

It's Tuesday,
August 29, 1995

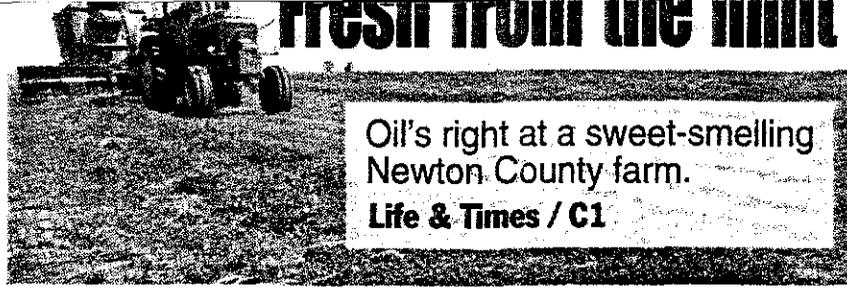
Today's forecast: Mostly sunny and hotter. High 95. Clear tonight. Low in the upper 60s.

Weather / A2

at Purdue?

Lafayette Center for Medical Education is a 25-year-old secret to many, even on campus.

Local & State / A7



FRESH FROM THE MILL
Oil's right at a sweet-smelling Newton County farm.

Life & Times / C1

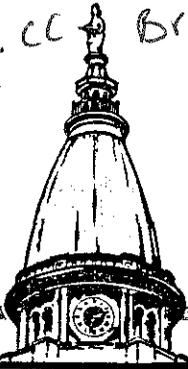
Looking good,
feeling good

Combing through what schoolkids are wearing on their heads.

4 Kidz Only / C6



VF-Ind-CC Bridge
606H



Journal and Courier

Lafayette—West Lafayette, Indiana

50¢ newsrack / 40¢ store

Storage next step for bridge

Carroll commissioners order dismantling of wounded landmark

By AMY HIGGINS
Journal and Courier

The Hamilton Street bridge in Delphi is coming down again, and historic preservationists fear that it's for good this time.

One end of the historic span has been sitting in Deer Creek since it collapsed July 30 under the weight of a PSI Energy truck.

Carroll County Commissioner Bill Huff said officials from the Department of Natural Resources told county officials that the bridge presented an environmental hazard to the water.

So, under the DNR's recommendation, the commissioners decided Monday to dismantle the 104-year-old bridge and store it indefinitely, Huff said.

"Our engineers feel this is the best way to go," Huff said.

Carroll County commissioners had wanted to replace the bridge for years, but historic preservationists won a

three-year battle to save it. Restoration plans were under way before an 11-ton truck tried to cross the bridge, which had a three-ton weight limit.

The bridge's ultimate fate, however, is still undecided. The bridge will come down within the next four to six weeks, but Huff declined to comment on plans after that.

What happens to the bridge will depend on what kind of settlement is reached with PSI, Huff said. PSI superintendent Larry Mock said that to his knowledge, Carroll County had not yet filed a claim with the power company.

Delphi Mayor Sam Deiwert said he and other historic preservationists believe the bridge's fate is already sealed.

"In reality, they're going to get rid of the bridge," Deiwert said. "I do not believe this is a good-faith effort."

Deiwert called the dismantling a "smoke screen," saying the DNR only

requested that the bridge be lifted out of the water — not taken down entirely.

Officials from the DNR did not return phone calls Monday.

Deiwert said the DNR's request could be met with pilings supporting the bridge on the south end until a permanent solution could be found.

He presented several options to the commissioners last week, including rehabilitating the bridge for cars and pedestrians. The pedestrian option would cost about \$490,000, Deiwert said, and could be paid for without using taxpayer money.

The county's solution uses taxpayer money and is not well thought-out, Deiwert said.

"There's just not a good-faith effort to really constructively solve this problem," Deiwert said. "It's unfortunate for the whole community. There is an element of deceit in the whole thing."



By Michael Clevenger/Journal and Courier

The Hamilton Street bridge, after the wreck.

Merger Monday for banks

Chase gulps Chemical in blockbuster deal

By KAREN GULLO
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Chase Manhattan Corp. and Chemical Banking Corp. joined the merger mania sweeping the industry and announced a \$10 billion deal Monday that will create the biggest bank in the nation.

Rumored since last month, the blockbuster merger comes amid a wave

• Reaction/A10
• Small impact expected locally/A12