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Highlighting standout cross-country seniors

The Herald Bulletin

Teen sentenced to 100 years in Swain murder

15-year-old was the youngest charged in the 2025 shooting

KEN DE LA BASTIDE
THE HERALD BULLETIN

ANDERSON — A 15-year-old Anderson boy has been sentenced to 100 years in prison in connection with the shooting death of Dayla Swain in 2025.

Madison Circuit Court Division

4 Judge David Happe sentenced Jo'Majze Larry on Wednesday to 50 years on a murder charge and 50 years on a criminal organization sentencing enhancement.

Larry was convicted by a jury on charges of murder, attempted murder and conspiracy to commit murder, with a criminal organi-

zation gang enhancement and a misdemeanor charge of dangerous possession of a firearm.

Swain was shot to death while talking to a witness in the 2023 death of Julian Craig outside Sonny Ray's in the 1500 block of South Madison Avenue.

In pronouncing the sentence, Happe said Larry was the youngest

person responsible for killing Swain.

"The evidence is you were deeply involved in the planning," Happe said. "You made the decision to do something you know is wrong."

He said Swain had nothing to do with the revenge plot from the death of Craig.

"There were people around who failed you," Happe said of the other defendants, members of the Mickey Cobra Nation gang. "There were a

lot of people that made a lot of bad decisions."

Nanya Cox, Swain's mother, said during the sentencing hearing that it was unfortunate that Larry, in part because of his age, doesn't grasp what is happening in his life.

"You have to pay for your actions, the murder of my daughter," Cox said.

See **MURDER** on A2

MADISON COUNTY 4-H FAIR



Jentry Johnson holds his goat still during judging in the Meat Goat Show at the Madison County 4-H Fairgrounds.

Photos by Caleb Amick | The Herald Bulletin

NOT KIDDING AROUND

Local 4-Hers compete in fair's Meat Goat Show



Brian Shuter washes his daughter's goat, Marshmallow, before the Meat Goat Show began Wednesday afternoon at the Madison County 4-H Fairgrounds.

CALEB AMICK
THE HERALD BULLETIN

ALEXANDRIA — It takes a lot of effort to prepare a goat for meat production.

That is one thing local 4-Hers had learned leading up to Wednesday's Meat Goat Show at the Madison County 4-H Fairgrounds.

Participants said one key element in preparing the animals for competition is feed. As with humans, good nutrition leads to well-formed body composition, they said, which is something judges take note of during a show.

"They want them to have a lot of muscle, look cool," Carly Shuter, an eight-year 4-Her, said Wednesday before the show.

Participating in 4-H is a Shuter family tradition, which Carly traced back to her parents.

"I've always been in it," she said. "I've made a lot of friends from all over the state and country with cattle. I've learned patience and how to care for other people before myself."

INSIDE:
Thursday events at the Madison County 4-H Fair.
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See **4-H FAIR** on A2

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Ex-ag head supports revamp of leadership

McKinney's idea would remove leadership duties from lieutenant governor

LESLIE BONILLA MUÑIZ
INDIANA CAPITAL CHRONICLE

A former leader of Indiana's State Department of Agriculture says lawmakers should scrap Lt. Gov. Micah Beckwith's role as agriculture secretary and elevate Director Don Lamb to a cabinet position instead.

"It's probably time to make that change," said Ted McKinney, who served as ISDA director from 2014 to 2017. "Why do I say that? We may think that the director has complete autonomy, but they do not. ... If you're looking for efficiency, cut out the middleman. I don't mean that with any disrespect."

Indiana legislators made the lieutenant governor the secretary of agriculture and rural development in the same law that established ISDA. Gov. Mitch Daniels signed House Enrolled Act 1008 in 2005.

"Indiana is unique. I respect the heritage of that," McKinney told a state panel on Tuesday. "... I think it also had a lot to do with the personality that (Lt. Gov.) Becky Skillman was at the time."



Micah Beckwith

McKinney, who now is CEO of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture, most recently was undersecretary of agriculture for trade and foreign agricultural affairs during President Donald Trump's first term.

He returned to Indiana for the first meeting of the Agricultural Promotion and Regulation task force, one of more than a dozen interim committees studying topics for potential legislation.

The task force was created to examine agriculture-related "gaps and overlaps" between state entities, in addition to other structural questions on agricultural administration, regulation and publicity.

Other industry groups echoed the suggestion Tuesday, during a

See **AG** on A2

Postal delivery information:

WEATHER

Today: Sunny. Calm wind becoming north around 5 mph in the afternoon. **Tonight:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 61.

83 | 61

Full forecast on Page A6.

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