

First day ends without any jurors being picked

By Jennifer Peltz, MICHAEL R. SISAK AND ERIC TUCKER Associated Press •New York

The historic hush-money trial of Donald Trump got underway Monday with the arduous process of selecting a jury to hear the case charging the former president with falsifying business records in order to stifle stories about his sex life.

The day ended without any jurors being

chosen. The selection process was scheduled to resume Tuesday.

The first criminal trial of any former U.S. president began as Trump vies to reclaim the White House, creating a remarkable splitscreen spectacle of the presumptive Republican nominee spending his days as a criminal defendant while simultaneously campaigning for office. He's blended those roles over the last year by presenting himself to supporters, on the campaign trail and on social media, as a target of politically motivated prosecutions designed to derail his candidacy.

"It's a scam. It's a political witch hunt. It continues, and it continues forever," Trump said after exiting the courtroom, where he sat at the defense table with his lawyers.

After a norm-shattering presidency shadowed by years of investigations, the trial amounts to a reckoning for Trump, who faces four indictments charging him with crimes ranging from hoarding classified documents to plotting to overturn an election. Yet the political stakes are less clear because a conviction would not preclude him from becoming president and because the allegations in this case date back years and are seen as less grievous than the conduct behind the three other indictments.

Turn to TRIAL, A4



Former President Donald Trump attends the first day of his criminal trial at Manhattan Criminal Court in New York City on Monday.

SPRING CLEAN





'For our safety and yours'

INDOT encourages motorists to be aware, especially in work zones

> **By David Kronke** TRIBUNE-STAR

Matt Schalburg has had moments where he has come perilously close to being hit by a motorist while doing his job in a construction work zone.

That's why the highway maintenance technician for Terre Haute's Indiana Department of Transportation subdivision is encouraging all drivers to observe National Work Zone Awareness Week – not just for the next seven days, but every time they're behind the wheel.

"It's extremely important not just this week, but every day of the week, 365 days a year," he said. "It's very important that you be aware of road work, whether it's city, county, state it's all of us together. And especially with INDOT in the high-speed traffic zones – buckle up, pay attention and put the phone down and be aware that we're out there working."

Tribune-Star/Joseph C. Garza

Jesse Tohill, director of public works, (top) removes an old chair from a trailer to put on one of the piles in the parking lot of the former Terre Haute Police Department on Wabash Avenue during the city wide clean up Saturday. Matt Schalburg and son, Chris Schalburg, (above) throw away an old mattress.

Turn to INDOT, A4

Indiana man hopes his Crohn's misdiagnosis can help others

By Tyler Juranovich CNHI News Indiana

It struck Rex Dobson like a gut punch from Mike Tyson – a pain in his lower abdomen like nothing he'd ever experienced before.

On a pain scale from one to 10, it was easily above 10.

"Every day was hell," Dobson said.

It was spring of 2016. Dobson had just undergone a colonoscopy. It showed nothing abnormal.

But Dobson went back to the doctor, and he received a CT scan of his lower abdomen and discovered his colon was inflamed. One biopsy and five days later, he was initially diagnosed with ulcerative colitis, an

inflammatory bowel disease that causes inflammation and ulcers in one's digestive tract.

For the next year and a half, Dobson underwent infusions for ulcerative colitis.

But nothing was working. Even worse, the pain was still present, and Dobson was losing weight at an alarming rate.

In 2016, Dobson weighed around 350 pounds. In a little over a year, he had dropped down to about 160 pounds.

"Once I hit 250, 225 pounds, I started to get pretty scared," he said.

Unhappy with the treatment he had been receiving and after dozens of doctor visits, Dobson went to IU Health Hospital in Indi-

Weather

Partly sunny

anapolis in October of 2017. The gastroenterologist there immediately had him hospitalized. He stayed for 11 days.

Dobson's state was so bad it was unclear if he would survive the hospital stay. Family was called to accompany him. His wife Elizabeth never left his side.

If the disease he had wasn't going to kill him, Dobson was contemplating doing it himself.

"I was in a pretty dark place," he said.

Dobson's trip to Indianapolis turned out to be a lifesaver. During his stay, he was correctly diagnosed with Crohn's colitis, one of the several forms of Crohn's disease.

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THURSDAY



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Rex Dobson has Crohn's Disease and is now trying to raise awareness for it. He holds the pillow he takes with him during long treatments. The purple ribbon is a symbol of awareness and support for those living with Crohn's.

> Tim Bath /CNHI News Indiana



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In The Protection **Business**

WEDNESDAY

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