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ONLY IN THE JOURNAL-NEWS

‘It’s a place where I’ve never felt like a stranger’

Badin High School’s Sara Thompson looks forward to 22nd year.
Michael D. Clark
Contributing Writer

The coming weeks will see more than 70,000 public and private school students in Butler County return to classrooms, and among the teachers already gearing up for new school year is Sara Thompson, of Hamilton’s Badin High School.

Thompson is one of the most experienced instructors at Butler County’s only Catholic high school, and few others share her history as a former Badin graduate.

The decades have not lessened her passion for the uniqueness of each new school year.

“I love the start of the new school year,” said Thompson, who teaches advance placement English, literature and senior English at the high school on Hamilton’s west side.

The 1993 graduate, whose career includes numerous stints teaching other academic subjects, is starting her 22nd year on Badin’s instructional staff.

“It’s a place where I’ve never felt like a stranger,” she said.

A star athlete while in high school – she was a three-year starter and standout on girls’ basketball teams that went 63-12 and reached the state regional finals twice – Thompson’s Badin roots are deep.

“I have a history at Badin that is meaningful to me. I love having



“I have a history at Badin that is meaningful to me,” says Badin High School teacher Sara Thompson, who is one of the most veteran teachers at Butler County’s only Catholic high school. The 21-year English teacher, who graduated from the private Hamilton school in 1993 after a prep sports career as a star basketball player, says her passion for the start of the 2026-27 school year later this month remains strong. Classes at Badin will begin Aug. 19. **CONTRIBUTED**

Badin continued on **A6**

CLOSER LOOK

Over 4K cases of illness reported in Ohio

2 cyclosporiasis deaths reported in Michigan.

Samantha Wildow
Staff Writer

People should continue washing their hands before eating and cleaning vegetables and fruits as cases of the gastrointestinal illness cyclosporiasis continue to rise, according to the Ohio Department of Health.

“We’ve reported 4,013 cases, a second straight week of significant increases,” said Dr. Bruce Vanderhoff, ODH director. About a week prior, the number of cases were just over 2,500.

Although the illness is not typically life-threatening, Michigan’s Department of Health & Human Services has recorded two deaths linked to the outbreak. Michigan has the highest number of cyclosporiasis cases, followed by Ohio.

Both people “had significant underlying health conditions that may have been impacted by cyclosporiasis and dehydration,” according to state of Michigan.

The illness is foodborne, particularly among iceberg lettuce which the Centers for Disease Control and the Food and Drug Administration have identified as the likely culprit for the outbreaks of cyclosporiasis.

The two people who died in Michigan also became sick prior to the voluntary recall of iceberg lettuce, according to the state.

On July 17, Taylor Farms de Mexico, announced that they were voluntarily removing all iceberg lettuce sourced from central Mexico from the U.S. market, according to the FDA.

No additional information will be released on the two deaths in Michigan, according to Michigan’s Health & Human Services Department.

The most recent number of cyclosporiasis cases in Michigan was 11,234. As of July 30, 193 of Michigan’s reported cases indicated they had been hospitalized.

Cases continued on **A6**

CONTINUING COVERAGE

DeWine, lawmakers react to Buc-ee’s lawsuit

State officials critical of legal action taken against local business.
Avery Kreemer
Staff Writer

Gov. Mike DeWine and state lawmakers are joining criticism of Buc-ee’s after the Texas gas station megachain filed a federal trademark lawsuit against Beaver’s Mini Mart, a small Beaver Creek convenience store that

has had a beaver logo for years.

“It just seems to me that they need to dismiss this lawsuit; this is ridiculous,” DeWine told reporters on Wednesday, Aug. 5, at the Ohio State Fair. “It’s Beaver Creek, for heaven’s sake. You expect to find – in Beaver Creek – things named ‘beaver.’”

He added that, while he and many others love Buc-ee’s, “absurd” lawsuits like these ultimately hurt the company’s

Lawsuit continued on **A8**



Beaver’s Mini Mart in Beaver Creek has seen an increase in visitors showing support after being sued by Buc-ee’s for trademark infringement for their beaver logo.

THE LATEST

Crackdown has detained military spouses, parents. **B1**

France to ban certain telemarketing calls next week. **B2**

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