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Evansville's Jones Blessed With Serendipity

JULY 2023
By Xain Ballenger

In the Heart of Downtown Evansville, on the 4th floor of 20 N.W. Third Street, attorney David Jones and his partners Paul Wallace, and Craig Emig have their own law firm.

They have a combined legal experience of 100 years, with Jones handling more private litigation and corporate practice, Emig being the Assistant County Attorney, and Wallace representing an array of tri-state businesses and their owners in all matters.

Jones said his wife refers to him as "Forrest Gump, with a little higher IQ" because of how he has managed to be "at the right place, at the right time for a lot of stuff."

Jones's story began in 1947 in a town called Elkton, Maryland. The town is right at the head of the Chesapeake Bay, where the corner of Maryland comes together with Pennsylvania and Delaware.



His next recollection was that his stepfather was stationed in Austria after World War II. Jones said that Austria was divided into Russian, British, French, and American zones and that the country was also occupied like Nazi Germany. Jones and his mother and stepfather were in the American zone; however, the town where the American base was located in Hitler's birthplace of Linz, Austria.

Jones attended the first grade in an Army Dependents School for civilian families. "That was pretty cool because when I came back to the States, I could probably speak as much German as I could, English, but I forgot all of it except for the swear words," Jones jokes.

Jones graduated from Rising Sun High School in Maryland. He said it was a small school, and around the area, there were five white high schools and one black school. "I had black friends that I ran around with,

and then I had white kids that would curse you and say bad things because you hung around with black kids. And I was raised that that wasn't something that you did, you respected all people and you respected all religions, that was something that was ingrained by my grandmother," Jones said.

Jones went on to discuss his grandfather saying that he was a "big influence" on his life. He said that his grandfather lost his eyesight in World War I, and raised a family through the Great Depression. Jones said he wasn't a hard man, but that he had "strong discipline."

Jones mentioned that when he came home from school he couldn't do "squat" until his homework was finished.

"He had these rules, lights out at 10 o'clock at night, He would go around and check all the doors and stuff. Make sure everything was locked. He got up at the same time... which was good for me because it instilled discipline," Jones said.

Jones said the reason he wanted to go into a military academy was be-

cause of how much he looked up to his grandfather. "Everything I did in school was directed at that. I studied hard, I got good grades, I was in National Honor Society, I played varsity sports, I lettered, I was in Student Council, I was a regional parliamentarian for Regional student government in Maryland," Jones said.

Jones said that he didn't care which academy he got into, because "it was free education, and I could be an officer." He had an appointment at the US Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, New York. "The Merchant Marine Academy is one of the five federal academies and it's under the Commerce Department. And so, you are sworn in as a cadet Midshipman in the Naval Reserve, just like the cadets at the Naval Academy, and your uniforms are almost identical," Jones said.

Jones said his path was to graduate from Kings Point and then pick a branch of service. "I did well in the military subjects I had, I was on the silent drill team, I went out for the boxing team, I was on the debate team,

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UE President Vows Commitment To Diversity

JULY 2023

EVANSVILLE - Christopher Pietruszkiewicz, president of the University of Evansville, issued a statement regarding the Supreme Court decisions on Affirmative Action.

"Today's Supreme Court decisions in Students for Fair Admissions Inc. v. President & Fellows of Harvard College and Students for

Fair Admissions, Inc. v. University of North Carolina have not changed the University of Evansville's commitment to our mission: to empower students to think critically, act bravely, serve responsibly, and live meaningfully in a changing world. That requires diversity of experiences, viewpoints, and opinions in our classrooms and on our campus and remains firmly com-

mitted to building on our recent progress in diversifying our student body in accordance with these decisions. We will continue to monitor developments in this area and adjust as necessary to ensure that our policies and practices remain fair, legal and in line with the values of our institution. We will continue to work tirelessly to create a welcoming and inclusive environment

where everyone can feel valued and supported. In addition, resources are available for those who wish to take advantage of them through the University's Center for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

Thank you for your continued dedication to our shared commitment of creating a better, more just, and inclusive world."

Lessing Lodge #464 Celebrates 150 Years With A Rededication

JULY 2023

Lessing Lodge #464, an esteemed local Freemasonry institution recently held their 150th Rededication Ceremony.

The Lodge, having stood as a pillar of strength and enlightenment for a century and a half, and its brothers, families, friends, and the community joined in this momentous occasion. The ceremony represents a significant milestone in the Lodge's history and a reaffirmation of its enduring commitment to Freemasonry's core values.

"150 years is a noteworthy achievement, and we are immensely proud of our legacy," says the Worshipful Master of Lessing Lodge #464. "This Rededication Ceremony honors our past, celebrates the present, and sets our course for the future. We look forward to bringing our community together to commemorate this landmark event."

Throughout the years, Lessing Lodge #464 has been a cornerstone of the local community, fostering bonds of fellowship, encouraging self-improvement,

and practicing integrity. This event reflected on the Lodge's illustrious past, revel in its vibrant present, and envision an even brighter future.

The 150th Rededication Ceremony will include various activities honoring the Lodge's history, a keynote speech from the Worshipful Master, and fellowship opportunities for all attendees.

Lessing Lodge #464 invites all brothers and their families, friends of the Lodge, and members of the media to join them in celebrating this significant occasion at 301 Chestnut St, Evansville, IN 47713

About Lessing Lodge #464 Since its foundation 150 years ago, Lessing Lodge #464 has been a beacon of the Freemasonry fraternity, cultivating bonds of brotherhood and encouraging personal growth and integrity among its members. The Lodge is proud of its contributions to the local community and is committed to fostering a spirit of fellowship and enlightenment for many more years to come



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Commentary

Fathers, Mothers And Children, A Requiem

JULY 2023

By John Krull

My parents were both strong-willed people. Dad's determination was fatalistic in nature. When he was a toddler, a family tragedy dropped Dad and his older brother—my Uncle Ray—in a Minnesota orphanage, where they lived and went to school for years. Even when they got out of the orphanage, the parenting the boys received was uncertain and often absent.

My father had a natural talent for sports, one

his father and stepmother thwarted rather than nurtured. In doing so, they denied Dad the very thing that might have brought him solace during a difficult youth.

The lesson Dad took from his growing-up years was that much of what afflicted a person was beyond his control. That which could not be altered must be accepted—and somehow endured.

He spent a lifetime pretending that even the deepest hurts didn't touch him.

Mom's fire burned differently. The eldest daughter of a man who escaped the Southern Indiana hills to become the first in his family to earn a college degree, she was a daddy's girl. She inherited her

father's hunger to resist unjust constraints.

Born later, she might have become a brilliant attorney, for she was endowed with gifts of analysis and argumentation. But she came of age in an era in which women—particularly ones with hill-country backgrounds—were discouraged from pursuing such paths.

Instead, she became an elementary school teacher, the most accessible profession for talented women of her generation.

To this day, men and women who are in their 60s and 70s tell me that my mother was the best teacher they ever had.

Teaching, though, did not speak to all her dreams. She believed any obstacle could be overcome if one worked hard enough and one's resolve was strong enough.

Her frustrated ambition and his often-uncommunicative fatalism created friction from the beginning.

I understand why they were drawn together.

Both were bright, good-looking, and accustomed to being overlooked or underestimated because of their backgrounds. They shared similar resentments.

But I also know why they could not make it as life partners. Their

worldviews were too different, and neither could bend to the other.

They struggled at their marriage for 16 years, producing three children along the way. I came first, followed by my sister two years later and our brother six years after that.

My parents' unhappiness wasn't noisy.

Rather, their dissatisfaction cast a cloud over their shared home, one that lifted when they split, not long after I turned 15.

If their marriage was a failure, their divorce was a success. Freed from having to depend upon each other for things the other couldn't provide, they learned quickly to be civil—and eventually came to feel an unexpressed and often denied concern for each other.

During the near half-century following their divorce, they would ask me, in an elaborately offhand manner, how the other was doing. When one was facing hardship, the other experienced genuine sympathy.

As a young man, I felt marked by the unhappiness of my childhood. As I grew older, though, I came to realize that the two remarkable human beings who brought my siblings and me into this world had shaped us in important ways.

From our mother, my sister, my brother, and I learned to find ways to move forward even in the face of opposition and to think beyond

the next maneuver. Our father taught us not to stay down when we'd been knocked down and to shrug off even the deepest lacerations when confronted by those who wished us ill.

My younger brother died of esophageal cancer 18 months ago.

His death was a wound that grieved both my parents to the end. My mother's grief expressed itself in seething anger at unjust and unkind fates. My father's sorrow turned inward as he struggled, blind and in his middle 90s, to pretend once again that he hadn't been hurt.

Dad and Mom died on the same day, June 23, about 80 minutes and 70 miles apart.

Their deaths rocked my sister, our spouses, our children, and me. It is a hard, hard thing to lose one's parents, even when they are ready to go.

But my sister and I and our families will get back on our feet and find ways to move forward.

That's what our mother and father taught us to do.

And we are their children.

John Krull is director of Franklin College's Pulliam School of Journalism and publisher of TheStatehouseFile.com, a news website powered by Franklin College journalism students. The views expressed are those of the author only and should not be attributed to Franklin College.

Education, Economy Big Winners This Session

JULY 2023

By State Rep. Tim O'Brien (R-Evansville) House District 78

Opportunities to land a great job, start a business, or go to school are what help make Indiana a magnet for growth. During this legislative session, I supported several new policies and investments aimed at attracting more employers, good-paying jobs, and educational opportunities to Southwest Indiana and our state.

Indiana continues to attract new, diverse talent. While neighboring states lost population, Indiana gained over 20,000 new residents from 2020 to 2021, according to the U.S. Census. To continue that growth, our next state budget directs \$500 million to the successful

Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative (READI), which focuses on expanding our workforce and increasing Hoosiers' quality of life. The Southwest Indiana Regional Development Authority, which represents Vanderburgh, Warrick, Gibson, and Posey counties, received a \$50 million READI award to help support many projects in our region like the Warrick County Sports Center and the Koch Family Children's Museum of Evansville. I look forward to seeing continued growth thanks to the state's renewed investment in this state-wide program.

I also joined my fellow lawmakers in strengthening our investment in K-12 education. The Evansville-Vanderburgh School Corp. is

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Joe is an active Rockport reserve police officer.

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- Limited Government
- Responsible Spending
- Economic Development
- Improved Infrastructure
- Maintenance of Public Parks



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Community

UE Announces Hiring of Evansville Promise Neighborhood Leadership Team Members

JULY 2023

EVANSVILLE - The University of Evansville (UE) has announced the hiring of five full-time employees including a director to lead the Evansville Promise Neighborhood team. In March, UE announced the receipt of a \$30 million federal grant program through the United States Department of Education (DOE) that will establish the Evansville's Promise Neighborhood (EPN). UE was part of a new cohort founded this year and one of only three Neighborhoods in the nation to be awarded in 2023.

In recent months, UE's Center for Innovation & Change, where the Promise employees will be housed, together with the Promise Neighborhood partners, dedicated significant efforts to procuring applications and conducting interviews for potential candidates. UE is delighted to extend a warm welcome to these new additions who have joined our family.

"We are confident that these new team members will play a pivotal role in advancing our mission and making a meaningful difference in the lives of our community," said UE President Christopher Pietruszkiewicz. "Their expertise and passion for community development will greatly contribute to the success of the Evansville Promise Neighborhood. I'm looking forward to seeing the positive impact this project will have on our com-

munity, fostering opportunities for education, growth, and prosperity."

Director - Derek McKillop

McKillop is the immediate past Director of Community Learning Centers for the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation. He brings a wide range of knowledge on how to leverage federal grant opportunities for the youth, how to manage resources in a way that builds capacity, and how to lead by empowering the people he serves. McKillop has been a core team member on several EPN applications. He

received his bachelor's degree in Business from the University of Strathclyde in Scotland, with graduate training from Harvard in building partnerships for equity, justice, and student success.

Program Coordinator - Lisa Allen

Allen joins us with a wealth of experience and a service-oriented mindset. Previously serving as an Employment Specialist for Work One Southwest in Evansville, Allen's well-connected nature and empathetic approach will be instrumental in coordinating programs and managing calendars. She has been actively involved in various neighbor-

hood organizations such as Head Start, Catholic Charities, Job Works, and Youth Build. She earned her bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education from the University of Southern Indiana.

Marketing Coordinator - Irais Ibarra

Ibarra just graduated from the University of Evansville with a bachelor's degree in Marketing. She brings a great deal of experience in innovative marketing techniques as the former Chief Executive Officer of Embrace Marketing Agency, a student-run

ChangeLab at UE. Embrace has worked with Jacobsville Advantage, Gayla Cakes, Foster Care in the U.S., and many other Promise Neighborhood organizations and partners. This work helped her develop a passion for serving nonprofits, and we're thrilled to keep one of UE's best and brightest right here in our community.

Data & Program Evaluation Manager - Dr. Stephanie Doneske

Dr. Doneske, a research scientist and PhD-trained chemical engineer, brings a unique blend of expertise to the team. Previously, she taught math and chemistry in the local school system while

working at a biotech start-up in Houston. Driven by a passion for community improvement and a deep love for learning, we are confident she will be an exceptional partner for our data team at UE and with Diehl Consulting

Grant Accountant - Renee Heil

Heil, previously the Finance and Operations Senior Manager for Junior Achievement, joins us as the Grant Accountant. With her master's degree in Accountancy and proven ability to ask the right questions and develop effective solutions, she will be an invaluable asset in managing the funds necessary to complete the work of the Promise Neighborhood.

The Center for Innovation & Change will be working hard to onboard these team members through the next month. All employees are expected to begin by August 1.

The aim of the Promise Neighborhood funding is to assist children and youth who are growing up in Promise Neighborhoods, providing them with access to outstanding schools as well as robust family and community support systems. These resources will help prepare them to achieve academic excellence, make the transition to college, and, ultimately, embark on a successful career.

To learn more about the Evansville Promise Neighborhood, please visit evansville.edu/PromiseNeighborhood.

Evansville's Jones Blessed With Serendipity

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but when I hit the calculus it just crossed my eyes," Jones said.

Jones said that while he was in New York, a blackout hit in the fall of '65. "Everybody freaking panicked because they thought it was like Russians or something. Up to that point, we'd never heard the word blackout," Jones said.

In January of 1966, Jones resigned and came home to Maryland, and took a job that he had in high school. He worked three different times for Edward Plumstead Associates, which built architectural scale models for some of the top architects on the east coast.

"It was pretty cool because I would scale the drawings...I had T squares and triangles and I had to reduce the architect drawings down to the scale drawings so we could cut the plexiglass pieces to build the scale models of things," Jones said. During his time

there, Jones said that this was when Vietnam was ramping up, so he called the Marine Corps recruiter and volunteered to join.

"I remember the recruiter says before I take you back, I gotta stop at the courthouse in Elkton, Maryland. We go in and the judge empties out the jail. The Cecil County Jail. I'm sitting there in the courtroom with the Marine Corps recruiter and the judge basically says anybody that the Marines will take, I will dismiss the criminal charges," Jones said. "But if they reject you, I'll reinstate 'em, the recruiters tell me this is how he filled out his quota. Because nobody in your right mind would have gone in the Marine Corps in 1966 because that was the big buildup." Jones said that one lucky thing was that they reduced the enlistment from three years down to two.

When Jones came back to his grandparent's house and told them

that he enlisted, they were talking about what to do with his belongings, when his grandmother asked, what branch of service did Jones enlist in, he said the Marine Corps. "She starts shrieking 'Oh my God, not the Marines. Eleanor Roosevelt said Marines are overpaid, oversexed teenage killers. How could you enlist in the Marines? Nobody in this family has ever been in the Marine Corps. Why can't you go into other branches like your uncle's your grandfather?'" Jones said. "She runs upstairs shrieking, and my grandfather is sitting there real calm. And he says, 'Well, son, why did you go into Marines?' And I said, Well, sir, I think it's pretty bad over there. And I want to go with the toughest and I said, if something happens to me, I want to come home and they're not gonna leave anybody behind. Real calm, he said, 'Don't worry about your grandmother'. He said, 'I'll take care of it', bang that was it."

In June of 1966, Jones officially went to Parris Island. He wanted to go into the infantry but was put in supply. When asked what his experience was like, Jones simply asked if I had seen Stanley Kubrick's "Full Metal Jacket." "The boot camp stuff, that is so realistic. The precision in the marching, that getting in your face, Jones said.

He said the reason those instructors were scary as well was because they'd been to Vietnam. "When that shooting starts, you can not freaking panic. It's your life and everybody else's. They wanted you as their expression was to have your head and ass wired together...it's not a democracy. You don't get to fricking vote on whether you want to do this

or not. You do exactly as you're told, your training kicks in, you react, you don't think, you just react," Jones said.

He said the experience was "tough," but that he had a sort of advantage because of his time at Kings Point. "I knew how to spit shine. I could put a hospital corner [on a bunk]. I knew that manual of arms because I'd been on the silent drill team. So you know I stayed as squared away as possible. And because I had played soccer in high school, I ran a lot. I could run all day," Jones said.

Jones said that Marines were lost in boot camp as well. "There was a kid in the 45 range that brought the pistol back in. I don't think it was intentional. He just froze and instead of pulling it back at an angle like you're supposed to, it came back under his chin, and for whatever reason he squeezed off a round," Jones said.

"I remember in other training, you had this physical readiness test and we had to crawl under barbed wire and they had live machine gun fire going over the top and then you got up and ran and you had to jump this ditch and you did it in sequence you know it was a guy in front of you," Jones said.

"And the kid in front of me hit the ditch wrong and I think he broke both legs because he hit the side of it and I heard the cracking. And I'm already launched in mid-air and I came over to the side of him and I kind of looked at him laying there shrieking and I was thinking should I pick him up? And the next thing I know I got kicked in the helmet by a drill instructor, "Get your ass and move," it (joining the service) was something that I never ever regretted. I'm still proud

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THE PEOPLE'S COMMISSIONER

If you have questions,
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Ben Shoulders

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Community

\$76 Million Available For Crisis Response Services

JULY 2023

INDIANAPOLIS – The Indiana Family and Social Services Administration’s Division of Mental Health and Addiction is providing new funding to help build and support projects across Indiana to improve mental health and recovery services for Hoosiers. This includes funding from the federal American Rescue Plan Act and the National Opioid Settlement, and totals more than \$76 million.

DMHA is working with local units of government to promote innovative, community-driven responses to address substance use disorder issues, alongside grants to strengthen Indiana’s “no wrong door” approach to crisis care.

As part of the National Opioid Settlement, DMHA, in partnership with the Office of Governor Eric J. Holcomb, is awarding a total of \$19 million in one-time funding to support evidence-based prevention, treatment, recovery and harm reduction services, expand the behavioral health workforce and implement other services and initiatives across the state, to 30 local units of government, service providers, and community organizations.

“While the state has a role to play in the fight against the drug epidemic, real change happens at the local level”, said Douglas Huntsinger, executive director for drug prevention, treatment and enforcement for the State of Indiana. “Any time we have an opportunity to infuse more dollars into a community for the benefit of Hoosiers, we take advantage of it. These funds will go a long way toward building out the care continuum and improving outcomes for Hoosiers with substance use disorders and mental health needs.”

The State of Indiana is receiving approximately \$507 million over an 18-year period as part of the National Opioid Settlement with distributors McKesson, Cardinal Health and AmerisourceBergen and manufacturer Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc. and its parent company Johnson & Johnson. DMHA has developed a framework for how the State plans to use its appropriation for abatement

purposes. Plans for spending the remaining funds can be found here.

DMHA received 78 proposals requesting a total of \$93 million in response to the grant. Local units of government were required to provide match funds in order to qualify for funding. The services funded by these grants will reach Hoosiers in at least 28 counties.

Grant recipients include:

The City of Shelbyville, to provide funding for uninsured mothers and first responders to access treatment for co-occurring substance use and mental health needs, and to support transition services for incarcerated individuals upon release from jail.

Warren County Circuit Court, to provide reliable transportation to places of employment, SUD and mental health treatment, court, and other services, and to provide substance use education to adolescents, prescribers, service providers, and stakeholders to promote prevention and harm reduction.

Additionally, 15 community mental health centers across the state are receiving \$57 million in Crisis Receiving and Stabilization Services grants. These grants will support the advancement of an integrated crisis response system that provides Hoosiers experiencing a mental health and/or substance use crisis someone to contact, someone to respond, and a safe place for help. Crisis receiving and stabilization services function as part of the safe place for help pillar in Indiana’s Crisis Response Network and are an essential part in ensuring that all Hoosiers have a safe place to accept support and stabilize, regardless of clinical condition, in accordance with SAMHSA Best Practices.

“Crisis receiving and stabilization services are critical to providing crisis services,” said Jay Chaudhary, director of the Division of Mental Health and Addiction. “Currently, too many Hoosiers experiencing a mental health crisis end up in emergency departments or county jails. These grants will help bridge gaps and offer a therapeutic and compassionate alternative pathway for individuals and communities in crisis.”



Commissioners And AT&T Work To Close Digital Divide

JULY 2023

EVANSVILLE – As part of the partnership with AT&T to bring equal access to modern information and communications technology to all of Vanderburgh County, the Board of Commissioners are pleased to participate in AT&T’s free refurbished laptop distribution event for Vanderburgh County students and families on June 27, 2023 at Highland Elementary School, located at 6701 Darmstadt Road, Evansville, Indiana. Preselected by Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation (EVSC) and the EVSC Foundation, these families and students will be picking up computers funded by an AT&T donation to Compudopt.

AT&T will also provide an update at this time on the Vanderburgh County Rural Broadband Project aimed at bringing fiber-powered broadband access to over 20,000 customer locations in unincorporated Vanderburgh County.

In 2021, the Commissioners announced the nearly \$40 million-dollar project with AT&T as the provider. Of that investment, \$9.9 million came from funding through the American Rescue Plan Act and \$29.7 million was an investment by AT&T.

Bridging the digital divide by bringing previously unavailable services to rural homes and businesses, this transformational

McGlown Selected As Pigeon Township Trustee

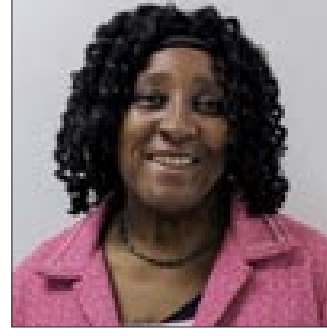
JULY 2023

EVANSVILLE – On Saturday, July 1, 2023, a caucus of Democratic precinct committee persons residing in Pigeon Township met and selected Ruby McGlown as their Trustee for Pigeon Township. Ms. McGlown, one of three candidates, won the trust and support of the community with her experience

leadership and efforts have contributed to the continuation of day-to-day services. Following the resignation of the previous trustee,

McGlown was designated as the person to assume the responsibilities of the office until a new Trustee was elected, demonstrating her readiness and aptitude for the role.

Ms. McGlown will resign immediately from her position on the Pigeon Township Advisory Board, and an election for that position will occur within the next 30 days.



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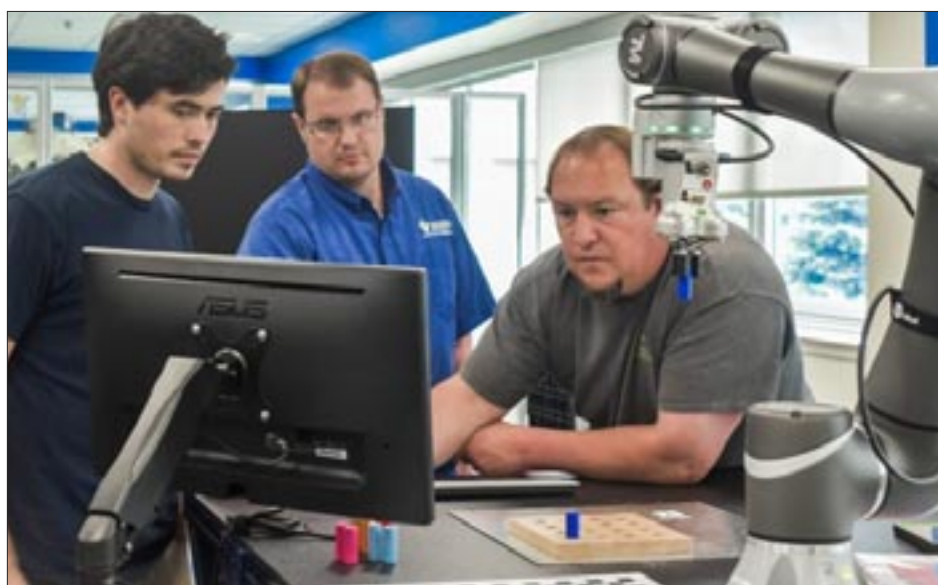
VU's Collaborative Robot Training Gives Students Edge

JULY 2023

VINCENNES – We live in a technology-driven world, and today's technology is ever-evolving. Self-driving cars are no longer a sci-fi fantasy. AI-powered chatbots are writing books. Vincennes University faculty are diligently keeping up with the fast-paced change and are working to prepare students to become leaders in the use of collaborative robot or "cobot" technology.

VU is a national leader in the rapidly growing technology of cobots, and it is shaping the future of students for generations to come by leveraging the University's state-of-the-art technologies and cutting-edge facilities. As part of that leadership, VU has established its new Center for Applied Robotics and Automation (CARA), home to the University's largest cobot lab.

Cobots are a form of robotic automation built to work safely alongside human workers in a shared, collaborative workspace in various industries, including manufacturing, medical, and aviation.



With the help of faculty experts, VU students will gain a competitive advantage through hands-on experiences highly valued in today's constantly changing professional landscape.

College of Technology faculty recently learned how to incorporate cobots into their courses.

"The addition of cobots to the College of Technology will be a tremendous complement to the existing

traditional robots on site to provide a unique, well-rounded robotics training experience," VU College of Technology Dean Ty Freed said.

Supported by a Lilly Endowment Inc. grant and in partnership with Carmel, Indiana-based Telamon Robotics, the 4,050-square-foot CARA is a hub for students to develop in-demand skills that keep pace with the future and can propel their careers.

With an arsenal of cobots on the

Vincennes Campus, VU Jasper Campus, Gene Haas Training and Education Center in Lebanon, and partner high schools, VU is staying ahead of the latest technology trends. The University is helping Indiana take a big step toward the potential economic future represented by Industry 4.0 or smart manufacturing.

VU faculty are working to equip students with essential knowledge and helping them develop in-demand skills as they prepare for the future.

Despite popular belief, robots are not replacing humans in the workplace. Cobots are built to work safely alongside humans and can create new jobs. A collaborative robot is responsible for repetitive, menial tasks in most applications, while a human worker completes more complex and thought-intensive tasks.

VU is integrating cobot technology into its industry partnerships and plans to thread cobots into various programs of study across the University, including Welding, Precision Machining, and Product Design.

Education, Economy Big Winners This Session

Continued From Page 2

projected to receive a 5 percent increase over the biennium, and the Warrick County School Corporation is projected to receive a 7 percent increase.

In higher education, the University of Southern Indiana is projected to receive a 6 percent increase in state funding over the biennium. The Early

College Bridge Program, designed to help students earn college credits while still in high school, received \$1.2 million to help continue student success. Also, USI received \$83 million for renovations and improvements on campus.

Additionally, \$16.3 million in new in-state funding for adult education programs will help jump-start the new

Evansville Excel Center, giving residents an opportunity to earn their high school diploma. The Center will feature state-of-the-art classrooms, childcare accommodations and transportation to classes scheduled for morning, noon, and night.

Overall, Indiana and our corner of the state had big wins this legislative session that was focused on fueling

economic development and educational opportunities. I look forward to using this interim to meet with residents and stakeholders for new ideas to continue to build on this momentum. If you have questions or concerns, I encourage you to reach out to me by calling 317-232-9815 or by emailing h78@iga.in.gov.

OUR NEW STATE OF THE ART OFFICE



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Community

Evansville's Jones Blessed With Serendipity

Continued From Page 3

that I did it. I was glad I did it," Jones said.

"I was stationed at Cherry Point, North Carolina when I came home. On Friday I was driving home before the weekend with three Marines from the base. We didn't have the radio on and were listening to Motown tapes. When we got to Arlington, we saw Washington D.C. lit up and didn't know what had happened. I took two of them to their homes in the Northeast part of D.C.

Martin Luther King had been killed that day, and the city was on fire. We drove over fire hoses and stopped for looters running across the streets. I dropped the other guy off in Baltimore, which was having riots," Jones said.

The night before Jones got discharged in June of 1968, he said the guys asked him what he was planning to do. "I said, I was John Kennedy's stand-in for mock elections in school and I'm going to be a bodyguard for Bobby Kennedy. The next morning a sergeant woke me up with tears in his eye saying, 'They shot your man, they shot your man,'" Jones said.

Jones said he was against the war when he came home, not because he was anti-military or down on the United States, he said it was because "we didn't try to win the war." Jones also said that approximately one-third of the guys in his boot camp platoon are on the Vietnam Wall in Washington D.C.

"I mean, I thought the South Vietnamese were really decent people. And they should have had the right to choose how they wanted to live. So I thought we did the right thing going in. I just think it got handled badly. Badly by the government and badly by the military because you could not fight a conventional war in those circumstances," Jones said.

Jones also said that most information soldiers received was filtered. "We didn't know about the Anti-War protests from the Stars and Stripes newspaper, the news was filtered. And of course, everything was censored in your mail coming in and your mail going out. So we didn't know a lot of this stuff was going on. I didn't until later. Later in my tour when I was getting close. There were some replacement guys talking about anti-

war stuff and people taking drugs and you know, protests and the music was filtered," Jones said.

When Jones came home he said he felt kind of "numb," and on his second day home, he was at a party, where he was assaulted. "I'm standing in a corner in civilian clothes. I don't know if I



guess the way I looked and stuff. The tan line across the top of my head, but some young girl came up to me... and started screaming and hit me with her fist. "You killed women and children. You killed women and children!" Now I was like what the heck? I just shoved her away and kind of ran out

of there," Jones said.

Jones ended up attending Lincoln University, one of the oldest historically black colleges in the country. "I remember my first freshman orientation book we had to read was the autobiography of Malcolm X and I still have that book and I think, The Baptism by Leroy Jones, another famous black poet writer," Jones said.

"The first couple of months it was a little rough because if you opened your mouth you better be ready to defend yourself. But my attitude was, look, my family was too poor to own any slaves, so unless you're going to pull a gun and shoot me, get out of my face," Jones said. "So I pretty much got left alone. I just walked around on campus and two years later when I left Lincoln, I could walk into any black fraternity house on campus... I was accepted and I was most proud of it."

During his time at Lincoln, Jones said that he and some friends rented a farmhouse, he said there was a Jewish kid named Carl Grossman who ran track, he said they also had a "big hippie," with long flowing red hair, and looked like a Viking, and a hippie flower child pacifist. While he lived at the farmhouse Jones said a friend drove by and asked him to go to a concert with him. Jones relented and went, but upon arriving noting that there was bumper-to-bumper traffic.

They got as far as the New York State Thruway, but the traffic was still bad, so they got out and walked. However, it started raining and so they decided to head back to the car. "We take this big tent... We just unzip and treat it like a giant sleeping bag. I woke up the next morning in this thing and I wasn't sure if I was alive or

dead. While I'm sloshing around I open it up, and We're... upstate New York outside of Woodstock... so I ended up going to Woodstock without knowing it," Jones said.

Jones said that this was an experience that he would never forget. "I just remember walking in and along the road, it was like you didn't have to know directions because you just got in the line of people," Jones said. "And then on the sides of the road, every manner of bizarre stuff, people cavorting stark naked was ordinary, doing drugs or doing who knows what, dressed like who knows what, It was just hard to describe, it was being in the Land of Oz, I guess," Jones said.

Jones transferred from Lincoln to the University of Evansville after two years. He was originally only coming for a summer, but his aunt and uncle kept saying that if he wanted to go to law school, then he needed to be at a school that would stay open. This was because Lincoln faced demonstrations and moratoriums, and it kept getting shut down. So Jones ended up transferring to the University of Evansville.

"When I go to Evansville I think it's an overgrown High School, it's just so not in touch with all of this stuff that's happening on the East Coast. And the reaction. They had protesters here and there were hippies here but they were running at half speed rather than what you saw on the east coast," Jones said.

However, Jones said that he did think it was good for him because although he couldn't relate to a lot of the kids, there were several guys that started a fraternity that was basically ex-military, it was called XGI, Chi Gamma Iota. "That was really a huge thing for me because I had people I could relate to, I could identify with, I could actually talk about things with, you couldn't go up to another college student and talk about stuff that I had been through," Jones said.

Jones first started to study law at Lincoln, he said that a student would take four courses in the fall, a January project, and then four more courses in the spring. During his January course, Jones signed up for a class called the law of civil rights. He said the school brought in a professor from the University of Michigan, he said the professor would have his students study all the Supreme Court cases that dealt with civil rights. "The law of civil rights did it, that's when I said, I want to be a lawyer. You can't change this country, by picking up a gun. You've got to do it in the system,

Jones said.

When Jones came to Evansville, he thought about going back east and going to law school; however, he started working for Judge Miller in circuit court as an intern. Miller pushed for Jones to go to law school in Indiana. Once Jones was accepted, he got heavily involved with politics. He was the first campaign manager for Kurt John, he was also asked by Larry Conrad to be on his political staff. "So I had a job in law school with the Secretary of State's office but then it got to be too much politics, and I took a job as a bail commissioner and I was assistant director of the bail project in law school. I basically interviewed prisoners in the city lockup in Indianapolis from six at night till six in the morning," Jones said.


Jones became a county council attorney in 1979 and became a county attorney in 1981 and held it until 1986. He was the City Of Evansville Corporation Counsel, the head of the City Of Evansville city law department from 2004 to 2011. He has been the Vanderburgh County Attorney since 2019.

Jones started his own firm with Paul Wallace and his brother Keith, but after a few years, Keith wanted to go teach law school in China. Paul also wanted to go back to a big law firm, but Jones didn't so he went out on his own and took on a series of associates.

Once Keith returned from China, he started an international adoption agency and he and Jones joined again, calling it Jones Wallace II. However, after a couple of years, Bowers Harrison made Jones an offer to mentor young trial lawyers. So that's what he did, he went back to Bowers Harrison, where he met Jonathan Weinzapfel. Jones ended up becoming his attorney when he was elected Mayor of Evansville.

Jones again left Bowers Harrison in 2009 and started what is now called Jones Wallace number three, which is still in existence today. "I had offers from some big firms in Indianapolis to come up there but you know, my goal was not to make the most amount of money as a lawyer. It's been about loving what I do," Jones said. "And, you know, there aren't too many lawyers still practicing that are my age, but as long as I'm competent and having fun. I don't want to stop. I love what I do, I love doing the government work, I love the public service," Jones said.

After a lifetime of accomplishments and challenges faced, Jones wants to make sure he gives credit to his wife, Lauren, and his Maker



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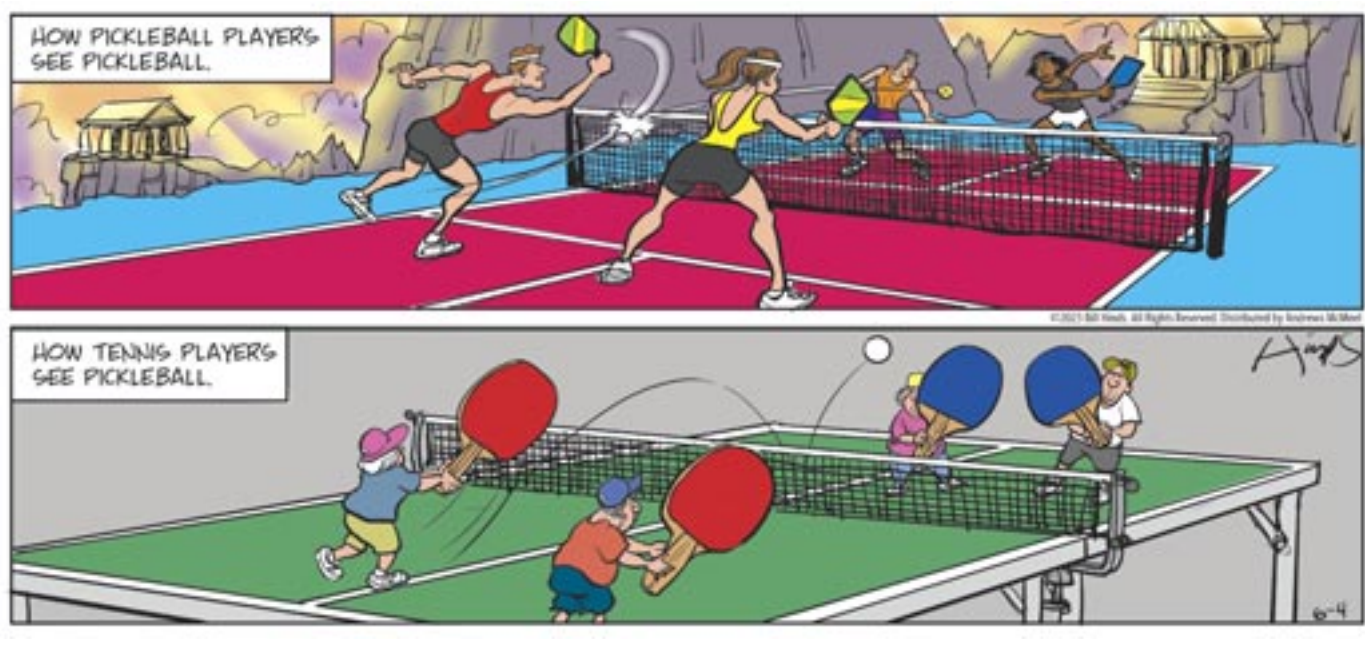
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Comics & Puzzles

TANK MCNAMARA
by Bill Hinds



GET FUZZY
by darby conley



Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg April 2, 2023

- ACROSS**
- 1 Give the slip
 - 6 Apt letters missing from "_igit_l s_or_ge"
 - 10 Radio toggle
 - 14 Help line?
 - 16 Naked
 - 17 Lazy river floats
 - 18 "Esta ___" (Spanish for "All right")
 - 19 Id's counterpart
 - 20 Turn, like bananas
 - 21 Wrote in C++, say
 - 22 Attack ferociously
 - 23 Silences on Zoom
 - 24 Cover worn while cracking claws
 - 28 "All Things Considered" station
 - 30 Bygone airline
 - 31 "___ were the days ..."
 - 32 Person in denial?
 - 33 Goo-goo ___
 - 34 Lowly workers
 - 35 Indian wrap
 - 36 Oolong or bancha
 - 37 Armani rival
 - 38 Shy
 - 39 Gallery display
 - 40 The world Kashyyyk, to Chewbacca
 - 42 Magician's handful
 - 44 Unit of pickled peppers
 - 45 Fixed prices
 - 46 Say "baa"
 - 48 "I've Been to the Mountain-top" orator, in brief
 - 51 Similar (to)
 - 52 Source of hot looks?
 - 54 Viral photo, e.g.
 - 55 Physicist who was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize
 - 56 "Now it's adding up!"
 - 57 "The show ___ go on"
 - 58 Shapewear brand
- DOWN**
- 1 Falco of "The Sopranos"
 - 2 Unlikely, as odds
 - 3 "Er ... I'll pass"
 - 4 Apt name for a bad student?
 - 5 Euphoria from listening to music
 - 6 Two-on-one defense strategy in basketball
 - 7 Jessica in "Sin City"
 - 8 Like the score 9-9
 - 9 Spots for State Farm, say
 - 10 Monastery head
 - 11 Rodham, for Hillary Clinton
 - 12 Uninhibited type
 - 13 Fix up
 - 15 Robust beer
 - 21 Bouillon shape
 - 22 Some degrees from MIT Sloan
 - 23 Fail as a batter
 - 24 Their tiers are sweet, not salty
 - 25 "Slow down, folks!"
 - 26 ___ Island
 - 27 "Enjoy your meal!"
 - 29 Midnight fridge visit
 - 30 Pro-vegan grp.
 - 34 NFL team makeup?
 - 35 Word after "kitchen" or "time"
 - 37 Many profs' degrees
 - 38 Stratagems
 - 41 "Get out!"
 - 43 Zellweger of "Judy"
 - 45 Actor Malek
 - 46 Male admirer
 - 47 "___ and the Real Girl" (2007 comedy)
 - 48 Sorvino of "Mighty Aphrodite"
 - 49 Tender cut of beef
 - 50 Lego competitor
 - 52 Sound of gears turning?
 - 53 "How ya doin'?"

Find The Answers To This Month's Puzzle on Page 14

Sudoku Pacific

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

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

7/23 DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Themeless Sunday 29 by Jared Goudsmit

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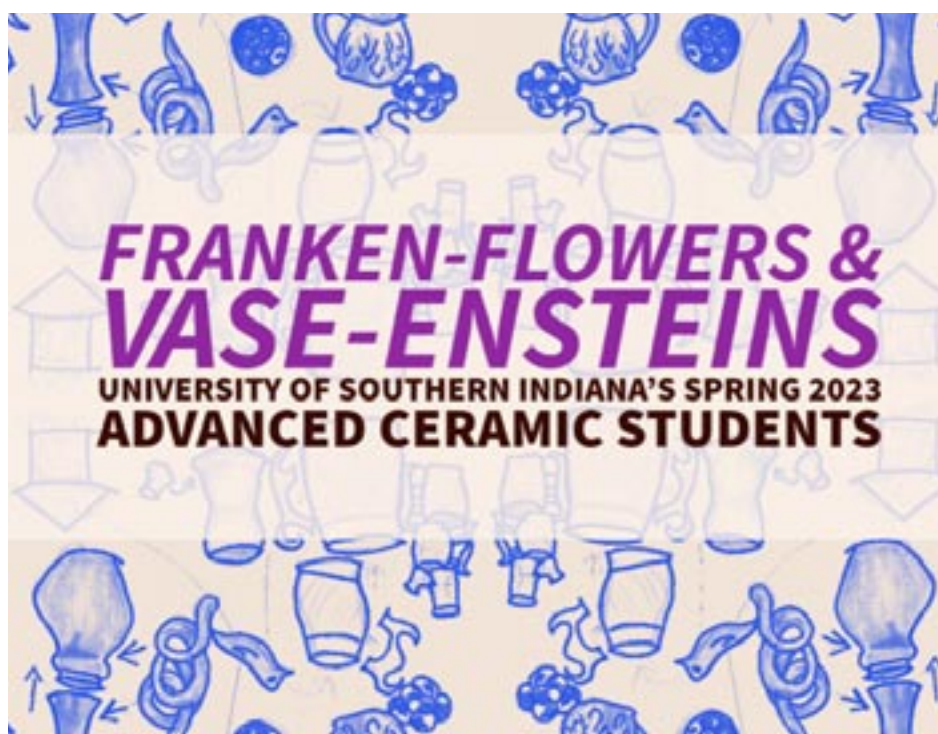
Franken-Flowers & Vase-Ensteins Exhibition To Be On Display At USI's Gallery Of Contemporary Art

JULY 2023

The University of Southern Indiana's New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art (NHGCA) is proud to present Franken-Flowers & Vase-Ensteins, a group exhibition showcasing a class project from the 2023 Spring Semester advanced ceramics courses.

Franken-Flowers & Vase-Ensteins is open now through July 29, featuring a reception from 4-6 p.m. Saturday, July 8 at the NHGCA. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

"USI students in Ceramics 2, 3, 4 and 489 began this project by each creating a variety of vessel shapes, neck shapes, and handles or sculptural accessories. They then collaborated on putting the parts together to create a variety of vase forms," said Al Holen, Associate Professor of Ceramics. "The construction took place under 'Top Chef'



style time limits, so decisions and building took place quickly. After the 'Vase-Ensteins' were complete, students studied their creations and took inspiration from them. These inspirations were used in

their individual vase creations."

In Franken-Flowers & Vase-Ensteins, whimsy and experimentation run the gambit. Through the collaboration of students, different aesthetics combine to create unex-

pected and dynamic ceramic works of art.

Artists included in the exhibition are Ashley Banks, Delaney Bigler, Emma Eaton, Elizabeth Garland, Al Holen, Katie Holloway, Ryan Huck, Lisa Ryan-Hutton, Summer Skelton, Shyanne Steward, Jaeda Thomason and Jade Young.

NHGCA is dedicated to enhancing the experiences of students through an artist-run exhibition space in the Back Gallery (BG). BG Projects at NHGCA allows students to exhibit, experiment and/or curate within a working contemporary art gallery setting. Through exhibition and curatorial strategies, students can explore new possibilities for collaborations and their art practice.

NHGCA promotes discourse about and access to contemporary art in the Southern Indiana region.

Phi Theta Kappa Honors UE For Its Outstanding Transfer Student Support

JULY 2023

EVANSVILLE - The University of Evansville (UE) was recently named to the 2023 Transfer Honor Roll by Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society (PTK) for its support of transfer students as they enroll and work to complete their education. Of the 800 colleges and universities across the nation that were considered, UE was one of just 208 that made the list.

The Transfer Honor Roll is established through the evaluation of 40 key indicators that measure a university's commitment to transfer students as they transition to and succeed at their institutions. These metrics encompass factors such as college expenses, financial aid availability, transfer-friendly campus environment, admission procedures, and successful attainment of bachelor's degrees.

"This recognition underscores our commitment to supporting and empowering transfer students in their educational journeys. We understand the unique challenges



these students face and have implemented programs and resources to ensure their success," said UE President Christopher Pietruszkiewicz. "We value their contributions to our campus community, and will continue to be a supportive environment for transfer students."

UE is a natural choice for high-achieving transfer students, like

PTK members.

"PTK has four core principles: scholarship, leadership, fellowship, and service, and these were ingrained in me as a PTK scholar and are also important to the University of Evansville," said UE transfer student Chloe Prince. "UE offers so many ways for you to continue practicing these values. This was one of the many reasons I chose to

attend UE."

Transfers are a growing population of students at the University of Evansville. Their academic talents and abilities are recognized by robust scholarships and financial aid, including a scholarship for PTK members, and special scholarships for students transferring from Ivy Tech Community College and Vincennes University.

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Education

Ivy Tech Hires Career Link Leader Dewey

JULY 2023

Evansville, Ind.— Debbie Dewey, formerly president of the Growth Alliance for Greater Evansville (GAGE), has returned to the area to serve as the executive director of Ivy+ Career Link, a department at Ivy Tech Community College Evansville designed to provide transformative career development services for students and alumni; and talent connection opportunities and employee skills training for employers; as well as Adult



Basic Education and English as a Second Language classes.

Dewey holds a master's degree in business administration from the University of Central Florida and a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from the Florida Institute of Technology. She most recently served as an independent business consultant providing consulting services to the utility industry on deal progression for growth, process improvement opportunities, KPIs and goal-setting, strate-

gic decision-making, etc.

Dewey has also held executive leadership positions in manufacturing, power, and water utilities. She has served on boards including Missouri American Water and Indiana American Water, Missouri, and Indiana State Chambers of Commerce and Missouri Partnership State Economic Development, Financial Research Institute-Public Utilities Division, Grow Southwest Indiana Workforce Invest-

ment Board and numerous other executive and advisory boards. She is also a founding member and executive committee member for the I-69 Corridor Initiative.

"Ivy Tech is providing the education and skills training that we need to develop a workforce for in-demand, high-paying jobs. I am honored to be a part of building the bridge between students and employers," Dewey said.

VU Aviation Technology To Host Community Day

JULY 2023

INDIANAPOLIS – The Vincennes University Aviation Technology Center in Indianapolis is hosting its annual Aviation Community Day on Saturday, July 22, 2023. Individuals interested in aviation careers and enthusiasts can learn about educational paths and engage in exciting aviation-related activities.

The free, family-friendly event is 10 a.m.-2 p.m. (ET) and is in collaboration with Purdue Polytechnic Institute Indianapolis.

Aspiring aviators will see their future in aviation by climbing aboard airplanes, taking a photo in a cockpit, piloting a flight simulator, meeting with aviation professionals, and touring the facility at 2175 S. Hoffman Road. They can also learn about the VU and Purdue 2+2 bachelor's degree program. Rides on the Boilermaker Special are also available.

VU has a long history of aviation education that stretches back to the 1960s.

The ATC offers high-quality education and is a vital part of VU, which has trained professional pilots since 1964. The ATC has been home to the Aviation Maintenance program since 1993 at the Indianapolis International Airport. In 2010, the VU Flight program joined the Maintenance program in Indianapolis, operating ground school classes and flight simulation at the ATC. Eagle Creek Airpark, just a few miles from Indianapolis International, is home to the University's fleet of aircraft.

"The Aviation Technology Center provides the opportunity for bright minds to pursue high wage and high demand careers in aviation," VU Director of Aviation Mike Gehrich said.

The ATC underwent a \$6 million renovation in recent years. The 92,000-square-foot facility has two hangars and houses a fully functional Boeing 737-200, Gulfstream GI, and multiple full-motion flight simulators and stationary simulators.

VU students can earn an associate degree in Aviation Maintenance Technology plus a Federal Aviation Administration Airframe and Powerplant (A&P) certificate. VU students training to become commercial pilots can earn private, instrument, commercial, and multi-engine ratings, an associate degree in Aviation Flight, and certified flight instructor qualifications.

VU and Purdue University offer a joint degree program that provides significant savings to students looking to earn a bachelor's degree from Purdue in Aeronautical Technology. Students who complete an associate degree in Aviation Flight or Maintenance with VU are eligible to enroll in the Purdue Aeronautical Technology program at the ATC. Students study with Purdue at the ATC and pay VU tuition rates.

Explore VU's Aviation Flight and Maintenance programs at www.aviationtechcenter.com or by calling 317-381-6000.



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Education

Gushrowski named to MVC Scholar-Athlete First Team



JULY 2023

ST. LOUIS— Excelling in all facets of his tenure as a student-athlete at the University of Evansville, junior men's golfer Nicholas Gushrowski earned a spot on the Missouri Valley Conference Scholar-Athlete First Team.

Gushrowski currently holds a 3.815 GPA as a Civil Engineering major. He completed the 2022-23 season with a 74.08 stroke average, which was the lowest on the team.

Gushrowski played in 25 rounds with his low effort of a 69 coming in the opening round of the MVC Championship.

He recorded five top-20 finishes with four coming in the top 12 and tied for 9th at the Alabama A&M Fall Invite and in the TSU Big Blue Intercollegiate. At the MVC Championship, he came home in a tie for 11th at the 2023 MVC Championship and was the Purple Aces' top finisher.

USI Baseball Signs 11 To Roster For 2024

JULY 2023

EVANSVILLE – University of Southern Indiana Baseball announced the addition of 11 new players for the 2024 campaign next spring, right-handed pitchers and a pair of outfielders for the 2024 season. The Screaming Eagles and USI Head Coach Tracy Archuleta have added five right-handed pitchers; one left-handed hurler; two outfielders; and a pair of utility players (pitcher/infielders).

The new Eagles join catchers Logan Mock (Livermore, California) and Conner Anglin (Lynnville, Indiana); pitchers Braden Watts (Scottsburg, Indiana) and Abdriel Figueroa (Yauco, Puerto Rico); and infielder Yahir Fonseca (Arroyo, Puerto Rico) who signed last fall.

The Spring Additions For 2024 Are:

Carson Seeman (Auburn, California), RHP: Seeman is transferring to USI from Butte College (Oroville, California) where he split time as a right-handed pitcher and a catcher...had a 9-2 record in 2023 with a 2.85 ERA and 67 strikeouts in 13 games and 82.0 innings of work...also had a .276 batting average with two home runs and 21 RBIs...played one season with the University of California Davis. He appeared in nine games and made four starts on the mound, posting a 0-4 record, while making 19 appearances at catcher.

Gavin Wilson (Lee's Summit, Missouri), RHP: Wilson comes to the Eagles team after spending a pair of seasons with St. Charles Community College (Cottleville, Missouri), posting a 4-4 record in 22 total appearances...was 2-4 during 2023, making 14 appearances and one start...the right-handed Lee's Summit High School



alumni also struck out 38 batters in 32.2 innings of work.

Grant Parson (Owensboro, Kentucky), RHP: Parson joins the Eagles after graduating from Owensboro Catholic High School...was 4-3 in 2023 with a 1.14 ERA and 77 strikeouts in 49.0 innings of work...was one batter shy of a perfect game versus St. Mary's High School during the post-season...also batted .333 (32-96) with 17 runs scored and 19 RBIs...was 6-1 with a 1.83 ERA on the mound, while batting .258 in 2022.

Cameron Boyd (Villa Hills, Kentucky), OF: Boyd comes to USI after finishing his prep career at Beechwood High School (Ft. Mitchell, Kentucky) where he lettered in baseball and basketball...was first-team All-State, Northern Kentucky Athletic Conference Most Valuable Player, and 9th Region Player of the Year after batting .546 with 49 RBIs and 11 home runs as a senior...also

helped Beechwood to four-straight region championships.

Terrick Thompson-Allen (Sioux City, Iowa), OF: Thompson-Allen transfers to USI from Iowa Western Community College following two seasons with the Reivers...had a two-year .288 batting average with 24 RBIs, two home runs, and 32 RBIs...batted .265 in 2023 with 14 runs scored, 11 stolen bases, and nine RBIs this spring after starting his career with a .333 batting average with 15 RBIs, 18 runs scored, and five stolen bases as a freshman in 2022...lettered in baseball and football at Sioux City East High School.

Mitchell Renfro (Evansville, Indiana), RHP: Renfro lettered in baseball, football, and soccer at Evansville North High School...helped lead North to the 2023 sectional title game with a 6-2 record and a 2.65 ERA...was 3-1 with a 1.90 ERA with the Huskies in 2022.

Jesus Rivas (Yabucoa, Puerto

Rico), OF: Rivas comes to USI after graduating from the Puerto Rico Baseball Academy, joining teammate Figueroa, who signed with USI last fall.

Gage Smith (Garrett, Indiana), RHP: Smith transfers to USI from IVY Tech Community College (Ft. Wayne). He was 4-3 in 2023 with 69 strikeouts and a 4.37 ERA in 59 innings pitched...had an 8-4 overall mark with a 4.64 ERA during his two years at IVY Tech...also was a .300 hitter for the Tritans, knocking in 19 RBI.

Bryson Reif (Yuba City, California), LHP: Reif crosses the country to USI after playing two seasons for Butte Junior College (Oroville, California)...had a two-year record of 13-1 and a 4.03 ERA, while striking out 69 batters in 58.0 innings of work...was 6-0 with 54 strikeouts and a 2.98 ERA in 2023...played baseball at Yuba City High School prior to playing at Butte.

Clayton Weisheit (Ferdinand, Indiana), RHP: Weisheit is a Forest Park High School (Ferdinand, Indiana) product and has been dominating the last two seasons on the mound...was 7-4 last spring with a 2.05 ERA, striking out 68 batters in 61 innings of work...named first-team All-PAC hurler and IHSBCA District Player of the Year...had a no-hitter versus Hauser High School this spring.

Jack Hendrix (Ft. Thomas, Kentucky), RHP: Hendrix was dominating hitter at Highlands High School, posting a .432 average the last two seasons (82-190) and knocking in 47 RBIs...also was 7-2 on the mound with a 1.65 ERA in 19 games as a junior and senior...also struck out 94 batters in 60.1 innings of work, including a 12-strikeout performance versus Conner High School this spring.

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Sports

UE Athletics, Siegfried Unveil Strategic Plan

JULY 2023

EVANSVILLE – On Monday, the University of Evansville Athletics Director Dr. Kenneth “Ziggy” Siegfried unveiled the “Pathway to Excellence”, which will serve as the strategic plan for the Purple Aces Athletics Department.

“Anyone who has stepped foot on the University of Evansville campus knows that it is a special place. It was obvious from the moment I first stepped

on campus in April of 2022 that the university and athletics department have the potential to do great things,” Siegfried said. “In my first year as Athletics Director, it was important to analyze every facet of our department in order to orchestrate a comprehensive strategic plan that puts us on the path to success.”

Teaming up with MRJ Advisors, the department moved forward in an inclusive 6-month process that acquired the feedback from multiple groups including coaches, faculty, staff, students, student-athletes, community members, the AD’s Council, the Board of Trustees Athletics Com-

mittee and others. MRJ Advisors is led by UE alumnus and former University of Missouri Athletic Director Mike Alden.

Entitling the plan as the “Pathway to Excellence” was an important and meaningful part of the process. In 2014, the “Jim Byers Pathway to Excellence” was dedicated outside the Carson Center to honor Coach Byers’ decades-long contributions to the Purple Aces. The



ability to incorporate a way to honor the past while aiming for the future was just one way that Siegfried is establishing his culture at UE.

“The “Pathway to Excellence” provides a clear vision of who we are, where we strive to go and how we are going to achieve that success,” Siegfried added. “Goal areas that we highlighted as being most important are Education, Competition, Campus and Community Engagement, Facilities, Enrollment Management and Resources. Clear-cut strategies have been instituted to serve as the blueprint for achieving each goal.”

Creating a department Vision

and Mission Statement set the tone for the project as well as the primary focuses of the department. Five core values were identified and include Integrity, Education, Service, Inclusion, and Excellence. UE Athletics defines its vision as “We will face the future unafraid while positively impacting our student-athletes, our university, our local community, and our Purple Aces around the world.”

Expanding upon its vision, the Aces have a defined Mission Statement. “We are dedicated to providing an exceptional student-athlete experience, expecting academic excellence, and creating a championship culture that goes beyond the field of play. As Purple Aces, we assume the responsibility of positively representing the University of Evansville and our community. Steeped in a rich tradition, we honor those who came before us while laying the path for the future. We empower our student-athletes to be courageous leaders by acting bravely in a diverse, ever-changing world.”

Six primary goal areas were established with specific objectives for each one.

Goal Area #1 – Education

Create the preeminent student-athlete model in the Missouri Valley Conference through continued academic excellence, while promoting additional personal and professional development opportunities.

Goal Area #2 – Competition

Compete and win at the highest levels of collegiate athletics by optimizing the abilities of our student-athletes and coaching staff.

Goal Area #3 – Campus and Community Engagement

University of Evansville will be an active, recognized and engaged campus and community partner.

Goal Area #4 – Facilities

Invest in Athletics Facilities and Infrastructure in order to position the University of Evansville Athletics Facilities portfolio to be among the best in the Missouri Valley Conference.

Goal Area #5 – Enrollment Management

Contribute to campus enrollment management goals.

Goal Area #6 – Resources

Manage financial resources in a collaborative manner with UE in accordance with identified priorities and grow athletics revenue streams.

“In an ever-changing world, the “Pathway to Excellence” will be a living document that will track our progress and allow for amended strategies and goals,” Siegfried exclaimed. “Everything we do comes down to this – it is the pride of having Evansville across our chest and representing Purple Aces across the world. Our future is extremely bright and this plan sets us up to achieve new heights.”

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Sports

Hufnagel, Goodin Named 2022-23 USI Student Athletes Of The Year

JULY 2023

EVANSVILLE — University of Southern Indiana Director of Athletics Jon Mark Hall announced that seniors Noah Hufnagel (Santa Claus, Indiana) and Allie Goodin (Evansville, Indiana) have been named the recipients of the 2023 Old National Bank/USI Male and Female Student-Athlete of the Year awards.

Hufnagel completed an outstanding career in Men's Cross Country/Track & Field by winning a combined four Ohio Valley Conference titles during the 2022-23 academic year. He was named the OVC Athlete of the Championship after winning the OVC Cross Country title in the fall.

The kinesiology major returned to the track to capture an OVC title in the indoor 3,000 meters while earning an OVC podium finish with a second-place showing in the 5,000 meters.

Hufnagel capped off the year by being named both the OVC Track Athlete of the Year as well as the OVC Athlete of the Championship after capturing both the 5,000 and 10,000-meter titles at the OVC Outdoor Championships.

Goodin finished her collegiate softball career with a bang, earning co-OVC Player of the Year honors as well as third-team NFCA All-Midwest Region honors in USI's inaugural season of Division I competition.

Starting all 44 games, Goodin was second in the OVC with a .412 overall batting average while also ranking second with 16 doubles and 40 RBI in 2023. She also posted a 1.134 OPS and hit seven home runs. She paced the league in conference-only play with a .442 batting average and 30 RBI.

Goodin, a management major, closed out the 2023 season by earning OVC All-Tournament



honors after hitting .500 with a home run and three RBI in USI's three games at the OVC Tournament. Her efforts helped USI Softball finish third in the OVC regular-season standings before winning its opening game in the OVC Tournament.

Both Goodin and Hufnagel were named Academic All-District for both their athletic and academic accomplishments.

Previous winners of the ONB/USI Male Student-Athlete of the Year award were Duncan Bray (2003, 2004; soccer), Matt Keener (2005; baseball), Chris Thompson (2006; basketball), Melvin Hall (2007; basketball), Paul Jellema (2008; cross country/track), Shaun Larsen (2009; baseball), Jamar Smith (2010; basketball), Trevor Leach (2011; baseball), Dustin Emerick (2012; cross country & track), Michael Jordan (2013; cross country & track), Johnnie Guy (2014, 2016; cross country & track), Tyler Pence (2015, cross country & track), Jeril Taylor (2017, basketball), Alex Stein (2018, 2019; basketball), Josh Price

(2021; basketball) and Titus Winders (2022; cross country/track & field). The award was not presented in 2020 due to COVID-19.

Past winners of the ONB/USI Female Student Athlete of the Year award were Shannon Wells (2003, volleyball), Jenny Farmer (2004; cross country/track), Heather Cooksey (2005; cross country/track), Laura Ellerbusch (2006; volleyball), Allison Shafer (2007; cross country/track), Kristin Eickholt (2008; softball), Mary Ballinger (2009, 2010; cross

country/track), Danielle LaGrange (2011, 2012; volleyball), Susan Ellsperman (2013; soccer), Anna Hackert (2014; basketball), MacKenzie Dorsam (2015; softball), Haley Hodges (2016 & 2017; softball) and Emily Roberts (2016; cross country/track), Kaydie Grooms (2018; basketball), Jennifer Leonhardt (2019; softball), Jennifer Comastri (2021; cross country/track & field) and Cameron Hough (2022; cross country/track & field). The award was not presented in 2020 due to COVID-19.

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Obituaries

June Vanderburgh County Obituaries

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Rev. Willian V. Tollas Nov. 02, 1921 – Jun. 05, 2023
 Gene E. Newcom Dec. 03, 1933 – Jun. 01, 2023
 Shirley Mae Hammel Feb. 07, 1936 – Jun. 03, 2023
 Mickie L Sutton Apr. 17, 1956 – Jun. 07, 2023
 Patricka L Russell Mar. 20, 1945 – Jun. 14, 2023
 Gina Lynn Longest Mar. 07, 1970 – Jun. 16, 2023
 Sue Watson Feb. 05, 1936 – Jun. 18, 2023
 Carol Lynn Cole-Bom Jun. 24, 1936 – Jun. 23, 2023
 Lonna M. Pickens Jul. 13, 1950 – Jun. 20, 2023
 Patti S. Coleman Sep. 04, 1939 – Jun. 20, 2023
 Dorothy Gehlhausen Aug. 20, 1959 – Jun. 22, 2023
 Beverly F. Evans Sept. 28, 1964 – Jun. 22, 2023
 Paul Jensen Apr. 12, 1943 – Jun. 26, 2023

West

Kristian Jane Utley Feb. 10, 1983 – Jun. 04, 2023
 Phyllis "Jean" Gentry-Fox Feb. 18, 1944 – Jun. 12, 2023
 Jean Morell Jul. 07, 1941 – Jun. 01, 2023
 Exekiel Postin-Duncan Apr. 18, 2019 – Jun. 11, 2023
 Debra Jean Linberg Apr. 16, 1952 – Jun. 14, 2023
 Leslie "Carl" White Nov. 27, 1925 – Jun. 15, 2023
 Helen L. Horton Jul. 04, 1939 – Jun. 20, 2023
 Delores May Ennis Mar. 23, 1932 – Jun. 21, 2023
 Paul Edward Wilsman Dec. 11, 1925 – Jun. 21, 2023
 Mary McReynolds Mar. 28, 1943 – Jun. 22, 2023
 Michael Ray Deutch Feb. 21, 1961 – Jun. 24, 2023
 Candice Caleen Williams Sep. 26, 1954 – Jun. 24, 2023

North

Betty J. Roeder Jul. 22, 1929 – Jun. 08, 2023
 Ronald Lee Rohner Nov. 29, 1955 – Jun. 09, 2023
 James "Jim" R. Bossing Jan. 20, 1938 – Jun. 17, 2023
 Lois Conway Minto Aug. 14, 1932 – Jun. 19, 2023
 Dorothy L. Fiester Jul. 30, 1926 – Jun. 25, 2023

BOONE FUNERAL HOME

John York Jan. 30, 1940 – Jun. 01, 2023
 Michael Collins Aug. 06, 1956 – Jun. 01, 2023
 Anna "Jean" Beliles Aug. 16, 1929 – Jun. 02, 2023
 Sandy Martin Jul. 12, 1961 – Jun. 06, 2023
 Roger Wollenmann Jan. 15, 1959 – Jun. 14, 2023
 Janice Decker Nov. 03, 1936 – Jun. 14, 2023
 Karen Woodard Apr. 08, 1967 – Jun. 14, 2023
 Jean Fulkerson May 09, 1933 – Jun. 17, 2023
 Dianne Gay Jun. 27, 1934 – Jun. 20, 2023
 Elizabeth Lovan Aug. 20, 1947 – Jun. 21, 2023
 Walter Russell Jun. 26, 1935 – Jun. 21, 2023
 Shirley Kuper Sep. 09, 1935 – Jun. 23, 2023

Lois "Ann" LaMar Oct. 18, 1930 – Jun. 28, 2023
 Rhonda Higginbotham Jan. 28, 1956 – Jun. 29, 2023
 Donald E. "Don" Embry May 12, 1952 – Jun. 30, 2023

MASON BROTHERS FUNERAL SERVICES

Mr. Jimmie Wooldridge Gill Jul. 21, 1939 – Jun. 04, 2023
 Anita Jackson Dec. 19, 1966 – Jun. 07, 2023
 Mary G Smith Harrington Jan 09, 1944 – Jun. 15, 2023
 Jaybry Blakemore Nov. 22, 2017 – Jun. 16, 2023
 Robert "Bobby" Eugene Browder Jul. 01, 1958 – Jun. 16, 2023
 Alex Louis Drake July 09, 1965 – Jun. 26, 2023
 Willie "Pete" Williams Feb. 05, 1956 – Jun. 28, 2023

PIERRE FUNERAL HOME

Lucian Howard Barnett Oct. 05, 1942 – Jun. 03, 2023
 Virginia Gail Bloecker Jul. 13, 1941 – Jun. 09, 2023
 Rosie Lutterbach Nov. 12, 1928 – Jun. 09, 2023
 Theresa C. Lintzenich Dec. 30, 1954 – Jun. 16, 2023
 Carolyn Ann Taylor Stagg Apr. 12, 1940 – Jun. 19, 2023
 Barbara Ellen Walter Jul. 31, 1942 – Jun. 19, 2023
 Donald E. Schweikarth Nov. 20, 1946 – Jun. 21, 2023
 Merle V. Effing May 17, 1934 – Jun. 22, 2023
 Carole T. Elbrink Sep. 03, 1940 – Jun. 22, 2023
 Ruth Neumann Mar. 01, 1934 – Jun. 26, 2023
 Robert Stanley "Bob" Russler Sep. 14, 1939 – Jun. 26, 2023
 Barbara Jeanne Strupp Aug. 31, 1942 – Jun. 27, 2023

ZIEMER FUNERAL HOME

Janie Irene Bullington Aug. 05, 1960 – Jun. 01, 2023
 Rylan Hunter Jamison Ely Jun. 04, 2023 – Jun. 04, 2023
 Kathleen D. (Alvey) Hennig Jun. 17, 1958 – Jun. 05, 2023
 Jacqueline Tite Myers Jan. 02, 1937 – Jun. 05, 2023
 Craig Andrew Davidson Dec. 20, 1978 – Jun. 06, 2023
 Linda Kaye Kinkel Jan. 02, 1942 – Jun. 07, 2023
 Patricia Rose Hirsch Jan. 18, 1935 – Jun 07, 2023
 Harold Greenwell Apr. 07, 1952 – Jun. 08, 2023
 John E. Bowman Aug. 21, 1944 – Jun. 09, 2023
 Jonathan Ray Ash Jul. 04, 1973 – Jun. 13, 2023
 Jarrell "Jerry" Effinger Aug. 16, 1932 – Jun. 15, 2023
 Carl O. Willett Jr. Sep. 12, 1945 – Jun. 17, 2023
 Doyle M. Doneghue Sep. 24, 1921 – Jun.20, 2023
 Robert "William"(Bill) Ballard Aug. 18, 1934 – Jun. 21, 2023
 Gerald F. Luebbe, DDS Oct. 04, 1930 – Jun. 22, 2023
 Winifred A. Klass Apr. 06, 1926 – Jun. 23, 2023
 Kapil Bahadur Singh Nov. 15, 1951 – Jun. 23, 2023
 Vivian (Sellers) Fowler May 18, 1952 – Jun. 24, 2023
 Sister Lucretia Burns Jan. 18, 1935 – Jun. 25, 2023
 Michael R. Toral Feb. 11, 1951 – Jun. 28, 2023
 Kimbra K. Bell Apr. 07, 1971 – Jun. 29, 2023
 Theresa Sue (Moore) Gerling Jun. 09, 1957 – Jun. 29, 2023

Sudoku Puzzle Answer

July'23

| | | | | | | | | |
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| 3 | 9 | 6 | 8 | 7 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 1 |
| 8 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 9 | 3 |
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| 5 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 9 | 7 | 4 | 8 | 6 |
| 6 | 4 | 9 | 2 | 8 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 5 |
| 9 | 5 | 8 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 2 |
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| I | N | N | E | R | T | U | B | E | S | | B | I | E | N |
| E | G | O | | G | O | B | A | D | | C | O | D | E | D |
| | | | | M | A | U | L | | | M | U | T | E | S |
| | L | O | B | S | T | E | R | B | I | B | | N | P | R |
| P | A | N | A | M | | T | H | O | S | E | | N | I | A |
| E | Y | E | S | | P | E | O | N | S | | S | A | R | I |
| T | E | A | | P | R | A | D | A | | T | I | M | I | D |
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| A | K | I | N | | H | E | A | T | V | I | S | I | O | N |
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ALL OTHERS = 1 ENTRY

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