

It's Friday,  
April 7, 1995

Today's forecast: Cloudy.  
High about 60.  
Thunder showers tonight.  
Low about 44.

Weather / A2

### Demanding answers

Purdue students want quick resolution on Black Cultural Center.

Local & State / B1



### World action

3 Purdue women's basketball players selected to try out for international competition.

Sports / C1



### BUG OUT

Annual Bug Bowl highlights weekend of activity at Purdue University.

TGIF



# Journal and Courier

Lafayette—West Lafayette, Indiana

35 cents

## Amtrak cutting its service to Lafayette

By DAVID SMITH  
Journal and Courier

In an ironic twist of fate, Amtrak will sharply reduce train service to Lafayette about the time the city's \$6.9 million passenger rail depot is being finished.

Under cost-cutting changes announced Thursday by Amtrak, train service between Lafayette and Indianapolis will be reduced from seven days a week to three days a week by fall, when Lafayette Depot Plaza is scheduled for completion.

Deborah Hare, an Amtrak spokeswoman in Chicago, said the routes are scheduled for elimina-

### • Rail's president defends cuts/A10

tion because costs are high and ridership is low. Reducing costly routes will help the company maintain service elsewhere.

The changes affecting Lafayette will take place in two stages:  
• Beginning June 11, the Hoosier State between Chicago and Indianapolis will make three round trips a week instead of seven, stopping in Lafayette four days a week instead of seven.  
• Beginning Sept. 10, the Cardinal no longer will run farther

west than Cincinnati, cutting service to Lafayette completely. The Cardinal now makes three round trips a week between Chicago and Washington, stopping in Lafayette en route.

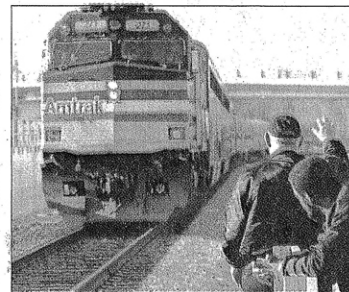
Hare said Amtrak officials attempted to contact Lafayette Mayor James Riehle on Wednesday to prepare him for the news. But Riehle and other community leaders were in Washington, D.C., this week lobbying for continued federal funding of Lafayette's \$160 million Railroad Relocation project.

The relocation project includes \$6.9 million for construction of

Lafayette Depot Plaza at the foot of Main Street. The plaza centerpiece is the historic Big Four Depot building, which was moved from Second and South streets last summer.

The station, complete with a covered boarding platform and a sign welcoming visitors to Lafayette, will be Lafayette's first permanent Amtrak station in more than 10 years.

Lynda McIntosh, a travel agent for Imperial Travel Service, said most Amtrak passengers she books out of Lafayette are going to Chicago to shop for the weekend. Those routes are being maintained.



An Amtrak train arrives Thursday afternoon in Lafayette.



As Dr. Paul Blough brings another life into Haiti's slums, a newborn waits for his mother's first touch. Each day, Blough delivers between 10 and 15 babies.

By Frank Oliver  
Journal and Courier

■ **THE SERIES:** As the U.S. mission in Haiti ends, the Journal and Courier takes a weeklong look at how local residents are helping Haitians through the transition to democracy.

■ **INSIDE TODAY:** A children's hospital struggles amid crime and increasing deaths. Pages A6-7

■ **COMING SATURDAY:** Despite continuing problems, Haitians haven't lost their faith in a better future.

## The first 100 days

### Area lawmakers revel in 'Contract's' success

By RONALD A. TAYLOR  
Journal and Courier/Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Although the Senate still has to act on much of the House Republicans' "Contract with America," GOP House members already are reflecting on accomplishing their legislative mission ahead of their deadline and are planning for future legislative battles.

"I'm not aware of a U.S. Congress moving legislation at this kind of pace," said Indiana Rep. Steve Buyer, R-6th. A second-term member and one of several Hoosier Republicans who gained prominence in the new Congress, Buyer is not reluctant to take partial credit for the GOP successes in the House during the last three months.

"I was one of the ones who helped set up the 'Contract with America,'" he said. A corps of House members last year drafted the 10-item legislative agenda that Buyer labeled a catalyst for "a shift in ideology" in Congress.

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## POOR FROM DAY ONE

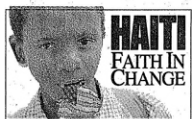
By JOHN NORBERG  
Journal and Courier

PORT-AU-PRINCE—Wearing her best nightgown, her voice rhythmically rises and falls, singing a song of hope through the pains of childbirth, breathing sweet tones of praise amid the suffering of her life.

"Ah-ah-ah-ah-la-la-la," she sings faster and faster in the hospital delivery room as her lilting voice begins to warble into poetic Creole prayer.

"Pousse," Dr. Paul Blough calmly tells her. Push. "Trees bon." Very good.

In the space of a deep sigh, new



HAITI  
FAITH IN CHANGE

life comes to the slums of Haiti, a baby boy held upside down in the confident hands of Dr. Paul as he shuffles across the delivery room at St. Catherine LaBoure Hospital.

A goat bleats in the courtyard outside, its sound filtering through holes that serve as windows for the

concrete block building in an area known as Cite Soleil.

No one is certain how many people live here—200,000, 300,000—all crammed together in a 1/2-square-mile slum where the daily struggle for life is as constant as the senseless deaths, as endless as the lines of pregnant women that form each dawn at the doors to St. Catherine LaBoure.

They come to see Dr. Paul, an obstetrician-gynecologist from Peoria, Ill., who has volunteered his time here for the past 12 years. At 81 years old he's still delivering babies. He leaves the comfort-

able life for Haiti's rigors, renewing life here like an old church hymn renews the strength of the faithful.

The pregnant women come here with mothers and sisters and friends and husbands, sitting outside the delivery room on long benches. When the benches are full, they rest on the concrete floor. They stand from time to time and pace in the hot, sunny courtyard, waiting for their time and a vacancy on one of five metal birthing beds in the busy hospital.

See HAITI, Back Page

## High pollen count arriving with spring

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Allergy sufferers, blame your sneezes, sniffles and watery, itchy eyes on the second-warmest winter in the past 100 years: It's caused trees to start pollinating earlier than usual.

Pollen counts usually begin to build about early April, but high counts are being recorded nationwide due to the mild winter, said Sarah Kaluzny-Petroff of the American Academy of Allergy Asthma and Immunology in Milwaukee.

"It's kind of everywhere," she said. "Mild winter, with the real nice pop of weather that we had, really just jump-started all the trees."

The recent winter tied for second-warmest in a century of record-keeping with an average temperature of 36 degrees across the continental United States, according to the National Climatic Data Center.

Nationwide, the allergy academy has about 70 stations that count pollen, and only six cities had low readings for tree pollen last week, Kaluzny-Petroff said.

Trees generally pollinate in the spring, grass in the summer and weeds during the fall, Kaluzny-Petroff said. She declined to forecast the severity of the 1995 allergy season, but said, "Indications are that it's going to be an active one."

## TRW changes expand Ross Gear plant's responsibilities

By LINDA LIPP  
Journal and Courier

A change in the organizational structure of TRW's automotive businesses will bring worldwide responsibilities for commercial steering products to Lafayette by late 1996. Employees at Ross Gear, TRW Commercial Steering Division, were informed of the reorganization plan this week.

The local facility employs 350 people — 221 in the manufacturing

plant and 129 in the division headquarters — and those employment levels are not expected to change as a result of the reorganization.

Dubbed Project ELITE, the reorganization is a broad-based effort to improve the operating effectiveness of TRW's worldwide automotive businesses, said Peter S. Hellman, president and chief operating officer.

The reorganization also will mean a new vice president and general manager for the Commercial Steering

Division here. Lafayette native George Thomas, who serves in that position, has been named vice president and general manager for passenger steering systems worldwide, and he will relocate to Sterling Heights, Mich.

Arvind Kordke, most recently president of TRW Koyo Steering Systems Co. in Vonore, Tenn., will be transferred to Lafayette as vice president and general manager of commercial steering, systems

worldwide.

"There is little effect on the Commercial Steering Division near-term except the obvious, a new vice president and general manager," said Gary Hale, the Lafayette facility's director of human resources. "Beyond that, our situation doesn't change. Longer term, when we implement the product line focus, we will formally take over worldwide responsibilities for commercial products. Right now, that means Spain, Brazil and India."



A Gannett Newspaper  
Vol. 76, No. 97  
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Classified / 423-5511  
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## HAITI: FAITH IN CHANGE



Most lying two to a bed, women in the recovery area will stay a day at the clinic before they must leave to make room for others.

By Frank Oliver/Journal and Courier

# NEWBORN HAITI: HARD LABOR

Continued from Page A1

This morning, a woman already occupies each high bed. Dr. Paul, as everyone calls him, goes from one to the other talking to the women, examining them, coaching them. The babies are born into his trained hands.

One is born at 8:30 a.m., another at 9, another at 9:15. In the first bed a woman lies silent, motionless.

"She has a prolapsed cord, a hand is presenting," Dr. Paul says

in medical terminology.

The women in the room look over at her as another sings through her contractions, "whee-whoa-whee-whoa-whoa-whoa ..."

But the woman in the first bed says nothing and looks nowhere, her eyes fixed on the ceiling, her thoughts deep in her head.

Just three of the six circular fluorescent lights in the room are working. The floor is brownish yellow and the walls are tiled in white. Someone is always cleaning.

Dr. Paul is a small man in a green-and-blue surgical suit. His hair is gray-black and he has a beard, trimmed short. A gold cross hangs from his neck. Two nurses wear pink dresses under white surgical gowns as they examine newborn babies, wrapping them in yellow blankets.

The recovery area, next to the delivery room, has 30 beds. But with so many women, four beds are doubled up. Most women go home the day after giving birth.

Men stand outside the recovery ward looking through open windows, waiting for visiting hours.

Carline Carresse lies in the first bed in the recovery area, wearing a pink nightgown. A yellow scarf is wrapped around her head. She looks 16. She's 24. She's holding twins.

"The babies have no names yet," she says through an interpreter. "I came to this hospital because it's close to my home. This is my third child. The other was born out in the provinces."

Are conditions good at this hospital?

"Oui," she says and smiles. Yes. Nearby, Rachel Ariste, 22, also has twins with no names. She is anemic and has been kept for five days. Her hospital bill, including doctors, medication and food, comes to one U.S. dollar. Those who can't pay aren't charged.

"I live in Cite Soleil," Ariste says

through an interpreter. "We have one more child at home. Our home is one small room and we rent it. The walls are concrete and the roof is metal."

Does your husband work?

"No."

Do you work?

"No."

How do you pay for food and rent and water?

"We manage."

Have you had any schooling?

"No."

Are you worried now with two more babies to feed?

"Oui."

Dr. Paul walks among the beds examining the women. A few babies cry softly.

## Peoria and the port

He left Haiti last year for a trip back to Peoria—an annual visit back home that lasted longer than usual. He stayed with a sick friend.

If he was tempted during that long stay to remain home with his children and grandchildren, he doesn't say so. If he felt like resting in retirement and staying far away from the problems of Port-au-Prince, he doesn't mention it.

He just says he came back to do his work.

"There's plenty to do here," he says. He speaks slowly and picks his words carefully. "I like the people here and I kind of hate doing nothing. It seems like such a waste of time sitting at home and just fishing or something like that. I enjoy doing this."

He tosses aside a comment that he's needed in Haiti.

"They'd get along without me," he says. "Somebody always takes your place; you never have to really worry about that."

He retired 13 years ago from his practice in Peoria. His wife died and he decided to do volunteer work to keep busy. They needed doctors in Haiti. That's why he's here.

"I miss Peoria," Dr. Paul says. "Peoria is a good town. I really enjoyed that place. I had the best practice anybody ever had. People there were awfully good to me. But I wouldn't enjoy inactivity. I'm probably better off in a place where I can't be inactive. It would be awfully nice sometimes to just stay in bed in the morning. This keeps me jumping. But it isn't hard work, you know. It's not hard."

He's quiet for several long moments.

"I don't know how long I'll stay here," he finally says. "I don't know from year to year. Someday I'll have to go. I don't see as well as I used to and I don't hear as well and

He estimates in his lifetime he's delivered more than 30,000 babies—more than the population of West Lafayette. On an average day in his Port-au-Prince hospital, there are 20 to 30 births.

"That's a lot of babies being born," he says. "And these little babies aren't going to have an easy time of it. Most of them live in little houses with just one room, a dirt floor and sometimes a tin roof that has holes in it like a sieve. It's too bad."

"Yeah ... it's too bad."

"When I first came, five births a day used to be a busy day. That's a short time to have that big of an increase."

## Specter of AIDS

Posters in the recovery room warn about AIDS. Some billboards in Port-au-Prince encourage the use of condoms for protection from AIDS, but not directly for birth control. Haiti is a strongly Catholic country.

They used to check the babies born at the hospital for AIDS. Ten percent tested positive.

"It might even be higher than 10 percent now," Dr. Paul says. "But it's all just statistics. There's nothing we can do for them."

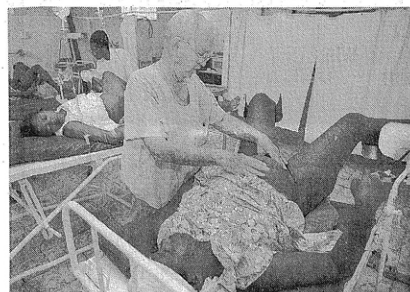
"I'll probably get AIDS," he says matter-of-factly. "There are a lot of times I don't get gloves on."

"And, when you repair an epistomomy you can't help but stick your finger once in awhile. And then too, if the baby doesn't come around like it should, we don't have the equipment to give them artificial respiration. So sometimes you do it by mouth."

"But I don't worry about it. The incubation can be seven to 10 years. It could be 10 years before I get real AIDS. I should be dead by then."

He shrugs his shoulders.

"Father Damien got leprosy working with lepers in Hawaii," he says. "That wouldn't be bad company."



By Frank Oliver/Journal and Courier

Dr. Paul Blough checks the position of a Haitian woman's baby. Later, the child was stillborn.



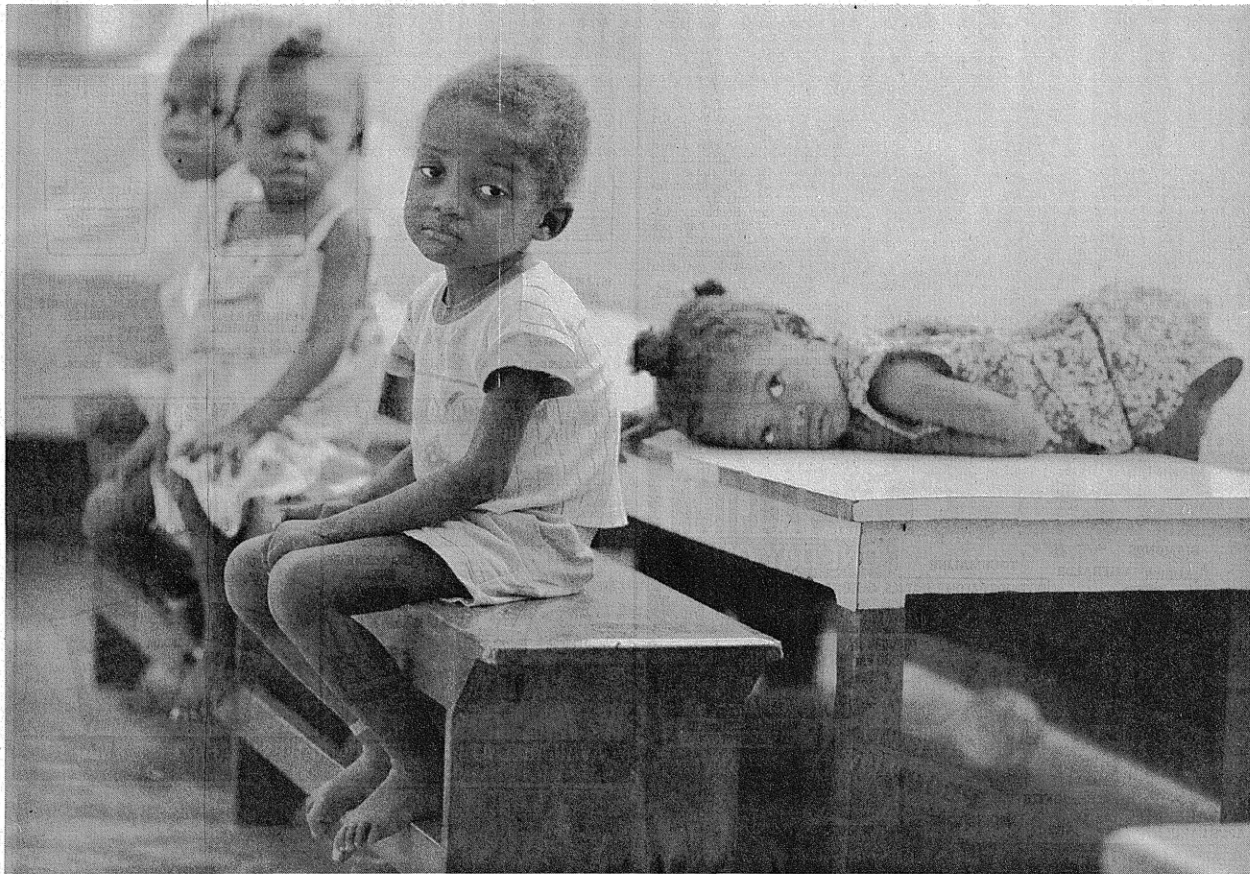
By Frank Oliver/Journal and Courier



By Frank Oliver/Journal and Courier

Dr. Paul Blough counts the number of babies he's delivered in

HAITI: FAITH IN CHANGE



At a hospice for malnourished children, patients wait for the noon meal — a bowl of oatmeal. A year ago, one child died every week at the hospice. Now, a child dies each day. By Frank Oliver/Journal and Courier

# OF SUCH IS THE KINGDOM

By JOHN NORBERG  
Journal and Courier

**PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti**—In a place where smiles spring from tears and hope walks with fear, Tony Levi leans over a small, white, metal crib reaching for the laughter in a sick girl's heart.

He knows it's there. He knows he can make her empty eyes sparkle.

He leans his husky body over the crib and makes funny faces at Franceline, an infant perhaps 18 months old. He exaggerates his own laughter to see if she'll join in. Laughter is contagious, isn't it?

In most places it is. But this is the Missionaries of Charity children's hospital, where a baby dies every day and smiles are drained from weary faces.

**Love: The great healer**

Just one year ago, the hospital had more patients and one child died each week. No one can explain the increase. But, statistics don't really matter here. Numbers aren't important; children are. And so many are dying.

This is where 77 children are trying to recover from tuberculosis, malnutrition, dysentery and other diseases. This is where babies whose bodies should be growing strong and preparing for life are instead careening toward death of AIDS, malnutrition, tuberculosis.

This is where sick children are sometimes abandoned by parents who are no longer able to deal with life and death, sickness and hunger.

And here, amid all this, is Levi, a man who knows the healing power of love and laughter and is determined to find them in Franceline.

Levi is a priest at St. Thomas Aquinas Church in West Lafayette. He was part of a group from the church that visited Haiti in March during the Purdue University spring break.

## Visitors from West Lafayette learn the unsearchable joy and pain of caring for sick children

**Mother Teresa.**

Across the street from the hospital, roosters crow and pick their way through the dirt. At the front gate, a woman stands with her hands on the bars, her face pressed against the cold metal. She silently looks inside.

Inside, Sister Francisca, from India, is busy, moving quickly from one job to the next like a woman who has far more to do than she will ever accomplish this day.

She is upset and talks quickly with great emotion. Sometimes she cries when she talks about this. The sisters have been robbed of their medicine and supplies four times in six months, most recently just days ago.

It has forced them to close a satellite clinic in the slum of La Saline. They don't know when it will reopen.

"I am so tired. I am so discouraged," Sister Francisca says. "I have no heart to bring this subject up. There is no asking why this happens because we have no answers. This medicine is so expensive. It's not good. We came for the poor and we work for the poor, but ..."

**Fighting discouragement**

Yvonne Angst, a 70-year-old woman from a town near Flint, Mich., has been volunteering here for 10 years. She stays as long as seven or eight months at a time. Her hair is white. She is a great-grandmother.

"In this clinic at the edge of La Saline, they used to open two days a week and they treated wounds and gave injections," Angst says, above the constant cry of babies.

"And they had this big dispensary there and they'd see maybe 500 people on Saturdays. If the children they saw there were too sick, they'd bring them up here. Usually every Saturday there were 12 or 15 or even 20 who would

The wound clinic and dispensary are closed now because of the thefts. The people they once served are making do without.

"Just this past weekend someone cut a hole in the roof here and went down," Angst says. "You feel so discouraged. The American troops aren't supposed to step in, so there's no place we can call to get any help. There's no security. There are some people here who think democracy gives them the right to do whatever they want and take what they want, and they can really get threatening once in a while," she says.

**Hands of care**

At the hospital, in a room filled with cribs, 11 children sit in a circle on the floor at noon eating out of blue dishes.

Birthday banners hang from the ceiling above the cribs. One baby cries continuously, stopping only long enough to grab deep gulps of air.

Among the group sits Usha Nair, 35, of the St. Thomas Aquinas group, holding Lusette, a 14-month-old girl, and feeding her.

"Are you finished, sweetie pie?" she says. "You're a good girl. I know you're hungry, but you know what? You could eat a lot better if you ate a little slower."

She hums a song. Marie-Claire Foster, 18, of the St. Thomas Aquinas group, sits on the floor with another baby, Evanson Eosse.

"He's 18 months old. Do you believe it?" she says. "Look how little he is. Look at his little feet. He's eaten this whole bowl."

"This opens my eyes. And my heart. It makes me wonder, what's going to happen? What future do they have?"

Wendy Baker, 22, of the St. Thomas group, holds Juliette on her lap and feeds her. She creates a high-pitched voice for the baby. "I'm hungry. I'm hungry," she

"This is scary," Baker says. "They're going to get fed here and then go back to the same homes they came from. They're so cute. They sit here in this brick room on their beds and they cry and there aren't enough people to pick them up. But without this, they'd probably all die. And they're dying of simple things we can cure, like diarrhea."

Levi has fed Franceline two bowls of food. He thinks she's ready for a nap, but when he puts her down in the crib she wakes up.

She has short hair, a blue nightgown and a bad cough. He thinks she has tuberculosis.

"This is the first time she's let me put her down. It's hard to leave," Levi says, looking at her. "You're a little jewel. I don't know what her story is. I don't know if she was abandoned or if she has a mommy."

He never takes his eyes off her. "Give me a laugh," he says to Franceline. "Come on, give me a laugh."

It's little moments, like when you hold a child, that you feel the love of God, Levi says.

"If you have any anger in your heart, any bit of malice, you don't know what the love of God is," he says. "The love of God is unconditional and complete."

It's like the pure love of a child, even one you've just now held for the first time, even one who is sick and weak.

"There are people who wonder where God is when they look at sick children. But Levi knows. "God's with them," he says. "I think he knows what suffering is. This is evil. God doesn't do this. God shows us the way out."

"I don't think any of us knows how these children feel," he says. "But God knows and that's where their hope and courage comes from."

"Heaven's going to be a lot better than this," Levi says and he looks Franceline right in the eye, his face very close to hers. "Isn't that right? Heaven's going to be a lot better than this."

"Some day we'll be in heaven together, laughing, and then none of this crap will exist."

Sitting on her white bed, the sounds from Franceline are tiny and faint. But they're unmistakable.



A woman cares for 11 babies. The shortage of staff at the hospice is critical. By Frank Oliver/Journal and Courier



Tom Reichert, social concerns coordinator at St. Thomas Aquinas Church in West Lafayette, seeks solace at the Port-au-Prince hospice for malnourished children with Jonas Pierre listening to his heartbeat. Behind the two is the answer for the day. By Frank Oliver/Journal and Courier