



Soccer showdown

Perrysburg, Anthony Wayne girls tie in anticipated battle of area's top teams

SPORTS C1



Here and now

Observations to note as we transition to fall

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MAUMEE RIVER REPAIRED



THE BLADE/KURT STEISS

The Clark and Delaware/Horseshoe islands have experienced significant erosion over the years. A now-completed \$13.5 million restoration project, the biggest ever in the Maumee River, reversed that.

Island restoration celebrated

Wildlife preservation project renews habitats

By KELLY KACZALA
BLADE STAFF WRITER

Local and state officials gathered at Walbridge Park on Monday to herald the completion of improvements to Clark Island and Delaware/Horseshoe Island in the Maumee River.

Called the biggest wildlife restoration project ever undertaken in the Maumee River, the \$13.5 million restoration of more than 63 acres at Clark and Delaware/Horseshoe islands protects and enhances existing islands and provides significant nutrient reduction and water quality benefits while restoring important fish and wild-

life habitat. Clark Island and Delaware/Horseshoe Islands experienced significant erosion over the years. The restoration reversed that.

Clark Island lost an estimated 28 acres or 95 percent of its land mass since the 1940s because of erosion and sand and gravel dredging. Delaware/Horseshoe Islands experienced significant erosion, with a loss of approximately 34 acres or 39 percent of its upland area since 1963.

"The islands were disappearing," said Mary Mertz, director of the Ohio

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Speaking Monday at Walbridge Park, Toledo Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz says improvements to the Maumee River islands serve as a commitment to the region's greatest natural resource.

THE BLADE/KURT STEISS

FBI: Evidence matches Kirk suspect

BLADE NEWS SERVICES

OREM, Utah — DNA on a towel wrapped around a rifle found near where conservative activist Charlie Kirk was assassinated matched that of the 22-year-old accused in the killing, FBI Director Kash Patel said Monday.

Investigators also have

Online confession reported

used DNA evidence to link the suspect, Tyler Robinson, with a screwdriver recovered from the rooftop where the fatal shot was fired, Mr. Patel said Monday on the Fox News show *Fox & Friends*.

Authorities in Utah are preparing to file capital murder charges against Robinson as early as Tuesday in the killing of Mr. Kirk, a prominent figure in conservative politics who became a confidant of

President Trump after founding Arizona-based Turning Point USA, one of the nation's largest political organizations.

Mr. Kirk, who brought young, conservative evangelical Christians into politics, was shot Wednesday

See KIRK, Page A3

Ohio report cards grade area schools

TPS ranks low; Ottawa Hills, Perrysburg excel

By MELISSA BURDEN
BLADE STAFF WRITER

The 2025 Ohio School Report Cards, released Monday, showed approximately 90 percent of the districts met state expectations for performance by earning a rating of 3 stars or higher.

Locally, Toledo Public Schools earned the lowest overall rating of 2 stars, down from 2.5 stars last year. Conversely, Ottawa Hills schools and Perrysburg schools each received 5-star ratings.

Districts and schools received overall ratings of 1-5 stars in half-star increments. This year, districts and schools also received star ratings in the categories of achievement, progress, gap closing, early literacy, and graduation, as well as the new college, career, work force, and military

readiness category.

James Gault, TPS chief of educational development, said he believes the district's rating will show improvement in the coming years. He pointed to a few of the grades as showing improvement.

"The district's performance index is at 55 percent, which is the highest it has been in 10 years," Mr. Gault said. "The class of 2025 had 55 percent of them graduate with either 12 industry credentials, college credit, or not needing SAT and ACT remediation. Four years ago, only 15 percent of the graduates had those numbers. We are encouraged that we are moving forward in many areas."

TPS earned 5 stars in the

See SCHOOLS, Page A4

U.S., CHINA REPORT PRELIMINARY DEAL

Framework accord reached on TikTok

NEW YORK TIMES

MADRID — U.S. officials said Monday that they reached a preliminary deal with China on the fate of social media platform TikTok that would address one of the biggest points of contention between the world's two largest economies.

After two days of talks in Madrid, Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said the sides had agreed to a "framework" for a deal to divest TikTok from its Chinese owner, ByteDance.

Trump and China's top leader, Xi Jinping, are scheduled to speak Friday to approve the deal, which Mr. Bessent described as an agreement between "two private parties" and would shift the social app into U.S.-controlled ownership.

Mr. Bessent and U.S. Trade Representative

Jamieson Greer led the negotiations on behalf of the United States, and He Lifeng, the vice premier for economic policy, led the talks for China.

It was the fourth round of talks on tariffs, trade, and other issues.

Trump had set a Wednesday deadline to enforce or delay a law requiring TikTok to be separated from its Chinese owner or face a ban in the United States.

Trump essentially claimed the power to nullify the TikTok ban and has repeatedly kept the Justice Department from enforcing it, so Wednesday's deadline may be one in name only.

The President has delayed enforcing the law three times.

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INSIDE

Site on notice

The zoning appeals board upholds a noncompliance notice at a S. Toledo location that had been a mining site.

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Extra innings

Max Anderson, a Mud Hens infielder, gets to play in the Arizona Fall league after the Hens' season ends.

Sports | Page C1

Weather

HI 83° LO 56°

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Moving day nears

Ford Motor is moving its world headquarters for the first time in seven decades.

Business | Page B4

Sweet seaweed

Forget about algal blooms at Ireland's oldest seaweed bathhouse and the others that are sprouting up.

Peach | Page D1

U.K. plans royal welcome for Trump

Windsor staff preparing for grand event

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONDON — Windsor Castle staff are setting the 164-foot-long mahogany table.

Grooms are buffing the hooves of the horses that will pull the royal carriages.

The military honor guard is drilling to ensure every step lands with precision.

Throughout the halls and grounds of the almost 1,000-year-old castle west of London, hundreds of people are working to make sure King Charles III



ASSOCIATED PRESS

puts on the best show possible when he welcomes President Trump for his historic second state visit this week.

The visit, featuring glit-

tering tiaras, brass bands, and a sumptuous banquet served on 200-year-old silver, is a display of the pomp and ceremony Britain does like no one else.

But it's a spectacle with a purpose: to bolster ties with one of the world's most powerful men at a

See TRUMP, Page A2

President Trump and Britain's Prince Charles toast during Trump's first state dinner, in 2019. President Trump has been invited again in a handwritten letter by King Charles III.

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