

Rocket Rundown



By Olivia Witheft

Last week was incredibly busy. Starting on Monday, there were three varsity events. Boys Track and Field had a meet in Salt Fork, which was eventually cancelled. Then Tuesday hosted Softball, Baseball, and track. Softball played St. Anthony's at home, where they do their best work. The team won 10-0 over the Bulldogs.

Baseball also took on St. Anthony's, but away and with a different outcome. The boys lost 2-5 to the Bulldogs.

The girl's track meet was hosted by Urbana and was an outstanding success. The 200m was the most remarkable event in this meet with Unity girls taking the top six spots, and Emma Swisher placing first (25.52) with a new school record! In the 800m Carolina Popovics, a freshman, placed first. Mackenzie Pound placed first in

the 1600m. Cameron Kaiser placed first in the 110m hurdles. Both the 4x100 and the 4x200 placed first. Grace Wherley placed first in highjump. Cameryn Cobb placed first in the triple jump, and Jillian Schlittler placed first in the long jump.

Wednesday held just Softball against Central Catholic. The girls won 12-2 and extended their winning streak.

Similarly, Thursday was strictly a Baseball day. The team took on Central Catholic on the road, and won 4-0.

Friday, there were two track meets. The boys were in St. Joe while the girls were in Monticello. The meet in St. Joe was huge. So big, in fact, that there were separate categories for every event determined by upperclassmen or underclassmen. The Rockets did not bring home a first place finish, but left the meet

with several second places.

The girls meet went different with two first place finishes: Ava Jones in the long jump and Grace Tempel in 100m. On Saturday, Baseball had a double header while Softball also played two games. Softball played Tri-county with an 11-4 win and SHG winning 1-0. These wins extend the Rockets winning streak to eleven!

Baseball also won both their games. Their fist was against Coal City which they won 12-0 and their second was against Dixon also winning 8-4.

This upcoming week baseball has games Monday, Thursday, and Saturday, Track and Field has four meets, and Softball has four games.

Go Rockets!

Don't be 'that guy'

Ramblin' Man

By David Porter



They say there's one in every crowd. Turns out, there are often four or five. The heckler, the naysayer, the doomsdayer. The moaner, the groaner, the bellyache owner. Some people aren't happy unless they're raining on someone else's parade.

I was on the internet, known for its compassion and empathy (said no one ever). Some people there have what I call Facebook kahoonas. They say some of the meanest things to people because they know their face is too far away from your fist.

I ran into some of these knuckleheads in a cigar fan group. Like-minded people join various groups to get recommendations, share observations, maybe console each other, and learn stuff. And, apparently, to pick fights with people they don't know. It's like going to Graceland because you hate Elvis.

I had posted about my most recent cigar acquisition because, in this particular group, bargains are bragging rights.

Someone had asked me how I store so many cigars because cigars need to be kept within a certain humidity range. So, I shared a picture of an old military locker-turned-humidor that will properly store 1,500 cigars.

"I wouldn't smoke any of those," one of the internet trolls stated. "They're all cheap."

There's no shame in smoking a cheap cigar if

that's what you like, but half the cigars in the photo are high-end sticks that retail between \$18 and \$22. If that's a cheap cigar, what's this guy smoking in his regal castle? And what's he doing in a group designated for bargain hunters?

Another guy said I "suck at cigar-ing" because I don't buy all my cigars at retail from a premium shop, of which there are zero in my town. In order to be a good cigar aficionado, I need to drive out of town and pay 60-90 percent more for the same sticks.

I understand the economic importance of supporting local shops. When my wife and I plan trips, I research where the cigar shops are and patronize them. But you don't suck at dining because you have a vegetable garden. You don't suck at driving because you bought a used car. You don't suck at reading because you checked a book out at the library.

I'm in the newspaper business. I can't think of any industry that has been decimated more by people getting their news from the internet, buying their business cards online, promoting

their shops on social media, and printing their own flyers at home. In 40 years, I've seen maybe two newspaper ads for a cigar shop. Patronage is a two-way street.

Most of the comments on my cigar post were positive - entertaining, cordial, informative. I felt like I made some new friends. But a handful were just nuts.

My wife said to just let it go. That's her nature. It's not mine. I don't acquiesce to bullies.

It makes me wonder why some people are like that - why they feel the need to flaunt their faux superiority. Did nobody hug them when they were young? Did they miss out on a promotion? Were they shoved inside a locker in high school? It's an obvious insecurity.

Maybe they're searching for affirmation, compassion, and empathy and think they'll find it online. Good luck with that.

© Copyright 2026 by David Porter who can be reached at presseditor1@gmail.com. To be fair, incivility is not limited to the internet; some people are jerks wherever they go.

Attention all readers — BYOB at the Philo Library

Philo's "Bring Your Own Book" Club will meet Tuesday, May 5 at 6 p.m. in the Library's meeting room. Join us for refreshments and conversations about books - books someone has read or heard about, books someone is looking for - you get the idea - all it takes is an interest in books and an hour or so.

Maybe you'd like to grab one of our new books before attending the meeting. We've added several new large prints: Good Morning America;s Book Club choice, "Yesteryear" by Caro Claire

Burke is a popular title as are Emma Straub's "American Fantasy", Fern Michael's "The Final Storm" "Upward Bound" by Woody Brown is a Read with Jenna Book., and Debbie Macomber's "Chasing the Clouds Away." "Ghost Town" by Tom Perrotta.is a regular print book also on the new shelves.

School's end is fast approaching - parents, have you figured out how to keep the kids busy this summer? Philo Library has some ideas that don't cost anything and should be fun for the attend-

ees - some for younger kids, some for elementary age kids, and some for middle school through adult. A list detailing everything will be available the middle of May in Philo Library and also on the internet, as well as Philo Watch. We're waiting on some final notes and plans to fall into place then we will send a flyer through school and have information available in the Library as well. So, lots will be happening, just keep checking with us. And, keep on reading the column, we appreciate it.

Meteor shower tonight

You might see a few Delta Aquarid meteors in the sky tonight though the peak of the shower occurred this morning. The Delta Aquarids are known for their "trains," which is a kind of afterglow produced by ionized atoms recombining. The shower is believed to be related to Comet Machholz, discovered in 1986.

Under dark skies, one might see 10-30 meteors per hour, but I'd lean toward the lower end of the range with a waning gibbous Moon in the sky. Bright Moonlight and meteor watching don't get along very well.

The Moon will brighten the southeastern sky during

In the night sky

By David Leake



the predawn hours tomorrow morning, which is prime time for seeing meteors. The Moon reaches third quarter on Saturday.

Saturn is already above the eastern horizon by 5 a.m. with Mars not far behind. The Moon will visit Saturn in the east on the morning of the 13th. Look

for the planet below the thin waning crescent Moon before the Sun rises.

David Leake is the retired Planetarium Director of Staerkel Planetarium at Parkland College and co-founder of the Champaign-Urbana Astronomical Society, Inc.

Lots ramping up at the Tolono Library

Mother's Day is coming up this Sunday, and we have a special opportunity for moms to celebrate leading up to their special day. Mom's Night Out is this Thursday, May 7 from 5:30-7:00PM. We will have flowerpots and supplies available for you to paint and decorate your own flowerpot while you relax and chat with other moms. As for the rest of you, if you haven't done anything for your mom yet, we will have a drop in craft day on Saturday, May 9 where you can come and make a special homemade gift to show your mom how much she means to you. We will have a few special kits, but also a general assortment of supplies to allow your creativ-

ity to flow. If you need a break from your littles, come by Ms. Leslie's Sensory Storytime on Friday, May 8 from 10:00-10:30; she'll have stories, crafts, and a silly song or two.

On Monday, May 12, Pawprint Ministries will be here with Poppi, their therapy dog, who LOVES to listen to stories! Children are invited to come meet Poppi and take turns reading a story to her. Stop in anytime between 3:30-4:30. Later, come back for Sourdough 101 with Colleen Richardson from Richardson Farms. Her presentation starts at 5:30. This is a reschedule from the March event, but there is currently still room to register!

Finally, if you are an older

adult wishing you could be just a little bit more active, join us for our first Senior Fitness class on Wednesday, May 13 from 9:00-10:00. The class will be low impact focusing on balance, stability, and strength. Much of it can be done seated, and it will be led by personal trainer Eddie Edwards from Stephens Family YMCA.

For more information on all our programs, be sure to visit our website at tolonolibrary.org/events or stop by and pick up a calendar or brochure.

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<p>IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH 390 CR 2400E, Broadlands (217) 834-3289 Pastor Rev. John Sharp Sunday Schedule Service - 9 a.m. Sunday school and Bible classes - 10:15 a.m. (Aug. - June) Adult Bible Study Wednesdays - 9 a.m. (Aug. - June) Men's Bible Breakfast - 7:30 a.m. Second and Fourth Saturdays (Lincoln Street Lounge) •Youth Group•Sewing Circle• •Men's Club• Call the church office for more information.</p>	<p>FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Non-Denominational) "Come Rejoice With Us" 701 N. Sycamore Street Villa Grove, Illinois Phone (217) 832-5231 Fax (217) 832-9348 website: www.fccvg.com e-mail: fccvg@frontier.com Minister—Mike Zylstra e-mail: fccvgmin@frontier.com Open communion observed weekly Morning Worship Service: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School (all ages) 10:45 a.m. Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group 1st & 3rd Sundays 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>COUNTRYSIDE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 1807 County Road 1000N, Urbana Between Sidney and Philo Rev. Jeff Stahl E-mail: cumc.office99@gmail.com www.countrysidemethodist.com Worship Coffee Hour- 8:30 a.m. Worship-9:00 a.m. Nursery Available during worship Wednesday Wednesday's Bible Study 1:30pm Facebook Devotionals on Thursdays - 1:30 Crossroads Youth Group meets on the last Sunday of the Month from 5-6:30pm; dinner is provided. (Ages 7 & up) Please contact the office for more information 217-688-2422 "Love God; Love Each Other"</p>
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