

HOME EDITION
FRI

THE BRIGHT SPOT

● Paul J. Ziz of Fort Wayne has won a Lutheran Brotherhood in-college member scholarship for academic excellence.

Got a nice word? Share it with The Bright Spot. Call 461-8289.

Weekend weather

- **TONIGHT.** Clear and cool with a low around 57. Winds light and variable.
- **SATURDAY.** Partly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of thundershowers. High near 80.
- **SUNDAY.** Chance of thundershowers. High around 80.
- **LABOR DAY.** Fair skies and warm. Full report on Page 2A.

Business

■ **On Wall Street.** The Dow Jones industrial average which lost 3.64 Thursday, was down 5.86 to 1,217.42 at noon today. Declines led advances 693-532. The average share was down 13 cents.

Other Business news, Pages 7-8C

Sports

■ **Goodbye triplets.** Evansville and the San Diego Chicken turned out Thursday night to say goodbye to the city's minor league baseball team. The Evansville Triplets were bought last month by Larry Schmittou, who will move the club to Nashville, Tenn. The Detroit Tigers' farm club ended with a 7-5 loss to the Indianapolis Indians.

Other Sports news, Section C

Newsmakers

■ **Rappin' B.A.** Mr. T, star of "The A-Team," is branching into the record business. His debut album, "Mr. T's Commandment," is due out Sept. 20 and includes such titles as "No Dope, No Drugs," and "Don't Talk to Strangers." The cuts are performed in "rap" style with Mr. T talking rather than singing. One track, "Toughest Man in the World," is the theme of an upcoming television movie. Mr. T first came to prominence by winning the "World's Toughest Bouncer" contest.

Other Newsmakers, Page 2A

The Way We Live

■ **Paint-by-number world.** If you've ever picked up a paint brush with the idea of creating a work of art but without the ability to do so, Toledo, Ohio, just may have your number. More than 300 million paint-by-number hobby kits have been made in Toledo since 1956 by the Craft House Corp. and Fundimensions, a division of General Mills Co. The firms produce more than 100 new paint-by-number paintings annually, selling more than 10 million sets in the United States and Canada. The biggest sellers are pictures of horses, dogs and landscapes.

Willy 'n' Ethel By Martin



"How long have you been doing this?"

Today's Chuckle

■ Nobody likes a poor loser, but it's almost impossible to find a rich one.

INDEX

BRIDGE	5D	HOME/STYLE	1D-8D
BUSINESS	7C-8C	HOROSCOPE	4D
CLASSIFIED	3B-8B	MARKETS	7C
COMICS	4D-5D	METRO	1B-3B
CROSSWORD	5D	MOVIES	7D
DEAR ABBY	4D	SPORTS	1C-4C
DEATHS	3B	TELEVISION	6D, 8D
EDITORIALS	8A	WEATHER	2A

Auburn's automobile celebration. Page 1B.

The News-Sentinel

Fort Wayne, Indiana

Friday, August 31, 1984

25 Cents

GM says yes to city



Graphic: Bernie-Aryis Co. For The News-Sentinel

Truck plant plans \$100 million payroll with 3,000 employees

By KEVIN LEININGER and DAVE HAYNES
Of The News-Sentinel

Fort Wayne got back into the truck-building business today — a little more than a year after the city lost its International Harvester plant.

General Motors Corp. announced it will start assembling full-size pickup trucks at a plant in southwest Allen County in about two years — with plant construction to start as soon as next week.

Patrick J. Coletta, vice president and director of operations for GM's truck and bus group, confirmed today GM will build a \$500 million, 2.1-million-square-foot plant on 937 acres at Lafayette Center Road and Interstate 69. The plant will produce 230,000 trucks annually and will employ 3,000 people.

About 250 dignitaries applauded and cheered after Coletta made the historic announcement in a morning news conference at the Fort Wayne Chamber of Commerce.

A jubilant Mayor Win Moses Jr., stung by the Harvester loss last summer, said Fort Wayne has "gone from a city on the brink of disaster 12 months ago to a boom town in one day."

He said the plant represents the "single largest construction project ever undertaken in our community" and will have a "monumental" impact on Fort Wayne.

Coletta said the plant should pump at least \$100 million in wages into the Fort Wayne economy every year. He said GM should be erecting steel framework at the site "before winter sets in."

The new plant will feature "advanced production technologies to attain unsurpassed quality standards. This will help provide long-term employment stability," he said.

Today's announcement follows weeks of furious activity on the state and local level to woo the giant auto and truck maker to Fort Wayne.

Although Coletta cautioned that construction is contingent on issuance of necessary federal environmental permits and approval of state funds for transportation and utility improvements, he said GM is "confident these will be forthcoming."

Still to be decided is where the 3,000 employees will come from. GM's existing contract with the

Turn to GM/Page 4A

What it means to the area

■ The 3,000 GM jobs and the 3,200 jobs that are expected to be spun off by the plant will increase personal income in the county by \$151 million a year, says Richard Doermer, president of Summit Bank.

■ 6,200 additional jobs, Doermer says, should generate an additional \$55.8 million a year in retail sales. He also predicts \$35 million a year in additional credit from the county's financial institutions and \$1.6 million in additional tax revenues, excluding taxes raised from the GM plant itself.

■ Milton Cragg, labor market analyst for the Indiana Employment Security Division, says that GM's hiring of 3,000 people would lower the area unemployment rate 1.5 percentage points. That prediction is speculative because no one knows how many workers GM will bring in or how many local people it will hire who haven't been in the labor force. The June jobless rate for Adams, Allen, DeKalb and Wells counties was 7.6 percent.

■ GM's move could increase local housing values, at least 5 percent, say Debby Blume, vice president of Waterfield Mortgage, and Jerry McDermott, president-elect of the Board of Realtors.

■ GM may get some company soon. Page 4A
■ Comments from public, private officials. Page 4A
■ Chronology. Page 4A

Negotiations with city date back to June '83

By KEVIN LEININGER
Of The News-Sentinel

Today's announcement by General Motors capped a courtship between the automaker and Fort Wayne that had simmered discreetly for more than a year before surfacing July 13.

That was the day state and local officials finally admitted GM was "very interested in building an assembly plant in Fort Wayne."

But Fort Wayne and GM representatives had met secretly as early as June 1983 to discuss the possibility of bringing an assembly plant — and the thousands of jobs it would create — to the Summit City.

"GM officials were at the Midwest governors' conference (in Cleveland) looking for a place to build a robotics plant for a joint venture with a Japanese firm," said Karl Bandemer, director of the city's economic development department.

At the city's request, GM officials spent

a day in Fort Wayne. "They met with the mayor, toured some of our neighborhoods, asked about the schools here and were especially interested in the quality of life here," Bandemer said.

GM has not yet decided where it will build its robotics plant, which would build robotic parts used to assemble vehicles. Although GM apparently did not seriously consider Fort Wayne as a site for that plant, company officials didn't forget about the Summit City.

"In February or March we were approached by the Norfolk Southern Corp. about the possibility of extending sewer and water lines," Bandemer said. "They were very sketchy about their plans, but you could tell it was something big."

Although GM has its own real estate division — Argonaut Realty — Bandemer suspects GM used Norfolk Southern to

Turn to BACKGROUND/Page 4A

City teachers to consider strike decision Tuesday

By TONY HORWITZ
Of The News-Sentinel

City teachers may vote to strike before the school year begins if no progress is made in contract negotiations over the weekend.

The announcement came after a meeting Thursday of Fort Wayne Education Association representatives from each school. They decided to hold an all-teachers meeting Tuesday — hours before the first day of classes is scheduled to begin.

"I anticipate a meeting with a lot of angry teachers," union president Kathe Klopfenstein said. "There's a very bad atmosphere that's conducive to strike activity."

It is illegal for teachers to strike under Indiana law.

The meeting will be Tuesday at 6:15 a.m. at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, 430 E. Jefferson Blvd.

At issue are three "openers" in a two-year

contract scheduled to expire in August 1985: teachers' salaries, insurance, and the size of special education and industrial arts classes.

Talks broke down earlier this summer, leading to a fact-finding hearing Aug. 6. When Fort Wayne Community Schools revised its 1985 budget upward by \$700,000, both sides requested the fact finder's report be revised.

Although the report has not been submitted, Klopfenstein said school officials have indicated the report won't be accepted.

"We were prepared to make a salary offer this morning," FWCS attorney William Sweet told the school board Thursday. "But they weren't interested in talking unless we went along with their demands 100 percent."

Klopfenstein termed Sweet's statement "totally inaccurate."

Teachers last went on strike in 1975 when school officials rejected a fact-finding report. The walkout lasted three days.



Night fight

Photo: Associated Press

A firefighter is silhouetted against flames of the North Hill fire near Helena, Mont., Thursday night as crews continue to fight timber fires which have scorched 250,000 Montana acres in a week.

Colts buck tradition by activating retired numbers

By MICHAEL KAHN
Of Our Indianapolis Bureau

The release seemed benign enough from the public relations office. The Indianapolis Colts announced six number changes for their opening game against the New York Jets.

Two of the number changes, however, sent resounding tremors that shook loose the turf 600 miles southeast in Baltimore's Memorial Stadium.

Mark Bell will wear No. 82.

"There have been several Bells in the NFL," Raymond Berry told The News-

More inside

Complete NFL schedules, preview in pullout section.

Sentinel. "Mark Bell, I do not know."

Dave Young will wear No. 89.

Chances are Berry and Marchetti will remember the names of those backup tight ends from now on. They are the only two names to ever unretire numbers in the National Football League.

Berry and Marchetti are Hall-of-Famers who played for the vintage Baltimore Colts 25 years ago. Wide receiver Berry wore No. 82, and defensive end Gino Marchetti wore No. 89.

The Colts retired Marchetti's jersey in 1964 and Berry's in 1967.

"It was a memorable time," Berry said. "It makes everything you've done for the team that much more special."

NFL rules say receivers must wear numbers in the 80s unless exemptions are attained or the receiver reports to officials each time he enters the game. The

penalty for not reporting is five yards.

"In the heat of the battle, it could be awfully costly if a guy fails a report," Colts Coach Frank Kush said. "We just don't have enough numbers. That's why we did it."

What about the tradition, coach?

"It's not the same, we're in a different city," Kush said emphatically. "Indianapolis, not Baltimore."

Weeb Ewbank was coach during the championship years. "I hate to see these things happen," he said. "Maybe they can give the guys 82-A and 89-A."

Stories of the Three Rivers

First in War

The great Miami war chief Little Turtle defeated the United States Army on the banks of the Maumee near downtown Fort Wayne.

First in Peace

He became a respected friend of our nation President Washington presented him with this sword as a symbol of a worthy adversary.



302 East Berry Street • Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802
260/426-2882 • www.fwhistorycenter.com



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