

# NEW LEVEL NEWS

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## LOOKS WHAT INSIDE NEW LEVEL NEWS

### DATES OF INTEREST

JULY 20-28  
 ELKHART COUNTY 4H FAIR

AUGUST 10-11  
 MIDDLEBURY SUMMER FESTIVAL

SEPTEMBER 14-15  
 MIDDLEBURY FALL FESTIVAL

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#### FESTIVALS COVERAGE

- MIDDLEBURY SUMMER FESTIVAL
- MIDDLEBURY FALL FESTIVAL
- NAPPANEE APPLE FESTIVAL
- BRISTOL HOMECOMING
- ELKHART COUNTY 4H FAIR
- BREMENS FIREMEN PARADE

#### COMMUNITY EVENTS

- ESSENHAUS CLASSIC CAR CRUISE IN
- HARNESS RACING COVERAGE
- BREAST CANCER AWARENESS EVENTS
- STOCK CAR RACES

#### LINKS OF INTEREST

[www.southbendcubs.com](http://www.southbendcubs.com)

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[www.railcatsbaseball.com](http://www.railcatsbaseball.com)

[www.sf.edu](http://www.sf.edu)

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#### NEW LEVEL NEWS OFFERS

- HIGH SCHOOL SCORES
- HIGH SCHOOL STORIES
- COLLEGE SIGNINGS
- COLLEGE NEWS
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- NEW LEVEL BROADCASTING SCHEDULE

#### HIGH SCHOOL COVERAGE

## Dicamba Herbicide Drift Complaints Begin to Roll In

As soybean growers are aware, much of the buzz this winter was about dicamba herbicide. Special training was offered to applicators who planned to use dicamba on their soybeans. It was hoped that all the extra effort would help to minimize drift, not only with dicamba, but with all herbicide products in general. According to an article in the recent addition of the Purdue Pest and Crop Newsletter by Purdue Weed Specialists Bill Johnson and Joe Ikley, the Office of the Indiana State Chemist has indicated that the overall number of drift complaints (all herbicides), and complaints related to dicamba are tracking ahead of last year's pace. As of Friday, July 6<sup>th</sup>, OISC had 135 drift complaints with 50 suspected to be related to dicamba. Last year on this date, OISC had 111 complaints, with 26 dicamba suspects. Locally, I am aware of two possible cases of drift related to dicamba, but I am not sure if the cases were included in the OISC statistics. Given that almost all the soybeans in the state now are past the R1 stage (first flowers), and that the dicamba label states it cannot be used past that stage of growth, it could be assumed that dicamba applications in Indiana should have ceased. However, with the number of weedy fields due to so much rainfall in the area, I suspect spraying will continue despite the fact that these applications are beyond the cutoff on the label. For those of you that came to the winter training, remember that it takes 14 to 21 days for injury symptoms to show up. So, there could be continued development of symptoms on sensitive vegetation like non-extend beans and other sensitive species. It is likely the number of complaints (official and unofficial) and samples submitted to our Plant Pest Diagnostic Lab will continue to roll in for at least a couple of more weeks. The University of Missouri weed science program is surveying soybean and cotton producing states every two weeks or so for updates on number of drift complaints filed with regulatory agencies, and estimates of dicamba damage to soybeans and other sensitive species. To view the latest report, see this website: <https://ipm.missouri.edu/IPCM/2018/6/dicambaInjuryUpdate/> If you are interested in contributing data to this report, our Purdue Extension ANR Educators are being surveyed every couple of weeks for information from their counties. If you contact my office, I will relay the information to Purdue's Weed Science department. However, if you have vegetation (soybean or other sensitive species) that has been damaged by herbicides and you want to file an official complaint, then you need to contact the Office of the Indiana State Chemist. This needs to be done within 30 days of the incident.

## *USF graduate taking over Cougars after Roberts retires*

FORT WAYNE, Ind. – University of Saint Francis graduate and long-time assistant coach **Dustin Butcher** has been selected to lead USF baseball after the retirement of Greg Roberts after 13 seasons.

Butcher, a 2001 USF graduate who played baseball and soccer while pursuing his Bachelor's degree in Psychology, has served as an assistant to Roberts the last 10 years.

"I've learned so many things about the game from Coach Roberts and am thankful for all he has done for me as an assistant," Butcher emphasized. "He allowed us to coach and I learned so many in-game things from him. I also appreciate everything Heritage High School Coach Dean Lehrman taught me when I played there."

"I'd like to thank our athletic director, Mike McCaffrey, for this opportunity and I am excited to lead my alma mater," Butcher added. "The Fort Wayne and surrounding area has a lot of outstanding talent to draw from and we only lost two players from a talented group last year, so we could do some special things heading into the future."

Butcher also served as an assistant coach at Indiana Tech and later at Marian University while completing his master's in sports psychology at Ball State University. Tech and MU won conference titles while Dustin served as an assistant.

He resides in Leo, Ind., along with his wife Jessica, son Nolan and daughter Ella.

Roberts leaves USF with 270 wins, the most wins of anybody who has coached the program in 55 seasons. The 1980 Ohio Northern University graduate took over in 2006 and led the Cougars to two 30-plus win seasons – 32-21 in 2009 and 33-24 in 2012 – the only two .500-plus seasons in USF history. He finished with a 270-393-4 record in 13 seasons with USF, 284-431-4 in 14 seasons, one as head coach at ONU. His Cougars set a USF record for conference wins with a 27-9 record to finish second in 2012. The Cougars finished 14-38 overall in 2018, 9-18 in Crossroads League play and did upset top-seeded Indiana Wesleyan University 2-1 in the CL Tournament.

# **Late rally leads to Cubs 5-3 series finale win over Lansing**

*South Bend finishes road trip 4-2 in six games*

Lansing, MI: At the end of their biggest road trip to date in the 2018 season, the South Bend Cubs were presented with the opportunity to win their series over the already playoff-bound Lansing Lugnuts on Monday night. With a win in the series finale by a final of 5-3, the Cubs finish their six game trip with a record of 4-2.

Overall, the Cubs will return home with a record of 45-43. In order to finish with the victory on Monday, it took a comeback effort and solid pitching over a power-packed Lansing batting order. After jumping out to the early 2-0 lead, the Lugnuts looked to be within reach of finishing the series in a two game apiece tie.

But a quick response from Jimmy Gonzalez's squad quickly gave South Bend new life. In the 3rd, the Cubs put themselves within a run after Zach Davis doubled into left field. That scored Austin Filiere after he got the inning going with a single off of starter Graham Spraker.

South Bend took their first lead in the top of the 4th when they plated two runs. With RBI from Filiere and Hughes, the Cubs tied the game at 3-3. Filiere finished the night with a 3/4 game along with a run and RBI.

The game sat deadlocked at 3-3 until the top of the 8th. South Bend's pitching allowed the Cubs to hang in the game as they did not give up a run after the bottom of the 3rd inning. Starter Ricky Tyler Thomas finished with another quality start. In six innings, he allowed just three runs with no walks and five strikeouts.

Out of the bullpen, both relievers were perfect. In three combined innings, righties Enrique De Los Rios and Ben Hecht did not give up a hit or a run. They also did not walk a batter. De Los Rios finished with the win after his two scoreless frames. Hecht earned his fourth save of the year with a perfect 9th.

The save situation for Hecht was set up with South Bend's game winning runs in the 8th. The first four batters of the inning reached. Rafael Narea got it started with a single, followed by a stolen base. A RBI single by Miguel Amaya brought Narea home to put the Cubs in front 4-3. Amaya's single went down as the game winning hit. Austin Upshaw scored South Bend's fifth run on a groundout.

With Hecht's scoreless 9th inning, the Cubs took the series three games to one. Now with 45 overall wins, they will head home to begin a six game homestand where they will take on the Beloit Snappers in the first of three games on Wednesday night. First pitch from Four Winds Field is scheduled for 7:05 p.m.

## **Wegener Makes Return to Taylor as Women's Tennis Coach**

**UPLAND, Ind.** – Taylor University and Athletics Director, Kyle Gould, announced on Monday that Jon Wegener will return to Upland to assume the role of head coach for the TU women's tennis program and will begin his post immediately. "We are excited that Jon accepted the offer to be our women's tennis coach," remarked Gould. "After a successful career as a student-athlete, he has made a name for himself in a short amount of time as a respected coach on the NCAA Division I level and there is no question that he is ready for the challenge of leading this program." Wegener is no stranger to Taylor, or the Trojan tennis programs, having concluded his collegiate playing career with All-Crossroads League honors in 2011-2012. Wegener began his career with three seasons at Ball State, winning the 2011 Mid-American Conference Tournament Championship before transferring to TU for his senior campaign. "I am very excited to make my way back to the Trojan tennis program," remarked Wegener. "Taylor University had a powerful impact on my life as a student-athlete and I am fortunate to have this opportunity to give back to TU as a coach. I would like to thank Kyle Gould for the opportunity, as well as all of my friends and family who have supported me along the way. I am looking forward to seeing the growth of our student-athletes and the tennis program." Since concluding his playing career, Wegener began his coaching career as an assistant for the Taylor men's tennis program for one year, before spending three years as an assistant with the Ball State men's and women's tennis programs from 2014 through 2017. Prior to accepting the head coaching position at Taylor, Wegener served one season as the assistant coach for the NCAA Division I James Madison University women's tennis program, helping guide the Dukes to a 21-4 clip. That record set the program mark for most wins in a single season and equaled the second-highest win percentage in program history. Wegener also helped JMU advance to the championship match of the Colonial Athletic Association Tournament for the second time in program history, while coaching the CAA Rookie of the Year, three All-CAA singles players and two All-CAA doubles standouts. In addition to his coaching stints with Taylor, Ball State and James Madison, Wegener has a decade of experience serving as a tennis instructor at the Muncie Northwest YMCA. Wegener graduated cum laude from Taylor in 2013 with a degree in exercise science, before earning a master's degree in English from Ball State in May of 2018.

## **MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL ANNOUNCES RONALDO HERNANDEZ, BOWLING GREEN HOT RODS**

### **MIDWEST LEAGUE JUNE PLAYER OF THE MONTH**

**SOUTH BEND, Ind.** – Minor League Baseball has selected Bowling Green Hot Rods (Rays) Catcher **Ronaldo Hernandez** as the Midwest League Player of the Month for June. Bowling Green Hot Rods (Rays) catcher **Ronaldo Hernandez** batted .366 in 22 games in June and led the Midwest League in home runs (10), extra-base hits (17), total bases (68), slugging percentage (.829) and OPS (1.227). He finished second in runs (20), third in RBI (25) and fourth in average (.366). Hernandez, 20, was signed by Tampa Bay out of Arjona, Colombia, on May 30, 2015.

## **PURDUE SWIM-DIVE TO HOST ACC/BIG TEN CHALLENGE ALL-STAR MEET**

**WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind.** ([www.PurdueSports.com](http://www.PurdueSports.com)) – Purdue swimming & diving and the Morgan J. Burke Aquatic Center have been selected to host the inaugural ACC/Big Ten Challenge, a two-day all-star meet set for Nov. 10 to 11.

Every Big Ten and ACC university that sponsors swimming & diving will be represented at the meet, which will feature short-course yardage events and a two-day dual meet format. Though there could be multiple heats of many events, each event will only be contested one time per gender over the two days.

Start times along with ticket and television broadcast information will be available in the near future. Georgia Tech is tentatively slated to host the 2019 ACC/Big Ten Challenge. In a similar format to the successful USA College Challenge, a running score will be kept throughout the dual meet competition combining the points earned by both women and men. Team scoring will be used to determine a winner of the all-star meet. Scoring will mirror NCAA dual meet parameters. Swimming student-athletes will be determined using a similar selection process to that of the College Challenge, where at least two males and two females from each institution will be designated to compete, but no more than five males and five females from each school will participate. Additionally, for divers, there will be no more than two males and two females from each school. The top returning performers from the 2018 conference championship meets and NCAA Championships will be among the first student-athlete selected. Each athlete may be entered in up to six events during the meet, including individual events and relays. The ACC/Big Ten Challenge is expected to feature 19 events – 15 individual and four relays.

All seven of Purdue's returning divers – Joe Cifelli, Steele Johnson and Brandon Loschivo for the men as well as Emily Bretscher, Emily Meaney, Morgan Meixner and Lexi Vincent for the women – are possibilities to be selected for the Big Ten team if the diving coaches opt to make platform an event along with 3-meter. The coaches were still discussing what diving events would be featured at the ACC/Big Ten Challenge. Taite Kitchel, Jinq En Phee, Joe Young, Nick McDowell and Trent Pellini are Purdue's top returning swimmers and the leading candidates for selection to the Big Ten team based on their performances during the 2017-18 season. The 2016 USA College Challenge featured the Big Ten vs. the USA Swimming National Team at a two-day meet in Indianapolis in November of that season. Purdue was represented by swimmers Marat Amaltdinov, Kaersten Meitz, Adam Noens and Emmy Rawson. Divers were not included. NC State won the ACC Men's Swimming & Diving Championship for the fourth straight year in the 2017-18 season, while Virginia earned the women's ACC title for the 10th time in 11 years. NC State's men's squad posted the best finish of any ACC team at the NCAA Championships with a fourth-place finish, and the Louisville women's team finished in fifth place at NCAAs. NC State's head coach Braden Holloway will coach the ACC men's team and will be assisted by Notre Dame head coach Mike Litzinger. On the women's side, Virginia's Todd Desorbo will coach the ACC women and will be assisted by Louisville's Arthur Albiero. Michigan repeated as the women's Big Ten Conference Champions in the 2017-18 season, while the Indiana men claimed the 2017-18 title for the second consecutive year. At the NCAA Championships, Michigan led the conference with a fourth-place finish on the women's side and Indiana finished in third-place for the men. Michigan head coach Mike Bottom will lead the Big Ten women's team and be assisted by Ohio State's Bill Dorenkott. Indiana's Ray Looze will coach the Big Ten men and be assisted by Minnesota's Kelly Kremer. All ACC and Big Ten coaches in attendance will be encouraged to participate and contribute to the challenge.