

What will COVID do to winter sports?

By Jim Brunner

I remember the day like it was yesterday. March 10, 2020. I had just announced the tough loss in the national tourney for the Lady Cats of IWU, and was on my way to South Dakota to call a game for the iwu men, in the NAIA nationals. A tourney they were heavily favored to win.

Then the phone call.

“JB come home. They are shutting down all college and high school sports be-

Sports Talk



Jim Brunner

cause of the pandemic.”

So, you can imagine my apprehension when August 2020 came along, and after five months of hiding in our basements, it was time for sports in 2020-21.

Many of us thought we wouldn’t make it through the month.

So my friends, when I call this maybe the greatest fall sports season ever... You see where I’m coming from.

As of this week, Grant County has already won six IHSAA sectional titles in

girls golf, girls volleyball, girls soccer, boys cross country, boys soccer and boys tennis. And as of this writing Grant County could easily win two more sectionals in high school football. That would take us to eight IHSAA sectional titles in a fall sports season, where we would have been happy with just a month or two of sports.

Now the doom-sayers will come out of the wood-work again.

“No way” will be their

cry whether we can get thru a high school and college basketball season. It would have to take us from late October to late March and that’s 5 months. Months where, just here in Grant County, we could watch two unreal talents in Jalen Blackmon for Marion and Kyle Mangus for IWU.

Next door in Blackford County, they can’t wait to see Luke Brown and his band of reknown lead the Bruins in 20-21. And I haven’t even mentioned

boys and girls swimming, wrestling and gymnastics.

And oh yeah, before I forget Steve Alford’s son coaching two Oak Hill Golden Eagles up at Huntington University.

It’s set to start this week and take us to the last weekend in March of 2021. Surely the sports-gods won’t make us sit in the basement again this winter, wondering what this upcoming sports season would have been like?

You can find our master sports schedule and the Grant County roundup giving scores from other sporting activities by visiting our Facebook page, The News Herald.

Local sports schedule

Tuesday, Oct. 27

9 am—MG—Indiana Wesleyan University @ Huntington Invitational (Day 2)

9 am—WG—Indiana Wesleyan University @ Huntington Invitational (Day 2)

7 pm—MB—Indiana Wesleyan University @ Olivet Nazarene University

Friday, Oct. 30

6:30 pm—WCS—DePauw University @ Indiana Wesleyan University

7 pm—F—Eastbrook @ Tipton (Section 36 Semifinal)

7 pm—F—Madison-Grant @ Tri-Central (Sectional 43 Semifinal)

7 pm—F—Fort Wayne South Side @ Marion (Sectional 20 Semifinal)

7 pm—F—Fort Wayne Concordia Lutheran @ Oak Hill (Sectional 27 Semifinal)

7 pm—MB—Taylor University @ Thomas More College

7 pm—WV—Bethel College @ Indiana Wesleyan University

7:30 pm—MB—Cornerstone University @ Indiana Wesleyan University (CL/WHAC Challenge)

8 pm—WB—Indiana Wesleyan University @ Cardinal Stritch University (Indiana Tech Classic)

Saturday, Oct. 31

12 pm—WCS—Bethel University @ Indiana Wesleyan University

2:30 pm—MB—Indiana

Tech @ Indiana Wesleyan University (CL/WHAC Challenge)

3 pm—WB—Indiana Wesleyan University @ Brescia University (Indiana Tech Classic)

3 pm—WV—Taylor University @ Mount Vernon Nazarene University

7 pm—MB—Governors State University @ Taylor University

7 pm—MS—Taylor University @ Spring Arbor University

7 pm—WS—Indiana Wesleyan University @ Taylor University

Monday, November 2

7 pm—MS—Goshen College @ Indiana Wesleyan University

SUDOKU

		9						2
		6	2				5	8
3			7		1	9		
9	2			5				
				2				
			8			3		
	3				7		4	9
6								
						5		1

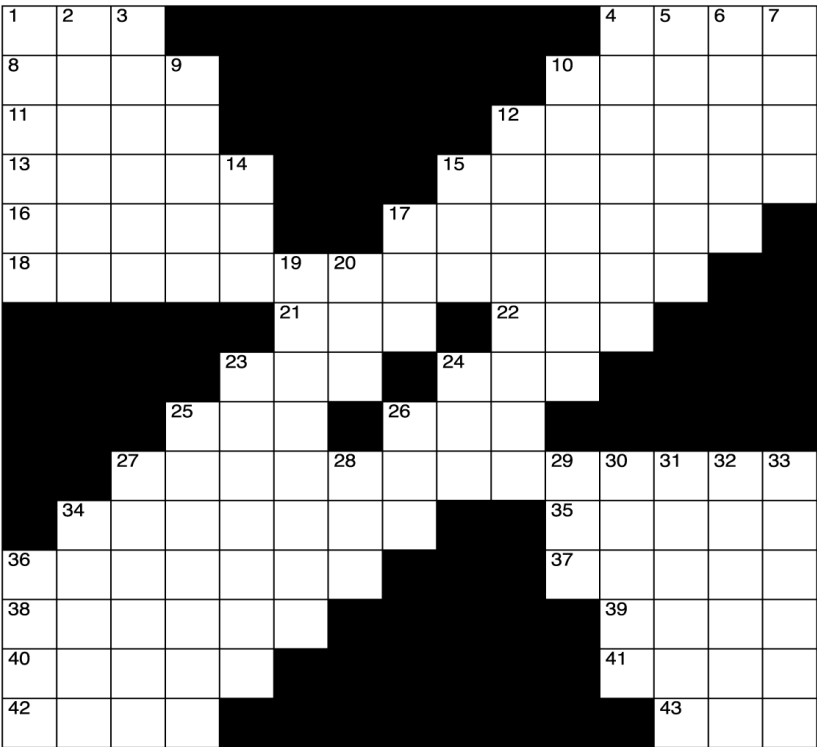
Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!



CLUES ACROSS

1. Engine additive

4. Undemanding

8. “__ your enthusiasm”

10. Well-known island

11 Not saintly

12. Habitual

13. Central parts of church buildings

15. Trust

16. Intestinal

17. Deep-bodied fish

18. Live up to expectations

21. Snag

22. Partner to haw

23. General’s assistant (abbr.)
24. Sheep disease

25. Male term of endearment

26. United

27. Popular TV host

34. Overnighters

35. Beloved British princess

36. Obtains from

37. Third Mughal Emperor

38. Shares the opinion of

39. Central European river

40. Feudal estates

41. KU hoops coach Bill

42. Spreads out for drying

43. “The Partridge Family” actress Susan

CLUES DOWN

1. Picturesque

2. South Pacific island country

3. Shrub of the olive family

4. Establish the truth of

5. Unfettered

6. Originations

7. Famed English park

9. Sheep’s cry

10. Danced

12. More upstanding

14. Upstate NY airport (abbr.)

15. Type of lettuce

17. Place to call a pint

19. Backs
20. Partner to cheese

23. Makes it there

24. Value

25. One’s convictions

26. Former CIA

27. Clashed

28. Affirmative

29. Journalist Tarbell

30. Athletic shoes

31. Roof style

32. Make possible

33. Make less dense

34. Healthy food

36. Silly

Answers to puzzles on Page 11