

HE'S A HIT

Safety Bob Sanders makes his presence known.

AT INDYSTAR.COM/COLTS: Phillip B. Wilson and Bob Kravitz recap the Titans game and look to the Texans in the latest Colts Insider videocast.



INDIANA LIVING, E1 FINDING THE BEST FROZEN PIZZA



THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

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"Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is Liberty" II COR. 3:17

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2007

Environmentalists split over Duke plans for plant

High capacity ups emissions despite clean technology

By Tim Evans

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Duke Energy's plan to build a power plant in southwestern Indiana is dividing Hoosier environmentalists.

On one side are groups such as the state's Sierra Club chapter and the Citizens Action Coalition of Indiana, which are fighting hard to stop the plant because its use of coal will add to carbon dioxide pollution.

On the other side are organizations such as the Indiana Wildlife Federation and the Clean Air Task Force, which contend the company's pledge to pioneer technology may pave the way for a sea change that drastically cuts emissions.

At the center of the debate is Duke's proposal to build a \$2 billion power plant at Edwardsport in Knox County. It would be the first new major plant built in Indiana in about 20 years — and the largest in the U.S. to use a process that turns coal into gas to generate electricity.

Environmentalists and the power company agree on one thing: The new process and plant will produce significantly less sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxide and mercury than the existing plant, a smaller and dirtier coal-fired facility.

The point of contention is the emission of carbon dioxide.

See Plant, Page A9

A LITTLE BIT OF HEAVEN



ROBERT SCHEER / The Star

Anna Randall, 3, gets a taste of triple-layer chocolate butter cream torte from her mother, Karen, at Chocolate Fest. More than 25 restaurants, bakeries and cooking schools offered up goodies for sale at the Young Audiences of Indiana fundraiser Wednesday at the ArtsGarden. More, **B1**.

IN TODAY'S STAR RATHER FILES SUIT AGAINST CBS

Dan Rather has filed a \$70 million lawsuit alleging that CBS made him a scapegoat for a discredited story about President Bush's National Guard service. **A3**

ISRAEL THREATENS TO CUT OFF GAZA

Israel declared the Gaza Strip an "enemy entity" and said it would cut utilities to the Palestinian territory. **A11**



O.J. CASE MAY NOT BE A SLAM DUNK

As a grayer, heavier O.J. Simpson stood handcuffed in court, legal experts questioned the strength of the case against him. **A3**

Seed company offers farmers group health insurance

Hamilton County firm's program might make premiums more affordable

By Daniel Lee

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Farmers know Beck's Hybrids as a place to buy seed for corn, soybean and other crops.

Now the family-owned Hamilton County seed business is offering farmers something else: health insurance.

Beck's is providing its top customers and independent seed dealers the chance to enroll in a group health insurance plan, with coverage scheduled to begin in November.

Beck's will not pay any of the premiums, but the plan may offer many farmers and dealers premiums much lower than what they could obtain on their own. The service makes Beck's one of the few companies or organizations offering health coverage to anyone other than their employees.

"It became apparent that it's a

See Insurance, Page A9

DECLINING ENROLLMENT

MORE CLOSURES AHEAD FOR IPS?

LOSS OF 1,300 STUDENTS COULD SPELL TROUBLE

By Andy Gammill

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Indianapolis Public Schools may close more schools next year after an official count showed 1,300 fewer students enrolled this year.

IPS already planned to close three schools on the Eastside after a drop of 4,100 students over five years. Now, Superintendent Eugene White said, the district will have to shutter an undetermined number more.

"I don't even know what the ballpark on that is," he said. "We've got to get started working on a re-districting plan."

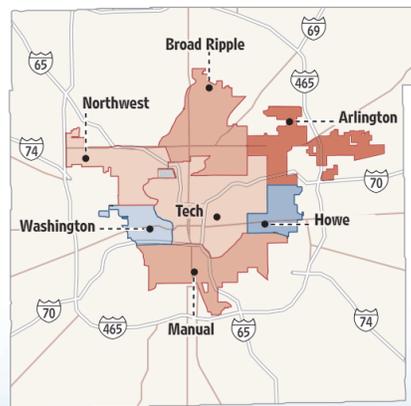
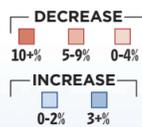
One in three of the district's 78 schools saw enrollment increases this year, but their gains were modest, while the drops at many other schools were sharp.

It is too soon to tell where the students have gone this year, but in the past many families have moved to township or charter schools. Parents often complain about IPS' poor academic performance and lack of responsiveness.

Enrollment decreased by more than 10 percent at Arlington, Tech and Northwest high schools. Mar-

ENROLLMENT CHANGES

Here is how enrollment has changed from 2006 to 2007 in IPS' high school boundary areas. Arlington High School and the 11 schools in its area saw the largest decrease.



Source: Indianapolis Public Schools

The Star

shall and Donnan middle schools each have a third fewer students, based on the tentative "average daily membership," the figure used to determine district funding.

A cluster of schools in the eastern part of the district appeared to be hit hardest by the decline, led by Arlington and Marshall, which lost

a combined 400 students.

Although some students may have transferred within the district, IPS as a whole declined by 3.5 percent.

The new enrollment figures continue a trend that began in 1967,

See IPS, Page A9



-10.4% School 20, on the southern edge of the Tech High School boundary area, lost 36 students this year, from an enrollment of 346 in 2006 to 310 in 2007.

ROB GOEBEL / The Star



WEATHER
Low 62 High 87

Dry summer weather holds on. Full forecast, **C4**

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