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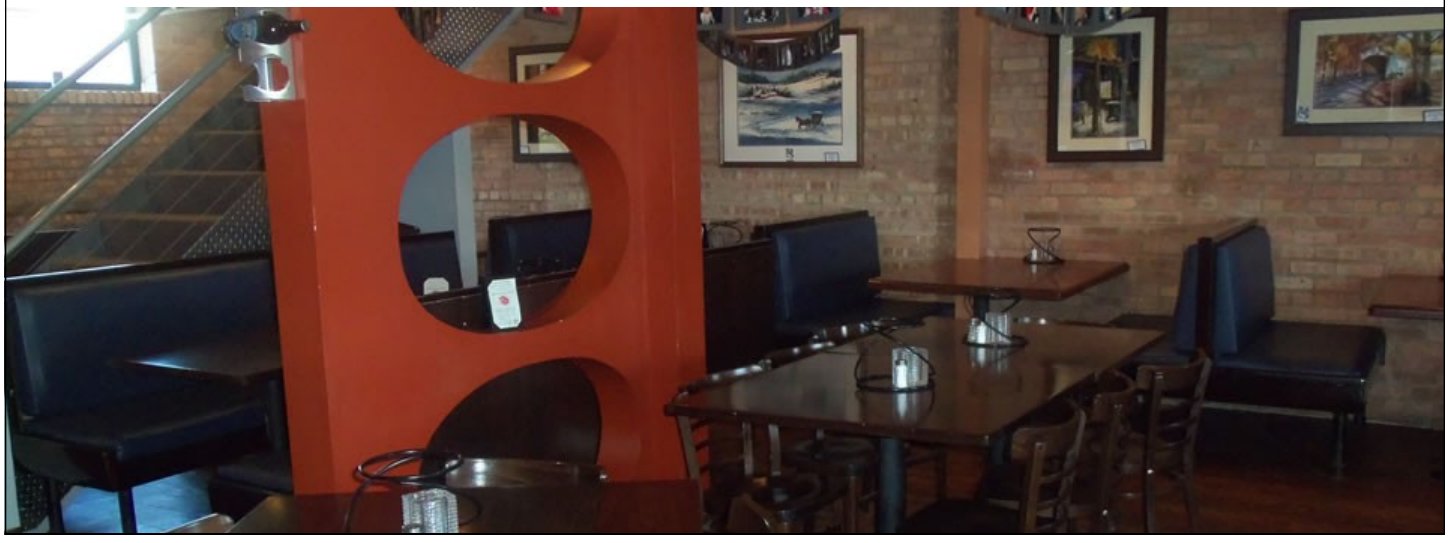

MAB ONLINE MAGAZINE

October really is the best month to be a sports fan. The first of the high school state championships are occurring here in the Hoosier state, the MLB playoffs have begun, the NFL & NCAA football seasons are in full swing, the NHL starts playing this month and the NBA season is not far away. That is just the tip of the iceberg.

Of course, we are always excited this time of year as well, since we really are fans first and everything else is really secondary. This month we bring you football, soccer, rugby, baseball, tennis, golf and more! It really is the full smorgasbord that this time of year invokes. We hope you enjoy it. As always, please let us know if you have any story ideas or would like us to cover anything in particular.

Contact Information

Phone: 219-973-7990

Website: www.midamericabroadcasting.com

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MAB STAFF

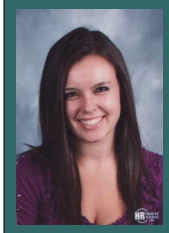
Rich Sapper
Staff Writer
Broadcaster/ Host
Sales
Layout & Design

Bob Potosky
Broadcaster/ Host
Staff Writer

Andy Wielgus
Broadcaster/Host
Staff Writer

JT Hoyo
Broadcaster/Host
Staff Writer
Sales

Brandon Vickery
Broadcaster



Trisha Madura
Staff Writer
Sales
Broadcaster

Brett Hill
Staff Writer
Sales
Broadcaster

Dan Breed
Staff Writer
Sales
Broadcaster

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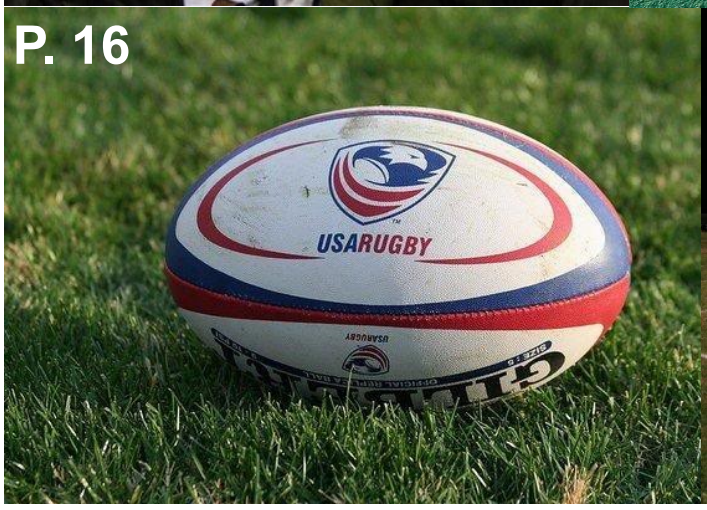

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Athletes of the Month

Written and Compiled by Andy Wielgus MAB Staff Writer

Ike James
Lowell

Lowell's RB Ike James ran for 223 yards and he had a 89 yard TD run in a 35-13 victory over Hobart at The Inferno.

Jill Doan
Lake Central

Lake Central's Kicker Jill Doan kicked two field goals of 30 and 34 yards to keep the Indians undefeated in the DAC with a 6-0 win over Chesterton. It was the last game ever on the field known as the Burial Grounds at LC.

Jeff Proctor
Munster

Munster's Jeff Proctor scored 4 touchdowns in the 1st Half vs Hammond Morton in a 59-41 win over the Governors.

Charles Salary
LaPorte

LaPorte's RB Charles Salary rushed for 273 yards and had 2 Touchdowns vs Chesterton, in a 17-13 loss to the Trojans.

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My First Season (So Far) Watching NWI Prep Football

By Dan Breed, MAB Monthly Staff Writer

Dan's First NWI High School Contest was Crown Point's Hard Fought Victory Against Lowell

It had been quite a few years since I had covered a high school football game. Earlier in my broadcast career, I had covered many, but all in Illinois in mostly the several Upstate Illini conferences as well as the NIC-9 conference, so conferences with names like DAC and GSSC were foreign to me.

And it's still a little confusing to me: I sometimes find myself thinking that teams like Hobart and Munster are part of the DAC, but not LaPorte, which seems too far to the east in my geographically limited mind to be part of the DAC. But I'm sure that in time, I will get it all organized in my head.

Until that time comes, I will just enjoy some of the notable play I have seen so far this season:

1. In week one, the Crown Point Bulldogs pulled out the first of several unlikely victories. As the 3rd quarter opened, it looked like the Lowell Red Devils had the game firmly in control, especially after chewing up the first 9 minutes of the second have with a long drive that ended up culminating in no points. Later, Lowell would fumble a punt snap at their own 1 yard line and surrender a circus touchdown catch to big Bulldog tight end Morgan Kral, which secured a Crown Point victory.

2. The following week, after a significant lightning delay, I watched the Penn Kingsmen roll over the Portage Indians. I had heard stories about Penn and they certainly lived up to the hype that night as the game didn't end until well past 10 pm local time, 11 pm to the body clocks of the Kingsmen. I will never forget the sheer size of the Penn offensive line, who looked like they could line up against almost any college defense.

3. In week 4, I finally saw the juggernaut that is Crown Point fall to the Lake Central Indians. Even an electrifying 93 yard touchdown scramble by Bulldog QB Artie Equihua failed to demoralize the Indians, who went home with a 27-13 road victory, and an advantage in the DAC race.

4. In week 6, I made my first trip to the Inferno in Lowell where the Red Devils rolled over the Hobart Brickies. Lowell's Ike James was in good form as he once again rushed for over 200 yards and made the Lowell homecoming just a little sweeter with a victory. It was also very exciting to see the flames shoot from the scoreboard in the Inferno every time the Red Devils scored, and there was plenty of fire that night, both on the field and on the scoreboard.

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5. Week 7 took me to Cedar Lake to watch the Hanover Central Wildcats host the Wheeler Bearcats. It was a very nice home-coming celebration for a school that hadn't had a football game to celebrate that event in over 40 years. Unfortunately, Wheeler came to play and put up 45 points on the Wildcats, highlighted by a beautiful 55 yard throw and catch from Jake LaFever to receiver Hunter Hikeel for a touchdown.

I could go on, but those are the memories I will take with me after the first 7 weeks of the 2014 season. I wish I could have witnessed more, such as the Andrean 59er's making a habit of comeback victories, and especially, the last game to be played at the Lake Central Burial Grounds on October 3rd. It's going to be strange to drive down route 41 and not see the goalposts anymore, but there are many new memories to be made when the new field is constructed. And that's really what it's all about: making memories, for players, for fans, for parents, for coaches, and even for me! I can't wait to see what happens next week!

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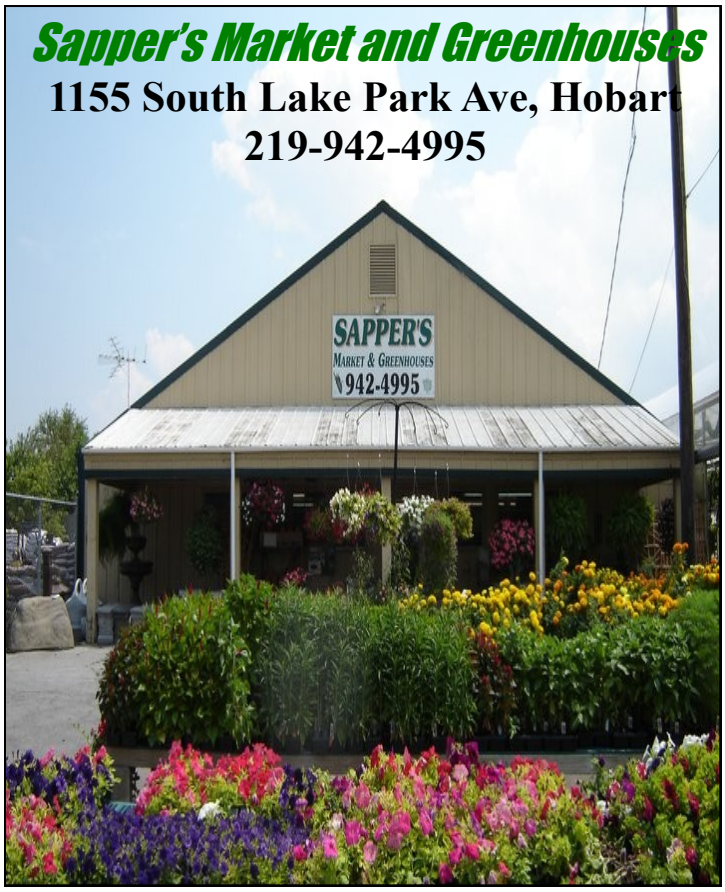

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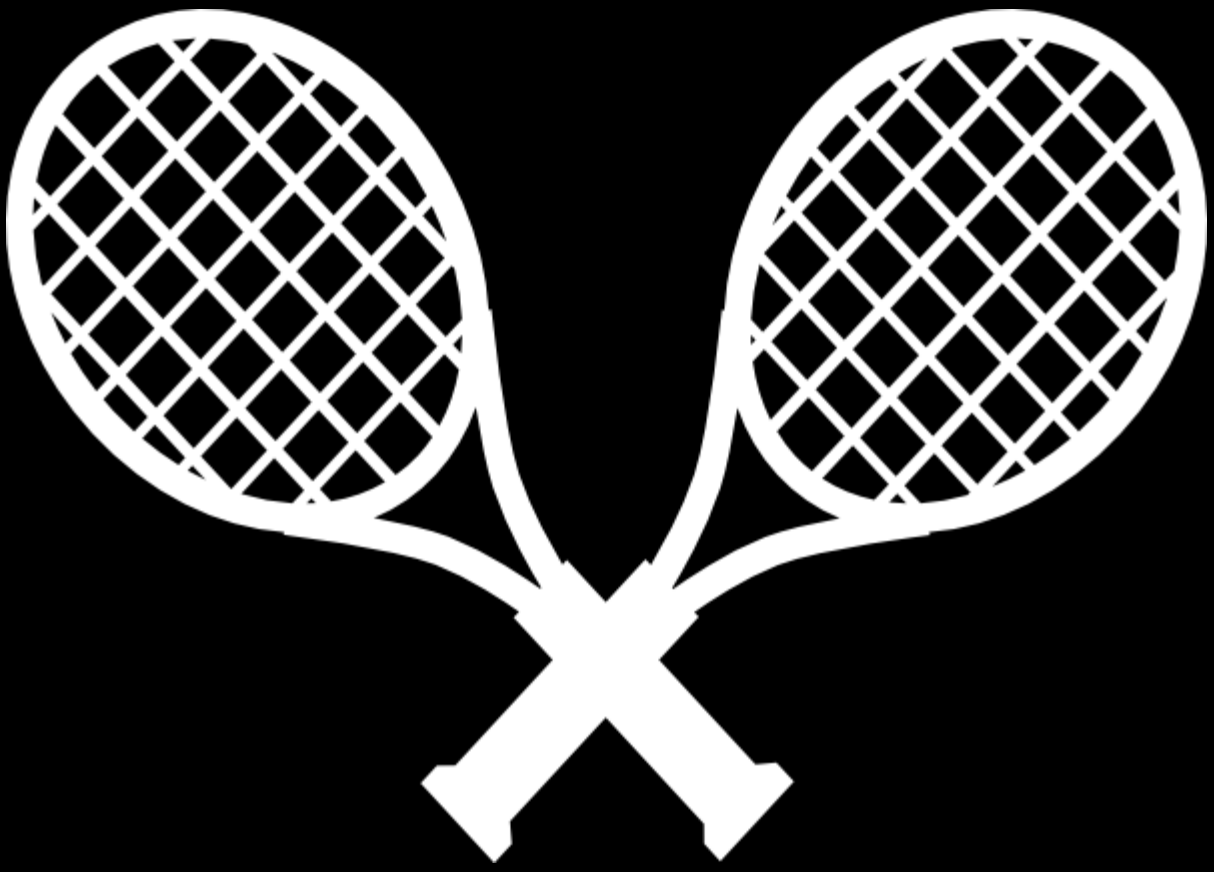
Munster, Crown Point, and Hobart win 2014 Tennis Sectional Championships



By Andy Wielgus,

MAB Monthly Staff Writer

For the 34th straight year Munster wins a Tennis Sectional. This year they shut out Griffith 5-0 for the 2014 Munster Sectional Championship. Top players for Munster Head Coach Steve Lopez are Arie Detmer, Ben Marcus, and Matt Marcus in Singles and Alex Wisniewski, Adam Richter, Patrick Toth and Michael Rivich in Doubles. Munster's record is now 15-3 as they move on to Regionals for the 34th straight time.

Crown Point under Head Coach Chris Korzeniewski looks again to be the top challenger to Munster at the next level in the region.

The Bulldogs defeated Lowell 4-1 for the Crown Point Sectional Championship. The Bulldogs defeated Kankakee Valley 5-0 in the Sectional Semifinal earlier. Last year the Dogs ended the regular season undefeated until they fell to Munster at the Regionals. Up until that match last year, the Bulldogs were undefeated. Soph. Bryce Bonin had another stellar season after a great Freshman Campaign in Singles. Also, former Crown Point Green Hornet Jr. Bulldogs LB and RB Junior Anthony Kendall completed his third season in Singles successfully, to go along with Junior Lance Norenberg. At Doubles Baseball Player Evan Frank has excelled along with athletic former JV and Freshman QB/Baseball Player Zack Perez, Joey Ising, and Track Runner Matt Frazier. Bryce Bonin by the way is the Brother of Junior Point Guard Blake Bonin and the grandson of Hall of Fame Basketball Coach Jim East.

The wildcard team to the Regional is the Hobart Brickies who held off Lake Station Edison 3-2 in the Merrillville Sectional Semifinal and then Andrean 3-2 in the Championship. Soph. Jacob Potts won the deciding match in Singles

for the Brickies. Other key players in Singles include Jake Mummery and Jacob Tosch. The Doubles team for Hobart are led by Grant Kadar, Charles Crayton, Nathaniel Jenkins, and Cameron Hughes. The Brickies are only 5-11, but they do have a Sectional Championship. Lake Station Edison ended its season at 6-9 under former RF Athlete Sal Guel and Andrean ended its campaign at 3-9.

To go along with the big schools [Crown Point, Munster, and Hobart], a small school will join the Tennis Regional in Marquette at 14-0. The upstart Blazers beat perennial power LaPorte in their own sectional 3-2. The GSSC Conference Blazers are led in Singles by Carter Moldenhauer, Bobby Braden, and Dru Kennedy. The Doubles teams are led by Brogan Briggs, Morgan Arndt, Jacob Schmidt, and Patrick McDonald. LaPorte ends its campaign at 16-8.

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Rugby Basics

By Trisha Madura,
MAB Monthly Staff Writer

During my life, I have been surrounded by the sports' atmosphere starting at a very young age. Whether it was watching my dad coach my brother on the baseball field or watching my high school basketball team, it was always a custom to be around many different sports at all times. However, when I first came to college this past year, I discovered a sport that I had been missing out on watching: rugby.

And I remember one of the first things I said coming to this new campus as I was beginning four years of a new journey: "Dad, what's rugby? Is it football?" I remember his response clearly. "I think it's like a mixture of football and wrestling the grounding of the ball by an att; basically they tackle the crap out of each other with no padding on." Well, this could be a cool, new thing to watch, I thought.

As the year went on, I began to make friends with some of the players on our own rugby team. Of course, my common question was always, "Can you explain the sport to me?" They have attempted almost every single time. From watching enough games this past year and a half, I've started to pick up on some who

Scrum: "Players from each team come together in a formation, where eight forwards bind in against eight opposing forwards, with the aim of winning the ball which is thrown between the front rows of the two packs"

Ruck: "When one or more players from each team, who are on their feet and in contact, close around the ball on the ground. Once a ruck has been formed, players cannot use their hands to get the ball but are allowed to use their feet"

Try: "The grounding of the ball by an attacking player in the opposition's goal area- worth five points"

Some of the different positions played in

rugby can be:

Scrumhalf: "the player who puts the ball into the scrum- also called a halfback"
Wing: "The two attacking players who play closest to the touchline and are usually the fastest on the team"

Lock: "Two forwards who are usually the tallest players on the team; the locks are charged with providing strength in the scrum and winning the ball in the line-outs"

Prop: "The two forwards who support the hooker in the scrums and life the jumpers in the line-out"

Hooker: "The forward who is the central figure; he is supported by the two props and hooks the ball backwards; he throws the ball in during the line-out"

Flyhalf: "The back who is one of the most important players on the team, often dictating the flow of play"

Fullback: "The back who is the last line of defense"

Center: "The players who are the heart and soul of the team's attack; include inside and outside centers, and they are also called the midfielders"

Backs: "Faster players"

And from moving in a year and a half ago, when I my only assumption was, "Oh, rugby must be football since we don't have a football team!" The thing that I have learned the most from talking with rugby players is that the worst thing you can tell them is that their sport is like football. Rugby is a little more than a ball bigger than a football and shorts shorter than volleyball players.

Definitions provided by "Rugby for Dummies: 2nd Edition; by Mathew Brown"

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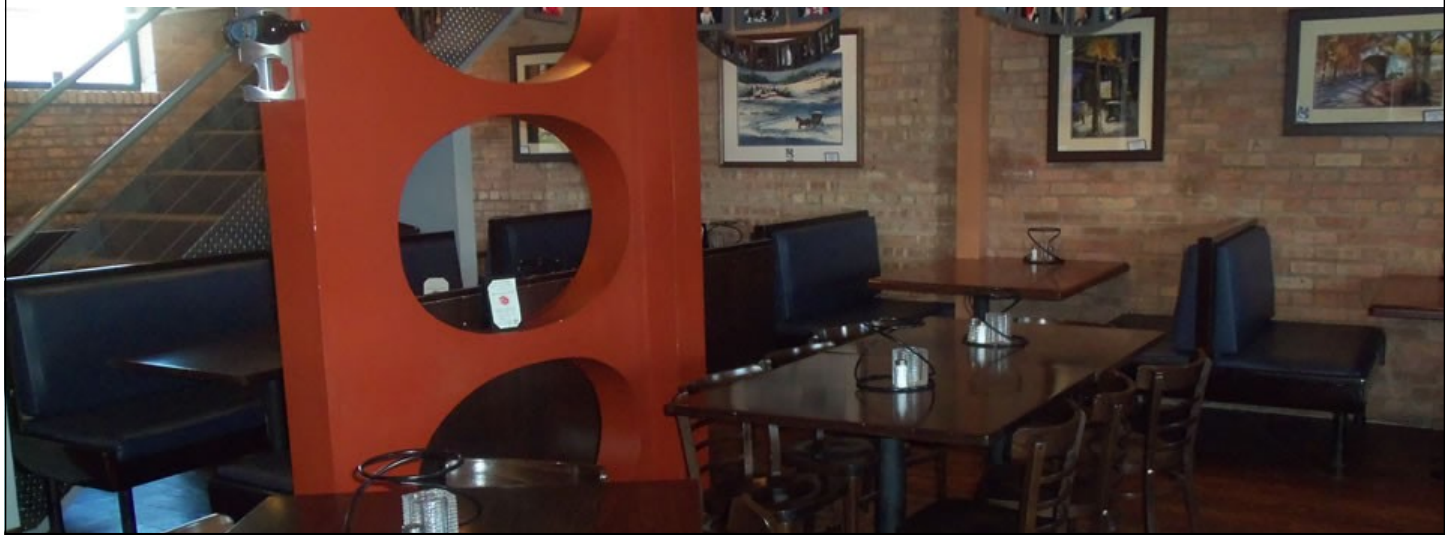

How to Revive Cinderella

By Brett Hill, MAB Monthly Staff Writer

Cinderella's Last Dance?

I love my college football and the glamorous matchups you see usually week in and week out in the SEC. Of course you'll always have the matchups in the postseason as well. Everyone knew the BCS had its faults, but it gave teams from lesser conferences a chance to compete with the big boys on a national stage to show that they do belong on the same field as some of the BCS schools. The BCS is now dead, and for some it's a time for rejoice because a playoff was what everybody wanted….right?

Not if you're from a non-power school, and on top of that, we know have a formation of what we will call the -"Power 5" which will include the conferences ACC, Big Ten, Big 12, SEC, and the Pac-12. Okay that's fine; it's just like the BCS conferences, big deal. Whoa wait a minute; they can make their own rules now? So where does this leave the AAC, Sun Belt, Conference USA, MAC, Mountain West Conference, and even the Independents? Let's take a trip in the dream machine shall we?

If you know me, then you'll know I love a good Cinderella story. I also love European soccer's way of handling teams in their pro leagues. If you're not aware, European soccer leagues have a system called promotion and relegation. You obviously have the top league, and a handful of leagues below. The team that finish in the bottom 3 of each league (except the very bottom league obviously since there's nowhere else to go), lose

2007 Fiesta Bowl

their spot in that league, and go to the league below them. For example: a team that finishes last in the Barclay's Premier League gets relegated to the league before them. Now for the teams that are in the lower leagues. If they finish in the top 3 of their respective leagues, then they are promoted to the league that's above them. It's the perfect system. A team that just isn't fit for that certain league, gets sent down to a lower league so they're not stuck being a bad team forever. So the point I'm trying to get at you may ask? I say it's time for the NCAA to adopt a promotion/relegation system for the teams and conferences as soon as possible.

Since the formation of the Power 5 conferences, it will severely limit smaller schools at playing the role of Cinderella in the postseason. However, it opens up a golden opportunity. Assume the Independents could just get absorbed by different conferences. This would setup a perfect balance of conferences. There would be 5 Power Conferences and 5 Non-Power Conferences. Then, you can have the power 5 conferences adopt the lower 5 by geography. For example: the Big Ten could adopt the MAC as their lower conference. That way each power 5 conference has their own conference below them for teams that get relegated. You then play out an entire regular season and when the dust settles, you have your final standings. If both the power and non-power

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2010 Fiesta Bowl: Boise State (WAC) vs TCU (MW)

conference have divisions, then you promote the teams that won their divisions in the lower conferences to the power conference, and you demote the teams that finish in the bottom of their divisions in the power conferences to the lower conference. If we used last season's standings between the Big Ten and the MAC, we would be seeing Northwestern and Purdue being demoted to the MAC while Bowling Green and Northern Illinois being promoted in the Big Ten. It would bring much more excitement to every game, and teams even with very few wins would still have something to play for. The

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stakes would be high, and it would create great drama to matchups between teams that are fighting to stay within their power conference. Of course, for the conferences that have different alignments like the SEC and Sun Belt where one conference has divisions whereas the other doesn't, you would just simply promote the top 2 teams from the Sun Belt while you would relegate the teams that finished last in their divisions. This would put an end to the age old argument team X doesn't belong in a conference while team Y plays a bunch of nobodies because of the conference they're in. Sick of seeing how Boise State was feasting on their competition that was the WAC before it dissolved? Well, could have simply promoted them to the then Pac-10 and see how they fared. If they were overmatched, they would simply get demoted back to the WAC the following year if they struggled.

Now let's talk about what seems to be the only thing that matters nowadays when it comes to college athletics: money. It's obvious that conferences make more than other conferences. So, what better chance for some of the smaller schools to make some great money for their schools than getting promoted to a power conference. With all these network deals going around these power conferences there's a lot of money to be made. Not to mention the money the conference gets when the teams that make a bowl game, split the money with the rest of the conference. These small schools would just absolutely love to get a piece of that nice green money pie.

Now, would this ever happen? Probably not, but let's just take a moment and dream and think about how much more awesome college football would be when almost every game around the country on the final week of the season has a gigantic impact on what the following season would bring for us. It would be a very welcomed breath of fresh air.

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Culture of Violence or Culture of Giving?

Charity and Giving more common than the negative image.

By Rich Sapper,
MAB Monthly Staff Writer

In recent weeks there has been quite a bit of news coming out of the NFL. The news of players getting arrested for child abuse, domestic violence and the like have been disturbing, obviously, because of the nature of the charges. Clearly any kind of violence against women and children is wrong. That said, quite a bit has also been made of the connection between being an NFL player and a "culture of violence" that leads to this type of activity.

This is where I get off the train. The idea of a higher propensity of athletes in general of football players in specific to participate in this type of activity is unfounded. Sure, it gets headlines because those charged are among the biggest stars on the planet. Being a popular player in a popular league is going to garner headlines regardless of what you do. That is especially true with pseudo journalists such as those at TMZ who tend to dig up the negative story wherever it is found.

The reality is that even though there is a spotlight on these players (I will not mention them, by name, they have gotten enough press) there are people in all walks of life, in all professions that engage in this type of inexcusable activity . Doctors, lawyers, ministers, steelworkers, teachers, retail employees and, yes, professional and college athletes have done this type of thing and each were wrong about it. Where though is the "culture of violence" in these other professions? I certainly have not seen it when I go to the doctor or church. Not everyone in those profession is lumped in a group. No one ever says: "well, I'm not surprised, he works at Wendy's".

Bears Cornerback Peanut Tillman is an example of a player who disproves the negative stereotype

Rather there are several positive things that come from football. Despite the NFL rules committee consistently trying to make the game unrecognizable as they make more and more ridiculous rules there are several positives that come from the sport and parents should not hold their child back simply because of these examples. For every domestic violence charge, there are ten Peanut Tillman's, Peyton Manning's, Matt Birk's and Jerome Bettis' who use their celebrity and notoriety playing the nations most popu-

Former Vikings and Ravens Center Matt Birk reading to Elementary School Children.

lar sport in the nations most popular league to do good for others. From charity work, to donating to various causes to promoting health and wellness, they are the majority in the sports world. It is those who do wrong though, that give the sport a black-eye and those who decry the "violence" are quick to jump on and latch on to as the reason for the downward spiral of morality in the world.

Of course, at the youth level there is a great emphasis on character development, teamwork and physical fitness. There are far more positive then negatives to be sure. Does that mean that by allowing your child to play football, you are guaranteed a solid citizen who works well with others? Of course not. But neither is it a one way ticket to spousal abuse, steroids and violence. Sometimes 1 + 1 = 2, but in many cases (I would say most) there is not causal relationship between the activities or career of an individual and their actions outside of that activity or profession. It is unfair to shine a negative spotlight on

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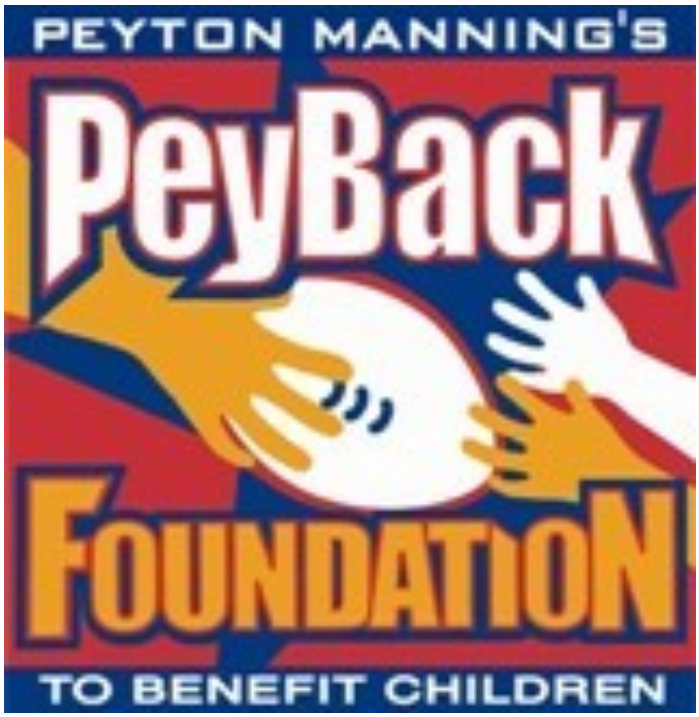

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people who are otherwise like you and I. They just have a special athletic gift that allows them to be in the spotlight and make more money than we do.

The blame for this negative attitude, of course, comes from snake oil psychologists, academic elitists and gutter journalists who unknowingly conspire to shed a negative light on the sport due to a few bad apples. While it is sometimes said that a bad apple spoils the whole bushel, is it really the case? Does one, two, even ten bad people in a profession mean that everyone in that profession has the same tendency? Of course not.

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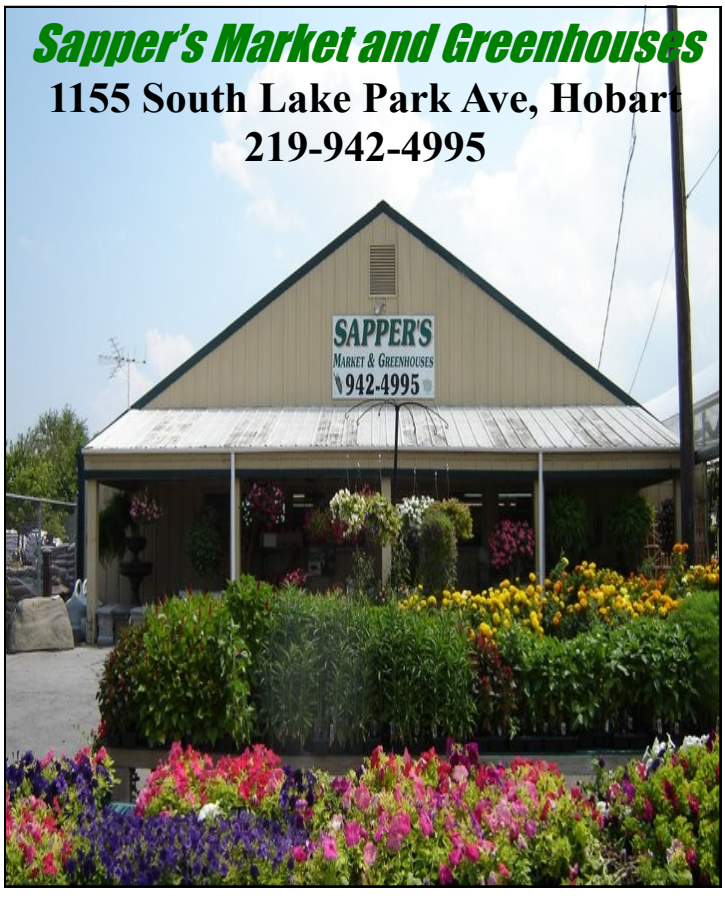

Girls Golf State Finals Results

IHSAA Press Release Provided

In spite of cold and blustery conditions at Carmel's Prairie View Golf Club, Bloomington South's Cherise Otter and the Evansville North girls golf team led from start to finish to claim this year's IHSAA state championships.

The No. 2 Huskies (322-324-646), with only one senior among their five golfers, were led by junior Emma Kieffer (154) who finished tied for seventh. Sophomore Katelyn Le tied for 15th with 158, freshman Hadley Watts ended tied for 24th with 165, senior Kelsie Droste tied for 33rd with 170 and sophomore Brittany Skinner was 47th at 175.

It was the school's first state championship in girls golf, it's third in any sport and first since 2000 when the boys golf team carried home the trophy.

The Huskies of coach Ken Wempe capped a solid three week-ends that saw them shoot a regional

record 295 at Country Oaks in Montgomery last Saturday as well as a 294 at Fendrich in Evansville the week before, tied for the fifth-lowest score in sectional history. North's previous best finish at state was fifth place two years ago.

No. 4 Martinsville finished six strokes back (332-320-652) as the runner-up, followed by No. 3 Hamilton Southeastern (328-331-659). Top-ranked defending state champion Carmel (333-331-664) placed fourth.

Otter (69-75-144) became the second Bloomington South player to win the individual crown joining Amy McDonald in 1987.

The Bloomington South junior held a four-stroke lead after Friday's opening round 69 when she birdied three holes through mostly rainy, cool weather. She maintained that lead through Saturday's very windy and cold conditions offsetting four bogeys and a double-bogey with three more birdies to finish even par.

Martinsville junior Claire Cameron (75-76-151) and Westfield freshman Cailyn Henderson (77-74-151) tied for second place.

This was the first state finals event held at the 5,523 yard course along the banks of the White River. The boys state finals will be played here in June.

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Oak Hill's Lauren Tibbets named Mental Attitude Award winner

At the conclusion of the state finals, the IHSAA Executive Committee named Lauren Tibbets of Oak Hill High School as the winner of the Mental Attitude Award.

Tibbets is a two-time state finalist, four-time Grant County medalist and three-time conference champion. She also has participated in swimming and diving and softball at Oak Hill which fielded a full team in girls golf for the first time this year.

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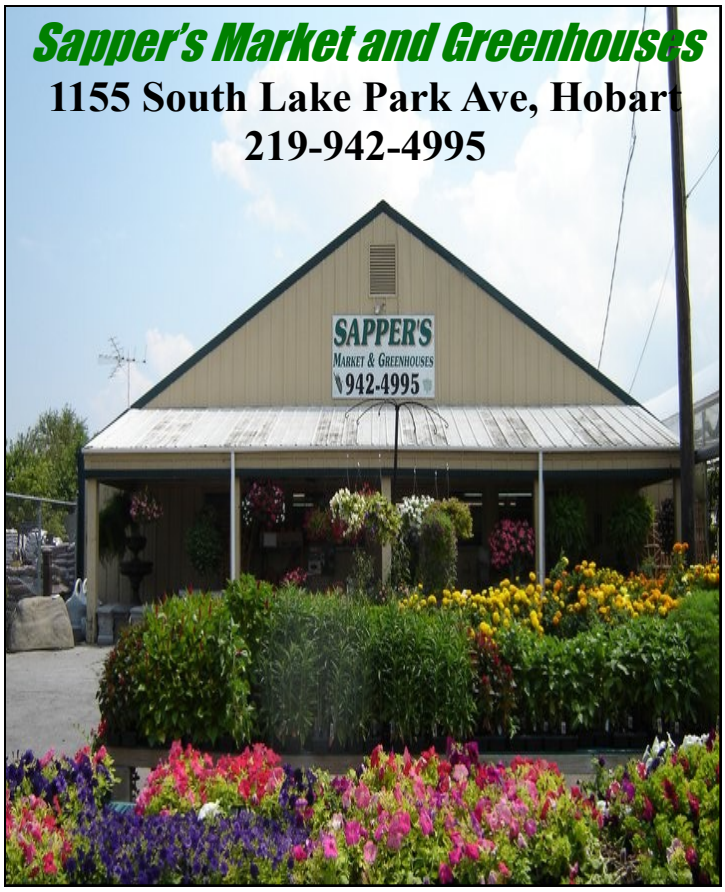
Academically, she sits at the top of her senior class, serves as student body president and has been a member of the Student Council all four years. She is a member of the school orchestra, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Spanish Club.

She is the daughter of Mike and Luanne Tibbets of Converse, Ind. and plans to study mathematics at Butler University.

Each year the IHSAA Executive Committee selects a senior player who was nominated by her principal and coach and was determined to have best demonstrated mental attitude, scholarship, leadership and athletic ability. The Committee presented $1,000 to Oak Hill High School's general scholarship fund in the name of Lauren Tibbets.



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Bunting: How To Bunt Efficiently is a Great Offensive Weapon!

By: Larry Cicchiello Special to MAB Monthly

During every at bat, it costs you absolutely nothing to take a sneaky and very quick glance and see where the first baseman and third baseman are playing. You will occasionally see one of them six or seven steps behind the bag and you can get a hit that is really "on the house."

Right-Handed Batters:

1) In executing a good bunt toward third base, the right-handed batter must angle the bat down the first base line and try to make contact on the bat somewhere between the sweet spot and the end of the bat.

2) Slide the top right hand down just past the trademark on the bat as soon as the pitcher is releasing the ball, so the pitcher and the third baseman are not tipped off too early.

3) You pinch the bat with the thumb and an index finger, making sure your hand stays safely behind the bat.

4) You should put the bat right in the middle of the strike zone so you won't have too far to move the bat no matter where the ball is pitched.

5) Your bottom left hand is the hand that pivots the bat and the right hand guides the bat.

6) Try to deaden the ball so the surprised third baseman has a long way to come in and field it. Deadening the ball with the bat is referred to as "catching" the ball with the bat.

7) The ideal bunt should go very close to the third base line and not between the third baseman and the pitcher.

8) You do not want the pitcher to field the bunt! Please read again.

8) By bunting and having the ball go very close to the line, it makes the third baseman's throw longer and from a much more difficult angle.

10) When the right-handed batter wants to bunt for a hit on the right side of the infield, he should try to push the ball just past the pitcher.

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11) The batter should not square around, as in a sacrifice situation but should remain mobile and preferably be already moving toward first base as he is actually bunting the ball. His body should be turned more toward first base than toward the pitcher.

12) The preference is to have the much deeper second baseman field the bunt.

13) The perfect bunt on the right side should just barely be out of the pitcher's reach, which will create chaos between the first and second baseman as to who should field the bunt and very possibly nobody will be covering first base.

Left-Handed Batters:

1) The left-handed batter slides his left hand to just past the trademark on the bat.

2) You should try to be in motion as you bunt the ball, unlike when sacrifice bunting where you would be stationary.

3) You use the thumb and index finger to guide the bat and the bottom right hand pivots the bat.

4) If bunting on the right side of the infield, once again, you want the second baseman to field the bunt!

5) Sometimes, if you don't bunt the ball hard enough, you will see both the first baseman and pitcher closing in on the ball. You may very well end up with a hit in this situation because first base is left unguarded because the second baseman is charging in also. That's great, but in the long run you are still better off bunting so that the second baseman has to field your bunt.

6) If you are bunting down the third base line, just like with the right-handed batter, you do not want the pitcher to field the ball.

In closing, remember that it cost you nothing to take a sneaky, quick look to see if the first baseman or third baseman is playing seven steps behind the bag and you can very easily get a bunt single that is pretty much "on the house."

Larry Cicchiello is the successful author of "Excellent Baseball: 30 Seconds Away." He unconditionally guarantees that ANY baseball player, coach or baseball parent who wants to help their child will be fully equipped! Some FREE tips at http://www.LarryBaseball.com

Indiana Soccer Concludes 2014 Youth Soccer Month Press Release Provided

INDIANAPOLIS (Sept. 30, 2014) - This month, clubs and teams across the nation participated in Youth Soccer Month, a national celebration of soccer in America. In Indiana alone, players, teams, clubs, colleges / universities and Indy Eleven participated in more than a dozen activities aimed at spreading awareness of the benefits of youth soccer.

"Indiana Soccer is pleased seeing so many children across our state celebrating the Youth Soccer Month with their clubs, and local colleges and universities this year." Indiana Soccer's Executive Director Dave Guthrie, stated. "Indiana Soccer looks forward to continue utilizing the Youth Soccer Month program as a tool to continue involving our affiliated clubs in events and activities put together in conjunction with our partners." Guthrie, concluded.

With 19 million children participating in soccer nationally, more children participate in organized soccer than youth football, baseball or basketball. Throughout each week of Youth Soccer Month, participating clubs and teams emphasize one of four messages: Fun, Family, Friendship or Fitness.

"US Youth Soccer is pleased to conclude another successful Youth Soccer Month," said Todd Roby, director of marketing and communications of US Youth Soccer. "We appreciate the support and participation from our member US Youth Soccer State Associations, including Indiana Soccer, a longtime supporter, in promoting this initiative."

More a dozen events kicked off throughout Indiana in September, ranging from clubs "Making Your Own Ball" initiative created by SCSA and Colleges / Universities offering discounts, promotions and halftime exhibition games and clinics to the closing event with Indy Eleven "Parade of Banners Workshop" on September 27th.

Once again, Indiana Soccer thanks each of those that participated and look forward to continue working with you in September, 2015.

Did you Know?

The original volleyball was made from the bladder of a basketball.

The typical NFL lineman can shed up to 9 pounds of water weight during a game.

There are only 7 teams among the 4 major US professional sports leagues (NFL, MLB, NBA, and NHL) who's nickname does not end in an "s".

Muhammad Ali won boxing championships on three different continents: North America, Asia and Africa.

The original name that James Naismith proposed for basketball was indoor rugby.

The first formal rules of baseball required a team to score at least 21 runs to win.

October Broadcast Schedule

10/3	Wheeler @ Hanover Valpo @ Merrillville
10/8	MAB Weekly
10/10	Morton @ Hobart Chesterton @ Crown Point
10/17	Lowell @ Andrean LaPorte @ Portage

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