Avril follower

18 At hand

19 Unmanned plane

21 Apt. cooler

22 Rid of wool

24 Coconut juice

27 "Nova" subj.

28 Feed the piggy bank

31 Hearty quaff

32 Klutz

33 Actor Patel

34 Mater lead-in

DOWN

1 Pottery oven

2 Suit to —

3 Capital of Italia

4 Parka

5 Obligation

6 Medit. nation

7 Away from NNW

8 Words to live by

9 Picnic drink

10 Panache

11 Garfield's pal

16 "The Wall" network

20 B&O and others (Abbr.)

22 Burn with steam

23 LP player

24 Goat's cry

25 Under the weather

26 Throat-soothing drink

27 Not all

29 Bird doc

30 Cain's mom

35 Earth Day mo.

37 Nabob

39 10th U.S. president

40 "Gandhi" star

41 Move, as freight

42 Otherwise

43 Pop

44 Melody

45 Sea eagle

46 Paradise

49 Id counterpart

50 Pas' mates

Solution time: 23 mins.

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Yesterday's answer 1-15

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HOROSCOPES

ROYAL STARS | FROM KING FEATURES SYNDICATE By Georgia Nicols

Moon Alert: Avoid shopping or important decisions until 12 noon EST today (9 a.m. PST). After that, the Moon moves from Leo into Virgo.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Jan. 16, 2025:
You have a razor-sharp mind. You are also analytical and sensitive. You have excellent communication skills. This year you will receive recognition for your past efforts. You might attain power and leadership. Expect kudos, awards, promotions and acknowledgment. Bravo!

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★ Today you might have to put your own personal considerations second to those of someone else. You might have to do a favor or perform a service for someone. Meanwhile, you'll be happy to take care of small hygiene factors and tidy up loose ends at home and at work. Tonight: Get organized.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ This is a playful day! You project yourself with more energy than usual because you feel a need to be yourself and do your own thing. However, you might feel protective or nurturing to someone, especially children. (Taurus people are generally good parents.) Tonight: Socialize.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★ It will please you to be low-key today. You might want to "hide" at home and enjoy the comfort of familiar surroundings. Use this opportunity to escape from the demands of the outside world. Nevertheless, you might be more involved with a female family member today. Tonight: Relax.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★ Today you have a strong need to talk to someone about something. You need to find someone who is willing to really listen. (You don't want to spend time in idle chitchat about the weather.) You have something to say, and you need to be heard. Tonight: Discussions.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★ You might feel possessive about something you own today. This is why you might not want to lend something to someone. You also might find yourself having to defend yourself about something that is really not that important. Go figure. Tonight: Check your belongings.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ Today the Moon is in your sign, which will make you more emotional than usual. However, the good news is that when the Moon is in your sign, which occurs for two and a half days every month, it slightly boosts your good luck! Why not ask the universe for a favor? Tonight: You win!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Home and family are important to you right now, which is why today you will seek out opportunities to have privacy and peace and quiet. You want a chance to contemplate your navel. Don't be too ambitious today. Pamper yourself and be comfortable. Tonight: Enjoy solitude.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★ Today your emotional contact with others will be more important to you. You feel the need to connect with a friend or a member of a group. You also might feel more protective or supportive with a friend and ready to offer them your help if they need it. Tonight: Schmooze.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★ Today the Moon moves to the top of your chart to stay for the next two days. This happens once every month. When this occurs, it means that you are more high-viz. People notice you more than usual. In fact, some people will know personal details about your private life. Tonight: Show respect.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ Today you want to do something different; you want to get away from your daily routine. You might want to go off somewhere and see new places or talk to new people. Obviously, if you can travel, this would be ideal. Studying and learning something new will also be rewarding for you. Tonight: Explore!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ Today your emotional experiences might be more intense than usual. This includes your encounters with others. You might find that you're caught in a situation where your values don't agree with the values of someone else. You might even have disputes about shared property. Tonight: Check your finances.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ Today you will have to go more than halfway when dealing with others to keep the peace. This happens once for a few days every month, and it's not a big deal. Stay positive, cooperative and willing to listen to others with courtesy. Tonight: Listen attentively.

BORN TODAY
Singer Sade (1959), model Kate Moss (1974), TV presenter James May (1963)

Find more Georgia Nicols horoscopes at georgianicols.com.

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Lakers defeat Bellefontaine wrestlers

BY MIKE FRANK
EXAMINER SPORTS WRITER

The Lakers protected their house in a big way. Bellefontaine and Indian Lake met for a dual wrestling match Wednesday evening, with the Lakers claiming the majority of the contests in a 65-12 win.

The evening began with action from elementary school level grapplers. The junior high and varsity matches were then contested side-by-side before a good crowd.

Indian Lake had six wins by pin and one on a technical fall (15 points or more). Their other victories came on forfeits by the Chieftains.

Earning the falls were Jordan Henderson (120), Bronx Dickson (132), Gavin Henry (144), Dawson Stevenson (150), Czar Dickson (157), and Chris Timms at heavy-weight. The tech fall came at 138 pounds for Draden Stevenson.

Lakers that got uncontested wins were Cash Scott (106), JJ Shirk (113), Tristan Shoffner (190) and Owen Pummel (215).

"It's a fun night. I really appreciate Bellefontaine. It's really cool having the kids come and all of us get together," said Indian Lake coach Ryan Dickson.

"The gym was pretty packed, which is really cool to see for a wrestling event," he added. He noted that the team will continue to prepare for the postseason, which begins with the sectional tournaments, which are just over a month away.

Bellefontaine's winners were Jared Young by decision at 126 pounds, Zavier May by decision at



Gavin Henry of Indian Lake and Ricky Smiley of Bellefontaine are pictured during the 144-pound bout during Wednesday's dual meet at Indian Lake. (EXAMINER PHOTO | MIKE FRANK)

165, and Noah Torsell with a pin at 175.

"I think the effort was there for us tonight," said Chieftains coach Aaron LaBatt, "but unfortunately, not the talent. But our guys are scraping along. None of our guys rolled over. We're still building. We're still moving forward. So we have a lot to build on."

One thing LaBatt wants the team to work on is "chain wrestling" or connecting a series of moves. "We can hit a move or two moves, but we just got to work on (things like) our turn series, our takedown series, our leg defense. I did see us use that a little bit, but we've done better."

Indian Lake took a 12-0 lead on the forfeits to Scott and Shirk.

At 120, Henderson

stepped in against Brooks Kinchen of Bellefontaine. Henderson got an early takedown worth three points. After Kinchen escaped for one point, another takedown by Henderson made it 6-1 halfway through the period. He kept attacking, and after scoring a few more points, got the fall just before time expired, at 1:59.

Young and Keyshawn Blackwell of Indian Lake squared off at 126. Blackwell took the lead with a first-period takedown, giving one point back on an escape. The second period was a stalemate, with neither wrestler able to score. Starting the third in neutral position, they continued to fend each other off. Finally, with just over one minute left, Young got a three-point take-

down to go ahead 4-3. He then kept Blackwell in check for the rest of the match to earn the decision.

At 132 pounds, Bronx Dickson faced the Chieftains' Eli Deal. Dickson quickly established a five-point lead with a takedown and two near fall points. Dickson escaped that, but Dickson scored another takedown with 22 seconds to go, making it 8-1. The only points of the middle period came on a reversal by Dickson with 30 seconds to go. Deal had another escape early in the third, but Dickson ended it after 32 seconds of that frame.

The Lakers sent out Draden Stevenson at 138 to face Bellefontaine's Nicholas Bear. Stevenson scored a takedown and then came

very close to getting a fall with about 40 seconds left in the first period. He settled for the 7-0 lead. He added one point in the second frame, then scored six more before more back points ended it at 18-0. That made the team score 29-3 in favor of the Lakers.

At 144, Henry got a takedown in the opening seconds and went on to score a pin at 1:04 of Bellefontaine's Ricky Smiley.

Dawson Stevenson trotted out next to face Bellefontaine's Hayden Alinson at 150. Stevenson scored a series of takedowns, with Alison able to wriggle free a couple of times. The match ended with 27 seconds to go in the first on a fall for the Lakers.

Caleb Lillard of Bellefontaine met Czar

Dickson for the 157-pound bout. Similar to the previous match, Dickson got a takedown then four back points. He collected four more points before putting Lillard's shoulders to the mat with 50 seconds left.

The Chiefs' May took on Taylor Clem from the Lakers at 165. May grabbed the initial lead on a takedown midway though the first, but Clem got a reversal and four back points to lead 6-3. May added nine points on three takedowns in the second, but Clem scored five points of his own. The third period was high scoring as well. May got a takedown and back points at the start, then scored two more on a late reversal for the 20-14 victory.

The 175-pound class pitted Torsell against Logan Hale for the hosts. Hale scored a takedown in each of the first two periods, and collected four near-fall points late in both as well for a huge 14-0 lead. The pair started the third and midway through, it was Torsell giving the Chiefs rooters some joy with a takedown for three points. He kept attacking and earned the fall with 25 seconds left.

After two more forfeits by Bellefontaine, the evening came to a close as heavyweight Timms got a quick 10-second pin of Cameron Hensley.

The lone girls' match took place between Rylee Yelton of Bellefontaine and Annie Rapp of Indian Lake. Rapp won by pin in the first period.

On Saturday, Indian Lake heads to Archbold, while Bellefontaine goes to Van Buren for tournament action.

Lady Lakers fall in overtime to Alder

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

Indian Lake battled but lost 40-35 in overtime at Jonathan Alder in Central Buckeye Conference girls basketball action on Wednesday.

The defeat halts the Lakers' win streak at six games.

Kennedy Schwaderer led the Lakers with 15 points and five steals. Carly Strayer had 11 points and three steals. Mackenzie Dixon scored four, Rya Pequinot three and Courtney Altstaetter added two.

The Pioneers held Indian Lake to three points in the first and four in the second to lead 14-7 at the half.

Indian Lake outscored

the hosts 14-6 in the third, with Alder having a 10-9 edge in the fourth. That left things tied at 30. In the extra session, Alder doubled up the Lakers 10-5.

Indian Lake won the JV contest 32-27. Terra Beltz scored 12 points and Haley Metzger scored 8 points and had three assists. Chloe Borgerding grabbed eight rebounds.

Indian Lake (6-1 CBC, 11-5 overall) hosts Graham on Saturday, with JV play tipping off at 6 p.m.

Triad falls to Mechanicsburg

Triad lost to host Mechanicsburg 56-19 in Ohio Heritage

Conference girls basketball play Wednesday.

Each team scored seven in the first, with the Indians having a 9-2 edge in the second for a 16-9 halftime lead. Mechanicsburg then scored 19 and 21 points in the third and fourth, holding the Cardinals to 10 total.

Jazz Ford had 11 points for Triad. Abbey Overfield had four, with Mia LeMay and April Huffman scoring two each. Overfield had nine rebounds, LeMay eight and Bre Parsons seven.

Triad (2-10 OHC, 3-13 overall) will be at Northeastern on Saturday at 11 a.m.

See **ROUNDUP** on Page 8

Browns tap Rees to run offense

BY TOM WITHERS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CLEVELAND — Tommy Rees went from being a ball boy for the Browns to running their offense.

Cleveland coach Kevin Stefanski hired Rees as his offensive coordinator on Wednesday, promoting him after firing Ken Dorsey following a season in which the Browns went 3-14 and averaged a league-low 15.2 points per game.

Rees spent last season as Cleveland's tight ends coach, working

with Mike Vrabel, who spent a year as a consultant with the Browns before being named New England's coach.

Vrabel had been expected to bring Rees with him to the Patriots, but Stefanski, who said on Jan. 6 that he planned to interview internal candidates, beat him to the punch.

"Tommy has an incredible football mind," Stefanski said. "He is extremely bright and has been around the game his entire life. Before joining our staff, he established himself as

one of the top assistant coaches in college football. Last season, he transitioned into our tight end room and with our pass game, and he didn't miss a beat."

Stefanski also interviewed New Orleans Saints offensive coordinator Klint Kubiak, Miami Dolphins quarterbacks coach/pass game coordinator Darrell Bevell, Seattle Seahawks quarterbacks coach Charles London and Atlanta Falcons tight ends coach Kevin Koger.

See **BROWNS** on Page 8

Chieftains host county swim meet

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

Three Logan County swim teams met Tuesday night at the Hilliker YMCA in Bellefontaine.

The Bellefontaine girls finished with 109 points, with Benjamin Logan second at 98 and Indian Lake getting five.

Individual event winners for Bellefontaine were Kate Myers in the 200 and 500 freestyles, Brooklyne Kuntz in the 100 butterfly and 100 backstroke, Maddie Ullom in the 100 freestyle,

For the Raiders, taking first place were Fiona Sweeney in the 200 individual medley and 50 freestyle, along with Winnie Bodin in the 100 breaststroke.

On the boys' side, Ben Logan had 104 points to take first. Bellefontaine had 80 and Indian Lake scored 25.

Individual event winners for the Raiders were Utah Coleman in the 200 freestyle and 500 freestyle, Liam Sweeney in the 200 individual medley and 100 butterfly, and Carter Daniels in the 100 breaststroke.

For the Chiefs, Elias Abrego won the 50 and 100 freestyles and Beckham Harman in the 100 backstroke.

The results:
GIRLS
200 medley relay (2:14.13) — 1. Ben Logan (Chappell, W. Bodin,

Sweeney, L. Bodin); 2. Bellefontaine; 3. Ben Logan B; 4. Bellefontaine C; 5. Bellefontaine B.

200 freestyle (2:23.76) — 1. Kate Myers (B); 2. Annika Chappell (BL); 3. Kelley Forsythe (BL); 4. Kylie Curtis (BL); 5. Kaidi Freeman (B); 6. Claire Grandstaff (B).

200 individual medley (2:47.96) — 1. Fiona Sweeney (BL); 2. Emma Nieto (B); 3. Ella Fultz (B); 4. Michelle Roberts (B).

50 freestyle (28.86) — 1. Fiona Sweeney (BL); 2. Winnie Bodin (BL); 3. Lottie Bodin (BL); 4. Kaeleigh Flora (B); 5. Annika Schmidt (BL); 6. Elaina Ullom (BL); 7. Evie Wagner (IL).

100 butterfly (1:03.35) — 1. Brooklyne Kuntz (B); 2. Kaeleigh Flora (B); 3. Lottie Bodin (BL); 4. Junah Tingley (BL); 5. Michelle Roberts (B).

100 freestyle (1:09.07) — 1. Maddie Ullom (B); 2. Emma Nieto (B); 3. Annika Schmidt (BL); 4. Reagan Rash (IL); 5. Clara Core (B).

500 freestyle (6:32.79) — 1. Kate Myers (B); 2. Kelley Forsythe (BL); 3. Montana Coleman (BL); 4. Claire Grandstaff (B).

200 freestyle relay (1:57.62) — 1. Ben Logan (Sweeney, W. Bodin, Chappell, L. Bodin); 2. Bellefontaine; 3. Bellefontaine B; 4. Ben Logan C; 5. Bellefontaine C.

100 yard backstroke

(1:04.86) — 1. Brooklyne Kuntz (B); 2. Annika Chappell (BL); 3. Maddie Ullom (B); 4. Ella Fultz (B); 5. Junah Tingley (BL); 6. Maille Ricketts (BL); 7. Quinn Imm (IL).

100 breaststroke (1:26.74) — 1. Winnie Bodin (BL); 2. Elaina Ullom (B); 3. Leah Braddock (BL); 4. Claire McDaniel (B); 5. Evie Wagner (IL).

400 freestyle relay (4:33.68) — 1. Bellefontaine (E. Ullom, Myers, Flora, Kuntz); 2. Bellefontaine B; 3. Ben Logan; 4. Ben Logan B.

BOYS
200 medley relay (1:58.14) — 1. Ben Logan (Braddock, Daniels, Sweeney, Stephens); 2. Bellefontaine; 3. Indian Lake; 4. Ben Logan B.

200 freestyle (2:24.10) — 1. Utah Coleman (BL); 2. Will Myers (B); 3. Jerrick Stephens (BL); 4. Grady Feasel (B); 5. Holden Zehner (BL); 6. Finch Hone (BL).

200 individual medley (2:37.20) — 1. Liam Sweeney (BL); 2. Cody Hudson (B); 3. Joseph Meeker (BL); 4. Wyatt Gordon (BL); 5. Taavo Simovart (B); 6. Blaine Mitchell (B).

50 freestyle (23.89) — 1. Elias Abrego (IL); 2. Caleb Altstaetter (B); 3. Carter Daniels (BL); 4. Landon Braddock (BL); 5. Ryan Alexander (B).

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Examiner sports

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Browns

Continued from Page 7

The 32-year-old Rees has been considered a rising star in the NFL coaching ranks. He was the first candidate to interview with Stefanski, who fired Dorsey hours after the Browns ended their dreadful season with a loss at Baltimore in the finale.

Rees has deep football roots in Cleveland. As a teenager, he worked as a ball boy with the

club when his dad, Bill, was the team's director of player personnel.

Stefanski's familiarity with Rees was certainly a factor in the Browns keeping him. He knows the offense and it's possible Stefanski could assume play-calling duties after handing them over to Dorsey.

Stefanski called plays during his first four seasons with Cleveland.

Rees knows all about pressure, having played

quarterback at Notre Dame and working for a year on Alabama's coaching staff under Nick Saban. Before joining the Crimson Tide, Rees was the offensive coordinator and QB coach at his alma mater from 2020-22.

The Browns allowed Rees to interview for North Carolina's coaching job before the school signed six-time Super Bowl winner Bill Belichick.

Rees tried to get all he could out of Cleveland's tight end group last season. But David Njoku, one of the team's top playmakers, couldn't build off a Pro Bowl year because of injuries and finished with 64 catches for 505 yards — a career-worst 7.9 per grab.

"Due to injuries, there was a lot of uncertainty at tight end, but Tommy did a phenomenal job with that group and always had his players ready for game day, despite, in some cases, only being with the team for a short period of time," Stefanski said.

Bills seek to stop Ravens' Henry

BY JOHN WAWROW
AP SPORTS WRITER

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. — Bills coach Sean McDermott joked that Buffalo could use five 300-pound linebackers in assessing what it might take to stop Baltimore's Derrick Henry.

Linebacker Terrel Bernard was a little more realistic Wednesday, saying it's going to require all 11 defenders swarming the running back. Even quarterback Josh Allen, at 6-foot-5 and 240 pounds, acknowledged feeling intimidated the few times he has stood next to the 6-2, 250-pound Henry.

"He's absolutely massive," Allen said. "He's as fast as anybody on the field and once he gets going downhill, he's just tough to bring down because of his sheer size and speed."

One way or the other, stopping Henry is among the challenges Buffalo (14-4) faces Sunday night when host-

ing the third-seeded Ravens (13-5) and their league-leading offense in a divisional round playoff game.

Not lost on the Bills is what happened in Week 4, when Henry broke loose on an 87-yard touchdown run on the first offensive snap in the Ravens' 35-10 win at Baltimore. Henry finished with a season-high 199 yards rushing while also scoring on a 5-yard catch in an outing during which Buffalo surrendered a season-worst 271 yards rushing and 427 yards overall.

"Run game, pass game, third down, screen game, red zone. ... We got our butts kicked," defensive coordinator Bobby Babich said.

Difficult as it was rewatching the film this week, Babich noted it can serve as motivation.

"No one likes losing like we lost. I mean, we're all competitors," he said. "Sometimes those scars help you when you do have the chance to play a team again."

Henry is enjoying a resurgence in his first season in Baltimore. At 31, he finished second in the NFL, behind Philadelphia's Saquon

Barkley, and set franchise single-season records with 1,921 yards rushing and 16 touchdowns.

"He's moving a lot faster than what he looks. That's probably what really messes up the corners and linebackers when he hits the edge," Ravens cornerback Marlon Humphrey said.

"He's definitely one of one. But I think the visual and what's actually happening doesn't really match up. It's like, 'Oh, I have a perfect angle,' and then he gets around you," he added. "He's just different. I know the Bills will have their hand, uh, it'll be tough."

The good news for the Bills is they're healthier entering Sunday, with Bernard, linebacker Matt Milano and cornerback Taron Johnson set to play after the three starters were sidelined against the Ravens.

Another positive working for Buffalo is having previous success against Henry. In five meetings when he was with Tennessee, Henry topped 100 yards just once while combining for 359 yards rushing with seven touchdowns.

Correction



Brodey Reisinger of Indian Lake takes a shot during Tuesday's game against Bellefontaine. Also pictured are Patrick Stolly (left) and Jair Mundy (back to camera) of Bellefontaine. (Note: Stolly was misidentified in Wednesday's edition. We apologize for the error.)

junior high

Ben Logan boys in action

Benjamin Logan's junior high boys basketball squads faced Kenton Tuesday.

Kenton won the seventh grade game 43-17.

Nevada Coleman had five points, Luke Long 4, Preston Mikes 3, Anson Nichols and Baker Roberts 2 each, and Brayden Sims one.

Ben Logan won 32-29 in the eighth grade game. Micah Gregg led with 19 points and also had nine rebounds.

Gabe Predmore had seven points, seven rebounds, and three assists. Carrick Spriggs had four points and four rebounds, and Karson McCoy scored two points and had three assists. Predmore had five

steals and McCoy got four and with two by Spriggs.

On Monday, the seventh grade Raiders lost to Shawnee 39-14.

Luke Long had five points, with two each by Nevada Coleman, Harlen Davis, Preston Mikes, and Zayden Wilson, plus one by Carter Nangle.

Ben Logan won the eighth grade game 46-35 in double overtime.

Micah Gregg had 19 points and 17 rebounds. Carrick Spriggs got 11 points and 10 rebounds. Brantley Korn had 11 points. Gabe Predmore got five points, five assists, four rebounds and three steals. Colton Little, Karson McCoy and Ashe Moorehouse contributed on defense.

Meet

Continued from Page 7

100 butterfly (1:06.74) — 1. Liam Sweeney (BL); 2. Ryan Alexander (B); 3. Jerrick Stephens (BL); 4. Levi Hanson (BL); 5. Finch Hone (BL).

100 freestyle (53.54) — 1. Elias Abrego (B); 2. Caleb Altstaetter (IL); 3. Landon Braddock (BL); 4. Dylan Vance (BL); 5. Grady Feasel (B).

500 freestyle (6:39.57) — 1. Utah Coleman (BL); 2. Will Myers (B); 3. Oliver Grandstaff (B); 4. Taavo Simovart (BL).

200 freestyle relay (1:44.64) — 1. Ben Logan (Sweeney, Stephens, Braddock, Daniels); 2.


Bellefontaine; 3. Indian Lake; 4. Bellefontaine B; 5. Ben Logan B.

100 backstroke (1:13.08) — 1. Beckham Harman (B); 2. Dylan Vance (BL); 3. Levi Hanson (BL); 4. Jaylen Henry (B).

100 breaststroke (1:14.27) — 1. Carter Daniels (BL); 2. Crew McPherson (IL); 3. Cody Hudson (B); 4. Joseph Meeker (BL); 5. Wyatt Gordon (BL); 6. Gavin Spring (IL); 400 freestyle relay (4:16.72) — 1.

Bellefontaine (Mitchell, Henry, Alexander, Abrego); 2. Ben Logan; 3. Ben Logan B.

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