HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

VOL. 99 | NO. 21 | \$1.25

FIRE 'N' STEEL

band's roots

go back to the island

to Avon Park

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1919



Local governments see higher pension costs

By PHIL ATTINGER

STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — When estimated returns on investments drop, pension funds suffer.

When it's the Florida Retirement System, the whole state feels it. According to News Service of Florida, counties, school boards, state agencies, universities, state colleges and other government entities will have to increase their contributions in the 2018-2019 budget year to make sure the \$160 billion pension fund has enough money in the long term to pay retirement benefits.

The increases total \$178.5 million, News Service reports. County governments will have to contribute \$66 million more in the new budget year than they already have, according to Senate Bill 7014, approved last week by the Senate Governmental Oversight and Accountability Committee.

School districts, which make up the largest segment of pension participants — half of the 627,000 active members, will have to contribute the second highest increase: \$54.4 million more.

PENSION | 8



KIM LEATHERMAN /STAFF

Charles "Haney" Hane sits in the doorway waiting to be picked up for all types of day labor jobs. He says he is not homeless and lives



AVON PARK — A trip to Massachusetts and enthusiastic music students in Bermuda led to the formation 22 years ago of a unique and talented musical ensemble in Highlands County — The "Fire 'N' Steel" band from

Walker Memorial Academy Music Director Leonard Cann started the Fire 'N' Steel Band soon after his arrival at the academy 22 years ago.



Walker Memorial Academy.

Often referred to as a "steel drum" band, the instruments created from modified 55-gallon steel drums are actually called "steelpans."

The steelpan's surface is tuned to notes in the musical cycle of fourths and fifths, which are struck with rubber tipped sticks (mallets) producing a chiming or ringing sound.

Walker Memorial Academy Music Director Leonard Cann, who is from Bermuda, explained the background and formation of the Fire 'N' Steel band.

Cann taught music for five years in Bermuda, and during that period his school's concert band went to Massachusetts to perform at a festival.

Along with the big concert bands, the festival featured a separate program of performances of smaller ensembles.

"We were still new so we didn't have any ensembles yet, so we had a soloist perform; he was very good," Cann said.

Cann's students told him they needed to come up with something unique from Bermuda.

He didn't know what was unique from Bermuda because the

MARC VALERO/STAFF

MARC VALERO/STAFF

Misty Maxwell performing with the Fire 'N' Steel Band at the 2017 Avon Park Christmas Parade.

steelpans his students were persistent about are from Trinidad. Many people think Bermuda is farther south in the Caribbean Sea, but it is in the Atlantic Ocean, Cann noted.

When Cann stopped by a local music store to check band instruments, he noticed a steelpan and was told a fellow in the area was making them.

"I never played it or been that close to it," he said. "I picked up the mallet and tapped it and I said, 'boy that thing sounds good.""

Steelpans before that sounded horrible, they were tinny sounding and out of tune, which didn't impress him, but this pan had a beautiful brassy sound, Cann said.

He stopped by the instrument maker's home. He became excited saying he had been trying to get the public schools to use the instruments, but they weren't interested.

Cann tracked down some used metal drums and the fellow made a set of steelpans.

A group of Cann's best musicians learned how to play the pans and they learned one

ROOTS | 8

in Highway Park with his disabled brother. Concerned residents have been asking about his situation with the cold weather.

Fears assuaged about 'homeless man'

By KIM LEATHERMAN

STAFF WRITER

LAKE PLACID — The aftermath and recovery from Hurricane Irma has proved that Lake Placid is a tight-knit community. Neighbors helped neighbors and everyone seemed to look out for each other.

In that same spirit, because of the cold last week, a resident became concerned about a gentleman she thought was a homeless man, and she gave voice to those concerns.

She noticed a man loitering in the alcove of a defunct storefront. She felt he was malnourished and probably homeless.

The woman contacted the Lake Placid Police Department and was told Charles "Haney" Hane was not homeless and was a day laborer and hung out near the old Bealls Outlet so employees could pick him up for work.

They assured her that he was fine and they knew him.

The next call, from the woman who wished to remain anonymous, was to the Highlands News Sun Publisher Tim Smolarick. The investigation started.

FEARS | 8



Lake Placid man dies in SR 70 crash

the report. After striking

the guardrail, the Toyota

traveled across the east-

bound lane and into the

two vehicles collided.

The front of the

Chevrolet struck the

front left of the Toyota,

the report states. After

the impact, the Toyota

spun counter clockwise

and came to rest facing

southwest across both the

east and westbound lanes.

The Chevrolet's right

side struck the north

westbound lane where the

By MARC VALERO Staff Writer

LAKE PLACID — A 62-year-old Lake Placid



The Highlands News-Sun (USPS 487-900- ISSN 2473-0068) is published daily by Tim Smolarick at the Highlands News-Sun, 315 US 27 North Sebring, FL 33870. Periodical postage paid at Lakeland, FL and ad ditional entry office(s). All material contained herein is the property of the Highlands News-Sun, which is an affiliate of Sun Coast Media Group. Reproduction in whole or part is forbidden without the written permission of the publisher. All material submitted for publication becomes the property of the newspaper and may be edited for clarity and space, as well as reprinted, published and used in all media. Postmaster: Send address changes to: Highlands News-Sun, 315 US 27 North Sebring, FL 33870.

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863)

man died in a two-vehicle accident at 7 p.m. Friday on State Road 70 east of Greenbrier Lane. Florida Highway Patrol

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SUBMIT NEWS & OBITS Email all obituaries and death notices to obits@ highlandsnewssun.com

Email all other announcements to highlandsnewssun@ highlandsnewssun.com identified him as Dennis R. Prescott.

Prescott was driving a 2004 Toyota Corolla, east on State Road 70 just east of Greenbrier Lane, while John W. Cofield Jr., 65, of Wimauma was driving a 2003 Chevrolet Silverado, west on State Road 70 east of the Toyota, the report shows.

The Toyota traveled off the roadway onto the south shoulder, and its right side struck a guardrail, according to



KIM LEATHERMAN / STAFF

A head-on collision between a Chevrolet Silverado truck and a Toyota Corolla resulted in a fatality on Friday night on SR 70 east of Greenbrier Lane. guardrail and cane to rest on the north shoulder facing west, the report shows.

Both Cofield and his passenger, Valerie Cofield, 58, of Wimauma, were transported to Lee Memorial Hospital with serious injuries.

Prescott's vehicle had no passengers.

That stretch of highway was very dark except for the lights of the first responders and from the head and tail lights of the traffic that was backed up for miles in both the east and westbound lanes. Onlookers got out of their cars to determine what the delay was about. When the traffic jam did not let up, many cars turned around and headed back toward Lake Placid or Okeechobee respectively.

Highlands County Sheriff's deputies, FHP troopers, Highlands County EMTs and Sun 'N Lakes Volunteer Fire Department responded to the scene.



A Lake Placid man, who was driving the 2004 Toyota Corolla, on the right, died in a two-vehicle accident on State Road 70, east of Greenbrier Lane, Friday evening.

Changes lead to promotions at Sheriff's Office

BY JAY MEISEL Staff Writer

SEBRING — Several promotions and changes have been made recently at the Highlands County Sheriff's Office. Lt. Jim McGann has been promoted to captain over the uniform patrol division, Highlands County Sheriff Paul Blackman said.

He will replace Kenny Johnson, who was appointed captain of Specialized Services, Blackman said. Meanwhile, Sgt. Mike Brod has been promoted to lieutenant in the Uniform Patrol

Division over the Delta Squad. As a result, deputy Ross Porter will become a sergeant over school resource officers. Sgt. Mike Abell has

been promoted to lieutenant over the Special Operations Unit and the TAC Team.

The upcoming retirement of Capt. J.P. Fane, who is over the Operations Division, which includes dispatch and communications, will result in Capt. Lauro Diaz, who is currently over Criminal Investigations, moving to operations.

Lt. Keith Starling is acting head of criminal investigations.

Blackman said that a permanent replacement will be chosen for Diaz after Fane's retirement.

ROAD ADVISORY

AVON PARK — A road advisory has been issued by the Florida Department of Transportation. S.R. 17 (West Main Street), from Central Avenue to North Museum Avenue will be closed from Monday to Friday.

Construction crews will close one direction of S.R. 17 at a time between Central Avenue and Ferguson Avenue in order to pave S.R. 17.

Detours are as follows:

т

•Eastbound detour: S.R. 17 (West Main Street) to Central Avenue south to Bell Street east to Lake Avenue north back to S.R. 17 (West Main Street).

•Westbound detour: S.R. 17 (West Main Street) to Ferguson Avenue north to Pleasant Street west to Central Avenue south back to S.R. 17 (West Main Street).

This project includes milling, resurfacing, curb and gutter and sidewalks. Expected completion is this spring.



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Be careful of bats: Some carry rabies

By PHIL ATTINGER STAFF WRITER

SEBRING - On sultry summer nights when mosquitoes like to swarm, having a few bats flying around might ensure some peace from the biting insects.

That's fine as long as the bats also don't bite. In fewer than three months, Florida has seen two die from bat-contracted rabies — one of them a 6-yearold boy. Although only a small number of the animals carry the virus — 6 percent — they account for 90 percent of the rabies cases in the United States, usually one or two per year.

One of the recent rabies cases in Florida came from Highlands County last October.

According to the Florida Health Department, the middle-aged woman did not seek treatment after being bitten nor did she receive rabies post-exposure prophylaxis the series of injections designed to treat and stop the disease — and she died.

The victim's name and age are withheld, along with where she was treated, in accordance with the Health Insurance Privacy and Portability Act.

The child — Ryker Roque of Orlando died last Sunday. His father told the Associated Press he found a sick bat and put it in a bucket. He told his boy not to touch it,

but the boy did and got scratched.

The father washed the wound thoroughly, but didn't take the child to the hospital, because he cried when he was told he would get shots. About a week later, the boy developed numb fingers and a headache. By then, it was too late for treatment.

Rabies is almost always fatal once symptoms develop, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Vaccine given after a wound but before symptoms almost always prevents the disease.

Clay Kinslow, lieutenant in charge of the Highlands County Sheriff's Office Animal Services Unit, said he once had a bat in his family's fireplace.

He carried it outside

but didn't get scratched. He doesn't advise that.

Bats groom themselves constantly, he said, so even their fur is infused with their saliva and any diseases they may have.

"The main thing to do is not touch them," Kinslow said, especially if the animal is sick or dead. "Call us to get the (Florida) Health Department involved."

If you get bit, he said, people should seek medical treatment and call his division at (863) 655-6475. Again, he'll get the Health Department involved.

Typically, he said, the Health Department won't test a dead bat for rabies unless someone has been bitten or

scratched, but they can. Bats are a protected species, Kinslow said. Some people keep bat

houses to allow wild bats to roost in an area. and feed on evening insects - like mosquitoes. There's even one at the Arbuckle Creek boat ramp, he said.

Sometimes, however, people get unwanted bats in their attics or outbuildings, usually discovered by the distinct smell of their dung.

Because bats are protected, people still need to call his office.

They should also be careful, he said. No one caught the infected bat whose bite killed a local resident last year. It's probably still flying around the county.



PHIL ATTINGER/STAFE

A bat box by a home in west Sebring lets bats roost near a lawn where the homeowner has a water drainage problem, which causes a mosquito problem. While the bats help in that regard, residents should know 90 percent of all human rabies cases come from contact with bats, and they should take precautions not to touch bats or get bit or scratched.





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OBITUARIES

Delores 'Dee' Johnson

Celebration of Life service for Delores E. "Dee" Johnson will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 27, 2018, at Unity of Sebring, 10417 Orange Blossom Blvd. S., Sebring, FL 33875. Rev. Andrew Conyer officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to Unity of Sebring or The Humane Society of Highlands County.

Philip LaFlam

Philip LaFlam, 96, of Okahumpka, Florida passed from this life into



Oct. 12, 1921, he is preceded in death by his parents, Alfred L. and Lennie (Jacobs) LaFlam; his wife of 65 years, Lena B.; sister, Evelyn Morrison; brothers, Thomas, Francis, Alton, David and Leslie LaFlam, as well as many other loved ones and friends he looked forward to being reunited with again. He is survived by his brother, Jack LaFlam of Okeechobee, Florida; daughter, Karen Baumgardner (Bill Coon); son, L. Philip (Debra); five grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, and many other relatives whom he loved.

He was of the Protestant faith, accepted Jesus as his savior at a young age, and this guided everything he did in his life. He helped his fellowman every chance he could.

He enlisted as a young man in the Army, was in World War II in the 11th Combat Engineers, demolition unit, attached to General Patton's army, seeing action in the Colmar pocket and Battle of the Bulge, going in at D-Day plus 1. He earned two Purple Hearts due to tree burst shells and carried shrapnel in his body the remainder of his days.

He was a retired master plumber/pipefitter, the oldest member of Plumber/Pipefitters Union Local 719, and was an avid fisherman all of his life. A graveside service will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 27 at Lady Lake Cemetery, Lady Lake, Florida.

and soon opened his own real estate office. While he was a real estate broker, he ran as a write in for mayor of Derby, winning on a Save the Trees ticket (there are not many trees in Derby). KO was mayor for two terms. In 2000, he moved to Sebring, Florida, sold cars and finally retired to play golf. Above all, KO was a son that made a parent proud, a friend you could count on for a lifetime, a loving and devoted husband and father. He had a way of always making people feel good about themselves. He will be missed by all who knew him.

He is survived by his wife, Mary R. LaVergne of Sebring, Florida; son, Tad LaVergne (Jennifer) of Derby, Kansas; daughters, Danyel Darger (Thad) of Fisk Dale, Massachusetts and Tiffany Wells (Brian) of Derby, Kansas; sisters, Carol Bare (Jack) of Black River, Michigan and Marybeth McMahan (Mike) of Grand Rapids, Michigan; 11 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Family and friends are invited to any or all services.

A memorial followed by a Celebration of Life will be held at the Madison Avenue Central Park, 512 E. Madison, Derby, Kansas from 2-5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 3, 2018.

A memorial service will be held at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church in Avon Park, Florida at 10 a.m. Friday, Feb. 16, 2018.

There will also be a service at St. Gabriel's Catholic Church in Black River, Michigan on July 24, 2018.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, P.O. Box 96011, Washington, DC, 20090-6011, www.alz.org

Sherry F. Money

Sherry Farner Money, 68, of Avon Park, Florida passed away at home on Sunday, Jan. 7, 2018 surrounded by her family. She was born July 18, 1949. Sherry was a resident of Avon Park since 1982 and worked at Barnett Bank for many of those years. She was preceded in death by her parents, Harold Farner and Dora Farner Chester; stepfather, Everett Chester; and brother, Robbie Farner. She is survived by her sons, Larry (Ann)

Money of Avon Park and Emmitt Money Jr. of Hollywood, Florida; brother, Scott Chester; five step-grandchildren and four step-great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Jan. 27, 2018 at Fountain Funeral Home. Friends and family are welcome to share in the celebration of her life. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Highlands County Human Society, P.O. Box 833, Sebring, FL 33871. Arrangements with Fountain Funeral Home, Avon Park, Florida.

Doris Pollard

Doris Pollard, 87, of Sebring, Florida died Jan. 18, 2018. She was born in Collins, Georgia, moving to Sebring in 1936. She was a member of Sebring High School class of 1948 and a member of First Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by parents, Irene and JC Leaphart; sister, Margaret Pollard; and her husband of 63 years, A.W. Spizz Pollard. She is survived by son, Roy (Lori) Pollard; daughters, DeDe (Jim) Mims, Becky Hernandez (Ron Cooper) and Angie (John R.) Carter; grandchildren, Rina Nick, Hugo Hernandez Jr., Derek (Lauren) Pollard, SFC, US Army, Courtney (Walter) Stuart, Carmen (Chris) Noel, Caitlin Mims, John (Jenna) Carter, and Whitney (Kent) Hogan; great-grandchildren, Julia and James Pollard, Brayden Mims and Penny Noel; nieces and nephews.

Sincere thanks to her caretakers, our angels, Audrey Mason and Essie Allen.

Visitation is from 3-5 p.m. Sunday with a service at 11 a.m. Monday at Morris Funeral Chapel. Burial will follow at Pinecrest Cemetery. Donations to her church or Sebring Library. www.morris funeralchapel.com.

'Storied Pasts'features etchings, paintings

By MEGAN SMITH NEWS CLERK

AVON PARK — Art lovers flocked to the South Florida State College Museum of Florida Art and Culture (MOFAC) for the Third Thursday Reception and Artist Talk with artist Larry Vienneau.

Vienneau's "Storied Past" series features etchings and paintings of the Raven and the Crow, inspired by countless stories, fables and myths throughout history, and is currently being featured at MOFAC.

Each piece in the series is paired with a story that explains the inspiration and meaning behind it.

Vienneau drew inspiration from tales from around the globe and across time. "There's so many stories about, you know, the Raven and the Crow in mythology and Aesop's fables, that I won't run out," Vienneau said.

He began working on this series when he was living in Alaska and was working as an illustrator.

He lived in Alaska for 12 years and decided to move to Florida to be closer to his family. "When I finally got to Florida, I really didn't know what direction my artwork was going to take, and I just kept coming back to the ravens," Vienneau said.

Most of the pieces are prints made by etching a zinc plate with acid and hand engraving it or drawing it on a photo-polymer plate and exposing it to light and water, then hand inking the plates and pressing them on to paper.

The pieces can take anywhere from 15 to 40 minutes to print. "Having to carve into something or engrave into something and then print something and have something be ultimately very unpredictable with prints. You can somewhat control a painting, but a print, you just never know. There's a kind of



MEGAN SMITH/STAFF

Artist Larry Vienneau standing next to his print "Thought and Memory" based on Norse mythology.



"Unkind Conversations" 1-4 prints by Larry Vienneau.

an exciting factor to that, too," MOFAC curator Megan Stepe said about Vienneau's printing process.

"The images are important but the stories go with them," Vienneau said. "One of the reasons I have the stories is that people don't read anymore, you know? They don't take time to let it soak in."

Stepe said: "He uses this sophisticated medium to convey (these stories.) All of these start out as drawings. Larry is a master draftsman, and then he produces all of these prints from them.

...The craftsmanship involved melds well into the richness of the stories



"Inquisition," an acrylic with gold and copper relief by Larry Vienneau.

themselves. There's a nice reciprocity with it." Storied Pasts will be on

display at MOFAC until Thursday, Feb. 8.

Vienneau will also hold a workshop/demo where he will cover making acorn-ink and art-pens from various natural elements from 3:45 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 8.

MOFAC is at the South Florida State College Highlands Campus, 600 W. College Drive. For more information, call 863-784-7240, or visit www.MOFAC.org.

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Kenneth O. 'KO' LaVergne

Kenneth O. "KO" LaVergne, age 77, passed away Wednesday, Dec. 20,

2017. He was born March 30, 1940 in Detroit, Michigan to Omer and Elizabeth

La ye

LaVergne. Six years later he moved to Parma, Ohio

(LaLonde)

where he made several lifelong friends. While living in Parma, Kenneth excelled in sports. He was an all-city in football, basketball and baseball. In 1988, he was inducted into the St. Ignatius Athletic Hall of Fame followed by the Parma/Cleveland Hall of fame in 1992. In 1962, Kenneth graduated from Kent State on a four-year baseball scholarship and was offered a try-out with the New York Yankees but was let go once he ruptured his spleen. That led him to start a 20-year career in the U.S. Air Force, retiring as lieutenant colonel. At that time, he was living in Derby, Kansas and went into real estate

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SUN NE WORDA

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OUR VIEW What about Oak Manor Avenue?

Last week, county commissioners voted to cancel their contract with Preferred Materials to continue construction of the Sebring Parkway

The county started the \$6.36 million design/build contract with Preferred Materials in 2014, and at one point was paying \$12,000 per month for delays while dealing with environmental issues. Now, according to County Engineer Clinton Howerton Jr., Preferred Materials want another \$3 million just to build the original two-lane road.

Phase III of the Sebring Parkway would provide a 3.5-mile shortcut from downtown Sebring to south Avon Park, at one-third of the drive time. It would start at the Phase I 90-degree turn — the northeast corner of the current parkway - and end with a roundabout at College Drive.

The Sebring Parkway project is a huge project. There were problems with sand skinks and gopher tortoises, etc. That caused the costly delay. Now the contractor offered to back out of the project and the county took them up on it, leaving the county to do the project themselves or put it back out for bid, which would cause another long delay in the project.

Howerton told commissioners Tuesday said it would cost another \$1.32 million over the current \$8.37 million commitment from the county if the county went ahead and finished a four-lane road. That added to the \$3 million from Florida Department of Transportation would make a total of \$12.7 million.

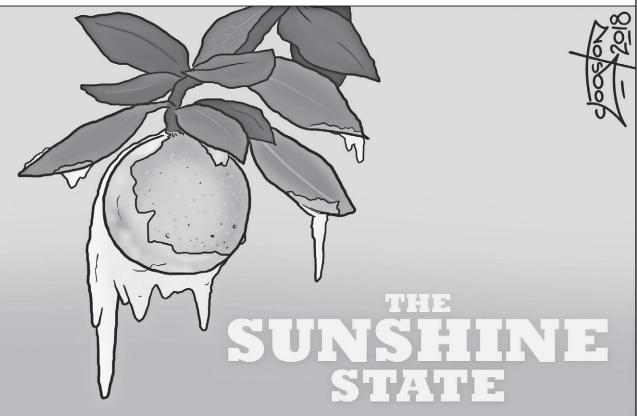
Commissioner Don Elwell asked where the county would get the money, and Road and Bridge Supervisor Kyle Green said he's carried over \$600,000-\$700,000 in surplus funds from completed projects for years. Most of the money will come from there

Green and Howerton also believe the county can get the work completed at least six months earlier since they won't have to seek bids for the project.

Green also assured commissioners that the county's own road repaving work would not suffer. He would farm it out to contractors.

Instead of applying that surplus to the Phase III project, what about projects that have been on the county's list for 10 years or more - like Oak Manor Avenue? We can't help but wonder how the residents of Oak Manor Avenue feel about this talk of the county taking on a 3.5-mile project that can be done at least six months earlier. How do they feel about the county saying repaving work will not suffer? How do they feel about the growing surplus that has been sitting there while they continue to wait for the county to fulfill their promise made years ago? The DeSoto City residents first asked the county to pave a .13-mile section of Oak Manor Avenue 10 years ago. Last year, the commissioners agreed to pay half the paving costs, and find a way for seven residents of the road to pay \$20,000 in taxes - perhaps over the next 10 years. Oak Manor Avenue connects to U.S. 27 via Lunsford Road and Pioneer Road, all of which are paved. Only a portion of Oak Manor Avenue is paved. Although the county maintains the road, the entry point - where Oak Manor meets Pioneer - is shell with a washboard effect. In April 2017, commissioners apologized to residents that the work hadn't begun. They acknowledged that the county had gotten sidetracked away from the project and that their promise to the residents had not been kept. Santos de la Rosa, the resident spokesperson, wrote in an open letter to Elwell earlier this month that the only contact they have received from the county was an email from Green in August 2017. He also reminded Elwell that as of the date of his January letter it had been seven weeks since Elwell told him someone from the county would contact the residents to discuss the project. They continue to wait. Later that same day, Green emailed County Administrator Randy Vosburg, bringing him up to speed with the Oak Manor Avenue project, noting former county attorney Ross Macbeth was to research how to set up the property owner assessments. Still, the residents wait for the next step and we can't help but wonder how the county will handle a 3.5-mile project efficiently if they can't take care of a .13-mile project over an 11-year timespan. Especially when the seven residents who will benefit are willing to foot half the expense. The residents of Oak Manor Avenue should not be forgotten when the county meets in February to discuss the financing and plans for the Phase III project of the Sebring Parkway. The commitment to these residents should be fulfilled before the Phase III project is allowed to continue.

LOOK by GABE CLOGSTON



Our newspaper readers make fearless forecasts

In December 2017 I made my own fearless forecast for the new year. I invited our readers to test themselves by supplying their own forecast. One of my favorite restaurants, Dimitri's Family Restaurant in Sebring, was kind enough to supply a first, second and third prize.

How good of a forecaster are our readers? Our readers are an optimistic bunch. Here's what the many who responded predicted.

Dow Jones: The Dow Jones stock market average was 24,652 as of Dec. 15, 2017. I predicted a stock market correction of 11 percent would take the Dow Jones down to 22,000. The average of our readers predict the Dow Jones will increase 6 percent next year to 26,619.

New Jobs: The prior 12 months the USA had averaged 156,000 new manufacturing jobs. I predicted with full employment looming, new job growth would slow down to 75,000 jobs a month in 2018. Our readers predicted the growth in manufacturing jobs wou sustain a still strong 145,000 a month job growth.



INK IN MY VEINS David Dunn-Rankin

average of our readers predicted a 9 percent increase in hourly wages. That's not a typo – 9 percent. The median increase in wages predicted by our readers was 4.8 percent. An optimistic group indeed.

Price of Gas: I predicted that the price of gas would stay around \$2.29 as the downward pressures of shale technology would keep a lid on prices. Our readers think gas will go up 10 percent to \$2.51 a gallon.

Seats in the Senate and Congress: I predicted that the normal pattern of the party in power losing seats in an off election would prevail. Republicans would drop from 52 seats to 50 seats in the Senate and from 239 down to 220 seats in the House. The readers who responded are very bullish on the Republican party. You believe the Republicans will keep the same number of Senate seats and only lose five seats in the House.

Super Bowl: I couldn't bring myself to vote for the Patriots so I picked the Steelers who are now out of the playoffs. You all picked the Patriots by a wide margin and the Steelers second. No other team came close.

World Cup: Our readers predict Brazil and Germany. I picked Germany

Mens' NCAA Basketball: Duke is the overwhelming reader choice with Michigan State second. I picked Michigan State. Like the New England Patriots football pick, I just couldn't pick Duke.

College Football Wins: Our readers think Miami will have the most wins of any Florida college football team with Florida State getting the second most votes. I also predicted Miami.

College Football Losse Our readers think Florida

made my prediction before they beat Auburn in the bowl game. Wish I could take that choice back, but figured they were losing a beloved coach and the whole coaching team who were the secret sauce.

Bitcoin: Not a single reader thought Bitcoin would be higher 12 months from now. On average you predicted a 62 percent drop in price to 6,627. During the dotcom era I owned stocks that went from \$32 to .32 (cents). I predicted a larger drop in Bitcoin — to 2,000.

Named storms: The average of the readers was 2.6 named storms to hit Florida. I predicted 2.

All in all, you are a very optimistic bunch. Here's hoping our readers are right. Oh, and since the NFL playoffs have started, the Dimitri's Family Restaurant fearless forecast is closed to new entries. We will give you a mid-year and end-ofthe year status update.

Share your thoughts.

David Dunn-Rankin is EO of Sun Newspapers the family- and employeeowned group that owns the Highlands News-Sun and Highlands Sun. He can be reached at daviddr@ sun-herald.com.

Wages: The average non-farm wage was \$26.55. I predicted a 2.6 percent increase in wages. The

Life on the Circle

"The circle of life" ... we've all heard that quote, but imagine that our Circle in downtown Sebring was actually alive and could reflect on all the life encircling it through the past century. What would it say? What would it find amazing, amusing, anecdotal?

I picture our grand Circle as grandparents, watching as their children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren pass by them every day... little ones on their way to Woodlawn Elementary School for first grade, the excitement in their sweet, innocent faces. They watch as couples use the Circle "spokes" to attend their chosen church; some navigate their way to a quaint boutique. Grandparents who have seen the evolving businesses dotting the perimeter of their circle: Frames & Images was once The Colony Shops. Grandparents "Circle" watched as delighted shoppers left the Colony



GUEST COLUMN Ladonna Rodriguez

Shops, arms full of new clothes; and now Frames & Images sends beautifully framed items out of that Circle-facing door.

The Circle spokes lead to memories ... Cuttin' Up Salon was once Matthews Camera Store. It's funny how things change, but still stay the same. Hairstylists create the perfect look, and in days past, film was taken to Matthews to develop the perfect photo!

There was a time when life indeed revolved around

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Letters are welcome on virtually any subject, but we do have some rules. We will not accept any Letters to the Editor that mention a business in a negative tone, as they have no means to defend themselves. Please keep Letters to the Editor to less than 250 words. Letters will be edited to length as well as for grammar and spelling. All letters must be signed

Atlantic will have the most losses. Might be. But, Lane Kiffen is back as coach and they were 11-3 last year. I predicted UCF, but

our Circle; a simpler time when neighbors gathered to catch up and check up; when one would walk or bike from their home near the Circle to just about any place they wanted to visit, and usually the Circle would be the route of choice.

Times do change. I imagine Grandparents Circle rather dizzy with the swirling of cars, pedestrians, and life in general around their circle. Sweet destinations are at the heart of our Sebring Circle: delicious treats, quaint shops, places to sit a while and visit ... these are all things that would make grandparents proud. Certainly our Circle is smiling to see the reinvigoration of downtown Sebring. New life is being breathed into historic buildings, studios of art are plentiful, its night life is coming alive with restaurants, theatric performances, and is becoming a destination once again. I imagine that the Circle smiles to see it is not forgotten, but is being enjoyed and embraced for the special place it is.

They still watch for the little ones just beginning school; the car full of high school youth taking two laps around the Circle, just because; the new resident navigating the Circle who also takes "two laps", but for a different reason (where am I?)

This Circle has seen and continues to see so much of our daily lives. I believe "Grandparents Circle" have a warm spot in their hearts as they watch the progression of life around their Circle. The next time you hurry past our Circle, slow down a bit...notice the majestic trees, the sweet smell of grass, the scurrying animals, the many quaint shops; the flag always at attention, and imagine the many lives lived around this circle, our Circle. This is after all, the circle of life.

Ladonna Paedae Rodriguez is owner of Hobby Hill Florists in Sebring. Columns are the opinion of the writer, not necessarily that of the Highlands News-Sun.

with full name - not initials. An address and telephone number must be included. The phone number and address are not for publication, but must be provided. In the case of letters that are emailed, the same rules apply.

Due to the number of letters received, we are able to run only four letters per person per month.

The Letters to the Editor section is designed as a public forum for community discourse, and the opinions and statements made in letters are solely those of the individual writers. The newspaper takes no responsibility for the content of these letters.

Please send or bring correspondence to the Highlands News-Sun, Letters to the Editor, 315 US 27 North Sebring, FL 33870, or fax to 863-385-1954. Readers may also email Letters to the Editor to editor@newssun.com.

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PENSION

FROM PAGE 1

That may be affected by public-school funding debates, News Service reports, as legislators debate how to accommodate more than 27,000 new students in the next academic year. Also, News Service reports, the Florida House and Senate are butting heads over

ROOTS

FROM PAGE 1

song for a Christmas performance.

"I had no idea how it was going to go across," Cann said. "The audience just stood up; we played a simple piece, 'The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy.'

"It was a simple arrangement, but they just loved the sound of it and it just took off from there."

After Bermuda, he went to teach in Fletcher, North Carolina, where he started a steelpan band.

When he was interviewed for the music teacher/band director position at Walker Memorial Academy, Cann said some staff members at the academy had heard his band from Fletcher Academy at a convention.

They wanted know if he would start a steelpan band at Walker Memorial Academy.

Cann told them if they support it, he will start a band.

"This has been the best group of all the ones I have had; the longest lasting and has been the most consistent," he said. It has had a lot of support, which has continued.

With steelpans, you can play anything that any ensemble would perform with the only difference being that you don't have the different colors (tones) that you would have in an orchestra or band, because the pans have the same sound, Cann said.

The size of the "Fire 'N' Steel" band varies. Currently it has 16

members but it has been

taxes to boost school spending. State agencies will have pay in another \$31 million. Universities will pay \$11.8 million more and state colleges will pay \$4.8 million more. Cities and special districts that participate in the state system will pay \$10 million more to the

using increased local property

fund. With these changes, Senate Appropriations Chairman Rob Bradley, R-Fleming Island, said the state pension fund will be "fully funded."

"It's an obligation of the

state," Bradley said. "And we are comfortable with the current level of (pension) benefits in the Senate, with the understanding that when you change the assumptions, that requires more money to go to that area."

The Florida Retirement System Actuarial Assumption Conference lowered the projected rate of return on the pension fund's investments and assets from 7.6 percent to 7.5 percent last fall, the fourth year analysts lowered the rate of return.

The decision came after independent financial consultants projected a 30-year rate of return of 6.6 percent to 6.81 percent. Since the contribution amounts to the fund had been based on a 7.5 percent return rate, the pension fund would only be able to pay 84.4 percent

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of its future obligations.

Public employees who participate in the pension plan have been required to contribute 3 percent of their annual salaries to the fund since 2011. There is no word yet from lawmakers or local officials on whether or not that rate would increase to meet the new contribution requirements, or if local government entities would cover the cost from their budgets.

FEARS

FROM PAGE 1

Hane was found slumbering in the alcove of an old real estate office near the old Bealls Oulet in the South Highlands Shopping Center. He immediately woke up and was amiable when approached.

He was wearing a sweat shirt and jeans, gloves and a ball cap. Hane had a blanket to shelter him from the cold and he sat on cardboard to insulate his backside from the cold cement.

Hane said he was 56 years old and was born in Sebring, and has lived in either Sebring and Lake Placid. Hane is a Lake Placid High School graduate, class of 1975. He currently resides in a home in Highway Park with his medically disabled brother, Stanley.

Hane said Wednesday and Thursday evening he would go to Bible study at church before going home.

Hane has his own medical problems and is currently trying to get on disability. He gets dizzy often and sometimes falls because of it.

Sometimes Hane works at a car wash, sometimes it is doing odd jobs. Hane arrives at his makeshift office at about 8 a.m. and doesn't leave until dark unless he is working. He returns to his home, where he says he has food, water and heat.

"This is where people pick me up," Hane said. "I have a job. I am having a problem with clean water. There's something wrong with my pump."

Hane said if there was anything he needed it would be water and some pots and pans to cook in.

"People give me money sometimes or they will give me gift cards to Burger King, Publix or McDonalds and the Golden Corral."

"My food stamps are messed up," Hane said. "I go to the [Presbyterian Church] on Fridays for food. Sometimes I run low on it."

Hane said he appreciates all the people who worry about him and possibly pray for him. Hane's health has been an issue since his high school years. He said at one point that he nearly died from something but didn't know what it

was. Health infirmities have kept Hane from working a normal full time job.

"I tried to do work full-time but I just couldn't do it," Hane said. "I will help out anyone I can; they don't have to pay me but they usually do."

While talking to Hane, people walked by saying "hi" and calling him by his name. He is well known in the town. He specifically said the Lake Placid Police Department officers treat him very well.

"They give me a few bucks if I need it," Hane said. "They don't run me off. If there's something I don't know, they tell me."

Lake Placid Police Chief James Fansler said that his officers are always on the lookout for those in need, not just when the temperatures plummet.

"Charles is not homeless," Fansler said. "None of the businesses have ever had an issue with him staying where he is. He is very approachable and polite. He will get picked up by people who need a little bit of help and makes money and goes about his day. We monitor the homeless people. We don't have a big transient population but when the weather turns bad, we make sure they are somewhere safe."

When asked if Hane could change his circumstances, he said he would. He is going to church and learning the truth. Neither drug or alcohol contributed to Hane's lifestyle.

"Not everyone who looks like me is homeless," Hane said.

Classes & Support Groups

CLASSES

Living Healthy (a.k.a. Chronic Disease Self-Management) A free 2-hour class held weekly for six weeks. For those diagnosed with a chronic illness, such as diabetes, congestive heart failure, chronic pain, or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, to help cope with, understand and manage their illness. This class will begin in February.

To register, call the CREATION Health Department at (863) 386-6421.

Pre-Diabetes

A free three-hour class that discusses the meaning of insulin resistance, and physiology of pre-diabetes versus diabetes states. Emphasis is on making lifestyle changes with diet and exercise. Eating healthy, high-fiber foods and a low fat diet, along with exercise and weight loss, are the keys to reversing or delaying prediabetes and diabetes. Class times vary. HEALTH WELLNESS CENTER FLORIDA HOSPITAL HEARTLAND MEDICAL CENTER

Zumba

A free exercise fitness program that involves dance and aerobic movement performed to energetic music. This class will be held weekly on Thursdays from 2:00 - 3:00 pm. and led by Bobbie Clark. To register, call the CREATION Health Department at (863) 386-6421.

Tobacco Cessation Classes

Free classes that give you the tools to stop using any form of tobacco. Free nicotine replacement patches, gum or lozenges provided when available and medically appropriate. It will be offered on Tuesdays from 9:00 - 10:00 am. To register, call (877) 252-6094 or visit www.ahectobacco.com.

SUPPORT GROUPS

"Beat Goes On" Cardiac Support Group Brings together people facing challenges while managing their heart disease. This monthly meeting offers participants the opportunity to speak openly and honestly about their feelings, improve coping skills, reduce stress/anxiety and share information related to heart care.

members, but it has been as large as 25 members and it will probably go back up with the huge elementary group of students coming in next year, Cann said.

The band has been invited to record and perform in June at an Adventist broadcasting network in Frankfort, Illinois.

Cann sent a letter recently to Southern Adventist University in Chattanooga, Tennessee, which asked about starting a steelpan band.

"I told them, 'if you want to recruit kids and get excitement added to your music program that is the way to go,'" he said.

The band does about 10 performances a year.

For more information, contact Cann at Lcann@ WMAeagles.org or call 863-449-0407.

He doesn't mind when people call them "steel drums" except when they are performing at a church, Cann said. Some people don't know what it is except that "drums" will be at their church.

"We had one woman come to us in tears after we had performed," he said. They played "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" and "The Holy City."

She told Cann she was going to go to another church when she heard there would be drums, but the Lord told her to stay.

"I didn't know such beautiful music could come out of those things," she said. To register, call the Diabetes Center at (863) 386-7165.

Diabetes Self-Management Class

A 10-hour comprehensive education program taught in three sessions. It offers information about the causes of diabetes (insulin resistance), monitoring blood sugars, how medications work, nutrition education, complications, stress management and setting goals for a healthy lifestyle. The cost for this class is a sliding scale based on your income and insurance, and class times vary. To register, call the Diabetes Center at (863) 386-7165.

Cardiac Nutrition Classes

These free classes offer educational information about dietary causes of heart disease, and healthy alternatives to help reverse and delay further progression of heart disease. Classes meet on the third Friday of every month from 12:30 - 2:00 pm. To register, call the Diabetes Center at (863) 386-7165.

Breastfeeding Education Classes

A free two-hour class offered monthly to teach expectant couples the basic skills for successful breastfeeding. These classes are taught by a Certified Lactation Consultant and cover the benefits to mother and baby, getting started, latching, pumping and maintaining/storing your milk supply. Classes meet from 6:30 - 8:30 pm. To register, call Breastfeeding Education Team at (863) 402-3405.

Childbirth Education

A four-week class focused on preparing parents for the childbirth experience. Our instructors are certified childbirth educators with experience in labor support. Topics include: comfort measures, breathing patterns, relaxation and massage, medications and epidural along with postpartum care. The class meets on Tuesday from 6:30 – 8:30 pm and costs \$40.

To register, call Childbirth Education Team at (863) 402-3258.

Powerful Tools for Caregivers

A free six-week program designed to support family caregivers in a way that enhances their well-being, as they care for others. Classes will meet on Fridays from 8:30 – 10:30 am beginning in January. To register, call the CREATION Health Department at (863) 386-6421.

CREATION Health classes

This free monthly class will inspire you to make progress toward an abundant life of joy, health, peace and hope. Each letter in the word CREATION stands for a principle of health. Beginning in January. To register, call the CREATION Health Department at (863) 386-6421.

Matter of Balance

A free 8-week series designed to help people manage concerns about falls and increase activity. This program helps participants identify ways to reduce falls, learn exercises to increase strength and balance, and become more confident about managing falls. Class will begin in February.

To register, call the CREATION Health Department at (863) 386-6421.

This group meets monthly on the last Wednesday from 3:30 – 4:30 pm. To register, call Cardiac and Pulmonary Rehabilitation Team at (863) 386-7180.

"Circle of Hope" Cancer Support Group

Meets monthly and brings together cancer patients, with the support of their friends and family, who need encouragement while going through the challenges of cancer.

This group meets monthly on the third Tuesday from 5:30 – 6:30 pm. To register, call the Cancer Institute at (863) 382-2049.

Better Breathers Club

Sponsored by the American Lung Association. This monthly support group provides opportunities for people with lung disorders, along with their family and caretakers, to learn about lung diseases, develop positive coping skills, and share concerns in a social gathering with others.

This group meets monthly on the last Friday from 12:00 – 1:00 pm. To register, call the Respiratory Team at (863) 402-3450.

Parkinson's Support Group

Sponsored by the National Parkinson Foundation. Encourages Parkinson's patients, families, friends and care team members to learn more about caring for and coping with the disease. This group meets monthly on the 4th Monday from 10:00 - 11:00 am. To register, call The Home Care Services Team at (863) 386-6421.



CREATION Health Wellness Center 4005 Sun 'n Lake Boulevard Sebring, Florida 33872 (863) 386-6421 FHHeartland.org

Prescribed burn planned near Sebring airport

By PHIL ATTINGER STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — Residents near Sebring Regional Airport and Sebring International Raceway may see some smoke and soot in the next month.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service plans to have a controlled burn on Lake Wales Ridge National Wildlife Refuge lands within the undeveloped Flamingo Villas subdivision, between Airport Road and U.S. 98 in Sebring. It will take place sometime between January and mid-February, weather permitting, according to Fish and Wildlife.

In addition to helping maintain sand hill, scrub and wetland habitat, the fire will help protect nearby neighborhoods and businesses from a wildfire in the coming dry season, according to a news release from Fish and Wildlife's Everglades headquarters in Vero Beach.

The news release describes prescribed fire as a "habitat management tool" that works with the Refuge's Comprehensive Conservation Plan. It is further described as a cost-efficient and effective way to remove invasive woody vegetation and preserve rare, endemic plants and animals.

Without the burn, heavy amounts of vegetation, live and dead, would build up in an area, making firefighting much more difficult, the release states.

For more details about the Refuge, visit www.fws.gov/refuge/ Lake_Wales_Ridge/.



1. Bread is closely tied to religious expression and communion. Hot cross buns commemorate Lent and Good Friday, Greek Easter breads are set with eggs dyed red to denote the blood of Christ, and Jewish families celebrate the coming of the Sabbath on Friday evening with challah.

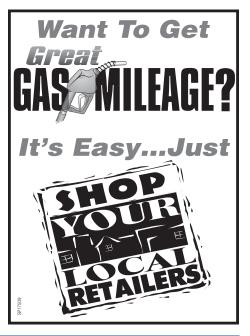
2. Napoleon gave a common bread its name when he demanded a loaf of dark rye bread for his horse during the Prussian campaign. "Pain pour Nicole," he ordered, which meant "Bread for Nicole," his horse. To Germanic ears, the request sounded like "pumpernickel," which is the term we use today for this traditional loaf.

3. In Britain, the ceremony of First Footing is traditionally observed in the early hours of New Year's Day. A piece of bread is left outside a door, with a piece of coal and a silver coin, and is supposed to bring you food, warmth and riches in the year ahead.



4. The "pocket" in pita bread is made by steam. The steam puffs up the dough and, as the bread cools and flattens, a pocket is left in the middle. 5. It takes 9 seconds for a combine to harvest enough wheat to make about 70 loaves of bread.

Source: https://mobile-cuisine.com/ did-you-know/bread-fun-facts/



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New programs offered at Circle Theatre

BY JAY MEISEL STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — Thursday night, a group of people listened to a financial advisor from Wells Fargo give them advice with strategies to save money and reach financial goals.

The discussion included creating a financial plan to manage money better and save on expenses.

Most of the participants in the one-day class were young adults. And some brought their children.

Anna Richards, director of Children's Services for the Children's Advocacy Center, said the goal is to expand programs on Thursdays for adults and children. Some of those are geared to parents but are also family-friendly, she said.

Children attending the financial seminar were treated to pizza.

Other programs on Thursday include an expressive art class for children, ages 3 to 12, and parents. Children will be encouraged to "express thoughts and feelings with colors and shapes, tell your personal story, share your imagination and create healing and wholeness," according to a description.

The financial workshop with Wells Fargo is held the second Thursday of each month from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

A relationship building class is held the first Thursday of the month from 6 to 7 p.m. It's aimed at "strengthening family relationships through communications skills building and the importance of creating

a deeper understanding of the strengths and needs of family relationships and of each family member," the description said.

On the second Thursday of each month from 11 a.m. to noon, a safety first class is held, focusing on car seats, water, fire and internet safety. A leadership and community outreach is held the fourth Thursday of the month from 4 to 5 p.m. It focuses on how people can help other families in need in Highlands County.

On the second Thursday of the month, from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., a parent support group meets with guest speakers. And on the third Thursday of the month from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m., a life skills group meets. It's open to teenagers, young adults and their parents.

The Circle Theatre also will have two upcoming speakers, Dianna Furr on Feb. 8 and Beatriz Mejia-Krumbein. on March 8. The speeches are open to the public and there's no

admission cost. The doors will open at 6:30 p.m. and the event will be from 7 to 8 p.m. Furr is a founder of Samaritan's Touch Care Center and Mejia-Krumbein is an artist. The classes and

support groups are also free and open to the public. **Register at Circle Theatre** during the hours the Family Resources Center is open, which are 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday to Friday.

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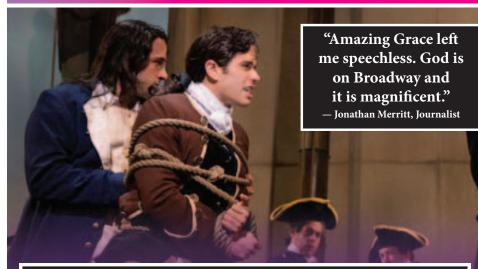
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LOCAL SPORTS

Sunday, January 21, 2018

Point standings tightening up

Good-sized crowd takes in action at Avon Park's Mowerplex

By JIM TAYLOR Correspondent

AVON PARK — A cold chilly night did not stop the heat of fierce competition in lawnmower racing or the largest crowd of the season to attend at the Avon Park Mowerplex last Saturday, Jan. 13. The event was fourth race of the season and many of the classification points standing are tightening.

In KART racing, Christian Galan

was able to extend his points lead over Steve Dodson and Sam Foster with wins in both the heat and main races. Foster finished second in both races, moving him to

third place in total points, just 15 behind Dodson, who is currently in second.

It was a rough night for young Morgan Vaughn in the Mini-Mow class after a fourth-place finish in the heat and a third place in the main. Vaughn continues to hold the points lead, though it dropped to just 10 points over Colby Pate, who finished first in both events and 15 over Reed Wallace, who finished third in the heat and second in the main.

Shannon Pate won both the heat and the main race in the CP class and cut into Bruce Runyon's points lead in the class. Runyon maintains a sizable point lead over after finishing second in both races.

MOWERPLEX 2 last Saturday.



JIM TAYLOR/CORRESPONDENT

Newcomer to FXS Class, Derrick Martin, in his second week, captured the checkered flag in the both the heat and main races last Saturday.

Dragons down Blue Streaks



Sebring's Genesis Morales goes up for a shot as Lake Placid's Kayla Domenich, left, defends.





HIGHLANDS BASS ANGLER Dave Douglass

Great fishing next 3 days

The Florida freshwater fishing forecast for the fourth full week of January gives anglers the first quarter moon phase on Wednesday, a cold front on Tuesday and 80-degree temperatures today and Monday. Winds will be ideal until after the midweek and the approaching cold front won't drop temperatures about 10 degrees until Tuesday night.

All fishing factors considered, fishing will very good for the next two and a half days then rainfall followed by high winds the rest of the week will make fishing a real challenge.

The second half of this week high winds will prevail in the 15- to 20-mile-per-hour range out of the northeast on Thursday, east on Friday, and southeast on Saturday and Sunday. Early morning anglers will have the moon underfoot working with the sunrise starting on Friday so there will be enjoyable fishing out of the wind on the leeward side of the lake. Choose your launch ramp accordingly. Best Fishing Days: Today through Tuesday morning is forecasted to produce the best alignment of fishing factors. Remember during the Florida winter season water temperature trumps every other factor in that, when temperatures rise to the upper 60-degree range and into the 70-degree range, all freshwater fish feed twice as much during the week than they fed when temperatures were less than 60 degrees. Monday night however will be the best fishing period of this week. As the moon overhead period occurs and the sun begins to set as water temperature reach the daily high mark, atmospheric pressure will spike and fish will feed heavy. Watch for the wind to shift out of the southeast in the midafternoon hours-trigger-effect before the approaching front. The Major Fishing Period: The moon is overhead at 4:09 p.m. today and the sunset at 5:58 p.m., both producing a feed rating of 5 to 6 from 3-7 p.m. Additionally, weather forecasters are predicting above-average atmospheric pressure spikes tonight and Monday evening. The Minor Fishing Period: The moonrise occurs at 10:11 a.m. today and solar noon at 12:37 p.m. Both will create a 4 to 5 feed rating from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. which will be helped greatly by an above average atmospheric pressure increase which has been occurring about an hour prior to the moonrise and I expect this to continue. Prime Monthly Periods: Jan. 28 to Feb.3, full moon; Feb. 12 to 18, new moon. January and February will have strong full moon periods due to the lunar perigee influence.

Lake Placid pulls away from Sebring down the stretch

By RUTH ANNE LAWSON

Correspondent

LAKE PLACID — It was an exciting night for basketball, as the Lake Placid Green Dragons faced county rivals Sebring. The action was slow in the first half of the game and really picked up in the fourth period, as Lake Placid rallied for a 44-37 victory.

"I heard that Sebring beat Wauchula the other night so I knew they would be better," said Lake Placid coach Steve Bullard. "I also heard they have a new player, Genesis Morales, she just moved here from Puerto Rico. She is a tremendous little player and she is only a ninth grader. The first half she could not hit at all but the second half she seemed to hit everything she threw up. She got them back in the game, but our girls responded well and played a better second half."

The Dragons took the lead in the first quarter, as Kayla Domenich led the Dragons in points with a couple of two-pointers. Claire Phypers added a bucket for Lake Placid and so did Kylie Elliott. The Streaks cut the deficit in half with a basket from Essence Cummings and a shot made by MyKerriya Brown. At the end of the first Lake Placid was in the lead with a score of 8-4.

Lake Placid slowed in the second quarter. Donnie Gobourne was fouled and sent to the line twice where she

DRAGONS | 4

Sebring hosts prestigious tournament

Shuffleboard Association Hall of Fame Tournament takes place

By NEIL SIMPSON Special to Highlands News-Sun

On Monday, some of the very best shufflers on the continent gathered at the Sebring Recreation Center for the annual Shuffleboard Association Hall Of Fame Tournament. This tournament rotates among the seven shuffleboard districts in the state. The Sebring Club, located in the Central District, was bursting with pride to be able to host the 2018 event.

The Hall of Fame Tournament is a pro event but amateur shufflers are welcome to enter and try their skill against the pros. Ellie Crowell and her husband, Jim, of Zephyrhills were two of a very limited number of amateurs that took the challenge this year.

Monday was a cool day with those



NEIL SIMPSON PHOTO

Ellie Crowell, an amateur from Zephyrhills, competes against Sebring's Hall of Fame shuffler Ruth Brown, who is in the background.

shufflers who played on the open courts enjoying the benefit of ample sunshine to keep them warm while those playing under cover had to deal with much cooler temperatures. 71 men and 44 women took part in this singles event. Men played either walking or non-walking while the women were restricted to non-walking. In a walking event, the players push their discs from one end then walk to the other



JIM TAYLOR/CORRESPONDENT

Christian Galan (27) won both the heat and main races last Saturday. Galan currently is the points leader in the KART class.

MOWERPLEX (GP) Twin races, holding **FROM PAGE 1**

In the Grand Prix (GP) class, Randy Gandy won the heat race, but finished fourth in the main race. Gandy still holds the points lead over Ken Wayman and Harold Polhill. Tom Hodges, who finished fourth in the heat race, rallied back to take the checkered flag in the main.

Hodges also won both races in the Grand Prix

off Marc Sweetman, who finished second in heat and was disqualified in the main event. With the wins, Hodges gave himself a little breathing room in the points standings as he holds a slight 35-point advantage over Sweetman and 60 over Polhill in this class.

In the FXS class, Runyon maintains first place in total points, 40 points over Becky Kuhfeldt, after finishing second in the heat and third in the main.

Kuhfeldt finished second in the main and third in the heat as the two flopped positions in the two races.

Both were behind newcomer Derrick Martin, in his second set of races of the season, who took first place in both events to make a highly competitive class even stronger.

Points leader in the FXT class, Matt Garner, finished third in the heat on Saturday, but recovered to take the checkered flag in the main.



Colby Pate (41) won both the heat and main Mini-Mow races last Saturday. Pate moved to within 10 points of the Mini-Mow points lead.



Tom Hodges (15) holds off Marc Sweetman (00) and Harold Polhill (314) in the GP Twin race heading into turn 1. Hodges won both the heat and main races to extend his slight lead in the GP Twin class.

Charlie Summers, who won the heat race, fell to second in the main.

In the final race of the night, Sam Foster won the FX Lite main race after winning the heat earlier in the evening. Foster has built a sizable

point lead, but Becky Kuhfeldt, Martine Vaughn, Stacy Wallace and Tom Hodges are close enough that any mistakes by Foster can make one of the largest classifications in drivers even more interesting.

Next race at the Avon Park Moweplex is Feb. 10 with a 6 p.m. start time.

The USLMRA National Lawnmower races are also going to be held at the Florida State Fairgrounds on Feb. 17-18.



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LOCAL RUNNING

2018 YFIRE 5K Jan. 6

Female Results Open Winner: Lisa Foster, 26:20.7. Master Winner: Jen DeYoung, 28:43.7. Grand Master Winner: Darlene Christensen, 29:28.8.

10 and Under: Desiree Bassett, 45:07.0. 11 to 14: Aundria Smith, 37:27.4. 15 to 19: Maci Leapheart, 27:50.1. 25 to 29: Brittany Higgins, 31:52.3; Mindy Snyder, 50:10.4; Cassie Watson, 50:18.1. 30 to 34: Latosha Harnage, 32:16.9; Sullyann Morales-Reyes, 41:56.9. 35 to 39: Shawn Beumel, 28:53.7; Amanda

Maghan, 32:11.6; Ruthy Wilson, 38:29.2; Krystal Griffin, 45:40.0. 40 to 44: Sharla Elliott, 30:34.5; Allison Giannino, 32:12.1; Jennifer Fulwider, 32:39.3; Christi Gose, 43:51.4; Brandy Albury, 45:22.4; Tabitha McHargue, 45:24.5. 45 to 49: Sharon



SUN NEWSPAPERS

Lower, 48:42.1. 50 to 54: Shari Flowers, 47:40.5. 55 to 59: Robin Gonzalez, 40:04.3; Elise Andreen, 50:23.1. 60 to 64: Martie Brooker, 33:05.0; Donna Howerton, 44:15.6; Candy Morehouse,

Pridgeon-Fennell, 50:43.4. 65 to 69: Bettye Hart, 30:28.9; Danette Sapp, 37:23.2; Tammy 40:52.0. 75 to 79: Judy Cayo, Mortensen, 38:08.6; Kimberly O'Connor, 33:06.0. 38:32.6; Judy Basset, 45:16.9; Sara Zamora-**Male Results** Baldridge, 48:35.5; Stacy **Open Winner:** Zachary

VanFleet, 21:03.0. Master Winner: Kirk Becker, 23:57.0. **Grand Master Winner:** Michael Stewart, 25:40.4.

10 and Under: Brooker Revell 10 7 25:47.5 8:19/M 11 to 14: Nic Colbert,

21:44.0; Miguel Arceo, 26:58.8; Joey Potter, 28:43.3; Ashton Griffin, 37:07.3. 15 to 19: Daniel Malone, 27:38.0; Mark

Morales-Reyes, 37:18.4. 25 to 29: Cody Higgins, 31:52.0.

30 to 34: Gregory Carr, 28:17.8; Eric Marshall, 28:36.4; David Morale, 41:57.2.

35 to 39: James Ruch, 23:20.0; Jason Maghan, 25:49.4; Matt Griffin, 39:12.4. 40 to 44: Ryan

Leapheart, 28:59.5. 45 to 49: Thomas Lamorte, 27:26.4; Curt Matthews, 34:04.9: Ricky Mortensen, 36:57.9; Jess Baldridge, 48:36.7. 50 to 54: Mark Colbert,

27:37.4. 55 to 59: Robert Taylor, 25:32.0; Tony Rice, 26:02.9.

60 to 64: Edward Dickerson, 37:54.2; Carl Morehouse, 46:50.4; Randall Wilkins, 47:12.6.

65 to 69: Kenny Vincent, 45:11.0. 70 to 74: Cliff Ables,

Highlands Half Relay Results

Emily Vargas and Dylan Branch, 1:26:53.6; Oren Stephens, Brooker Revell, Martie Brooker and Nolan Stephens, 2:20:18.0; Mike Kirsch, Samantha Brand, Julie Kirsch and Dan McCoomb, 2:36:20.5.

41:06.6; Ronald Sevigny,

75 to 79: Chuck

Imboden 76 9 25:56.2.

Marathon

44:23.5.

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DRAGONS FROM PAGE 1

went 2 for 4 giving the Dragons a total of 10 points. The Streaks cut the deficit with a bucket from Brown and a two-pointer from Zi'yanah Massaline, as the Green Dragons led 10-8.

"We started out rough in the first quarter," said Lake Placid's Kylie Elliott. "We picked it up in the second half and did pretty well. We are doing a lot better this season than last. We were 10-10 and this year we are 10-5 we have improved a lot this season. We are going to practice hard and work on our plays. We have had a couple of bumps along the way and we need to work on getting in shape. We are really out of shape. This season I want to get better with my ball handling. We only have one point guard and that is me so I want to do my best for my team."

Morales scored 12 points in the third quarter to help the Blue Streaks take a 23-21 lead into the fourth quarter

The fourth period was filled with fouls and free throws. The Dragons took back the lead early in the fourth, only to see Sebring rally back and knot the game at 27.

Phypers was sent to the line for the Dragons and made a free throw. A technical foul sent the Dragons back to the line, where Gobourne made two free throws to give the Dragons had a 30-27 lead. Gobourne added a nice jump shot for the Dragons. Phypers was sent back to the line where she added a free throw bringing Lake



Lake Placid's Kylie Elliott goes up for a shot against Sebring.

Placid's lead to 33-27. Sebring would get no closer than four points the rest of the way.

"We are young still," said Sebring coach Chris Taylor. "We are growing and maturing. It is the small things and improving on those. They are making small mistakes but they are improving each game. We are getting better. If we win against Desoto on Friday then we should be in the No. 4 so we will host the first round of districts."

Taylor said his girls continue to battle, which is all he can ask.

"We fought hard and you cannot coach that," he said. "We have a bunch of freshmen that are showing up and they keep getting better. We are making adjustments and we are going to take care of the small things to get ready for the district tournament. We are going to play our game and do what we do best."

Bullard said it was a good win for his team.

"Anytime you win you are happy," he said. "I think we played pretty well as a team."

Lake Placid's next game is a district matchup against the Teneroc Titans in Lakeland on Tuesday, while the Blue Streaks host Frostproof on Monday at 6:30 p.m.



RUTH ANNE LAWSON/CORRESPONDENT

Sebring's Adrianna Condo hits the deck, as teammate MyKerria Brown, left, and Kiara Watson battle for a rebound.







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NEIL SIMPSON PHOTO

Glen Pelletier, one of three living Florida shufflers to reach 1,000 points, poses with Dave Kudro, Florida Shuffleboard Association President and 2018 Hall of Fame Inductee.

SHUFFLEBOARD competing in Sebring, the Avon Park Seniors

FROM PAGE 1

end to shoot back in the opposite direction while in non-walking, there are two players at each end of the court and each player shoots in only one direction.

The non-walking players played the best two out of three games to 75 points and the walkers played to 75 points or 16 frames, whichever came first. Preliminary rounds were played on Monday and continued into Tuesday. The semi finals and finals were be held Wednesday.

While the pros were

Activity Centre was hosting the amateur tournament with 20 teams coming from Avon Park, Bartow, Lakeland, Lake Placid, Lake Wales, Sebring and Winter Haven to compete under the watchful eye of tournament director, Marlene Corbeil from Winter Haven.

Tom Clayton, president of the Avon Park Club, was delighted with the turnout, especially in light of the unusually cold weather. Having 20 teams resulted in a balanced draw sheet which meant that teams didn't have to wait around for a turn to play.

Risi Competizione ready for both GT classes at Daytona

Special To Highlands News-Sun

The team announced two additional drivers joining Risi Competizione for the 56th running of the 24-hour race. The No. 62 Ferrari 488 GTLM of Toni Vilander, James Calado and Alessandro Pier Guidi will also welcome Davide Rigon to the cockpit.

The No. 82 Ferrari 488 GT3-spec GTD entry is joined by fifth driver Matt Griffin to support Miguel Molina, Martin Fuentes, Santiago Creel and Ricardo Perez de Lara.

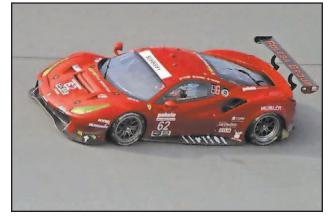
"This will be a little different Daytona for Risi Competizione; we've entered one GTLM F488 and one GTD F488 for this event," said race engineer Rick Mayer. "We consider this a two-car car team as opposed to two one-car teams; there's a lot of cross over and reinforced efforts between the car crews, even though the cars are in different classes."

Mayer said the size of the overall field is roughly the same as last year, with 50 cars, so a driver's mental state is going to be critical in the race.

"The four longer endurance series races always have a larger Pro-Am content than the shorter races and this makes getting through traffic and staying clear of trouble more difficult and risky," he said. "Your concentration must be high, traffic will be constant, spotters at Daytona are super important. The safety car and wave by rules will ensure a large lead lap car count for each class, as the rules make it easy to make up a small lap deficit. Clearing traffic will be particularly difficult for GTLM as the GTDs have equal or better banking speeds and the GTDs are allowed ABS brakes."

The Balance of Performance was largely based on what transpired during the Roar Before the Rolex 24, so the GTLM Ferrari is unchanged from the Roar, while the GTD car will get a fuel capacity addition.

"Both the GTLM and GTD F488 should be competitive in their respective classes," Mayer said. "Based on Roar observation the best BoPs are likely the Porsches in each class. Significant? We'll see. The fuel flow restrictors and fuel capacities have more significance at Davtona as fuel fill time and stint length are more important as in-class passing will be difficult; gaining positions in the pits is low risk compared to passing



ASHLEY STRICKLIN PHOTO

The No. 62 Risi Competizione Ferrari competes in the Roar Before the Rolex 24 at Daytona International Speedway earlier this month.

on track."

Daytona International Speedway is a track that can yield high speeds, but teams have to take safety into consideration during set-up.

"Daytona is a track that requires some reserve in setup to increase safety," Mayer said. "Unlike other tracks, Daytona setups only relate to Daytona. The mechanical setup and tire pressures we need to run (Daytonaonly pressure and Daytona-only cambers) here are all in the direction of safety at the detriment to lap time and performance. We bias the setup to improve braking stability and traction and maximize banking speed."

Passing at Daytona isn't so easy and there are few places on the track that provide ample passing opportunities.

"With 50 cars you'll be in traffic throughout the infield nearly every lap," Mayer said. "The only legitimate passing areas are on the banking to clear slower cars, braking into Turn 1, braking into the 'Bus Stop' and occasionally into Turn 5. Being fast in the infield section is of little advantage."

When everything is said and done, Mayer believes Daytona is a wideopen race with many contenders.

"Any of the nine GTLM cars could win this race, while the GTD field is more based on staying on the lead lap as the Am's circulate through the car, or getting your lap back if you lose one," Mayer said. "This year the BMW is the only new car in GTLM; they struggled at the Roar with pace, but their BoP for the event has improved considerably...so we'll see.

Naturally, Mayer is a bit biased towards his team and he believes they have a legitimate chance to take the win in either of both GT classes.

"We have had great success with the long races at Risi Competizione," he said. "The GTD car has two very accomplished Pros in the line-up and seasoned endurance Am drivers. The Pros know how to close a race.

"We have four of the best Ferrari factory GT drivers in the GTLM car; this has to be one of the best driver line-ups in the field, as all are champions and victors in 24-hour races driving Ferraris. Let's hope good fortune will start at Daytona and fade the memories of 2017's incident filled season."

The race starts at 2:40 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 27 and runs for 24 hours.



LOCAL SPORTS CALENDAR

Monday

Avon Park boys soccer at Lake Wales, 7:30 p.m. Lake Placid boys soccer at Sebring, 7 p.m. Frostproof girls basketball at Sebring, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday

Lake Placid girls basketball at Tenoroc, 7:30 p.m.

Sebring girls basketball at Bishop Verot, 7 p.m. Tenoroc boys basket-

ball at Lake Placid, 7:30 p.m. Sebring boys basket-

ball at Kingdom Prep, 7:30 p.m.

George Jenkins wrestling at Sebring, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday

Sebring boys soccer at Lake Placid, 7 p.m. Avon Park girls basketball at Hardee, 7:30 p.m. DeSoto girls basketball at Lake Placid, 7:30 p.m. Sebring boys basketball at Booker, 7 p.m. Kingdom Prep boys basketball at Avon Park, 8 p.m.

Friday

Avon Park boys soccer at Sebring, 6:30 p.m. George Jenkings girls basketball at Avon Park, 8 p.m.

Westwood girls

DAVE FROM PAGE 1

Highlands Bass Angler Bass Guide-Trips are \$250 for one or two anglers. All gear, bait and tackle included for an artificial-bait six-hour trip. Cold water, Gatorade and weather protection provided. Custom bass fishing charters available. Call to plan and book your bass fishing experience today.

Istokpoga.info News: The lake level is at 39.25 feet above sea level, which is three inches below the max-level in the one-foot management-threshold range for the winter season. Currently the maximum and minimum levels are 39.50 and 38.50 feet above sea level, respectively. All four gates are closed. Istokpoga.info website has links to the South Florida Water Mgmt. (SFWMD) real time S68 and S68X spillway gates status, and flow status data of all water way structures from Kissimmee to Clewiston. Access this article online using FloridaLakes

basketball at Lake Placid, 7 p.m. Booker girls basketball at Sebring, 7:30 p.m. Lake Placid boys basketball at Vanguard, 7 p.m. Lake Placid wrestling at Sebring, 6 p.m. SFSC baseball at Eastern Florida State, 2 p.m.

Saturday

Sebring wrestling at George Jenkins, TBA Broward College softball at SFSC (2), 1 p.m. SFSC baseball at Pensacola State, 11 a.m.

Monday, Jan. 29

Lake Placid girls basketball at Clewiston, 7:30 p.m. Sebring girls basketball at Mulberry, 7 p.m. DeSoto boys basketball at Avon Park, 7:30 p.m. Lake Placid boys basketball at Discovery, 6:30 p.m. SFSC baseball at Webber International (B), 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 30

Avon Park girls basketball at DeSoto, 7:30 p.m. Lake Wales boys basketball at Sebring, 8 p.m. Sebring wrestling at Avon Park, 6 p.m.

FishingForecast.com or BassFishing Forecast.com. Need a lake map? Go to FloridaLakes Maps.com for free lake contour maps for hundreds of your favorite lakes statewide.

Fishing from Shorelines: Learn where the deeper water comes closest to shorelines using a lake contour map. There are 45 Highlands County lake maps published at floridalakesmaps.com. Each map is edited to include boat ramp locations and have been enlarged for easy reading of the lake-bottom contour delineations. The only challenge you have is to not trespass on private shoreline properties when accessing the best-fishing shorelines.

"JANUARY SPECIAL"

after 2pm

Golf Club

Mon. & Thurs.

3118 Golfview Rd, Sebring, FL 33870

■ Wednesday, Jan. 31

Lake Sumter baseball at SFSC, 5 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 1

Sebring girls basketball at Avon Park, 7:30 p.m. Lake Placid girls basketball at Moore Haven, 7 p.m. SFSC softball at Indian River (2), 2 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 2

Avon Park girls basketball at Lakeland, 8 p.m. Hardee girls basketball at Lake Placid, 7:30 p.m. Frostproof boys basketball at Avon Park, 7:30 p.m. Lake Placid boys basketball at Fort Meade, 7:30 p.m. Sebring boys basketball at Hardee, 7:30 p.m. SFSC baseball at College of Central Florida, 1 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 3

Sebring wrestling Spiegel Memorial, 10 a.m. Santa Fe College softball at SFSC (2), 1 p.m. SFSC baseball at Santa

■ Sunday, Feb. 4

Fe College (2), noon

SFSC baseball at Lake

The 'good news' is, the majority of the lakes' public boat ramps and docks are located within the better shoreline fishing areas.

HighlandsBassAngler. com offers bass fishing guide-trip options, fishing-help tools, 72 lake-contour maps and additional map sources and fishing philosophy. Personalized custom fishing packages for beginners to professional anglers are available upon request.

Dave Douglass is a bass fishing guide and teacher on 25 lakes, from the towns of Kissimmee to Clewiston. Visit HighlandsBassAngler. com for complete details. Phone: 863-381-8474. Email: DavidPDouglass@ hotmail.com.

Come play one

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Historic Golf Trail

opened in 1928

(863) 314-5919

Sumter, 1 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 6

Avon Park boys basketball at All Saints, 7 p.m. Discovery boys basketball at Lake Placid, 6:30 p.m. Sebring boys basketball at Frostproof, 8 p.m. SFSC softball at Palm Beach State College (2), 4 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 7

Webber International B baseball at SFSC, 6 p.m.

■ Thursday, Feb. 8

Lake Placid

boys basketball at Okeechobee, 7:30 p.m. Sebring boys basketball at Haines City, 8 p.m.

Pasco-Hernando softball at SFSC (2), 5 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 9

Sebring wrestling at Lakeland, TBA College of Central Florida baseball at SFSC, 1 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 10

Sebring wrestling at Lakeland, TBA Lake Sumter softball at SFSC (2), 1 p.m. Santa Fe College baseball at SFSC (2), noon











With \$134 minimum purchase

Participating franchises only. Prior sales excluded. Combined living areas, L-shaped rooms and rooms over 300 sq. ft. are considered 2 areas. Offer does not include protector. Minimum charges apply. Residential customers only. May not be combined with any other offer. Must present coupon a time of cleaning. Offer expires 2-10-18.





The News Wire HIPPO-Y BIRTHDAY TO FIONA! THE POPULAR HIPPO IS TURNING **1 SOON** See page 10.



GOP, Dems show no sign of retreat in shutdown's first day

By ZEKE MILLER, ANDREW TAYLOR and ALAN FRAM ASSOCIATED PRESS

STATE • NATIONAL • WORLD • BUSINESS • WEATHER

WASHINGTON — Republicans and Democrats showed no signs of ending their standoff over immigration and spending Saturday as Americans awoke to the first day of a government shutdown and Congress staged a weekend session to show voters it was trying to resolve the stalemate.

The closure of many government agencies was a striking display of Washington dysfunction, played out on the one-year anniversary of President Donald Trump's inauguration, and there was more finger-pointing than signs of bipartisan dealmaking.

Trump made light of the debacle in a tweet that Democrats "wanted to give me a nice present" to mark the start of his second year in office.

The president spoke with Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., to discuss the next possible steps, while chief of staff John Kelly also worked the phones. White House negotiators, legislative affairs director Marc Short and budget chief Mick Mulvaney, went to Capitol Hill to meet



Sunday, January 21, 2018

AP PHOTO

House Minority Whip Steny Hoyer, D-Md., center, joined from left by, Rep. Joseph Crowley, D-N.Y., House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., and Rep. Linda Sanchez, D-Calif., hold a news conference on the first morning of a government shutdown after a divided Senate rejected a funding measure last night, at the Capitol in Washington, Saturday.

with House Republicans, who emerged four weeks. Democrats were seeking holding fast to their stance they would not negotiate while the government was shuttered.

Right around midnight, Senate Democrats killed a GOP-written House-passed measure that would have kept agencies functioning for a stop-gap bill of just a few days in hopes that would build pressure on Republicans, and were opposing a three-week alternative offered by GOP leaders.

RETREAT | 4



AP EXPLAINS: Congress shuts down the government. Now what?

ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON - The U.S. government shutdown began at midnight Friday as Democrats and Republicans failed to resolve a standoff over immigration and spending. Here's a look at what the parties are fighting over and what it means to shut down the government.

What Are Lawmakers **Fighting About?**

Since the end of the fiscal year in September, the government has been operating on temporary funding measures. The current one expired at midnight. Republicans and Democrats have not been able to agree on spending levels for the rest of the year, so another shortterm measure is the most likely solution. The House has passed a four-week bill Thursday that also extends funding for a children's health insurance program.

But Democrats have been saying for weeks they want a funding measure to be tied to an immigration deal that protects the thousands of young immigrants facing deportation. The Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program is set to expire March 5, and members of both parties have been working on an extension that would also beef up border protection.

That deal has not come together, and Democrats have decided to dig in. They blocked the House-passed bill. Both sides were still negotiating early Saturday.

They've Blown The Deadline. Now What?

The government begins to shut down. But not all of the government.

The air traffic control system, food inspection, Medicare, veterans' health care and many other essential government programs will run as usual. The Social Security Administration will not only send out benefits but will also continue to take applications — though replace-ments for lost Social Security cards could have to wait. The U.S. Postal Service, which is self-funded, will keep delivering the mail. The Federal Emergency Management Agency will continue to respond to last year's spate of disasters. The Interior Department says national



DAVID MAIALETTI /THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER VIA AP

Thousands gather during the Women's March in Philadelphia on Saturday.

Across the globe, rallies against Trump, sexual misconduct

By VERENA DOBNIK AND TAMARA LUSH ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Across the globe, people are hitting the streets on the one-year anniversary of President Donald Trump's inauguration, marching against his policies and in support of the #MeToo movement against sexual assault and harassment.

A protest in New York was among more than 200 such actions planned for the weekend around the world. By mid-morning, people gathered in Chicago, Los Angeles, Denver and Raleigh, North Carolina. In Philadelphia, many marchers wore pink cat-ear hats as a show of solidarity, while others carried signs stating opposition to Trump and his policies.

Earlier Saturday, dozens of activists gathered in Rome to denounce violence against women and express support for the #MeToo movement. They were joined by Italian actress and director Asia Argento, who made headlines after alleging in 2017 she had been sexually assaulted by Hollywood producer Harvey Weinstein in the 1990s.

The 2017 rally in Washington, D.C., and hundreds of similar marches created solidarity for those denouncing Trump's views on abortion, immigration, LGBT rights and more. Millions of people around the world marched during last year's rallies, and many



AP PHOTO

People take part in a rally portion of a march highlighting equal rights and equality for women Saturday, in New York.

on Saturday thought about all that's happened in the past year.

"I'd be lying if I said that I'm not dispirited and discouraged over having to march yet again to register our opposition to this disastrous first year of the Trump presidency," said Peggy Taylor, a New York City tour guide and Manhattan resident.

She said that last year, she felt "a kind of euphoria" walking through the city with hundreds of thousands of

participants.

This year, "the hard reality of what lies ahead of us has sunk in," she said. "I know that we have a long slog ahead of us to undo the damage that this man has inflicted."

In New York, scheduled speakers included Ashley Bennett, a Democrat who was elected Atlantic County, New Jersey, freeholder last November.

RALLIES | 4

CONGRESS | 4

Pence tells US troops to forget the shutdown and focus on their mission

By BRIAN BENNETT

TRIBUNE WASHINGTON BUREAU

On his way to Cairo for a Middle East tour, Vice President Mike Pence shook hands and chatted with U.S. service members Saturday during a stop to refuel Air Force Two at Shannon Airport in Ireland.

Pence is to visit three Middle East nations.

As the vice president took photos with some of the troops, he brought up the U.S. government shutdown, which began at midnight Friday.

"We'll get this thing figured out in Washington," Pence said. "You guys stay focused on your mission."

Several dozen Air Force personnel were in the airport terminal in transit to assignments overseas. Some troops were based at Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado and were headed to Kuwait for a six-month deployment.

Pence said he heard a number of soldiers bring up the shutdown.

"It's disappointing to every American that Democrats in the Senate would shut down the government when we have troops in harms way," he said.

"These soldiers deserve better."

FINANCIAL NEWS Stinky GE Still a Buy

ear Mr. Berko: My stockbroker wants me to buy 400 shares of General Electric. Is he nuts?

JS, Moline, Ill.

Dear JS: Last June, Jeff "Big Melt" Immelt, who took control of General Electric (GE-\$18.47) from the iconic Jack Welch just before 9/11, announced he'd be stepping down as CEO. Good! He's been replaced by John Flannery, a 30-year GE veteran who ran the company's health care division. Huge yawn! Most doubt that Flannery and his personal broom can hurry GE's price recovery. So far, his appointment has made as much difference to GE as would the advent of another fly to a slaughterhouse. That should change if Flannery's broom can muck out the executive suite and remove the stench from the Augean stables in GE's useless boardroom.

Recommending GE at \$25 several years ago was among my biggest disappointments since buying 250 shares of Studebaker-Packard in 1962. That company shut its doors in 1966. GE, with \$126 billion in 2016 revenues and \$13.4 billion in profits (\$1.07 a share), wasn't earning enough to pay its 96-cent dividend, so Flannery reduced it to 46 cents, saving the company over \$4 billion a year. GE's not in trouble; it just lost its mojo.

GE's established dominant product categories - turbines, locomotives/transportation, lighting, medical imaging, renewable energy, aircraft engines and service contracts — do very well. Its service contracts business generates margins in excess of 30 percent.

GE's problem is fivefold:

1) Integrating the power and grid business of Alstom, a French company GE purchased for \$14 billion in 2015, has proved more



difficult than anticipated. Slow penetration in the European power infrastructure is disappointing. Still, 30 percent of the world's electricity is generated by GE equipment. Recent events suggest modest success and profits this year.

2) Volatile fossil fuel prices are hurting GE's oil and gas segment, an important growth platform for its slowly growing industrial portfolio. However, oil prices are expected to remain at current levels (\$55 to \$62 a barrel) through the first half of 2018.

3) It may take several years for GE's industrial division to replace the significant, albeit slightly worrisome, earnings from GE Capital, which Immelt stupidly unwound in 2015

4) Observers believe that integrating oil field service provider Baker Hughes' business, which GE purchased for \$7.5 billion, will be more difficult than anticipated, as the sale was predicated on oil's trading at \$60 a barrel.

5) Finally, bigger isn't better. GE is so ginormous (301,098 employees in 180 countries) that it'll take GE's brain a week to discover that competitors are eating its tail.

However, GE should slowly stagger forward, and I'm comfortable staggering forward with a 48-cent dividend yielding 2.7 percent. If 2018 revenues come in at \$132 billion and produce profits of 90 cents a share — as is projected — GE may even raise its dividend to 50 cents this year.

If Flannery can hold the reins steady during the coming four years, analysts believe that net profit margins could improve from 8.9 percent to 15.3 percent. Analysts believe that 2022 revenues could come in at \$165 billion, that earnings could reach \$2.20 a share and that the dividend could be increased to a buck again. That's a potential 5.5 percent yield at today's \$18.47 price. There are quite a few ifs, but if those ifs can reach reality, aficionados believe that GE could trade in the \$50s by 2022.

There's impatient buzzing by some activists suggesting the best way to maximize shareholder value would be to divide GE into four independently traded companies dealing with medical imaging, aircraft engines, oil and gas service and equipment, and power generation, respectively - each with profitable service contracts. These four independent companies could have a combined share value of \$50 to \$60 within 18 months.

Your broker gave you good advice. GE's long-term debt is declining, while book value, return on capital, return on equity and cash flow are improving. Still, GE's board members have egregiously failed shareholders and management. These toadies, who gleefully fleeced millions of dollars in perks and directors' fees, are responsible for GE's humiliating performance. They should be pilloried, placed in stocks, publicly whipped and then prosecuted for malicious misfeasance. Buy 400 shares, but hold your nose!

Please address your financial questions to Malcolm Berko, P.O. Box 8303, Largo, FL 33775, or email him at mjberko@yahoo.com. To find out more about Malcolm Berko and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at www.creators. com.

FINANCIAL NEWS BRIEFS

French airport activists start unblocking road

PARIS (AP) — French activists say they are have started to unblock a road they used to occupy, in a move that eases tensions three days after the government abandoned plans to build a new airport in the west.

Anarchists, farmers and environmental activists said in a statement Saturday that they want to make the road a "shared" space with drivers.

They warned the French government against potential "expulsions" of people living in the makeshift settlement they built in a vast area around Notre-Dame-des-Landes, outside Nantes, to resist plans for the airport.

Activists previously said they hoped to transform the occupied land into "a space of social, environmental and agricultural experimentation."

Unblocking roads was a key request of Prime Minister Edouard Philippe after announcing Wednesday the decision not to build the airport.

British Airways pilot, allegedly drunk, taken off plane

LONDON (AP) - A British Airways pilot has been removed from the cockpit of a flight amid fears he was drunk.

The Sun newspaper reported Saturday that police "rushed on the plane" and headed straight for the cockpit. The first officer was cuffed and led away."

The newspaper says worried airline workers alerted police before the flight left for Mauritius.

Sussex police say a 49-year-old man from west London has been arrested "on suspicion of performing an aviation function when the level of alcohol was over the proscribed limit."

The flight departed several hours late from Gatwick on Thursday after another crew member joined the flight.

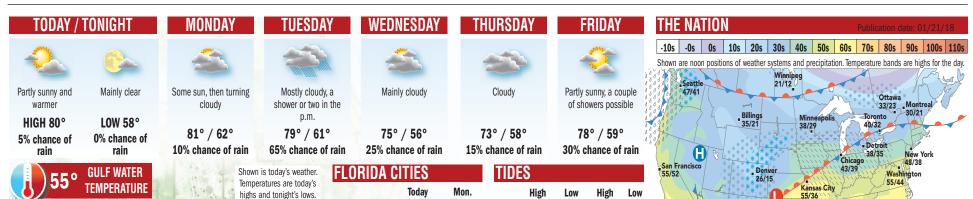
Big towers to rise near historic Jamestown: \$90M in payouts

NORFOLK, Va. (AP) — A power company is getting set to build 17 transmission towers in Virginia near colonial Jamestown Island. And already the utility has begun paying out \$90 million for projects to blunt the impact on significant historic areas.

Jamestown marked Britain's first permanent settlement in North America. While many in the tourist region are gratified by the payments from **Richmond-based Dominion** Energy, others oppose such a project.

The power lines are expected to be visible from the eastern tip of Jamestown Island, although not its historic fort. Four towers will rise nearly as high as New York's Statue of Liberty.

Dominion's federally required payouts will support projects, among others, to improve water quality and shorelines and to acquire battlefield sites dating to the American Revolution and the Civil War.

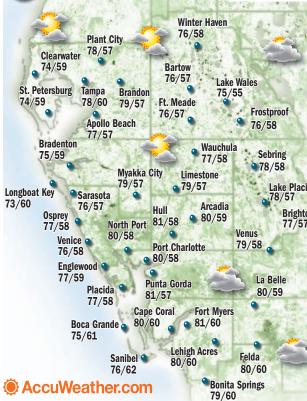


To

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500



VENICE

Temperatures

Normal High/Low

High/Low

Record High

Record Low

Month to date

Year to date

Record

Normal month to date

Normal year to date

SEBRING

Temperatures

AIRPORT

Ft. Mvers

Sarasota

High/Low

Venice through 2 p.m. Saturday

Precipitation (in inches)

24 hours through 2 p.m. Sat.

Sebring through 2 p.m. Saturday

Precipitation (in inches)

24 hours through 2 p.m. Sat.

Punta Gorda 81/57 part cldv

Possible weather-related delays today. Check

with your airline for the most updated schedules

Hi/Lo Outlook

81/60 cloudy

76/57 part cldy

high

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2018

PORT CHARLOTTE

Punta Gorda through 2 p.m. Saturday Temperatures

High/Low	71°/48°
Normal High/Low	75°/51°
Record High	86° (1990)
Record Low	26° (1977)
Precipitation (in inches)	
24 hours through 2 p.m. Sat.	0.00"
Month to date	0.21"
Normal month to date	1.10"
Year to date	0.21"
Normal year to date	1.10"
Record	2.00" (1983)

MONTHLY RAINFALL

Month	2018	2017	Avg.	Record/Year	
Jan.	0.21	0.88	1.80	9.93/2016	
Feb.		0.94	2.52	11.05/1983	
Mar.		0.80	3.28	9.26/1970	
Apr.		1.59	2.03	5.80/1994	
May		2.74	2.50	9.45/1991	
Jun.		14.79	8.92	23.99/1974	
Jul.		9.02	8.22	14.22/1995	
Aug.		13.12	8.01	15.60/1995	
Sep.		12.46	6.84	14.03/1979	
Oct.		2.54	2.93	10.88/1995	
Nov.		0.44	1.91	5.53/2002	
Dec.		1.04	1.78	6.83/2002	
Year	0.21	60.36	50.74	(since 1931)	
Totals are from a 24-hour period ending at 5 p.m.					

hs and tonight's lows.		I	Today		Mon.		
	City	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
10 40 (A)	Apalachicola	67	53	S	68	54	С
1.1.1	Bradenton	75	59	рс	75	61	С
1 - A - A - A - A - A - A - A - A - A -	Clearwater	74	59	рс	74	62	рс
	Coral Springs	77	66	С	78	67	С
Colorest .	Daytona Beach	68	54	рс	75	58	рс
ales	Fort Lauderdale	75	66	С	77	67	С
dies	Fort Myers	81	60	С	82	64	рс
	Gainesville	73	49	рс	78	57	рс
Frostproof	Jacksonville	70	49	рс	76	60	С
76/58	Key Largo	75	68	рс	76	69	С
Aller	Key West	74	66	sh	75	67	рс
Sebring	Lakeland	76	57	рс	79	61	С
78/58	Melbourne	75	60	С	78	62	рс
10,00	Miami	79	67	С	80	68	С
Lake Placid	Naples	78	60	С	78	62	рс
78/57	Ocala	72	51	рс	78	59	рс
Brighton	Okeechobee	76	58	С	78	60	рс
77/57	Orlando	74	55	рс	80	61	рс
nus	Panama City	69	53	S	70	49	r
9/58	Pensacola	66	56	S	68	44	r
	Pompano Beach	77	68	С	78	69	С
La Belle	St. Augustine	63	51	рс	70	56	рс
80/59	St. Petersburg	74	59	рс	75	60	рс
00/00	Sarasota	76	57	рс	76	60	рс
Contraction of the owner	Tallahassee	74	49	рс	72	58	С
A PARTY	Tampa	78	60	рс	80	63	рс
and the second	Vero Beach	75	61	С	78	63	рс
	West Palm Beach	77	67	С	77	66	рс
elda	CONDITIO	IC.		Ы	NV.		
80/60	CONDITIO						
orings	UV Index and Rea	Feel	Tem	pera	ture	® To	day



Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m. The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number,

RealFeel Temperature is the exclusive AccuWeather. com composite of effective temperature based on eight

POLLEN INDEX

Pollen Index readings as of Saturday

es	° °	<u>૾ૼૼૼૼૼૼૼ</u>			
ass	abs	ent			
eds	abs	ent			
olds	° ° °	000			
aho	ont	low	mod	orato	hi

high very high Source: National Allergy Bureau

AIR QUALITY INDE

Air Quality Index readings as of Saturday

35 0 50 100 150 200

0-50 Good: 51-100 Moderate: 101-150 Unhealthy for sensitive groups; 151-200 Unhealthy; 201-300 Very Unhealthy; 301-500 Hazardous

300

Main pollutant: Particulates Source: scgov.net

Punta Gorda						
Today	4:41a	12:14p	· · · ·			
Mon.	5:33a	12:06a	6:52p	12:49p		
Englewo	od					
Today	3:18a	10:30a	4:56p	10:22p		
Mon.	4:10a	11:05a	5:29p	11:30p		
Boca Gra	ande					
Today	1:34a	9:28a	4:44p	8:52p		
Mon.	2:17a	9:58a	5:11p	10:16p		
El Jobea	n					
Today	5:13a	12:43p	6:51p			
Mon.	6:05a	12:35a	7:24p	1:18p		
Venice						
Today	1:33a	9:09a	3:11p	9:01p		
Mon.	2:25a	9:44a	3:44p	10:09p		
MARI	NE					
		Seas in feet	,,			

Cape Sable to Tarpon Springs ENE 8-16 1-2 Light

Tarpon Springs to Apalachicola 7-14 1-2 Light E

SUN AND MOON						
The Sun	F	Rise	Set			
Today	7:18	3 a.m.	6:02 p.m.			
Monday	7:18	3 a.m.	6:02 p.m.			
The Moon	F	lise	Set			
Today	10:13	a.m.	10:14 p.m.			
Monday	10:49	a.m.	11:09 p.m.			
First	Full	Last	New			
	(6			
Jan 24	Jan 31	Feb 7	Feb 15			

SOLUNAR TABLE

	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
day	8:52a	2:41a	9:14p	3:03p
on.	9:42a	3:31a	10:05p	3:54p
e.	10:32a	4:21a	10:55p	4:44p

The solunar period schedule allows planning days so you will be fishing in good territory or hunting in good cover during those times. Major periods begin at the times shown and last for 1.5 to 2 hours. The minor periods are shorter.

WEATHER HISTOR

On Jan. 21, 1994, the temperature dropped to 21 below zero, which set a new record low for Scranton, Pa.

WEATHER TRIVIA[™]

O: How much does a foot of snow on an average driveway weigh?

Los Angeles 63/46	68/	El Pa 53/3 huah 27	0 ua	Mont 82/52			Houston 73/56	Atlanta 65/45	Mia		1		
Fronts							Pre	ecipitati	on				
		-	L				5 5 5 5	* * *	e	*_*	1	V	₹,
Cold Warm	Stat	iona	ry	Sho	wers	sТ	-storms Rain	Flurrie	S	Sno	W	l	се
U.S. Extremes High					~		states yesterday) Low		3	° at	But	te, N	1T
								-	۰				
		oday			Non				oday	·		Non.	
City	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	City	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Albuquerque	40	24	рс	44	22	S	Jackson, MS	70	58	рс	67	37	r
Anchorage	10	5	sn	11	8	С	Kansas City	55	36	sh	39	26	sn
Atlanta	65	45	S	67	42	С	Knoxville	57	37	рс	61	37	r

City	m	LO	W	m	LO	W	City	m	LO	W	ш	LO	W
Albuquerque	40	24	рс	44	22	S	Jackson, MS	70	58	рс	67	37	r
Anchorage	10	5	sn	11	8	С	Kansas City	55	36	sh	39		sn
Atlanta	65	45	S	67	42	С	Knoxville	57	37	рс	61	37	r
Baltimore	53	39	рс	53	44	С	Las Vegas	54	36	S	55	37	рс
Billings	35	21	S	36	23	рс	Los Angeles	63	46	S	68	46	рс
Birmingham	66	47	рс	65	36	r	Louisville	56	48	sh	58	38	r
Boise	43	35	рс	44	25	r	Memphis	64	54	С	61	36	r
Boston	43	31	рс	40	37	r	Milwaukee	40	35	r	45	29	r
Buffalo	39	34	sh	43	40	sh	Minneapolis	38	29	С	32	16	sn
Burlington, VT	35	27	С	31	27	sn	Montgomery	68	44	S	68	38	r
Charleston, WV	55	43	С	64	44	r	Nashville	61	49	С	61	37	r
Charlotte	65	37	S	63	53	рс	New Orleans	72	59	рс	69	42	r
Chicago	43	39	r	51	30	r	New York City	48	38	рс	46	42	sh
Cincinnati	52	46	sh	55	35	r	Norfolk, VA	51	39	S	55	49	рс
Cleveland	44	42	С	52	43	r	Oklahoma City	63	34	С	51	27	S
Columbia, SC	71	41	S	70	60	рс	Omaha	41	30	i	37	23	sn
Columbus, OH	45	43	sh	59	38	r	Philadelphia	50	40	рс	51	45	С
Concord, NH	41	21	рс	38	28	sh	Phoenix	60	38	S	63	40	рс
Dallas	73	44	С	62	37	S	Pittsburgh	43	40	sh	60	42	sh
Denver	26	15	sn	38	16	рс	Portland, ME	40	24	рс	34	27	С
Des Moines	44	35	r	41	26	sn	Portland, OR	47	40	r	49	38	r
Detroit	38	35	sh	46	37	r	Providence	45	30	рс	41	37	r
Duluth	31	19	С	23	5	sn	Raleigh	63	37	S	62	52	рс
Fairbanks	-12	-22	С	-17	-32	С	Salt Lake City	36	23	рс	39	29	С
Fargo	29	16	С	27	13	С	St. Louis	60	50	sh	56	31	С
Hartford	44	27	рс	40	36	i	San Antonio	72	46	sh	66	37	S
Helena	27	10	рс	28	12	рс	San Diego	63	48	S	66	46	рс
Honolulu	82	71	sh	82	71	S	San Francisco	55	52	С	57	47	С
Houston	73	56	С	64	36	S	Seattle	47	41	r	48	39	r
Indianapolis	48	42	sh	53	32	r	Washington, DC	55	44	рс	57	49	С

WORLD CIT

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Baghdad	65	42	S	67	49	С	Montreal	30	21	С	22	20	sn
Beijing	33	22	С	27	8	sn	Ottawa	33	23	sn	26	17	sn
Berlin	34	27	рс	34	30	sf	Paris	50	47	r	54	42	r
Buenos Aires	88	68	t	89	69	S	Regina	24	12	S	27	16	рс
Cairo	72	56	рс	69	58	S	Rio de Janeiro	89	74	С	91	77	рс
Calgary	35	23	С	37	18	С	Rome	61	39	S	56	42	рс
Cancun	79	70	sh	81	70	sh	St. John's	30	15	рс	21	14	рс
Dublin	54	41	r	47	44	рс	San Juan	85	75	S	85	74	sh
Edmonton	25	17	рс	31	17	рс	Sydney	86	70	S	92	72	рс
Halifax	31	17	рс	25	14	С	Tokyo	50	35	рс	41	35	sn
Kiev	28	19	рс	25	10	рс	Toronto	40	32	рс	36	32	sn
London	50	44	r	50	41	r	Vancouver	47	38	r	46	37	рс
Madrid	60	36	рс	58	35	S	Winnipeg	21	12	рс	22	7	С
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A: Over 2,000 pounds.

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

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the greater the need for eye and skin protection. 0-2 Low; 3-5 Moderate; 6-7 High; 8-10 Very High; 11+ Extreme.

weather factors

Page 3

NATION



AP FILE PHOTO

In this Sept. 6, 2017, file photo, Leslie Van Houten attends her parole hearing at the California Institution for Women in Corona, Calif. California Gov. Jerry Brown has again denied parole for Van Houten, the youngest follower of murderous cult leader Charles Manson.

Governor denies parole for **Manson follower** Leslie Van Houten

By ANDREW DALTON ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES — The governor of California once again denied parole Friday for Leslie Van Houten, the youngest follower of murderous cult leader Charles Manson who blamed herself at her parole hearing for letting him control her life.

Gov. Jerry Brown said in his decision that Van Houten still lays too much of the blame on Manson, who died two months ago at 83.

Brown acknowledged that Van Houten's youth at the time of the crime, her more than four decades as a model prisoner and her abuse at the hands of Manson make it worth considering her release.

"However," he wrote in his decision "these factors are outweighed by negative factors that demonstrate she remains

a vital part in the LaBianca murders, one of the most notorious of the Manson family crimes. The devastation and loss experienced by the LaBianca family and all the victims' families continues today.'

Although she said at her September parole hearing that she accepts full responsibility for her role, Van Houten "still shifted blame for her own actions onto Manson to some extent."

Brown recalled Van Houten saying that she takes responsibility for "Manson being able to do what he did to all of us. I allowed it. I accept responsibility that I allowed him to conduct my life in that way."

She appeared frail at the parole hearing with her silver hair pulled back in a bun, almost unrecognizable from the young woman who pledged her allegiance to

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Maine town manager leads segregation group, promotes whites

JACKMAN, Maine (AP) — The town manager of a rural Maine community said he's the leader of a racial segregationist group, and he believes the United States would be better off if people of different races were to "voluntarily separate."

Jackman town manager Tom Kawczynski wants to preserve the white majority of northern New England and Atlantic Canada, he has told the Bangor Daily News. He moved to Maine a year ago and launched a group called "New Albion" to promote what he calls "the positive aspects of our European heritage."

American Civil Liberties Union of Maine legal director Zachary Heiden said Kawczynski's attitudes and materials are "shockingly racist." Kawczynski has defended his group as "pro-white" without being opposed to other racial groups. But he has also called Islam "the scourge of Western civilization" and incompatible with his view of American society.

Kawczynski said he doesn't run town affairs in a way that discriminates against anyone. He later told the Bangor Daily News that he suspects he'll soon lose his job in the wake of a social media backlash spurred by his activities.

Missouri governor: 'no blackmail,' 'no violence' in affair

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (AP) -Missouri Gov. Eric Greitens said there was no blackmail or threatened violence in an extramarital affair he had in 2015.

In his first interview since acknowledging the affair, the Republican governor told The Associated Press on Saturday that he won't resign.

St. Louis television station KMOV-TV broke the news about the affair shortly after Greitens' State of the State speech last week.

Greitens' attorney has denied that Greitens threatened to release a semi-nude photo of the woman, who was his hairdresser, if she spoke about the affair. But this is the first time Greitens has personally addressed some of the more lurid allegations against him.

Greitens didn't directly answer questions about whether he took the photo in question. He said neither he nor his staff have been contacted by the FBI or the St. Louis circuit at torney's office, which is investigating.

child. Antonio's wife was killed and Victor's is missing.

A Mexican landscaper was killed while sleeping in the room he kept at his boss's property. A Thai man who worked at the local Toyota dealership and his 6-year-old son were also killed and his 2-year-old daughter is missing.

'Greatest Showman' stirs interest in PT Barnum

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — The Hollywood film on the life of the founder of the Barnum & Bailey circus is stirring new interest in P.T. Barnum.

The man portrayed by Hugh Jackman in "The Greatest Showman" was also a state legislator, philanthropist and mayor of Bridgeport, Connecticut.

Bridgeport's Barnum Museum has been adding guides to help accommodate an increase in visitors since the film started playing last month in theaters. The Ringling Circus Museum in Sarasota, Florida, also has seen more people taking interest in Barnum and asking to speak with their historian.

Circus historians also have found sport in picking apart where the man as depicted by a singing and dancing Jackman diverges from the true story of Phineas Taylor Barnum.

Small-town budgets hurting from loss of mini **Walmarts**

LUTHER, Okla. (AP) - Arkansasbased Walmart's closing of its Express stores in small towns across the Midwest and South has affected basic government services from police protection to parks.

Luther, Oklahoma had to postpone the purchase two new police cars. In Nettleton, Mississippi, plans to improve sewer and water services and city parks were shelved.

Losses were somewhat offset when Dollar General purchased and re-opened the stores, but the Dollar General stores are generating less revenue without the pharmacies Walmart offered that help attract customers.

Walmart spokesperson Anne Hatfield said the stores were closed because customers wanted more than the 12,000-square-foot buildings could offer and were driving farther to Walmart Supercenters, which offer a wider variety of products and services than the Walmart Express stores

Big towers to rise near historic Jamestown: \$90M in payouts

NORFOLK, Va. (AP) — A power company is getting set to build 17 transmission towers in Virginia near colonial Jamestown Island. And already the utility has begun paying out \$90 million for projects to blunt the impact on significant historic areas.

Jamestown marked Britain's first permanent settlement in North America. While many in the tourist region are gratified by the payments from Richmond-based Dominion Energy, others oppose such a project.

The power lines are expected to be visible from the eastern tip of Jamestown Island, although not its historic fort. Four towers will rise nearly as high as New York's Statue of Liberty.

Dominion's federally required payouts will support projects, among others, to improve water quality and shorelines and to acquire battlefield sites dating to the American Revolution and the Civil War.

Memorial service planned for beloved airport dog

TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. (AP) - Friends and fans are bidding farewell to a speedy border collie that became an internet sensation for keeping a northern Michigan airport's runways free of critters.

À memorial service for Piper is scheduled for 3 p.m. Saturday at City Opera House in Traverse City. The 9-year-old dog was euthanized Jan. 3 after battling prostate cancer.

He became the official wildlife-control canine at Cherry Capital Airport in winter of 2015 the nemesis of geese, ducks and even snowy owls.

Images of Piper on the job, wearing his airport vest, ear muffs and goggles, made their way onto online social forum Reddit. He quickly became a top hit. Curious fans even caused network problems on the airport's website.

He was diagnosed with cancer about a year ago and treated with chemotherapy.

Las Vegas gunman was germophobe, possibly bipolar

LAS VEGAS (AP) — After three months of investigation, police have learned more about Las Vegas gunman Stephen Paddock. The high-stakes gambler was on a losing streak, obsessed with cleanliness, possibly bipolar and was having difficulties with his live-in girlfriend. But hundreds of interviews and thousands of pieces of evidence have not answered the key question: Why did Paddock open fire from his high-rise hotel suite, killing 58 people and injuring more than 800 others in the deadliest shooting in modern U.S. history? On Friday, Clark County Sheriff Joe Lombardo released a preliminary report on the Oct. 1 attack on an outdoor concert staged from a room at the Mandalay Bay casino-hotel. He said he did not expect criminal charges to be filed against Paddock's girlfriend, Marilou Danley. She had been called the only person of interest in the case.

unsuitable for parole."

The 68-year-old Van Houten is serving life for the murders of wealthy grocer Leno LaBianca and his wife, Rosemary, when Van Houten was 19. They were stabbed a day after other Manson followers killed pregnant actress Sharon Tate and four other people in Los Angeles.

Van Houten's attorney, Rich Pfeiffer, said Brown's decision shows an unprecedented and unlawful reliance to deny parole based on the circumstances of the crime, rather than the inmate's fitness.

"We're going to challenge this in court," Pfeiffer said. "I expect the courts to uphold the law and allow her to be released."

Pfeiffer added that he has "dozens of clients who have done much worse deeds than Leslie has done and they're out leading productive lives."

Van Houten has long been considered among the most likely candidates among Manson "family" members to be paroled, But Brown, like Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger before him, has steadfastly refused to let anyone associated with Manson's killings go free.

It's the second time Brown has blocked parole for Van Houten after a state parole panel recommended that she be freed.

Brown wrote Friday that Van Houten "played Manson.

She said at the hearing that she was devastated when her parents divorced when she was 14. Soon after, she said, she began hanging out with her school's outcast crowd and using drugs in the Los Angeles suburb of Monrovia. When she was 17, she and her boyfriend ran away to San Francisco's Haight-Ashbury District during the city' summer of love.

She was traveling up and down the California coast when acquaintances led her to Manson, who was holed up at an abandoned movie ranch on the outskirts of Los Angeles where he had recruited what he called a "family" to survive what he insisted would be a race war he would launch by committing a series of random, horrifying murders.

At her hearing, Van Houten candidly described how she joined several other members of the group in killing the LaBiancas, carving up Leno LaBianca's body and smearing the couple's blood on the walls.

No one who took part in the Tate-LaBianca murders has been released from prison.

Manson died of natural causes on Nov. 20 at a California hospital while serving a life sentence. A man who befriended him through letters and another who purports to be his grandson are fighting in court over his body and possessions.

60-plus applicants appeal pot cultivator license rejections

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) - More than 60 companies have filed appeals after the state rejected their applications for medical marijuana cultivation licenses.

Cleveland.com reports 47 companies that applied for a large growlicense and 16 for a small-grow license have thus far filed appeals with the Ohio Department of Commerce. Those numbers could grow because rejected applicants had 30 days to appeal after being notified by the state.

A total of 185 applications were submitted.

The state agency in November issued 24 provisional licenses, including 12 for growing operations of up to 25,000 square feet and 12 for operations of as much as 3,000 square feet.

Just over 70 percent of license applications were disqualified.

A 2016 state law said medical marijuana will be available by September.

Mudslides take heavy toll on immigrants serving posh town

The working-class immigrant population in Montecito suffered outsized losses from recent mudslides that killed at least 20, injured dozens and damaged or destroyed hundreds of homes in the Southern California coastal town of Montecito — home to Oprah Winfrey, Rob Lowe and other celebrities.

Nearly a third of those killed in the Jan. 9 mudslides were from immigrant families working in service jobs in the largely white and retired town of 9,000.

Two Mexican gardeners, Victor and Antonio Benitez, each lost a

Kansas archbishop elected to lead anti-abortion role

KANSAS CITY, Kan. (AP) — The archbishop of Kansas City, Kansas, has been chosen to a leading role in the Catholic Church's fight against abortion.

Archbishop Joseph Naumann will be the chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities.

R. Andrew Chesnut, chairman of Catholic Studies at Virginia Commonwealth University, said it was the first time in four decades that a cardinal was not elected to the position.

The Wichita Eagle reports Mary Kay Culp, executive director of Kansans for Life, has known Naumann for years. She said he has always cared deeply about the abortion issue and is "the right man for the right job."

Naumann joined more than 2,000 Kansans in Washington, D.C., this week for the March for Life. He is expected at the Rally for Life Monday in Topeka.

Singer Ed Sheeran announces engagement on Instagram

Ed Sheeran has announced his engagement to girlfriend Cherry Seaborn.

The Grammy-winning singer posted a picture of the two on his Instagram page Saturday morning saying the two got engaged right before the new year.

He said they are "very happy and in love" and that their "cats are chuffed as well."

Sheeran said last fall how Seaborn inspired his song "Perfect," which is Number One on the Billboard Hot 100 charts.

Sheeran and Seaborn were friends when the two attended school in Suffolk, England. They reconnected years later.

Serial stowaway arrested again at airport

CHICAGO (AP) — A woman with a history of sneaking aboard planes slipped past security at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport this week and was flying to London when the airline realized she didn't have a ticket.

Chicago Police spokesperson Anthony Guglielmi said Marilyn Hartman was flown back to Chicago on Thursday night and taken into custody once she arrived. She's charged with felony theft and a misdemeanor count of criminal trespassing.

Guglielmi said Hartman this week got through a federal Transportation Security Administration checkpoint at a domestic terminal without a ticket before taking a shuttle to the international terminal. A day later she boarded a British Airways flight.

The 66-year-old Hartman has attempted several times to board planes without a ticket. In 2016, she was sentenced in Chicago to six months of house arrest and placed on two years of mental health probation.

FROM PAGE ONE CONGRESS FROM PAGE 1

parks and other public lands will remain as accessible as possible. The stance is a change from previous shutdowns when most parks were closed and became high-profile symbols.

Spokesperson Heather Swifts said the American public — especially veterans who come to the nation's capital — should find war memorials and open-air parks open to visitors. Swift says many national parks and wildlife refuges nationwide will also be open with limited access when possible.

The Smithsonian museums and the National Zoo will stay open through the weekend but close Monday.

Do Federal Workers Get Paid?

While they can be kept on the job, federal workers can't get paid for days worked during a lapse in funding. In the past, however, they have been repaid retroactively even if they were ordered to stay home.

Rush hour in downtown Washington, meanwhile, becomes a breeze. Tens of thousands of federal workers are off the roads.

How Often Did This Happen In The Past?

Way back in the day, shutdowns usually weren't that big a deal. They happened every year when Jimmy Carter was president, averaging 11 days each. During Ronald Reagan's two terms, there were six shutdowns, typically just one or two days apiece. Deals got cut. Everybody moved on.

The last one was a 16-day partial shuttering of the government in 2013, which came as tea party conservatives, cheered on by outside groups like Heritage Action, demanded that language to block implementation of President Barack Obama's health care law be added to a

must-do funding bill. ••• Who Will Get The Blame?

In a 1995-96 political battle, President Bill Clinton bested House Speaker Newt Gingrich and his band of budget-slashing conservatives, who were determined to use a shutdown to force Clinton to sign onto a balanced budget agreement. Republicans were saddled with the blame, but most Americans suffered relatively minor inconveniences like closed parks and delays in processing passport applications. The fight bolstered Clinton's popularity and he sailed to re-election that November.

In 2013, the tea party Republicans forced the shutdown over the better judgment of GOP leaders like then-Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio. Republicans tried to fund the government piecemeal — for example, by forcing through legislation to ensure military service members got paid. But a broader effort faltered, and Republicans eventually backed down and supported a round of budget talks led by Paul Ryan, R-Wis., then chairman of the House Budget Committee.

Republicans are calling the current standoff the "Schumer Shutdown," arguing that there's nothing in the bill that Democrats oppose, while a short-term extension would give lawmakers time to work out differences on issues like protecting young immigrants and disaster assistance. Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., said the GOP's unwillingness to compromise has brought Congress to this point. A Washington Post-ABC News poll conducted earlier this week found 48 percent view Trump and congressional Republicans as mainly responsible for the situation while 28 percent fault Democrats. If the shutdown drags on for long, it could give voters another reason to turn away from incumbents of both parties



AP PHOTO

A woman holds as sign as she takes part in a Women's March in Seattle, Saturday.

RALLIES FROM PAGE 1

Bennett defeated Republican incumbent John Carman, who had mocked the 2017 women's march in Washington, D.C. with a Facebook post asking whether the women would be home in time to cook dinner.

Among the goals of this year's march are getting more Democrats to run for public office and bolstering voter registration.

In Rome, the 42-year-old Argento addressed the criticism she received once she spoke up about her abuse.

"Women are scared to speak and because I was vilified by everything I said, I was called a prostitute for being raped," she said at the rally. "I wonder how women who received such violence would find the courage to come out as I did, when they saw what happened to me, so I am here to assess the necessity of women to speak out and change things."

Argento was strongly criticized by many Italian media and Italian women for not speaking out earlier and was hounded on Twitter with accusations that she sought trouble.

Last year's march in Washington

sparked debate over inclusion, with some transgender minority women complaining that the event seemed designed for white women born female. Some anti-abortion activists said the event did not welcome them.

The organizers for the Sunday rally are striving for greater inclusion this year, with Latina and transgender female speakers, said Carmen Perez, another co-chair of the 2017 Washington march. Women in the U.S. illegally, sex workers and those formerly incarcerated are welcome, she said.

Linda Sarsour, one of the four organizers of last year's Washington march, said Las Vegas was slotted for a major rally because it's a strategic swing state that gave Hillary Clinton a narrow win in the presidential election and will have one of the most competitive Senate races in 2018.

The rallies also laid the groundwork for the recent movement that brought a reckoning for powerful men accused of sexual misconduct, Sarsour said.

"I think when women see visible women's leadership, bold and fierce, going up against a very racist, sexist, misogynist administration, it gives you a different level of courage that you may not have felt you had," she said.

ALMANAC

Today is **Sunday, Jan. 21**, the 21st day of 2018. There are 344 days left in the year.

Today in history

On Jan. 21, 1968, the North Vietnamese Army launched a full-scale assault against the U.S. combat base in Khe Sanh, South Vietnam, in a siege lasting 11 weeks; although the Americans were able to hold back the communists, they ended up dismantling and abandoning the base. An American B-52 bomber carrying four hydrogen bombs crashed in Greenland, killing one crew member and scattering radioactive material. North Korean commandos tried but failed to assassinate South Korean President Park Chung-hee at his official residence, the Blue House, in Seoul.

On this date

In **1915**, the first Kiwanis Club, dedicated to community service, was founded in Detroit.

In **1924**, Russian revolutionary Vladimir Lenin died at age 53.

In **1937**, Count Basie and his band recorded "One O'Clock Jump" for Decca Records (on this date in 1942, they re-recorded the song for Okeh Records).

In **1942**, pinball machines were banned in New York City after a court ruled they were gambling devices that relied on chance rather than skill (the ban was lifted in 1976).

In **1954**, the first atomic submarine, the USS Nautilus, was launched at Groton, Connecticut (however, the Nautilus did not make its first nuclear-powered run until nearly a year later).

In **1998**, Pope John Paul II began a historic pilgrimage to Cuba. Actor Jack Lord of "Hawaii Five-O" fame died in Honolulu at age 77.

Today's birthdays

World Golf Hall of Famer Jack Nicklaus is 78. Opera singer-conductor Placido Domingo is 77. Singer Mac Davis is 76. Actress Jill Eikenberry is 71. Country musician Jim Ibbotson is 71.

ODD NEWS

Cops: Maine man punches self

FROM PAGE 1

RETREAT

Democrats have insisted they would back legislation reopening government once there's a bipartisan agreement to preserve protections against deporting about 700,000 immigrants who arrived in the U.S. illegally as children. Each party believes it had a winning political hand, and the day's first words by party leaders underscored that so far, neither side believe it was time to give ground.

"The American people cannot begin to understand why the Senate Democratic leader thinks the entire government should be shut down until he gets his way on illegal immigration," said McConnell

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., said voters will fault Trump and the GOP. He blamed Trump for reneging on a near-deal that Schumer said the two men had approached during a White House meeting Friday.

"Negotiating with President Trump is like negotiating with Jell-O," Schumer said.

Though the House and Senate were in session Saturday, it was unclear whether lawmakers would take any votes of consequence.

Democrats said they oppose the three-week plan, viewing it as a way to stall negotiations over the future of the "Dreamers" immigrants, in March. Republicans declared they would not reopen talks until the government shutdown ends, a strategy aimed at trying to erode Democratic cohesion.

whose protections expire

House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi of California said Trump had earned an "F" for "failure in leadership." She said Republicans are "so incompetent and negligent that they couldn't get it together to keep the government open."

The fourth government shutdown in a quartercentury began at the stroke of midnight at the start of a weekend, so many of the immediate effects will be muted for most Americans.

Social Security and most other safety-net programs are unaffected by the lapse in federal spending authority. Critical government functions will continue, with uniformed service members, health inspectors and law enforcement officers set to work without pay. But if no deal is reached before Monday, hundreds of thousands of federal employees will be furloughed.

Arguing that Trump's predecessors "weaponized" that shutdown, Mulvaney said his budget office would direct agencies to work to mitigate the impact this time, although it was unclear how long that was possible. That position is a striking role reversal for the conservative former congressman who was



AP PHOTO

Rep. Mark Meadows, R-N.C., chairman of the conservative Freedom Caucus, left, joined by House Armed Services Committee Chairman Mac Thornberry, R-Texas, center, and Rep. Lamar Smith, R-Texas, arrives for a meeting of fellow Republicans on the first morning of a government shutdown after a divided Senate rejected a funding measure, at the Capitol in Washington, Saturday,.

one of the architects of the 2013 shutdown.

Political damage could grow quickly if the closure is prolonged. Both parties are

wagering that voters will punish the other at the ballot box in November.

Democrats are laying fault on Republicans, who control both chambers of Congress and the White House and have struggled with building internal consensus. Republicans branded the confrontation a "Schumer shutdown." The senator assembled enough Democratic opposition to kill the House-passed bill.

Trump said Democrats "could have easily made a deal but decided to play Shutdown politics instead." In a series of tweets hours after the shutdown began, the president tried to make the case for Americans to elect more Republicans to Congress in November "in order to power through this mess." He noted that there are 51 Republicans in the 100-member Senate, and it often takes 60 votes to advance legislation.

The stop-gap measure won 50 votes in the Senate, including five Democrats.

Trump and Schumer tried to cut a last-minute deal that would have included greater military spending and money for a wall along the Mexican border. But the talks fell apart almost as abruptly as they started.

Trump had been set to leave Friday afternoon to attend a fundraiser at his estate in Palm Beach, Florida, where he intended to make the inauguration anniversary. But he remained in Washington.

The last shutdown came in 2013. Tea party Republicans, in a strategy not unlike the one Schumer is employing now, sought to use a must-pass budget bill to try to force President Barack Obama to delay implementation of his health care law. At the time, Trump told "Fox & Friends" that the ultimate blame for a shutdown lies at the top. "I really think the pressure is on the president," he said.

in face to avoid sobriety test

BELFAST, Maine (AP) — Police in Maine have accused a man of punching himself in the face three times to avoid a sobriety test.

Police in the town of Belfast said they found 27-year-old Brian Fogg in his car, stuck in a ditch last week.

WGME-TV reports police said when they tried to test for his blood-alcohol level, Fogg punched himself in the face, causing himself to bleed. Police tended to his injuries instead of giving him the test, but later charged him with operating under the influence, falsifying physical evidence and criminal mischief.

Fogg's been released on bail. He has an unpublished number and it wasn't immediately known if he had a lawyer.



WALDO COUNTY JAIL VIA AP

This booking photo shows Brian Fogg, who's accused of punching himself in the face to avoid a sobriety breath test.

WORLD

VP Pence says US stands 'shoulder to shoulder' with Egypt

By KEN THOMAS Associated Press

CAIRO — Vice President Mike Pence and Egyptian leader Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi pledged a united front against terrorism in the Mideast as Pence, the highest-level American official to visit the U.S. ally in nearly a decade, began a trip through the region after leaving behind a government shutdown in Washington.

Pence and el-Sissi held 2¹/₂ hours of talks at the presidential palace in Cairo, with acknowledgements of friendship and partnership between the two countries. Through a translator, Pence listened intently as el-Sissi cited the need to address "urgent issues," including "ways to eliminate this disease and cancer that has terrified the whole world."

Pence pointed to President Donald Trump's efforts to forge stronger ties with el-Sissi in his first year in office, "after a time when our countries seemed to be drifting apart."

Pence said "we stand shoulder to shoulder with you and Egypt in fighting against terrorism," and that "our hearts grieve" for the loss of life in recent terrorist attacks against Egyptians.

The vice president noted the deadly attack against Christians in late December, when a militant opened fire outside a suburban Cairo church, killing at least nine people. He also pointed to the killing of 311 worshippers inside a mosque in northern Sinai last November.

"We resolve to continue to stand with Egypt in the battle against terrorism," Pence said.

Pence arrived in Cairo hours after the U.S. Congress and Trump failed to reach agreement on a plan to avert a partial federal closure. Pence went ahead with his fourday trip to the Middle East, citing national security and diplomatic reasons.

Pence's meetings with el-Sissi delved into security cooperation, economic ties and efforts to fight the Islamic State group.

His visit to the region came more than a month after Trump announced his decision to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital, a step that's enraged Palestinians. El-Sissi identified "the peace issue" as one of the most important issues in their discussions, but the two leaders did not elaborate.

When Pence's motorcade arrived at the palace, journalists traveling with the vice president were initially barred from exiting their bus. After they were brought into the palace, media were not allowed into a photo session with the two leaders. Negotiations between U.S. and Egyptian officials followed, and members of the media were eventually brought into the meeting and heard the leaders deliver short statements.

Pence and el-Sissi did not respond to questions at the end.

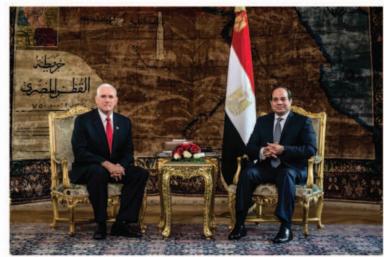
Pence planned to travel to Jordan later Saturday and then to Israel on Sunday. He was not expected to meet with Palestinians officials.

El-Sissi has built a strategic alliance with Trump and urged the American president to become more involved in the fight against Islamic militancy in the Middle East. Trump has praised el-Sissi for the April release of Egyptian-American charity worker Aya Hijazi, who had been detained for nearly three years.

But Trump's designation of Jerusalem as Israel's capital poses a dilemma for Egypt, which receives extensive military and economic aid from Washington but does not want to appear dismissive of Palestinian concerns.

White House officials said before the Cairo meeting they expected the decision on the Israeli capital and Trump's plans to move the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem to come up. Palestinian leader

Mahmoud Abbas has



KHALED DESOUKI/POOL PHOTO VIA AP

U.S. Vice President Mike Pence meets with Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi, right, at the Presidential Palace in Cairo, Egypt, Saturday.

condemned Trump over the Jerusalem announcement and warned that the U.S. can no longer play any role in future peace negotiations between the Palestinians and the Israelis.

El-Sissi has tried to reassure Abbas of his continued efforts to secure an independent Palestinian state with east Jerusalem as its capital.

The Egyptian leader, who led the 2013 military overthrow of an Islamist president, has announced plans to run in the March election. El-Sissi is heavily favored to win a second four-year term after leading a heavy crackdown on dissent, jailing thousands of opponents, including many of those behind the 2011 uprising that toppled Hosni Mubarak.

White House aides said Pence was expected to raise with el-Sissi the importance of human rights, political freedoms and freedom of expression.

Pence had initially planned to visit the region in December, shortly after Trump's announcement, but the trip was postponed in the aftermath of Abbas' refusal to meet the vice president in Bethlehem.

The spiritual leaders of Egypt's Muslims and Orthodox Christians also canceled their meetings with Pence.



AD DUOT

Cardinal rebukes pope over Chile 'slander' comments on abuse

By NICOLE WINFIELD Associated Press

LIMA, Peru - Pope Francis' top adviser on clerical sex abuse implicitly rebuked the pontiff over his accusations of slander against Chilean abuse victims, saying Saturday that his words were "a source of great pain for survivors of sexual abuse." **Cardinal Sean** O'Malley, the archbishop of Boston, said he couldn't explain why Francis "chose the particular words he used." In an extraordinary effort at damage control, O'Malley insisted that Francis "fully recognizes the egregious failures of the church and its clergy who abused children and the devastating impact those crimes have had on survivors and their loved ones."

Francis set off a national uproar upon leaving Chile on Thursday by accusing victims of the country's most notorious bedophile priest of having slandered another bishop, Juan Barros. The victims say Barros knew of the abuse but did nothing to stop it - a charge Barros denies. "The day they bring me proof against Bishop Barros, I'll speak,' Francis told Chilean journalists in the northern city of Iquique. "There is not one shred of proof against him. It's all calumny. Is that clear?' The remarks shocked Chileans, drew immediate rebuke from victims and their advocates and once again raised the question of whether the 81-yearold Argentine Jesuit "gets it" about sex abuse.

the crimes of the Rev. Fernando Karadima has devastated the credibility of the Roman Catholic Church in Chile, and Francis' comments will likely haunt it for the foreseeable future. O'Malley's carefully worded critique was remarkable since it's rare for a cardinal to publicly rebuke the pope in such terms. But Francis' remarks were so potentially toxic to the Vatican's yearslong effort to turn the tide on decades of clerical sex abuse and cover-up that he clearly felt he had to respond. O'Malley headed Francis' much-touted committee for the protection of minors until it lapsed last month after its initial threeyear mandate expired. Francis has not named new members, and the committee's future remains unclear.

AP PHOTO

Serbia's President Aleksandar Vucic, center, arrives in the Banjska Orthodox monastery with Serb Orthodox bishop Teodosije, right, in the village Banjska, Kosovo, Saturday.

Serbian president visits Kosovo after politician's slaying

By RADUL RADOVANOVIC Associated Press

MITROVICA, Kosovo — Serbia's president on Saturday pledged to help build a lasting peace in Kosovo days after the killing this week of a moderate Kosovo Serb politician fueled fears of instability in the Balkans.

Amid tight security, Aleksandar Vucic paid a visit to Kosovo that officials said was designed to ease concerns among Kosovo Serbs following the slaying Tuesday of one of their leading politicians, Oliver Ivanovic.

Waving Serbian flags, hundreds of people cheered Vucic as he arrived in the Serbdominated, northern part of the former Serbian province that declared independence in 2008. Serbia has refused to recognize the statehood of the majority ethnic Albanian Kosovo and maintains strong influence in Serb-populated areas, mostly in the north. Upon arrival, Vucic

first visited an Orthodox

Serbian monastery before laying a wreath at the site of the attack on Ivanovic in the divided town of Mitrovica.

"Serbia not only wants peace, but will do its best to preserve it," Vucic said in Banjska. "We will do all we can to solve decades- and centuries-old disputes, to secure a lasting peace and security for each (ethnic) Albanian and Serbian family."

Vucic called for those responsible for Ivanovic's death to be brought to justice "without mercy." Some Serbs shouted at the Serbian president during his press conference demanding more protection from Serbia.

Later Saturday, Vucic visited a Serb family in central Kosovo.

Under EU mediation, Serbia and Kosovo have opened talks on normalizing relations in order to advance in efforts to join the European Union. The talks were due to resume this week, but were suspended after Ivanovic was gunned down in Mitrovica.

Ivanovic was a rare voice of tolerance amid persistent ethnic tensions in Kosovo, nearly two decades after the 1998-99 war. The scandal over



AP PHOTO

Pope Francis celebrates a seaside Mass on Huanchaco Beach, near the city of Trujillo, Peru, Saturday. Francis travelled Saturday to northern Peru, a region still reeling from devastating floods nearly a year ago.

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Today's Live Sports

6 a.m. FS1 College Football 2018 NFLPA Collegiate Bowl from Rose Bowl in Pasadena, Calif. (R)

FSN NHL Hockey Florida Panthers at Nashville Predators. (R)

9 a.m. ESPN2 2018 Australian Open Round of 16. (T)

FSN German Bundesliga Soccer RB Leipzig at Freiburg. (T)

SHO Showtime Championship Boxing Spence vs Peterson. (R)

9:30 a.m. FS1 German Bundesliga Soccer Werder Bremen at Bayern Munich. (L)

10 a.m. GOLF PGA Tour Champions Golf Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai: Final Round from Hualalai GC in Ka'upulehu-Kona, Hawaii. (R)

12 p.m. CW College Basketball Miami Hurricanes at North Carolina State Wolfpack. (L)

FS1 Women's College Basketball Marquette Golden Eagles at Villanova Wildcats. (L)

12:30 p.m. FSSUN Women's College Basketball Virginia Tech Lady Hokies at Virginia Cavaliers. (L)

NBC NHL Hockey Philadelphia Flyers at Washington Capitals. (L)

1 p.m. ESPN2 Women's College Basketball Connecticut Huskies at Temple Owls. (L)

FSN NBA Basketball Orlando Magic at Boston Celtics. (L)

GOLF PGA Web.com Tour Golf Bahamas Great Abaco Classic: Round 1 from Abaco Club on Winding Bay in Great Abaco, Bahamas. (L)

2 p.m. FS1 AMA Arenacross

Series Worcester, MA from DCU Center in Worcester, Mass. (T)

2:30 p.m. FSSUN Women's College Basketball Duke Blue Devils at North Carolina Tar Heels. (L)

3 p.m. CBS NFL Playoffs AFC Championship Jacksonville Jaguars at New England Patriots. (L)

ESPN Latin America Amateur Championship Golf Second Round from Prince of Wales CC in Santiago, Chile. (L) ESPN2 Women's College Basketball Mississippi State Bulldogs at Tennessee Lady Volunteers. (L)

NBC European Figure Skating Championships Ladies' & Men's Free from Megasport Arena in Moscow. (T)

4 p.m. FS1 AMA Supercross Series Anaheim from Angel Stadium in Anaheim, Calif. (R)

GOLF PGA Tour Golf Career-Builder Challenge: Final Round from PGA West Stadium Course in La Quinta, Calif. (L)

5 p.m. ESPN Harlem Globetrotters Basketball Hoops for the Troops Game from Honolulu. (R)

ESPN2 Women's College Basketball Florida State Seminoles at Louisville Cardinals. (L)

FSN German Bundesliga Soccer RB Leipzig at Freiburg. (R)

NBC USSA Skiing and Snowboarding Toyota US Grand Prix: Snowboard Halfpipe. (T)

6:30 p.m. FOX NFL Playoffs NFC Championship Minnesota Vikings at Philadelphia Eagles. (L)

7 p.m. FS1 UFC Fight Night Prelims UFC 220: Miocic vs Ngannou. (R)

7:30 p.m. ESPN Women's International Soccer Denmark at United States. (L)

9 p.m. ESPN2 2018 Australian Open Round of 16 from Melbourne Park. (L)

3 a.m. ESPN2 2018 Australian Open Round of 16 from Melbourne Park. (L)

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NEW YORK TIMES SUNDAY CROSSWORD

No. 0114

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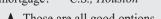
FOR ANSWERS, TURN TO PAGE 5

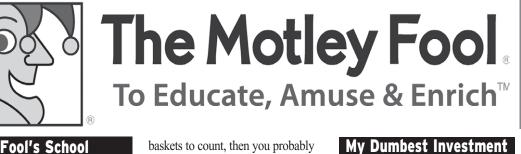
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Lots of Options

My retirement accounts are funded, I've got a brokerage account, an emergency fund and no credit card debt. What now? Should I invest in more stocks or real estate or make extra payments on my 4-percent mortgage? — C.S., Houston





My Dumbest Investment

Dumb in Several Ways

My dumbest investment has to

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The Motley Fool Take

Home, Sweet Profits

According to the National Association of Realtors, existing home sales recently surged to their highest levels in more than a decade. At the same time, the U.S. Census Bureau continues to report strong residential construction data, with building permits and housing starts consistently above the 1-million-unit mark for more than two years now. Yet as healthy as the housing market has become in recent years, lowcost housing has remained a challenge. After more than a decade of struggles resulting from coming of age during the worst financial crisis in nearly a century, millennials are making money and starting families. They're ready to buy homes, but there just isn't enough inventory to meet the demand. Meritage Homes (NYSE: MTH) is taking advantage of this situation, dedicating roughly 70 percent of its recent land purchases to entry-level houses. It's paying off, driving up profit 15 percent last quarter. (It helps that low-cost new houses often generate higher profit margins than bigger, more custombuilt homes.) Since this is currently the leastserved part of the market and also the one with the most near-term growth potential, it's a great time to be building entry-level houses. Well positioned for further growth and with a price-to-earnings (P/E)ratio recently near 14, Meritage Homes is cheaper than most of its peers. (The Motley Fool has recommended Meritage Homes.)

Those are all good options. APaying down your mortgage is the least risky one, and would be like earning a guaranteed 4-percent return, since you'll not be paying interest on any principal you pay off.

Real estate investing isn't as easy as it can appear. You'll need to have a good grasp of the local market and must be willing to deal with the work and hassle that come with property ownership. Remember that real estate can tie up your money and that property values can fall or not grow quickly. The stock market can also drop, but it has always risen over long periods, beating most other alternatives, such as gold, bonds and even real estate.

Think about whether you want to put in the time and work involved in real estate or stocks. Will you enjoy keeping up with your properties or your investments? If not, perhaps pay down the mortgage, or invest in a simple, broad-market index fund, such as one based on the S&P 500.

What's a trust? — A.G., Lancaster, Pennsylvania A It's a legal structure that features someone (a "trustor") giving control of property to a person or an institution (the "trustee") for the benefit of someone else (the "beneficiary"). The beneficiary owns the property, but the trustee controls it -- usually for a limited period (such as until the beneficiary reaches a certain age). A trust is often part of an estate plan.

Want more information about stocks? Send us an email to foolnews@fool.com.

It's inevitable that if you invest in the stock market, you'll make mistakes - some of them costly. Learn to avoid the following common blunders, though, to minimize losses:

Investing Errors

to Avoid

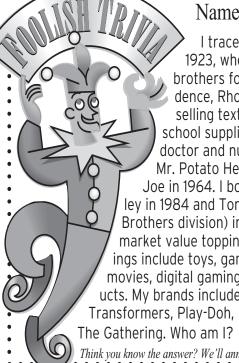
with water

• Not paying off credit card debt before investing. You'll likely lose more in interest than you gain in stocks.

• Investing too conservatively. Long-term investments are likely to grow most rapidly in stocks, so don't just leave your money in savings accounts, bonds or CDs.

 Investing too aggressively. Don't aim for fast, huge wins via penny stocks, margin investing, day trading or any other risky and speculative venture. It's safest to aim for steady growth over decades by investing in healthy and growing established companies.

• Over- or under-diversifying. If all your eggs are in two or three baskets, you're exposed to too much risk. But if you have too many



price. A "cheap" stock isn't necessarily a bargain. Penny stocks trading for less than \$5 each are often likely to fall. A \$200 stock can be a bargain that will grow well for you, and you can always buy just a few shares.

aren't able to keep up with each

a good range for many people.

company. Owning 10 to 20 stocks is

• Focusing too much on a stock's

• Investing in what you don't understand. The more familiar you are with how a company works and how well it's performing, the fewer unpleasant surprises you'll likely encounter.

• Relying on tips. It's fine to learn from others, but do your research and make your own decisions.

• Not tracking your returns. In the long run, you always want to be beating a benchmark such as the S&P 500. If you're not beating it, you might as well meet it by investing in an index fund.

 Impatience. Building great wealth takes time. Don't expect to get rich quick.

Learn more by checking out the "How to Invest" section at fool.com.

. Name That Company

I trace my roots back to 1923, when the Hassenfeld brothers founded me in Providence, Rhode Island. I started selling textiles and then added school supplies. My first toys were • doctor and nurse kits. I launched Mr. Potato Head in 1952 and GI Joe in 1964. I bought Milton Bradley in 1984 and Tonka (with its Parker Brothers division) in 1991. Today, with a market value topping \$11 billion, my offerings include toys, games, television shows, movies, digital gaming and consumer products. My brands include Nerf, My Little Pony, Transformers, Play-Doh, Monopoly and Magic:

Think you know the answer? We'll announce it in next week's edition.

be Under Armour. It wasn't dumb just because it tanked. It was dumb because: 1. It didn't fit with my portfolio thesis at the outset, but I bought due to the growth hype anyway. 2. I didn't pay enough attention to the fundamentals of the stock (growth rates, profit margins, debt levels, etc.). 3. I didn't look for or consider risks, such as the outsized control wielded by its founder and CEO. 4. I ignored negative social media commentary floating around in cyberspace.

I still own it, but I'm not buying any more even at low prices, because I don't think the CEO is a jockey worth backing for the long haul. I'll just leave it there, a bright red carbuncle in an overall wellperforming portfolio. If it grows, good. If it doesn't, I've only got another \$1,000 left to lose. Fortunately, the rest of my portfolio is doing well enough to mitigate the regret — D.C., Capetown, South Africa

The Fool Responds: Some analysts today are bullish about Under Armour's restructuring, cost-cutting and international growth prospects, but others worry about weakness in the North American market, brand erosion and strong competition

- from Adidas and Nike.
- If you have little faith in the
- company, you'd be better off
- moving your remaining \$1,000
- into something that seems more

promising to you.

LAST WEEK'S TRIVIA ANSWER

.

I trace my roots back to the 1818 founding of a trading company in Amsterdam. In 1884 I started a grain trading business in Argentina, expanding to Brazil in 1905 and North America in 1918. Today I'm a global agricultural giant based in White Plains, New York. I sport a market value of more than \$9 billion and employ about 32,000 people. I buy, sell, store and transport oilseeds and grains; process oilseeds to make protein meal (for animal feed) and edible oil products; produce sugar and ethanol; mill wheat, corn and rice; and sell fertilizer. Who am I? (Answer: Bunge)



Want to Invest? Email us at foolnews@fool.com, and we'll send you some tips to start investing. Sorry, we can't provide individual financial advice.

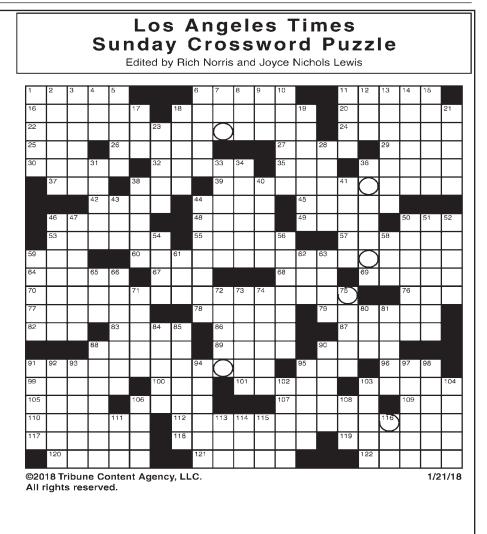
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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

<u>BIT PARTS</u> By Paul Cou

By Paul Coulter				
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people		Arles article		Yearns
18 Books smaller than quartos	11	Form of aphasia involving the	6	Extended operatic solo
20 Arenas, say		inability to name		PDX tower group
22 Film about a		objects	8	Most golfers never
convict's lame		Loi maker	_	break it
claims of		Hot spots	9	Ab: from the
innocence?	82	"Do the Right	10	start
24 Play the market		Thing" pizzeria	10	1990 Stallone flick
25 European skyline	00	owner Disso family name		with the tagline "G
sight 26 Marbles: historic		Disco family name Cherbourg cherub	11	For It" Bad to the bone
sculptures		It usually involves a		Stock holder
27 Longtime film critic	07	getaway car		Protest bitterly
for The New	88	Plump Capp critter	10	(against)
Yorker	89	"Beowulf"	14	Hill with one steep
29 "¿Cómo usted?"	00	beverage	• •	side
30 Pays attention to	90	"Well done!"	15	Sonnet section
32 Chow line?	91	Film about yet	17	One before la
35 P&L report column		another complaint?	18	Basket material
36 High hat	95	Colinas:	19	Achieve with
37 " <u> </u>		upscale		minimal effort
38 Go public with		neighborhood in		Impolite look
39 Film about St.		Irving, Texas		Hybrid fruits
Peter's favorite		Diminish		Author Ferber et a
striped stone?		Rival of Paris		Make a stand
42 Wildebeests	100	Marshal at		Put on hold
44 Barrel-bottom stuff	101	Waterloo	34	Variety show set in Kornfield Kounty
45 Cookie baking		Cause harm Studied, with "over"	26	Fabric beltmaker's
session output 46 Put to the test		"Sounds like fun to	30	technique
48 K-12	105	me!"	38	Lindley of "Three's
49 River to the North	106	Utah lily	00	Company"
Sea		Metaphor for	40	Line to the
50 Stage hog		opportunities		audience
53 Lady of León	109	Pie in the sky?	41	Gregg user
55 Duck		Jaguar, e.g.	43	"The Matrix" hero
57 Inherent character		Film about a	44	Some wolves
59 Back muscle,		devastating	46	Catherine the
familiarly		blizzard?		Great, e.g.
60 Film about the last		À la King		Vitamin A form
of the old-time		Calmed down		Moves speedily
schoolteachers?		Stylish filmmaker	51	One often shared
64 First husband of		Chill	50	in flight
Bathsheba		Runoff collector		Flat-topped lands
67 Bar stock	122	Commuter's read	54	"I don't give"

	56	In
	58	Duty
	59	"Witness" actor
ms	61	Haas Obamacare, briefly
113	62	John, to Ringo
	63	Recipe amts.
atic	65	Gen.'s counterpart
	66	Fictional miners'
up		work song
ever	71	"Spider-Man" director
e	72	Latin lover's line
	73	The Supreme
lick		Court, for one
"Go	74	Where Tara
		Lipinski won her
e		Olympics gold
	75	medal at age 15 Community
	75	character
еер	80	War on Poverty
1-		agcy.
	81	Hulu offering
	84	Carried
I	85	Spanish
		convenience
	88	stores
	90	Lettering guide Lively country
et al.	50	dance
	91	Extended family
	92	More cozy
et in	93	Political fugitive
ty .	94	Mr. Magoo et al.
er's	95	Bridges in movies
e's	97	Sultanate on the South China Sea
ee s	98	Make dirty
	102	One in an airport
	102	taxi line, for the
		most part
ero	103	False: Pref.
	104	Bridal estate
	106	"Come Sail Away"
	100	band
,	108 111	ANC country Mobile home: Abbr.
ed .	113	" to Billie Joe"
	114	Cry near the ears
ds	115	Broke bread
,,	116	B&O stop



GOREN BRIDGE

OBLIGATORY FALSECARD

Neither vulnerable, South deals, North-South have a 40 point part score

WEST ▲ Q 4 2 ♡ 10 9 8 ◇ A 9 ♣ K 2	♣ĂJ	7 5 5 4 3 8 3 EAS • J 9 © A • K • 10 TH 5 6 7 4 3 0	9853 872
The bidd SOUTH 1♣ 1♡	ing: WEST Pass Pass	NORTH 1◊ 3♣	EAST Pass All pass

Opening lead: 10 of \heartsuit

The opening heart lead was won by East perforce, and East had to consider his shift. A switch to diamonds would have defeated the contract, enabling both a diamond ruff for partner and a heart ruff for himself. The queen of diamonds in dummy made the diamond shift potentially very dangerous, so East

shifted to a low spade instead.

South won the spade shift with the ace and led a low club to dummy's jack. East followed smoothly with the nine, trying to look like a man who started with 10-nine doubleton. This play is known as an "obligatory falsecard," a play that must be made in order to give declarer a losing option. Had East not played the nine, or the 10, South would have had no choice but to cash the ace of clubs and hope for the king to drop — a play that would have worked on this deal.

Declarer gave the nine a suspicious look, but decided that it was an honest card. He crossed back to his hand with the king of spades and led the queen of clubs. This fetched the king from West but not the 10 from East, and the defense had a trump trick. South cashed the queen of hearts and led a low diamond. East stepped up smartly with the king, cashed the 10 of clubs, and led a third round of spades. This forced dummy's last trump, and declarer had another diamond plus a heart to lose. Down one.

CRYPTOGRAMS

MOTION AND TRAVEL by Myles Mellor

1. OCMPE PBWWXID EH MH YBDEXJ EPBI

DHZIK. DH DHVX WXHWOX DXXV YJCXIKOR

BIK TJCMPE ZIECO RHZ PXBJ EPXV TOZJE HZE

DHVXEPCIM.

2. XZDH EZD DE CDETCHDM ZPVD, ZBL

UCIYYR IHM OBUBPTL VPEZDC LIBM:

"XZDCD PH DICEZ ZIOD RPT YDDH?"

3. O KTNF MKOD VFTIIZ FQAFIIFRM JFTMKFV

TCNODYVZ: "JKTM'D JYVDF MKTR VTORORS

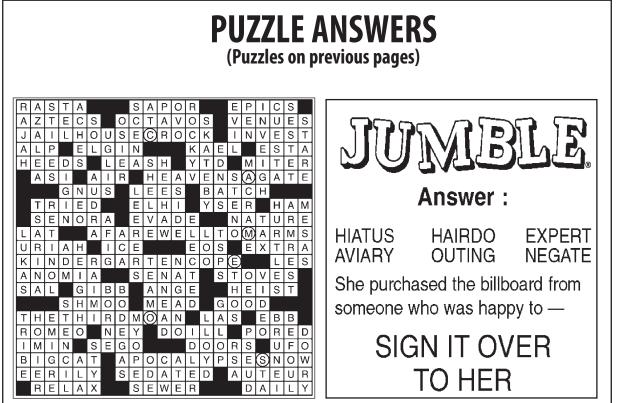
ATMD YV CYSD? KTOIORS MTQOD!"

(Bob Jones welcomes readers' responses sent in care of this newspaper or to Tribune Content Agency, LLC., 16650 Westgrove Dr., Suite 175, Addison, TX 75001.)

4. MBIA HD ABX EYXVXYYXR NPRX PV

AYJSDEPYA VPY J OPUR DSPMNJS? JS

HOHOUX.



1. Light happens to go faster than sound. So some people seem friendly and bright until you hear

them blurt out something.

2. When the ET returned home, his crabby and vicious mother said: "Where on earth have you been?"

3. I have this really excellent weather advisory: "What's worse than raining cats or dogs? Hailing

taxis!'

4. What is the preferred mode of transport for a cold snowman? An icicle.

HOLIDAY MATHIS HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). If you can change it, do. If you can't, you'll know after you make the effort. Most importantly, don't agonize. The imagination is a powerful force, not to be employed to negative ends.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your life plays like a symphony these days. What comes around goes around -- though everything sounds different in the arrangement during the second and third passes.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). When someone shows you his or her soul -- and by the way, that's a real thing, to be shown the ethereal essence of a person -- well, it's an honor and a privilege, though one that you won't be exactly sure what to do with.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You've been instructed to put bright things into the universe, and this is, most assuredly, good advice. However, don't let it stop you from putting dull things into the universe, too, to keep things balanced and real.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Because you listen well, people become their whole selves when they communicate with you. If you forget to listen well, they will be but a fraction of themselves, and you won't learn the fullness of a person.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You have a good sense of people's intentions, even when they miss the mark entirely. Don't worry; you'll get the same leeway when you make these kinds of mistakes, although you won't be making them any time soon.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Boredom is the enemy of love. It seals people off from one another. Bored people often fight to break through the seal and into the realm of feelings again, although this is not the

only (nor is it the best) way to get there.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Young people will be a significant part of the plot for today. Keep in mind that children only get one childhood. There is only one first time for everything, and firsts have unique impact.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). If you feel out of place, this is a blessing. There's a great benefit to being somewhere that feels just unfamiliar enough to cause you to reach back to the world of those you love.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). It's a tough crowd you'll be dealing with today. If you can't figure out how to put smiles on people's faces, put one on your own face. Your good vibes will be contagious.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You've a knack for being in the right place, and vicinity will work in your favor as you reach out. Even the most casual and commonplace communication is an opportunity.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). It's not readily apparent why humans have fingerprints. Maybe it improves our sense of touch. It certainly helps us keep track of one another. Anyway, you won't need a single, definitive reason to appreciate the unique mark someone leaves on your life today.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 21). You'll rejoice in the way things are, and as you come to accept the finer features and deeper levels, it will be as though the whole world belongs to you. Creativity is a huge part of your happiness this year. If you're not being creative, you're not being fully you. Nurture this constantly. Love and support are all around you. Leo and Libra adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 20, 1, 11 and 9.

7 LITTLE W ORDS Find the 7 words to match the 7 clues. The numbers in parentheses •								
Find the 7 words to match the 7 clues. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in each solution. Each letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle. Solutions CLUES SOLUTIONS 1 rapper (5)								
CLUES	CLUES SOLUTION							
1 rapper	1 rapper (5)							
2 dapper (7)								
3 scrapper (8)								
4 catnapper (10)								
5 kidnapper (8)								
6 trapper (6)								
7 yapper (9)								
ING	EAD	LIST	UD	DA				
ER	МО	DR	MIN	CRI				
EPYH	LO	SH	AL	HU				
PUGI	AKE	UTH	NT	SLE				
Today's Answers: 1. DRAKE 2. DASHING 3. PUGILIST 4. SLEEPYHEAD 5. CRIMINAL 6. HUNTER 7. LOUDMOUTH								

JANRIC CLASSIC SUDOKU

Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and 3x3 block. Use logic and process elimination to solve the puzzle. The difficulty level ranges from Bronze (easiest) to Silver to Gold (hardest).

2		1				8		6
	8		2	5				
3							9	
		2	7		9		8	
8								1
	7		1		6	3		
	9							8
				7	2		4	
7		3				1		9

Rating: GOLD

2	5	1	4	9	7	8	3	6
6	8	9	2	5	3	4	1	7
3	4	7	6	1	8	2	9	5
5	1	2	7	3	9	6	8	4
8	3	6	5	2	4	9	7	1
9	7	4	1	8	6	3	5	2
4	9	5	3	6	1	7	2	8
1	6	8	9	7	2	5	4	3
7	2	3	8	4	5	1	6	9

Solution

DEAR ABBY

Grandma plans to recoup loan from grandson's inheritance

DEAR ABBY: I co-signed a college loan for my grandson. Unfortunately, he didn't earn passing grades and was kicked out. He frequently misses loan payments, and I end up getting a late payment letter.

I am afraid his inattention to this debt will adversely affect my credit. I can make the late payment or pull the money out of my savings and pay off the loan. If I pay off the loan, I plan to deduct that amount from his inheritance.

He's very apologetic about it when I talk to him, but I'm tired of it hanging over my head. How should I handle this? — TIRED OF PAYING

DEAR TIRED OF PAYING: Your grandson's irresponsibility will reflect on your credit if it hasn't already. Pay off the loan and do not co-sign for him again. He should repay the money he borrowed from you as well as any



Dear Abby

penalties when he begins earning his own money. However, if he doesn't, you are within your rights to deduct the amount from his inheritance.

DEAR ABBY: I have become completely unemotional. I don't feel sad when there is a death. I feel no joy when I see a baby and, in fact, think people are selfish for having children in the world we live in today. When a couple gets married, I also feel — nothing.

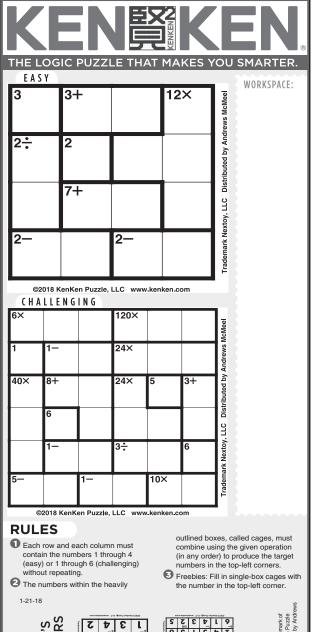
I'm 66 and have a great life with no health or financial problems. I'm friendly when I'm out in public, although I'd rather be left alone. I'm not miserable. I am just burned out on human beings and feel numb. What's up with me? — ABNORMAL IN ARKANSAS

DEAR ABNORMAL: Have you seen your doctor during the past year? If not, you should, to rule out a physical illness. If there's nothing physically wrong, you may be describing something called "ennui" — a kind of world-weariness. (An old song performed by Peggy Lee titled "Is That All There Is?" which you can find on YouTube, expresses it perfectly.)

A change in your routine may give you the jolt you need. If you aren't in the habit of doing it, 30 minutes of brisk daily exercise might give you a lift. However, if that doesn't help your malaise, some sessions with a licensed mental health professional may help you understand why you've been feeling the way you do.

DEAR ABBY: Can you and some of your readers give me an answer to a pressing question? I recently remarried, and I still feel like I'm visiting instead of living in my new home. None of my husband's late wife's furniture has been removed to make room for mine. Only a few minor changes have been made. When I suggest any changes, they are ignored. How can I tactfully make my feelings known? --LIVING WITH A GHOST IN ALABAMA

DEAR LIVING WITH A GHOST: Do that by stating your feelings clearly. This is something the two of you should have reached an understanding about before your wedding. If your husband continues to ignore you after that, work it out with him with the help of a licensed marriage and family therapist or other mediator.





BIBLE

Stained mugs

Dear Heloise: I, like you, love baking soda! I noticed that the insides of my coffee cups were looking dingy, so I made a paste of baking soda and water, and scrubbed gently with a paper towel. After a rinse, the mugs are bright again! — Harriet B., Columbus, Ohio

How right you are! Baking soda is cheap, nontoxic and readily available, and it is great to use all over the home! I've compiled a collection of my favorite baking soda hints and recipes in a handy pamphlet. Would you like to receive one? It's easy - visit www. Heloise.com to order, or send \$5, along with a stamped (70 cents), self-addressed, long envelope, to: Heloise/ Baking Soda, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001. Be sure to rinse the mugs in the sink to freshen the drain as well! — Heloise

Worried about wrinkles

Dear Heloise: I have a new set of 100 percent cotton sheets, which I washed and rinsed in cold water and hung out to dry. Results? A gazillion wrinkles! What should I do differently to remove all of the wrinkles? — Old Washer Woman in Rockingham, Va.

Try spritzing the sheets with a light spray of water. First put the pillow in its



Hints from Heloise

pillowcase, then lightly spritz with water while holding the pillowcase up by the cuff. Then shake up and down a few times. You can spray the sheets while they hang on the line, then try a little pulling and see if this helps. Otherwise, you'll have to iron your sheets, because 100 percent cotton usually wrinkles to some extent. — Heloise

Dirty towels

Dear Heloise: If soap and water make you clean, why do towels get dirty? — Alfred D., Tampa, Fla.

Alfred, if you use soap and water properly, the towel won't get dirty. However, dead skin cells will be rubbed off when you dry yourself. Then there is the matter of towels developing mildew and odor from being damp, so they need to be washed frequently. — Heloise

Dual hints

Dear Heloise: Here's a request for cereal manufacturers: Please put resealable bags inside the cereal box so we can keep the cereal fresh (like a zippered bag)!

HELOISE

Also, when I'm trying to take off my socks, I grab the heel instead of the toe, and they slide right off. — Doris R., Middletown, Ohio

Compact carry

Dear Heloise: I take quick overnight trips, and these hints help me save time and money. First, old contact-lens cases can hold rings, earrings and lotions.

Another storage idea for lotion is to squeeze some into a straw, then pinch and tape the ends closed. Headache medicine capsules can fit into a straw, too, as well as even a portion of laundry detergent!

Old sunglass cases can hold phone chargers, earbuds, manicure necessities, necklaces and odds and ends.

To protect hair dryers and curling irons, I pack them in potholders and oven mitts! Thanks for your column! — Melissa G. in Chicago

Letter of laughter

Dear Heloise: I'm so glad oversized watches are in fashion — thank goodness. Now I can actually see what time it is! — Betty S., Fort Wayne, Ind.

Yes, big watches are in style; shop the men's watch section for a better value — they can be priced lower than the women's oversized watches — or borrow your hubby's! — Heloise

A carrot connoisseur

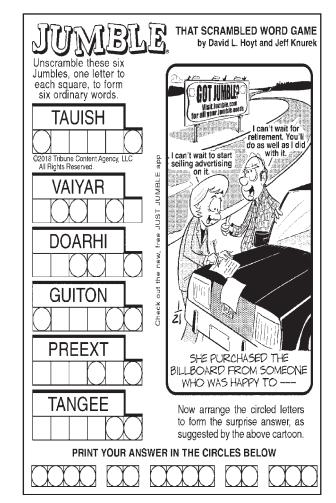
Dear Heloise: Both my husband and I love fresh carrots from the garden. However, my husband is English, and he believes that carrots should be boiled until they are very soft, just as his mother fixed them when he was a boy. I think they lose most of their nutrients and are just plain unappetizing prepared that way. How should carrots be cooked? — Lucy R., Falmouth, Maine

Lucy, the way carrots are cooked depends in part on personal preference. Some people like carrots soft, but I like mine steamed. I cut up young carrots to about 1/4- to 1/2-inch pieces, then I steam them for about five to six minutes. This way, they retain some of their crunchy texture, and there is less vitamin C loss. If you want a softer carrot, steam them for about 10 to 12 minutes. I also like carrots baked, because it brings out a nutty/smoky taste when they are roasted about 20 minutes. Try one of these methods and see how you and vour husband like carrots cooked some way other than boiling. — Heloise

"Lord, they have killed thy prophets, and digged down thine altars; and I am left alone and they seek my life. But what saith the answer of God unto him? I have reserved to myself seven thousand men, who have not

bowed the knee to the image of Boal." — Romans 11:3, 4. Don't get the idea that you are in this race alone nor think for a moment that the rewards to be are reserved for a select few God has many children, some may not be as vocal as others, but they have victory too.

JUMBLE



GOOD NEWS TODAY Hippo-y birthday to Fiona! The popular preemie is turning 1

By DAN SEWELL Associated Press

CINCINNATI — Some days, it's more like being a Hollywood movie star's agent than a communications official for the zoo. That's what happens when your prematurely born hippopotamus becomes a global celebrity.

The Cincinnati Zoo has a day of festivities ready for Fiona's first birthday party Saturday, and expect plenty more of Fiona in year 2.

Zoo director Thane Maynard's own "Saving Fiona" will later this year join the growing library of books about her. The Cincinnati Reds baseball team will feature a Fiona bobblehead, and the minor-league Florence, Kentucky, Freedom plans a Fiona snow globe this summer. There will be a "Fiona's Cove" exhibit at next month's annual Cincinnati Home & Garden Show.

Also ahead: additions to the Fiona-themed T-shirts, cookies, ornaments, and even beer from tie-ins by local retailers who have shared an estimated half-million dollars in revenues with the zoo so far.

Not everything gets green-lighted. "We've gotten some

strange requests," said Chad Yelton, zoo



COURTESY CINCINNATI ZOO & BOTANICAL GARDENS VIA AP

In this April 12, 2017 photo provided by the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Gardens, Fiona a prematurely born hippopotamus, swims in her quarantine enclosure at the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Gardens in Cincinnati.

spokesman.

Left on the table: proposals to record music and make videos with Fiona, national toy company endorsements, a simulated space launch of Fiona, and a Texas library's invitation for her to pay a visit.

Meanwhile, zoo staffers are working with Fiona on her transition toward more-typical zoo behavior, with training on responding to verbal cues and receiving grown-up health care from staffers aware that hippos can become aggressive and dangerous. Her bottlefeeding ended a few weeks ago. "We're treating her more like a full-time hippo and less like a part-time hippo, parttime human," said Christina Gorsuch, the zoo's mammals curator. Fiona will likely double in size in the next year from her current weight of nearly 700 pounds.

"But she'll still be her adorable self," Gorsuch added.

A few steps away, adults raised their cameras and cellphones and children squealed as Fiona swam over to check out her latest throng of fans. "I love Fiona!" shouted 3-yearold Nolyn Hanley after she nosed near the glass



Fiona, a baby Nile Hippopotamus, right, and her mother Bibi, swim in their enclosure at the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden, Wednesday, in Cincinnati.

where he had been watching for her with little brother A.J.

The numbers speak volumes about her popularity:

— Zoo attendance in 2016 was 1.63 million. In 2017, it rose to 1.87 million.

— Views of the zoo's Facebook videos in 2016 totaled 8.85 million. From Fiona's birth on Jan. 24, 2017, to Jan. 2, 2018, they totaled 144.4 million.

Some animal rights activists have expressed cynicism, saying the zoo is using a captive animal to boost its marketing. Fiona came eight months after the May 28, 2016, shooting by a zoo special-response team of an endangered western lowland gorilla after a little boy fell into his enclosure. The death of Harambe spurred criticism of the zoo, while leading to satires and memes over social media that made the slain gorilla a popculture icon.

Round-the-clock critical care, with an assist from Cincinnati Children's hospital personnel, helped the baby born Jan. 24, 2017, grow from a dangerously low 29 pounds. The zoo kept up online updates through good days and bad, but as she continued to progress, the publicists signaled plans to cut back on the regular updates. That drew blowback from fans hungry, hungry for their "Fiona fix."

ΑΡ ΡΗΟΤΟ

After a year of it, Yelton doesn't expect the Fiona Frenzy to fade as she leaves her baby days behind.

"She's still going to be Fiona," he said. "A superstar."









Live the dream in WatersEdge

Special to Highlands News-Sun

This home is located at 204 Huntley Oaks Blvd. in Lake Placid. It is priced for \$379,900 and is listed with Debbie McCullough with Heartland Real Estate Corp.

Remember the days when kids played outside and neighbors greeted one another as they strolled the neighborhood? Well that still exists in the neighborhood of WatersEdge in Lake Placid. This beautiful three-bedroom, two-bath lake front home has 3,116 square feet of living space and 4,109 total square feet.

Tucked in a landscaped lot, the home provides privacy while being close to everything. It is less than a mile to drugstores, grocery stores, banking and town. This convenient location is great for all ages.

Imagine enjoying a coffee every morning overlooking peaceful Lake Saddlebags. The views are gorgeous from almost every room of the house. And the sunsets are breathtaking.

MCCULLOUGH | 1

DIRECTIONS

204 Huntley Oaks Blvd., Lake Placid From U.S. 27 in Lake Placid, turn east on County Road 621. Turn right onto Huntley Oaks Boulevard. Take the first right into the WatersEdge community. The home is on the right.



COURTESY PHOTO

This home is located at 204 Huntley Oaks Blvd. in Lake Placid. It is priced for \$379,900 and is listed with Debbie McCullough with Heartland Real Estate Corp.

Golf course home in Spring Lake

Special to Highlands News-Sun

This home is located at 6400 Concord Drive in Sebring. It is priced for \$349,900 and is listed with Cheryl Oxsalida with Heartland Real Estate Corp.

This four-bedroom, three-bath custom-built golf course home sits on over half an acre and has more than 3,000 square feet of living space. It has a modern elegance and quality that sets it apart from the rest.

From its breathtaking 20-foot architectural ceiling and open split design, to its views of the golf course and sunsets, not much compares. Real hardwood floors, porcelain wood plank tile, recessed lighting, French windows and doors, 6-inch baseboards and rounded wall edges are some of the home's gorgeous features.

Located in Spring Lake, this golf course home is in one of Sebring's most desired golf communities. Originally built by the developer of the golf course, this street



developer of the golf course, this street was purposely planned by the owner to

SALIDA | 5

DIRECTIONS

6400 Concord Drive, Sebring

From U.S. 27 in south Sebring, turn east onto U.S. 98. Turn left onto Spring Lake Boulevard. Turn left onto Duane Palmer Boulevard. Turn right onto Concord Street. Turn right onto Concord Drive. The home is on the right.

COURTESY PHOTO

This home is located at 6400 Concord Drive in Sebring. It is priced for \$349,900 and is listed with Cheryl Oxsalida with Heartland Real Estate Corp.

Home with acreage on Lake Istokpoga

Special to Highlands News-Sun

This home is located at 9 Windy Point Road in Lake Placid. If is priced for \$249,900 and is listed with Sue Clark with Lake and Land Realty of Highlands Inc.

OPEN HOUSE Today, 11 a.m. to noon

This four-bedroom, two-bath manufactured home has 155 feet on Lake Istokpoga and more than 1.2

acres of land.

The home has unbelievable room sizes with 2,356 living square feet. In addition to the four bedrooms, this home has a family room, living room and large dining room.

This is a paradise at the end of the road with gorgeous, expansive views of the lake from the two porches. The master suite encompasses the entire end of the home and has the most beautiful east view of the lake.

The other three bedrooms are on the

CLARK | 1

DIRECTIONS

9 Windy Point Road, Lake Placid From U.S. 27 in Lake Placid, head east on County

Road 621. Turn left onto Highlands Lake Drive. Turn right onto Boat Ramp Road. Turn right onto Windy Point Road. The home is on the left.



COURTESY PHOTO

This home is located at 9 Windy Point Road in Lake Placid. If is priced for \$249,900 and is listed with Sue Clark with Lake and Land Realty of Highlands Inc.

MCCULLOUGH

FROM PAGE 1

The large open floor plan was designed with lake front living in mind. The living room centers the house with 14-foot vaulted ceilings and crown molding. From there it flows to the sun room and back porch. It also adjoins the more formal dining area.

It's a great house for entertaining as the beautiful kitchen opens to the family room, which flows into the breakfast area.

The master suite features an adjoining room perfect for media, office or nursery. The spa-like bath has expansive granite counter space with two vanity sinks, large soaking tub and oversized marble shower.

The kitchen has newer stainless steel appliances, granite counters, inlayed tile floor, two pantries and fabulous views of the

COURTESY PHOTO

This home has access to two lakes: Lake Saddlebags and Lake Huntley.

lake.

The laundry room has immense storage with separate pantry area large enough for an extra freezer and refrigerator. The home has hardwood and tile floors throughout making clean up a breeze.

It has a newer metal roof that resembles barrel tile, a new dock,

exterior paint and stone accents. The garage has extra storage cabinets with work space and room for two cars. The home is built with double walled construction for improved energy and sound efficiency.

This home has access to two lakes. The home is on Lake Saddlebags, which is a clear lake great



PEOPLE IN REAL ESTATE

Sue Clark is with Lake and Land Realty of Highlands Inc. Call 863-441-0969.



Debbie McCullough is with Heartland Real Estate Corp. Call 863-441-1319.

Cheryl Oxsalida is with Heartland Real Estate Corp. Call 863-214-3663.

HOW TO APPEAR IN PEOPLE IN REAL ESTATE

Members of the Heartland Association of Realtors who want to submit articles about their professional achievements should call Eileen Powers at 863-386-5809. People in Real Estate submissions appear on a space availability basis. All submissions are subject to change.

for fishing, swimming and water sports. The oversized lot has a seawall and 142 feet of lake frontage. In addition, WatersEdge residents enjoy a community park

that is located on the shores of Lake Huntley. It features two tennis courts, a gazebo, and dock with boat slips on the lake. Residents are free to keep their boats

docked on Lake Huntley for no additional fee.

For more information or a private showing, call McCullough at 863-441-1319. See more photos at FineHomesDWM.com.



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room, large rooms. Master suite has garden tub plus shower, huge kitche dinning area, breakfast bar, built in hutch in living room. Full front Florida Room has wir dows tinted. Perfect home for entertaining or get together. SB2145

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me for entertaining with 3 BR 2 BA and a den, large eat in kitchen, room and living room. Enjoy the fantastic views from your air conditioned lanai Separate laundry room and a large garage. This is a well maintained home with great curb appeal. Home has newer roof and AC unit. SB2133

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Hammond Team (863) 450-3339 **59.500**

Kathy Bose (844) 802-7751

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📓 GREAT HOME ON A CORNER LOT 2/2 home,12x18 Golf Cart Shed with overhead door. 10x15 FL room with air. 12x15 covered and screened in patio. Big 15x21 living room. SB2182 Hammond Team (863) 450-3339 \$48.900



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TODAY'S REAL ESTATE JULIO SEDA

Sebring has a variety of real estate communities to satisfy new buyers, along with established residents and seasonal visitors. There is an in house selection that offers an opportunity to invest in Sebring, starting with housing choices for ownership and rentals satisfying all financial

circumstances. Our residential communities offer easy access to golf courses, shopping areas, a wide selection of churches, schools, lakes, and our inventory of restaurants together with other amenities support the high quality of life experienced in Sebring.

We have a variety of styles available; from a studio apartment to a mansion, with spectacular lake or Florida native views. For example, if you, family or any friends are interested in an elegant, affordable home, country club life style is available.

One of the finest residential planned communities is equipped with a pool, club house, tennis courts, a school and medical offices. It

sits on a strategic, 7000acre are named Sun 'n Lake. Other comparable communities are Golf Hammock, Country of Sebring and Spring Lake.

Seniors are especially welcome. Sebring has a strong retirement population and senior residential facilities accommodate most special needs. Some offer two or three daily meals, housekeeping services, laundry services, transportation and 24/7 property maintenance.

They also provide medical services, a health care program and a monthly calendar of social and cultural activities — field trips to shopping centers, theaters, museums and restaurants. We cannot leave out exercise programs; it creates a sense of value in every senior for the years they have lived and excitement for those ahead.

Sebring has apartments with multiple sizes and styles. You may rent or buy an apartment furnished or non furnished and with lake, garden or city views. Also, some are two or three bedrooms, and some have a washer and dryer inside the unit or coin laundry facilities. Other services include, depending on the condominium: allowing a pet, emergency services and sufficient resident and guest parking.

Affordable housing is available, regardless of your taste or wallet, for all style and size homes, lots, garden or villa homes, duplexes, on the golf course, on the lake, and acreage.

If you want to buy a lot and build your own home, Sebring is fortunate to have a number of certified quality home builders who will work diligently in order to make your dream house a reality.

Our local banks have an extensive financial qualifying home buying programs. You would request a private appointment with the loan originator and it is required you bring your credit score, proof of income (last two years of tax returns), minimum monthly payments of all credit card balances and car payments to this meeting. For a married couple, both would have to turn in the documents. Credit card balances are to be around 30 percent of your total line of

credit.

If you are a local or future resident, and you hope of one day owning and living where you can have family and friend gatherings, this is the place to live. It is an area filled with a wonderful natural atmosphere of pine trees and Florida's landscape. Additionally, the area has a low crime rate, a reasonable amount of above-average schools and entertainment opportunities for everyone in the family.

You will not regret investing and becoming a part of the family that is Sebring. On a side note: Rents in Sebring are increasing.

To submit questions, comments or topics, call Julio Seda at 786-991-8235 or email 0532315@ gmail.com.

Berkshire Hathaway represents seller in Holiday Inn Express

Special to HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

TAMPA — Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Properties Group announces the sale of the Holiday Inn Express & Suites Trinity, a three-story, 87-room property located at 2125 Corporate Center Drive in the North Tampa Bay community of Trinity.

The \$12.2 million sales price equates to more than \$142,000 per room. This transaction is the highest price per key metrics for a Holiday Inn Express in Florida. The sale closed Jan. 11.

Robb Sercu, chief communications officer for Berkshire Hathaway

have no HOA or restric-

Fences are allowed

tions at this address.

at this location even

though it's on the golf

course. Currently the

SALIDA

FROM PAGE 1



HomeServices Florida Properties Group and the managing director for its Commercial Division, and Commercial Broker Kim Lohry represented the seller, MPH Hotels, and brokered the sale to Trinity 123 LLC.

"We knew this property had great potential when we first started working on it with MPH back in 2014," Sercu said. "With its lake front,

resort-style facility and business-centric location in the emerging community of Trinity, the Holiday Inn Express & Suites Trinity has been very successful since it opened in 2015, and is well positioned to continue to benefit from Tampa Bay's growing employment and residential bases."

Berkshire Hathaway customer MPH Hotels purchased the property's vacant land in 2014. Along with MPH and Sercu, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Properties Group Brokers/owners Allen Crumbley and Dewey Mitchell, and agents Renee Dyer and Kim

Lohry worked together to secure local investors for hotel construction and ownership.

The Holiday Inn Express & Suites is InterContinental Hotel Group's fastest growing brand. The Trinity property is located 18 miles from Tampa International Airport and offers strategic proximity to major transportation arteries, world-class businesses, Trinity Medical Center, golf clubs, beaches, restaurants, shopping and other Greater Tampa Bay area attractions. "We are thrilled to have led the growth and

development of this property, resulting in

FROM PAGE 1

opposite end and are all of good size with walk-in closets.

The kitchen, which also has a fantastic view of the lake, has room for a butcher block or small kitchen table.

four Berkshire Hathaway offices: • 4800 Haw Branch Road, Sebring;

Highlands County has

863-314-9641

• 1 Hammock Falls Circle, Sebring; 863-382-6575

• 211 U.S. 27 North, Sebring; 863-402-5700 • 15 N. Main Ave., Lake Placid; 863-699-0404 For more information about Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices **Florida** Properties Group, call 888-778-8258 or visit www.bhhsfloridaproperties.com.

The home has only been lived in part time and it shows. This is a special piece of property with a private location on the southwest corner Lake Istokpoga near Lake Placid. There is a small dock on the lakeside. For more information, call Clark at 863-441-0969.

a spectacular view of the golf course out to the back vard.

To the left of the front door is a 14 by 14 formal dining room, which can seat 10 people at a large table. Way up high is a cut out sky ceiling with windows that light up the room with ambiance. A modern ceiling fan decorates the peak of the raised ceiling cavity. It also has a crystal chandelier. These modern architectural touches are the things that set this home apart from ordinary golf course homes. The huge 17 by 18 kitchen features modern appliances including a gas and grill stove top, double stainless-steel sink and stylish stainless-steel refrigerator, microwave, dishwasher and oven. A long modern counter wraps around the corner into an L shape, Corian counters plus a matching island table bar with sink and four bar seats for eating in the kitchen. Modern seamless cabinets with lots of drawers and cabinets wrap around the entire kitchen for massive storage. Big

windows and recessed lighting provide a lot of natural lighting in the day and interior lighting after dark.

The large 15 by 17 master bedroom features rich hard wood floors, recessed lighting and double glass doors leading into the lanai. It has a huge walk-in California closet, double vanity, walk-in shower plus a Roman-style corner bath tub. All the bedrooms have large tall French windows for lots of natural light and rich hard wood floors. Besides having four bedrooms and three full bathrooms, there is also a 14 by 15 bonus room just to the right as you enter the home. Double French doors open into the office/game room, which fits a small pool table plus an office desk, computer and wall mounted TV with cable. For a relaxing evening step out the back

door into the 12 by 28 screened lanai that overlooks the golf course. Enjoy the sunset views of the open range with lots of shade trees that decorate the course. A second private outdoor patio is off the master bedroom with its own unique seating area and view of the golf course.

record per-key transaction for a Holiday Inn Express in Florida." Crumbley said. "Our commercial sales team is experienced and intimately familiar with the market. Our team will seek opportunities to create value and help develop customized real estate solutions for tenants, developers, investors, and commercial property owners."

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Properties Group has 22 offices throughout the Tampa Bay area.

CLARK

wrought iron fenced back yard.

house already has a black

From this location it's just minutes to the golf course and clubhouse or to Lake Istokpoga for the best fishing in the area. It is also just minutes to the race track and airport.

When you first drive up, there is a long entrance driveway that leads up to a huge 24 by 38 three-car garage. The house is also on a cul-de-sac street for lots of privacy and room to keep a boat, RV and several cars. The home also already has the electric to install a pool in the back yard so it's ready to add a pool if you like.

When you first walk in through the front door, the open floor plan features a 17 by 23 living room with two sets of tall double glass doors with

Centing faits are in every room. The main entrance has a front porch seating area. The back yard has a custom wrought iron fence. There is mature landscaping around the entire house. Enjoy golf on three different courses: Panther Creek, Cougar Trail and Bobcat Run. You can also enjoy fine dining at the Spring Lake Golf Resort restaurant.

For more information or to see this house, call Oxsalida at 863-214-3663, email cheryloxsalida@ gmail.com or go to highlandscountyhomes.com and see all the photos.



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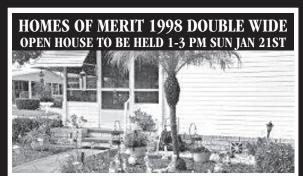


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1945 Sunflower Cir. in Tanglewood Community in Sebring This spacious 2 Bed/2Bath double wide is located on a corner lot in Tanglewood MH Park in Sebring near shopping and restaurants. Its features include a Golf Cart garage with ample outside storage plus multiple closets inside. The laundry room is inside, and the A/C Unit is new in 2017. Enjoy the 24 x 12 ' Lanai each evening with neighbors. Tanglewood is filled with many anemities including a community center large enough for concerts and entertainment. Schedule a tour today of Tanglewood and request a showing of this Homes of Merit Home

Maggie Schreck Realtor, Brantley Properties Inc Cell (863)840-5187 417 East Interlake Blvd Lake Placid, FL 33852

A new approach to mortgage design

MORTGAGE PROFESSOR Jack Guttentag

For decades, the principal motivation driving home mortgage design was to increase affordability. The logic was that homeownership was desirable, and the more affordable mortgages became, the higher would be the homeownership rate. As a result, the typical mortgage, which had a down payment of 40 percent and a term of 10 years in the 1920s, today has 5 percent down and a 30-year term.

But the winds are now blowing in a different direction. With people living longer and fewer covered by defined-benefit pension plans, entering retirement with a loan balance and a mandatory monthly payment is a prescription for trouble. Viewed from this standpoint, the prevailing mortgage types designed to facilitate home ownership are problematic because they take so long to pay off. A search is on for ways to accelerate the repayment process.

One intriguing approach has been suggested by Wayne Passmore and Alexander H. von Haften, who are economists at the Federal Reserve Board, in a working paper titled "Financing Affordable and Sustainable Homeownership With Fixed-COFI Mortgages." Their central idea for encouraging more rapid equity growth is to trade off the borrower's right to refinance when interest rates fall, which imposes a heavy cost on lenders, for larger

principal payments. With prepayment penalties abolished, borrowers today are free to take advantage of declining interest rates to refinance. However, the lower rates obtained by refinancing do not accelerate the growth of borrower equity. Quite the opposite: While most refinancing borrowers reduce their monthly payment, they increase their loan balance. The "limited cash out refinance" option of Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac and FHA allows borrowers to finance their closing costs and receive up to \$2,000 cash without paying the penalty associated with cash-out refinancing.

Passmore and von Haften would offer borrowers faster balance reduction in place of the lower monthly payments they obtain through refinancing. They would do this by eliminating the right to refinance a new dual instrument, which is fixed-rate to the borrower (an FRM) but adjustable rate to the lender (an ARM). Since the interest rate on the ARM is generally lower, the payment made by the borrower exceeds the payment remitted to the lender, and the surplus is available to pay down the FRM balance.

The complication in this proposal is that ARMs may be subject to an interest rate spike, at which point the ARM payment will exceed the FRM payment. If previous surpluses were used to pay down the FRM loan balance, they would not be available to make the larger ARM payment required by a rate

spike. To deal with this problem, the surpluses are placed in a reserve account for some period before being withdrawn to pay down the FRM balance. In response to my question about when this happens, Passmore said that the rules "are decided by a contract between a homeowner and lender." (Letter to me from Passmore).

If the high-rate period lasts long enough, the reserves could be exhausted and the only way to avoid default on the ARM payment would be to increase the loan balance on the FRM — negative amortization, which would be the opposite of the program's objective. The probability of this occurring is very low, but it is not zero. In his letter to me, Passmore wrote, "We do not allow negative amortization, and instead focus on the lender purchasing insurance against this possibility."

An alternative approach avoids the complications introduced by the need to deal with an interest rate spike. Under this approach, which focuses solely on the FRM, the lender makes a principal payment expressed as a percent of the loan balance in exchange for the borrower relinquishing the right to refinance. The monthly

payment is not affected. For example, assume the lender offering a 30-year FRM at 3.75 percent and zero points on January 8 is willing to pay 1 percent of the loan balance every month in exchange for elimination of the borrower's right to refinance. In that case, the extra principal payments would cut the loan term to 25 years and increase the borrower's equity after 24 months by 2 percent.

Lenders should be willing to make even larger payments to principal if the loan rate increases correspondingly. For example, the lender willing to pay 1 percent on a 3.75 percent FRM should be willing to pay 3 percent on a 5.75 percent FRM. This extra payment would shorten the term to less than 20 years and increase borrower equity after 24 months by 5 percent. The downside would be a 40 percent increase in the monthly payment.

The figures cited in the two paragraphs above are drawn from a spreadsheet on my website, Extra Payments on Monthly Payment Fixed-Rate Mortgages.

Jack Guttentag is professor emeritus of finance at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. Comments and questions can be left at mtgprofessor.com

Long-term mortgage rates rise 30-year hits 4.04 percent

By PAUL WISEMAN

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON -Interest rates on longterm home loans rose this week to the highest level in months.

Mortgage giant Freddie Mac said Thursday that the rate on 30-year, fixed-rate mortgages rose to 4.04 percent

1843 US Hwy 27 North,

rhndmccullough7@gmail.com

Sebring, FL 33870

this week, highest since May and up from 3.99 percent last week. The rate on 15-year, fixed-rate mortgages, popular with homeowners who are refinancing, rose to 3.49 percent, highest since last March and up from 3.44 percent last week.

"Inflation is firming ... This means upward pressure on long-term rates,

like the 30-year fixed-rate mortgages was unmortgage, is building," Len Kiefer, Freddie Mac's deputy chief economist, says in a statement. He cites a Federal Reserve report out Wednesday showing that employers in more industries were under pressure to give workers pay raises.

The rate on fiveyear adjustable-rate changed this week at 3.46 percent.

To calculate average mortgage rates, Freddie Mac surveys lenders across the country between Monday and Wednesday each week. The average doesn't include extra fees, known

RATES | 7



2111 Whispering Pines, Sebring \$ 49,900 MLS 245208 Large well maintained 2/2 fully furnished. Interior laundry w/many upgrades. Call Rhonda McCullough - 863.368.1560







THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This December 2016 file photo shows a house for sale in Miami. On Thursday, Jan. 18, 2018, Freddie Mac reports on the week's average U.S. mortgage rates.

RATES **FROM PAGE 6**

as points, which most

borrowers must pay to get the lowest rates. The fee on 30-year mortgages rose to 0.6 point from 0.5 point last week. The fee on

15-year mortgages was unchanged 0.5 percent. And the fee on five-year adjustable home loans dipped to 0.3 point from 0.4 point.







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2 bed/2 bath situated on the golf course, this lovely JE Futch villa has many features to enjoy starting with the pavered driveway and walk-way and the elegant front elevation. Inside you will see 10' ceilings with 8' doors, crown molding and neutral tile and carpeting. MLS#241775



STRAFFORD OAKS DR., SEBRING \$289,900

Impressive custom built home with circular paver brick driveway, side entry garage & covered front porch greet you upon arrival at this 3 bedroom/3.5 bath custom home. Enter to find tall ceilings, crown molding & ceramic tile. MLS#245777



EXOUISITE 4 bd/2.5 bath home! Almost 3,000 LSF and you will be impressed when you enter into the 2-story foyer featuring a lovely chandelier & grand curved staircase, leading to game room. Hardwood floors & built in cabinetry. 3 guest rooms & bath w/cherry wood & granite vanity. MLS#243779



Gorgeous 3 bed, 2 bath, 2 car garage villa perfect for buyer who wants an executive home, without yard maintenance. Association takes care of it all! Situated on the 18th hole of Country Club of Sebring, this beautiful, like new home has 10' ceilings, neutral tile & newer window treatments. MLS#245802



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"SOUTHERN PLANTATION STYLE" custom home with 3 beds 2.5 baths. Inviting open air front porch. Hardwood floors in Living & Dining, decorative columns & cove ceilings. Large family rm, wet bar + gorgeous fireplace. Kitchen has wood cabinets, island cooktop, breakfast bar + nook. NEW ROOF! MLS#243202

GOLF HAMMOCK - CORMORANT POINT



3230 WATERWOOD DR., SEBRING \$195,000

Custom 3 bed/ 2 bath home with over 1900 LSF. Perfect for someone who wants a larger & newer home. Association lawn care. Located in Cormorant Point, 55+ golf course community, this one-of-a kind home offers many features including volume ceilings, slate tile and updated light fixtures. MLS#245471

GOLF HAMMOCK OFFICE 1 HAMMOCK FALLS CIRCLE SEBRING, FL 33872



3919 CORMORANT POINT DR., SEBRING \$154,900

2 bed/ 2 bath home overlooking pond in Cormorant Point, 55+ golf course community. This lovely, well-maintained home is perfect for someone who wants a VIEW! Home comes completely furnished. Just bring toothbrush & golf clubs. (The golf cart is included too!). MLS#245420

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How to care for palm trees



GROWING PAINS Charlie Reynolds Editor's Note: This article originally published Aug. 28, 2016 in Highlands Today:

To understand the problems palms can have, it helps to know a bit about their makeup.

Palms are not true trees. Actually, they are more closely related to grass. The trunk of a palm is a tightly packed vascular bundle, which unlike woody trees, does not produce limbs or branches.

All palm tree growth takes place in the upper area where the fronds are produced. This topmost area is called the heart of the palm or the meristem, and is also where the "cabbage" is in a cabbage palm.

It is a tender spot that can be harvested sliced and cooked like potatoes. It tastes sort of like potatoes, too, at least to me. I like lots of butter on mine. If this meristem gets too cold, the palm dies.

There are several cold sensitive palms used in landscaping but all you need to do to protect these sensitive palms is the meristem, or heart

near the top. A string of Christmas lights works well wrapped around the meristem to keep it warm during a frost.

This heart area is also susceptible to bugs, especially the palmetto weevil, which lays its eggs in the top of the meristem. When the larvae hatch, they are absolutely huge and eat the heart of the palm out, killing it.

The grubs of this weevil get so fat they sometimes fall out of the top of the palm and wriggle around the base of the palm, scaring small children and me, too.

Ugly is too mild a term for these maggoty looking monsters with their cutting mouth parts. Any insecticide used has to be applied to the very top of the palm, the meristem, which may be a challenge if you have a 100-foot Washingtonia robusta.

Maybe hire a Marine to drop a mortar shell full of insecticide down the meristem. (That's a shout-out to my good buddy, Sam, a former Marine and firefighter who spent two weeks at 9/11 ground zero). He doesn't own a mortar so please don't call. There are several



METRO CREATIVE IMAGES

Palms are not true trees. Actually, they are more closely related to grass.

problems associated with palms, most of which are untreatable despite assurances from "Louie and Vinnie's Quickie You Betcha Yard Service "that they can cure any problem you may have.

If you have a palm tree in your yard, keep your eve out for "butt rot." No, not your butt, the palm tree's. It's a fungus called Ganoderma that plugs up the vascular system of the palm, and in its

advanced stage it forms a conk, or fungus protruding from the base of the palm.

If you see this conk, it is too late. The palm is fatally affected.

Nutrition is vitally important to give the palm the strength to produce the fronds and fight off disease at the same time.

As I drive around town, I notice canary island date palms with bright yellow bottom fronds. I want to knock on the owner's door and yell "Get some magnesium on that palm!"

Palm trees are voracious consumers of several micro-nutrients. Magnesium being the most noticeable when it's deficient. Large palms can have roots extending 50 feet or more from the trunk, getting their nutrients from whatever the homeowner puts on their lawns.

Lawn fertilizers are notoriously low on the nutrients needed for palms so an additional fertilizer specifically formulated for palms should be applied. Call the extension office listed below for the correct formulation and application rates. Palms are the images

associated with Florida worldwide and with a few adjustments to their care and feeding they can be spectacular additions to your landscape.

Got questions? We got answers. Contact the Extension Office on George Boulevard at 402-6540 or stop by in person between 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

If you have a question that may help others, submit it directly to

Highlands News-Sun at karen.clogston@highlandsnewssun.com for possible publication. Charlie Reynolds is

a Highlands County Master Gardener and has been named the Florida Master Gardener of the Year by The University of Florida IFAS for 2017-2018.

The articles presented here originate from visitors' questions at the Master Gardener Help Desk.



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This 2 bedroom, 1 bath home with large eat in kitchen in wonderful downtown Sebring. Utility in house. Cute front porch. Walking distance to circle. MLS#244956 \$750/mo.

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809 CHELSEE WAY, LAKE PLACID

2 bedroom, 2 bath Very nice first floor unit with in the gated community of DeAnn Estates. At least a 3 month minimum rental. MLS#245349 \$1600/mo.

Contact: Dana Olson: 863-451-1775 dolsonrealtor@gmail.com



204 MIDDLE VIEW DR., LAKE PLACID

This 1 bedroom, 1 bath cute condo is on Lake McCoy. Close to everything Community pool screened lanai This home is small but very nice and has washer dryer included. Great for a single person or a couple. MLS#245329 \$750/mo.

Contact: Dana Olson: 863-451-1775 dolsonrealtor@gmail.com



LARGE HOME ON 7+ ACRES IN WAUCHULA

3 Bedroom 2 bath with metal roof. The home features arge family room, game room, living and dining room with an enclosed back patio.The home is dated and in need of TLC. Home has good potential. Foreclosure Case #093-595063. HUD owned & sold as-is. Resources, forms, and bidding link to www. HUDHomestore.com. MLS#244788

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College Basketball Men's and Women's college basketball roundups PAGE 4

MLB: Free agency Why free agency isn't fun (yet) for Čobb

By MARC TOPKIN Tampa Bay Times

RHP Alex Cobb never expected to be going into late January without knowing where he was going for spring training.

The longtime Ray's first foray into free agency hasn't gone as planned, much like the 150-plus others waiting for something to give in a market colder than the weather.

"You're full of excitement, you're rushing into this thing like, 'Oh, this is going to be a lot of fun, a great experience,' " Cobb said Friday. "Then somewhere between November and December you realize how slow things are going and you kind of start reading the writing on the wall that this is a little bit of a different offseason then years before.

"Then you go through a little bit of a frustrating moment, frustrated with

SEE COBB, 3

MLB: Rays Rays could still look different by end of spring

TENNIS: Australian Open

Last Slam standing



Germany's Angelique Kerber hits a backhand return to Russia's Maria Sharapova during their third round match Saturday at the Australian Open in Melbourne, Australia.

Kerber beats Sharapova in 3rd round

By John Pye The Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australi – Angelique Kerber is on her own in an elite club at the Australian Open.

The 2016 champion routed Maria Sharapova 6-1, 6-3 in a third-round win that showcased her credentials as a title contender and ensured she'll be the only Grand Slam champion still playing in the second week in the women's draw.

Roger Federer and Jovak Djokovic were

90th match win at Melbourne Park. Women's No. 1 Simona Halep took a longer route equaling a mark in Melbourne for endurance but signaling, perhaps, that she's closer to a Grand Slam breakthrough.

Sharapova was back at the Australian Open for the first time since 2016, when a failed doping test led to a 15-month ban from tennis.

After two comfortable wins the five-time major winner was growing in confidence,

a big match. I mean, Maria is a champion. She's always dangerous, especially at the Grand Slams," Kerber said. "I was really trying to not think about everything around, about against who I'm playing.

"I learned a lot from the last 12, 24 months. I had a great 2016 and last year was a little tougher."

Kerber's year-end ranking dropped from No. 1 in 2016 to 21 last year, when she failed to defend her Australian or U.S. Open titles. "Anybody who knows me knows I never give up." Sharapova said Kerber was the more aggressive on court and took more risks. "A lot of things I need to get better at

and improve on," she said. "Today was not enough (but) ... looking at the overall picture, there's a lot to build from."

The Kerber-Sharapova match, billed as the showdown of the round, was over quickly. That was in contract to Halep's 4-6, 6-4, 15-13 win in 3 hours and 45 minutes over American Lauren Davis.

The third set took 2 hours, 22 minutes. Halep wasted chances to serve for the match in the ninth, 11th and 15th games, then had to save three match points in the 22nd. There were 11 service breaks and two medical timeouts - for Davis to get treatment

COMMENTARY Lightning needs a reset on the road ... pronto

By MARTIN FENNELLY Times Sports Columnist

egas has left the building. Wasn't the Lightning just arranging place settings for next weekend's NHL All-Star Game party?

With that in mind, I headed to the home dressing room at Amalie Arena late Thursday after the Lightning was manhandled 4-1 by the Vegas Golden Knights. If you could leave scorched earth on ice, that was Thursday.

Still, I thought: No gloom, no doom. Just a glitch. So it was the first game without Victor Hedman and it was a disaster. Remember the first half of the season, remember the best team in hockey?

Buck up, boys.

Oh, boys ...

"We can't just go out there and expect to win," Lightning captain Steven Stamkos said. "There's no sugarcoating it." Huh?

"We didn't work. We didn't show," Lightning defenseman Anton Stralman said. "I don't think (Vegas) did anything remarkable out there. We just didn't put up a fight. That's on us. That's a tough one."

What? It's never too early to polish the alarm bell or lay down some floorboards in the panic button. And just in time for an eight-game road trip, beginning Saturday night at Minnesota and to be interrupted only by the All-Star break. What has happened to that team o' yours, Lightning fans? Who knows how we'll

By MARC TOPKIN Tampa Bay Times

ST. PETERSBURG Since entering an offseason planning major change and pledging to be open to "anything and everything," the Rays have made a few minor moves and one massive one in trading franchise cornerstone Evan Longoria to San Francisco.

But in the month since then, nothing.

Which means if they took the field today, they'd have a team with a higher payroll than last year and less talent.

For \$75 million plus, they'd look something like this:

An infield with Matt Duffy - yes, he's said to be healthy - at third, Adeiny Hechavarria at short, Brad Miller moving back to first and some combination at

SEE RAYS, 3

almost as ruthless in their straight-sets wins Saturday night, which is hardly surprising for two players with a combined 31 Grand Slam titles. As well, it was Federer's

but she had no answers for Kerber, who is on a 12-match winning streak in a kind of comeback of her own after a sliding down the rankings last year. "Of course is quite

SEE TENNIS, 4

NFL: Eagles Blount, Long brought winning ways to Philadelphia

By Rob Maaddi **Associated Press**

PHILADELPHIA -When Chris Long and LeGarrette Blount joined the Philadelphia Eagles after winning a Super Bowl in New England, both players envisioned another title run with a team on the rise.

They had more faith than most, but the Eagles are two wins away from a parade.

"I knew we'd be a playoff team and that's why I decided this would be a good place to be and then what separates you is winning a game or two," Long said as Philadelphia prepared for Sunday's NFC championship game against the Minnesota Vikings.

The Eagles were 7-9 last year in the first season under coach Doug Pederson and quarterback Carson Wentz.

Expectations were moderate entering 2017 with many experts projecting the team to be a year away from serious playoff contention.

But Blount saw a team that was close. The Eagles added receivers Alshon Jeffery and Torrey Smith, traded for defensive tackle Tim Jernigan and signed Long before giving Blount a one-year deal in May. "I chose the Eagles for

the reason of me fitting in

really good here, having a championship run, having a banner season," Blount said after he signed. "And they're a really good team. They're a really good team before I came. I just want to fit in."

He was right and he's fit in perfectly.

Wentz had an MVP-caliber season before he tore his ACL in Week 14 and the Eagles (14-3) secured the NFC's No. 1 seed. Blount was the team's leading

rusher, though he's played a secondary role since Jay Ajayi was acquired in a trade in October.

Blount hasn't complained about fewer carries and has provided veteran leadership. He led the NFL with 18 touchdowns rushing last year when he earned his second Super Bowl ring in three seasons with the Patriots. "We're winning and

SEE NFL, 6

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Florida Lottery

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PICK 2

Jan. 20N	1 2 7 1
D-Day, N-Night	U

PICK 3

Jan. 20N	7-6-0
Jan. 20D	9-7-6
Jan. 19N	3-2-0
Jan. 19D	1-3-6
Jan. 18N	2-1-1
Jan. 18D	9-8-5
D-Day, N-Night	

PICK 4

Jan. 20N	1-8-6-8
Jan. 20D	3-2-6-7
Jan. 19N	1-7-6-9
Jan. 19D	4-4-2-8
Jan. 18N	7-6-3-7
Jan. 18D	0-3-3-3
D-Day, N-Night	

PICK 5

Jan. 20N 0-1-9	9-3-7
Jan. 20D 5-2-9	9-3-0
Jan. 19N 6-8-0)-5-2
Jan. 19D 3-5-0)-6-9
Jan. 18N 7-8-8	3-5-3
Jan. 18D 1-1-2	2-4-5
D-Day, N-Night	

FANTASY 5

Jan. 20..... 13-14-15-24-35 Jan. 19..... 19-20-23-24-32 Jan. 18..... 9-12-17-20-34 PAYOFF FOR Jan. 19 2.....5-digit winners \$110, 757.88 2474-digit winners \$144.50 8,7563-digit winners \$11.00

CASH FOR LIFE

Jan. 18......26-36-42-58-60 Cash Ball1 Jan. 15.....12-25-31-33-58 Cash Ball 4 ...

SPORTS ON TV

PAYOFF FOR Jan. 18 0...5-of-5 CB \$1,000/Day 0...... 5-of-5 \$1,000/Week 3...4-of-5 CB \$2,500 \$500 14..... 4-of-5

LUCKY MONEY

Jan. 19	10-11-30-33
Lucky Ball	
Jan. 16	19-36-39-6
Lucky Ball	
• • •	
PAYOFF FOR Ja	.n. 19

\$550,000
\$861.00
\$365.00
\$65.50

LOTTO

Jan. 20... 10-12-20-29-38-49 Jan. 17..... 1-15-16-24-33-52 Jan. 13...... 27-8-1-22-50-24 ... PAYOFF FOR Jan. 17 06-digit winners\$3.5 million 215-digit winners \$4,330.50 8664-digit winners \$74.00

POWERBALL

Jan. 20 26-28-47-49-58 Powerball
Jan. 17 3-33-37-51-57
Powerball 21
• • •
PAYOFF FOR Jan.17
05 of 5 + PB \$62 Million
05 of 5 \$1 million
1 4 of 5 + PB \$50,000
23 4 of 5 \$100
ESTIMATED JACKPOT
\$78 million

MEGA MILLIONS

Jan. 19...... 3-17-23-49-66 Mega Ball 23 Jan. 16..... 3-11-23-29-59 Mega Ball 18 ... PAYOFF FOR Jan. 16 0....5 of 5 + MB \$50 Million 0.....5 of 5 \$1 Million 0....4 of 5 + MB \$10,000 26..... 4 of 5 \$500 ESTIMATED JACKPOT \$55 million

NHL: Roundup **Rolling Avalanche get 9th** straight win, over Rangers

Associated Press

DENVER - The Colorado Avalanche have gone from pushover to powerhouse in less than a season, and their recent streak is evoking memories of past glory.

Nathan MacKinnon, Erik Johnson and Mikko Rantanen had a goal and an assist each, Jonathan Bernier made 27 saves and the streaking Avalanche beat the New York Rangers 3-1 on Saturday for their ninth straight win.

The Avalanche have won eight straight at home and haven't lost since Arizona beat them on Dec. 27. Colorado has outscored opponents 37-15 in the last nine games and has not trailed during the winning streak, which has moved the team into playoff position in the Western Conference.

"We can't get comfortable," MacKinnon said. "That is why we are fighting every night because we need these points. It's so tight, the division is so tight."

Colorado has won nine in a row for the first time since Oct. 10-28, 2000, the last season it won the Stanley Cup. That was during a run of success that brought the Avalanche two



Colorado Avalanche defenseman Erik Johnson (6) celebrates his goal with teammates Gabriel Landeskog (92), Nathan MacKinnon (29), Patrik Nemeth (12), and Mikko Rantanen (96) against the New York Rangers in the first period Saturday in Denver. [JOE MAHONEY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS]

championships and six conference finals in seven seasons. All of their nine wins

have come against teams in playoff position.

STARS 7, SABRES 1: Mattias Janmark had two goals and an assist, Esa Lindell added a goal and two assists and the Dallas Stars defeated the Buffalo Sabres. Jamie Benn and Radek Faksa each had a goal and an assist, and Remi Elle also scored for the Stars, who return home after a 3-0-1 trip. Benn extended his point streak to seven games. John Klingberg tallied three assists and Jason Spezza had two. Kari Lehtonen made 26 saves for Dallas. Sam Reinhart scored Buffalo's goal. Robin Lehner stopped 15 shots before being replaced by Chad Johnson (10 saves)

after allowing a fourth goal midway through the second period.

FLYERS 3, DEVILS 1: Travis

Konecny had a goal and an assist, Michal Neuvirth made 28 saves and the Philadelphia Flyers scored all of their goals in the first period in a victory over the New Jersey Devils. Ivan Provorov and Valtteri Filppula also tallied goals for the Flyers, who won their sixth in the last seven to move closer to a playoff spot in the Eastern Conference. Jesper Bratt scored for New Jersey, which called on goalie Ken Appleby for his NHL debut after Keith Kinkaid was injured in the first period.

JETS 2, FLAMES 1, SO: Bryan Little and Blake Wheeler scored in the shootout and the Winnipeg Jets

beat Calgary 2-1 Saturday, snapping the Flames' sevengame winning streak. Little opened the shootout with a wrist shot inside the post and past Mike Smith. After Mark Jankowski and Sean Monahan were stopped by Connor Hellebuyck and Smith stopped Patrik Laine, Wheeler clinched it on a deke to his forehand. Mathieu Perreault scored in regulation for Winnipeg, which improved to 7-2-1 in its last 10. TJ Brodie scored for Calgary. Hellebuyck had 30 saves for the Jets and Smith stopped 33 shots in defeat.

HURRICANES 3, RED WINGS

1: Elias Lindholm's second goal of the game broke a third-period tie and Carolina went on to beat Detroit. Lindholm made the most of an increased role, filling in for leading scorer Sebastian Aho in the team's first game without him this season. Aho is out with a concussion and lower-body injury. Lindholm, who replaced Aho on the top line with Jordan Staal and Teuvo Teravainen, scored twice on power plays. Justin Williams gave the Hurricanes a two-goal cushion with 1:58 left. Cam Ward stopped 23 shots. Tomas Tatar scored and Jimmy Howard made 27 saves for the Red Wings, who have lost four of five.

NBA: Roundup George scores 36, Thunder blast LeBron, Cavaliers

CLEVELAND -LeBron James came up just short of 30,000 points.

Oklahoma City nearly got there, too.

Unable to stop Paul George, Russell Westbrook or Carmelo Anthony, the Cavaliers were embarrassed 148-124 on Saturday by the Thunder, who not only rolled to their lourth straight win but kept James shy of a historic milestone. George scored 36 points, Westbrook had 23 and 20 assists and Anthony dropped a season-high 29 points as the Thunder tied the record for the most points given up by a Cleveland team in a regulation game. Philadelphia scored 148

on the Cavs back in 1972. "I've never in my basketball life gave up 148 points, not even probably playing video games," James said. "They got everything that they wanted. Inside, outside, they had it moving."

BULLS 113, HAWKS 97: Robin Lopez scored 20 points, Lauri Markkanen added 19 and the Chicago Bulls

10 points on John Collins' dunk.

76ERS 116, BUCKS 94: Joel Embiid had 29 points and nine rebounds and Philadelphia pulled away from undermanned Milwaukee for its seventh win in eight games. Ben Simmons added 16 points and nine assists, and Timothe Luwawu-Cabarrot added 16 points in a rare start as the Sixers (22-20) moved past Milwaukee (23-22) for sixth

PELICANS 111, GRIZZLIES

104: Jrue Holiday scored 13 of his 27 points in the fourth quarter, DeMarcus Cousins had 24 points and 10 rebounds, and New Orleans beat Memphis. Anthony Davis had 21 points and 12 rebounds but did not score his first points of the second half until he dunked with 1:15 to go in the game, giving the Pelicans a 108-102 lead.

HEAT 106, HORNETS 105:

COLLEGE BASKETBALL 9 p.m. BTN - Rutgers at Michigan

4 p.m. ESPNU – Loyola of Chicago at Valparaiso 6 p.m. - Virginia at Wake ESPNU Forest 8 p.m. ESPNU - Washington St.

NBCSN - FIS World Cup, Women's Super G, at Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy (same-day tape) 10 p.m. NBCSN - FIS World Cup, Men's Slalom, at Kitzbuehel, Austria (same-day tape)

SOCCER

The Associated Press

at Utan

Noon

COLLEGE HOCKEY 3 p.m. NBCSN - Notre Dame at Wisconsin

FIGURE SKATING

3 p.m. NBC - European Championships, at Moscow (taped) 6 p.m. NBCSN - European Championships, at Moscow (taped)

GOLF

1 p.m. GOLF - Web.com Tour, Bahamas Great Abaco Classic, first round, at Great Abaco, Bahamas 3 p.m. ESPN — Latin America Amateur Championship, second round, at Santiago, Chile (same-day tape) GOLF - PGA Tour, Career-Builder Challenge, final round, at La Quinta, Calif.

NFL FOOTBALL

3 p.m. CBS - AFC Championship, Jacksonville at New England 6:30 p.m. FOX – NFC Championship, Minnesota at Philadelphia

NHL HOCKEY

12:30 p.m. NBC - Philadelphia at Washington

SKIING

5 p.m. NBC – U.S. Grand Prix, Men's and Women's Snowboard Halfpipe, at Mammoth Mountain, Calif. (same-day tape) 8 p.m. NBCSN – USSA Freestyle Cup, Men's and Women's Aerials, at Lake Placid, N.Y. (taped)

9:30 a.m. FS1 – Bundesliga, Bayern Munich vs. Werder Bremen 11 a.m. NBCSN - Premier League, Southampton vs. Tottenham 11:50 a.m. FS2 – Bundesliga, Schalke vs. Hannover 7:30 p.m. ESPN – Women, United States vs. Denmark, at San Diego

TENNIS

9 p.m. ESPN2 - Australian Open, round of 16, at Melbourne, Australia 3 a.m. (Monday) ESPN2 – Australian Open, round of 16. at Melbourne. Australia

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Noon

CBSSN - George Washington at Dayton ESPNU - South Carolina at Kentucky FS1 – Marquette at Villanova 1 p.m. ESPN2 – UConn at Temple SEC – Mississippi at Florida 2 p.m. CBSSN - DePaul at Georgetown ESPNU – Tulsa at Tulane 3 p.m. ESPN2 - Mississippi St. at Tennessee SEC - Auburn at Georgia 4 p.m. CBSSN - South Florida at Wichita St. 5 p.m. ESPN2 - Florida St. at Louisville SEC – Arkansas at Missouri 5:30 p.m. BTN - Northwestern at Wisconsin

LIGHTNING From Page 1

find coach Jon Cooper's lads on the other side of this trip?

This has been a bad month around here when it comes to Vegas. First, Jon Gruden gets a stack of chips to coach the Raiders. Thursday at Amalie, the Golden Knights erased any doubt as to who's the best story in the NHL this season. What's next, a hip check from Celine Dion?

The Lightning needs a reset – fast. Star goaltender Andrei Vasilevskiy, facing the first true test of his NHL career, needs to get dialed back in. And someone, anyone not named Hedman, needs to start playing defense. The Lightning is playing bad in its end, and that has spread to the other end.

The goals have dried up, too.

There is an ebb and flow to every season. And ebb never looks good.

easily beat the Atlanta Hawks. The Bulls, coming off a 7-point home loss to defending NBA champion Golden State three days ago, have won four of five. They never trailed, taking an 11-pont lead midway through the first quarter on Lopez's dunk and going up 17 on Markkanen's dunk in the closing seconds of the first half. The closest Atlanta got in the third was

place in the Eastern Conference. Khris Middleton had 23 points, 14 rebounds and 10 assists for the Bucks in their second straight loss. They were without top scorer Giannis Antetokounmpo, who was sitting out the first of two games to rest a sore right knee. Fellow starter Malcolm Brogdon (family matter) also wasn't available.

you've got it down, guys.

"You've heard me say this for five years - it's what you keep out of the net, not what you put into the net," Cooper said.

It should be noted that the Lightning was beginning to sag even before Hedman went down. Yzerman's mind was already at work. He has made several in-season moves in Lightning playoff seasons, like deals for Dwayne Roloson, Braydon Coburn and Ryan Callahan. Last year, it was the move he didn't make, keeping Jonathan Drouin, then trading him in the offseason for Mikhail Sergachev, who has been grand but has also been exposed, including Thursday.

Oh, well. Maybe there is a deal to be made. Yzerman was probably going to make one before Hedman's injury. But now who? Mike Green? Jack Johnson? Jacob Trouba? I can see Tyler Johnson and/ or Alex Killorn being loaded onto a moving

Kelly Olynyk scored 14 of his 16 points in the fourth quarter, including a free throw with 0.2 seconds left, to help Miami erase a five-point deficit in the final 34 seconds and stun Charlotte. Wayne Ellington had 26 points on six 3-pointers, Joe Johnson had 22 points and Olynyk was brilliant down the stretch.

van. Whatever it takes.

The Lightning's first half was no fluke. It was built on MVP performances as well as a team concept. This team will get through this. The question is how far it will come out on the other side. Crises happens.

Then again ...

"The guys know we're better than that," Cooper said. "It hurts when you lose a game, but it really hurts when you lose them at home and you're about to embark on an eightgame road trip."

Maybe the Lightning finds itself out there. There are lots of mirrors in lots of hotel rooms.

"By no means is there panic in this room," Stamkos said.

I'm glad the captain cleared that up.

"We've been through the highs and lows of a season before. The good teams, we've always talked about it, find a way."

It's time to do just that.

Vegas has left the building.

"We've lost 9-2 in our last two home games. That's a concern," Cooper said. "They know the right way of playing and they know they're not playing the right way."

It was never going to be easy without Hedman, who is out three to six weeks after suffering a lower-body injury last week. The Lightning will survive this, but it might be a photo finish. Did you really expect this team to lose all Hedman's minutes and all he brings to it, and just roll right along? Think again. Major test.

True, it represents

mission for Cooper and

as they get to see what

the bottom of the blue

Thursday was an early

some shoddy work.

Then again, this isn't

sampling and produced

about one guy trying to

be Hedman. It's about 18 guys playing defense

together. Tell us when

approaches the playoffs.

a great fact-finding

GM Steve Yzerman,

exactly they have on

line as the Lightning

COBB From Page 1

the process, frustrated with the way things are going. Then you kind of get to the point where you're like, 'Whatever. We're all in this same boat together.' You just kind of change your frame of mind to accepting the fact that this thing is going to go down to the wire and you get comfortable with that."

The Cubs, with former Rays manager Joe Maddon and now pitching coach Jim Hickey, are rumored to be Cobb's likely destination, even with reports he turned down a three-year, \$42 million deal. Going into the winter, he seemed in line for more like a fouryear, \$60 million deal, or \$70 million-plus over five, so that makes sense.

Cobb wouldn't get into specifics Friday, saying he has talked seriously with 15 teams and hasn't eliminated any. The Brewers, Twins, Nationals, Orioles, Rangers, Yankees are reportedly among the in. "Everywhere is an option for me at this point," Cobb said. Even - his words – going back to the Rays for a year, as unlikely as that is.

While ex-Rays Tommy Hunter (\$18 million over two years from Phillies) and Steve Cishek (\$13 million, two years, Cubs) have signed, Cobb waits, as do OF Peter Bourjos, 1B Lucas Duda, 1B Logan Morrison, RHP Sergio Romo.

"It'll be very interesting to see the reasonings when all this is done, and kind of dissect it a little bit and get to figure out why the market was so slow this offseason," Cobb said. "Very interesting."

San Francisco treat: With No. 3 retired for Bill Terry, ex-Rays star Evan Longoria gets No. 10 with the Giants. Can't imagine the Rays letting anyone wear

danielrobertstonfamilyfoundation.org. Rays rumblings: In addition to a uniform patch marking the team's 20-year anniversary, expect promotions and giveaways with that theme. ... Curious when Tampa stadium proponents will start that drive for sponsor and season-ticket commitments principal owner Stuart Sternberg wants to see. ... Kevin Kiermaier, ranked 10th among centerfielders, was the only Ray to make Buster Olney's ESPN.com top 10 at each position. ... Seems likely the Rays

will join other teams

in expanding netting by the dugouts. ... With agent Jason Wood fired from his firm amid controversy, arbitration-bound RHP Jake Odorizzi signed with Excel and is handled by Bobby Barad, whose Rays clients include Corey Dickerson. ... Melanie Lenz was promoted from vice president, strategy & development to chief development officer. Also, Jeff Tanzer promoted to VP, ticket sales and service; Eric Weisberg to VP, marketing and creative services; Patrick Smith to senior director, controller; Michael Weinman to director, game presentation & production... Prospects 1B Jake Bauers, OF Justin Williams and LHP Ryan Yarbrough attended the MLB Rookie Career Development Program in Washington, D.C.... Kiermaier was mlb.com's choice as the most likely Hall of Famer among current Rays.

Ex-Rays rumblings: C Curt Casali signed a minor-league deal with Texas, having first signed with Anaheim then granted his release when the Angels blocked his path to the majors by adding another ex-Ray, Rene Rivera. ... Maddon's Respect 90 Foundation donated \$71,000 to hurricane relief funds in Tampa Bay, Houston and Puerto Rico. ... Sure, Rays fans were upset to see Longoria go. But after franchise cornerstone OF Andrew McCutchen and RHP Gerrit Cole were traded, Pirates fans started an online petition urging Bob Nutting to sell the team and have 50,000plus signatures. ... With nearly 200 of the roughly 425 Hall of Fame ballots posted online, Fred McGriff has 36 votes, Johnny Damon three and Aubrey Huff none. The announcement is Wednesday.

OLYMPICS: HOCKEY Without NHL players, Olympic tournament is 'wide open'

By STEPHEN WHYNO Associated Press

When Willie Desjardins coached Canada's 2010 world junior team stacked with future NHL players Taylor Hall, Jordan Eberle, Brayden Schenn, Alex Pietrangelo and goaltenders Jake Allen and Martin Jones, it took a wild final game with John Carlson scoring in overtime to win the gold medal for the United States.

Just like Canada was the most talented team back then, Russia is likely to have that role at the upcoming Winter Olympics. Desjardins isn't concerned about that.

"In this tournament, anybody can win," Desjardins said.

Goodbye, NHL players. Hello, unpredictability. No NHL participation



FILE - In this Dec. 16, 2016, file photo, Russia's Ilya Kovalchuk, center, tries to score as Czech Republic's Ondrej Vitasek, right, and Dominik Furch make a challenge during the Ice Hockey Channel One Cup match in Moscow. Russia is considered the favorite for gold in the upcoming Olympics because it has former NHL players Kovalchuk, Pavel Datsyuk and Andrei Markov.

for the first time since 1994 threatens to upset the traditional world hockey order after Canada has won the past three best-on-best tournaments: the 2016

World Cup, 2014 Sochi Olympics and 2010 Vancouver Olympics. Russia is considered the favorite because it has former NHL players Ilya Kovalchuk, Pavel Datsyuk and Andrei Markov, though Finland could make gold its sixth medal in the past five Games or Sweden could win for the first time since 2006.

Coach Tony Granato's American team was put together with players from European professional leagues, the NCAA and American Hockey League.

"This Olympics is wide open for a lot of reasons," Granato said. "Russia's got the most talented players in the world. They're going to have the team that steps on the ice with the most talented players. Does that make them the best team for two weeks? No. We all know that. We all know how sports works. All you're looking for is an opportunity to make the most and be the best that you can be for that period of time."

GOLF: CareerBuilder Challenge Austin Cook shoots 64 to take lead

The Associated Press

LA QUINTA, Calif. – Austin Cook played a six-hole stretch in 6 under and shot an 8-under 64 in breezy conditions Saturday to take the lead at the CareerBuilder Challenge.

Cook began the run at La Quinta Country Club with birdies on Nos. 4-5, eagled the sixth and added birdies on No. 7 and 9 to make the turn in 6-under 30.

After a bogey on the 10th, he birdied Nos.

11, 12 and 15 and saved par on the 18th with a 20-footer to take a 19-under 197 total into the final round on PGA West's Stadium Course. The 26-year-old former Arkansas player is making his first start in the event. He won at Sea Island in November for his first PGA Tour title.

Fellow former Razorbacks star Andrew Landry and Martin Piller were a stroke back. Landry, the secondround leader, had a 70 on the Stadium Course. Piller, the husband of LPGA Tour player Gerina Piller, shot a 67 at La Quinta. They are both winless on the PGA Tour.

Jon Rahm had a 70 at the Stadium Course to reach 17 under. The topranked player in the field at No. 3, Rahm beat up the par 5s again, but had four bogeys — three on par 3s. He has played the 12 par 5s in 13 under with an eagle and 11 birdies.

Scott Piercy also was two strokes back after a 66 at the Stadium. Adam Hadwin had a 67 at La Quinta a year after shooting a third-round 59 on the course. The Canadian was 16 under along with Grayson Murray and Brandon Harkins. Murray had a 67 on PGA West's Jack Nicklaus Tournament Course, and Harkins shot 68 on the Stadium Course.

Phil Mickelson missed the cut in his first tournament of the year for the second time in his career, shooting a 74 on the Stadium Course to finish at 4 under — four strokes from a Sunday tee time.

OLYMPICS: Athletes IOC: NKorea to have 22 athletes in Olympics

By Graham Dunbar Associated Press

LAUSANNE, Switzerland – A Korean unity deal for the Pyeongchang Olympics will bring 22 North Korean athletes across the border to South Korea, where they will march as one under a unification flag at the opening ceremony and compete together in one sport. In the most symbolic agreement approved Saturday, 12 North Korean women's hockey players will join their neighbors in a united roster playing in special uniforms with a Korean song as their anthem. North Koreans will also compete in figure skating, short track speed

skating, Alpine skiing and cross-country skiing after being given exceptional late entries by the International Olympic Committee. The North Korean delegation will also include 24 coaches and officials. plus 21 media representatives at the Feb. 9-25 Winter Games. The governments of North and South Korea were offered "sincere thanks" by IOC President Thomas Bach announcing the agreement. An Olympic deal became possible after North Korean leader Kim Jong Un said in a New Year's speech that a team could cross the border to compete. "Such an agreement



3 anytime soon. ... At \$13.5 million, Longoria went from being the highest paid Ray to ninth on the Giants. ... Heard the other teams Longoria suggested to the Rays as good trade fits included the Cardinals, Mets and Red Sox.

Helping hand: INF Daniel Robertson last weekend held his second fan feststyle event near his SoCal home, raising money to help families with medical bills related to fighting cancer. To donate, see AP PHOTO

International Olympic Committee President Thomas Bach, center, shakes hands with North Korea's Olympic Committee President and sports minister Kim II Guk, left, and South Korea's Sports Minister Do Jong-hwan, right, as they arrive for the North and South Korean Olympic Participation Meeting at the IOC headquarters Saturday in Pully, near Lausanne, Switzerland.

would have seemed impossible only a few weeks ago," said Bach, who did not take questions from international media.

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second of Daniel Robertson, Joey Wendle, Ryan Schimpf and Micah Johnson.

An outfield with Denard Span in left, Kevin Kiermaier in center, Steven Souza Jr. in right, and Corey Dickerson as the primary DH.

A rotation of Chris Archer, Jake Odorizzi, Blake Snell, Nate Eovaldi and – after potentially opening with four starters – either Matt Andriese or Jake Faria.

And a bullpen with Alex Colome at the back end, lefty Dan Jennings and Chaz Roe as experienced help, possibly with Andriese, and the rest unproven young relievers.

Maybe that doesn't look that bad.

But that's not likely to

be the squad that reports to Port Charlotte next month. Or, at least, heads north to the Trop for the March 29 opener.

In addressing ownership's request to cut payroll after another season with majorsworst attendance and trying to fill some holes – like adding a true first baseman (maybe Lucas Duda as a free agent bargain?) and some veteran relievers – they still have some major work to do.

It's just that nobody has been getting much done.

Like most other teams, the Rays have been paralyzed by the lack of activity industry-wide. Though trades are more their thing, free agent decisions elsewhere often spark responsive deals.

Speculation on reasons for the overall freeze is rampant, with the

potential to get ugly. Most tenable, that increased brain power and data flow across front offices has created a likemindedness in player (and prospect) evaluation to where no one wants to cede an advantage in making a trade and would rather wait out free agents. More concerning, that more teams have less interest in actually competing, reducing motivation to spend excessively. Most troublesome, collusion among teams to stall and thus depress value of the 150-plus players still on the free agent market.

At some point – right? – something will change. Spring camps open in 3 ¹/2 weeks, real games in less than 70 days.

And when that dam finally breaks, the Rays still have much to address. "I think our to-do list is comparable to where we were earlier in the winter," general manger Erik Neander said this week. "There is just less time available to accomplish it.

"But that's, I think, the same for many teams at this point and it just requires us an industry to get more done in a shorter period of time. Spring training is not moving."

The current group, pending arbitration cases with Hechavarria and Odorizzi, is due around \$75 million.

That's \$5 million more than last year's opening day payroll, and doesn't account for the usual couple replacements for DL-ed players, or the \$4 million 2019 buyout they'd owe Span (who they had to take back as part of the net savings in the Longoria deal). Though the Rays say there is no specific payroll number they have to cut to, they are going to have to find some deals to be made.

Either Span (\$9 million) or Dickerson (\$5.95 million) probably has to go. Odorizzi (\$6.05 or \$6.3 million) seems most tradeable among the starters, especially since Archer (\$6.25 million) requires a heftier return due to four years of control. Miller (\$4.5 million) is expendable among the infielders, though Hechavarria (\$5.35 or \$5.9 million) could go. And, given how much relievers are getting elsewhere, it's hard to imagine some team (Cardinals?) eventually won't meet the Rays' price for Colome (\$5.3 million, in the first of three arbitration years).

Also, while there will be plenty of talk about

their core of promising prospects, don't expect to see Willy Adames, Jake Bauers, Brent Honeywell or Christian Arroyo, the headliner of the Longoria deal, open the season in the majors, which can be both baseball and business decisions.

"At any given moment you know what your club would look like if you had to open the season tomorrow, and we certainly have that in mind as we sit here today," Neander said. "That being said, we're always looking to improve, we're always looking to make our organization stronger both for 2018 and out beyond that. As long as there is time available, as long as there is stuff for us to consider, and there certainly is, we're going to make the most of the time we have to try to do the best we can for the organization."

NCAA: Membership **NCAA Division II expands** international reach to Mexico

By MICHAEL MAROT Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS – The NCAA's Division II voted by a wide margin Saturday to allow Mexican colleges to apply for membership, expanding its international reach beyond Canada.

The legislation takes effect immediately. Schools must meet all Division II standards, including facilities and staff, before being considered.

No Mexican schools have applied yet, and any that do would be required to complete a three-year provisional period before becoming a full member. Division I and Division III schools will not be affected.

In 2008, Division II agreed to accept Canadian schools. Simon Fraser in Vancouver, British

NCAA: Womens Basketball

Columbia, became the first full-time member outside the U.S. in 2012-13 and remains the only international NCAA member.

"We're very proud to be the first but being the only is lonely," Simon Fraser President Andrew Petter said, speaking in support of a measure approved a few minutes later by a vote of 253-45.

There were seven abstentions, but nobody spoke against the proposal on the final day of the NCAA's annual convention.

Despite facing passport issues and other challenges, Petter said Simon Fraser has found creative ways to overcome those obstacles and believes schools in Mexico would find similar solutions.

Division II officials hope Mexico brings more than just diversity to the playing fields.

Only five schools in the West field football teams and those schools would like to schedule more games closer to campus. Some, in fact, already have scheduled Mexican opponents and found them to be competitive.

"We believe it would help in the vast Western region and would create a valuable cultural experience for the global world we are preparing our students to live in," said Bill LaForge, president of Delta Sate in Mississippi.

Expansion also could raise the profile of the NCAA's middle division and open doors to additional opportunities.

But Petter's preference would be to have a partner on the international stage.

"Still proud to be the first," he said. "But no longer lonely to be the only international member in the NCAA."

NCAA: Basketball Top-ranked Villanova routs former Big East rival UConn

Associated Press

HARTFORD, Conn. -Top-ranked Villanova didn't shoot particularly well against UConn, but routed their former Big East rivals thanks to defense and rebounding.

Jalen Brunson scored 23 points and Donte DiVincenzo added 17 points off the bench to lead the Wildcats to an 81-61 win, completing their nonconference schedule at 13-0.

Jalen Adams scored 19 and Christian Vital had 15 for UConn (10-9), which has now lost five games this season by at least 20 points.

The Wildcats (18-1) hit just two of their first 13 shots, but still led 13-5 early after seven offensive boards and a pair of 3-pointers by DiVincenzo.

No. 3 PURDUE 87, IOWA 64:

Carsen Edwards scored 22 points and Vincent Edwards had 19, leading No. 3 Purdue to its 15th straight victory with a rout of Iowa. P.J. Thompson added 14 points for the Boilermakers (19-2, 8-0 Big Ten).

OKLAHOMA STATE 83, No.

4 OKLAHOMA 81, OT: Trae Young scored 48 points, but missed a deep 3 at the buzzer in overtime as No. 4 Oklahoma fell to Oklahoma State. Young, a freshman guard who leads the nation in scoring, had 34 points after halftime. He matched the fifth-highest scoring effort in Sooners' history after also missing a 3-point try at the end of regulation.

No. 5 DUKE 81, PITTSBURGH

54: Freshman Wendell Carter Jr. had 21 points on 9-for-10 shooting while fifth-ranked Duke shot 52 percent in a win against Pittsburgh. Fellow rookie Marvin Bagley III added 20 points for the Blue Devils (17-2, 5-2 Atlantic Coast Conference), who cruised to a second easy win against the Panthers in 10 days.

and Sagaba Konate had 10 points, 14 rebounds and six blocks for West Virginia (16-3, 5-2 Big 12), which had lost its previous two games.

HOUSTON 73, No. 7 WICHITA STATE 59: Seventh-ranked Wichita State lost its second straight game as Houston beat a Top 10 team for the first time in 22 years, with Rob Gray scoring 24 points in a win. Wichita State (15-4, 5-2 American Athletic Conference) fell to SMU 83-78 on Wednesday. The Shockers shot a season-low 33 percent and committed 18 turnovers in this latest loss.

IOWA STATE 70, No. 8 TEXAS

TECH 52: Freshman Cameron Lard scored 18 points and Iowa State cruised past No. 8 Texas Tech, its first win over a ranked opponent this season. Nick Weiler-Babb, Lindell Wigginton and Donovan Jackson each added 13 points for the Cyclones (11-7, 2-5 Big 12), who handed the Red Raiders (15-4, 4-3) their second straight loss to an unranked opponent on the road.

No. 10 KANSAS 70, BAYLOR

67: Malik Newman scored seven of his game-high 24 points in the closing minutes, Baylor turned the ball over on the final inbounds play and Kansas rallied to beat the Bears.

No. 11 XAVIER 73, No. 19 SETON HALL 64: J.P Macura

scored a season-high 27 points and No. 11 Xavier handed No. 19 Seton Hall its first loss at home by rallying from a 10-point second-half deficit to beat the Pirates.

No. 12 CINCINNATI 86, EAST CAROLINA 60: Jacob Evans and Kyle Washington each scored 17 points, and Gary Clark had 14 points and 14 rebounds, lifting No. 12 Cincinnati to a victory over East Carolina. Clark's double-double was the 25th of his career, and Jarron Cumberland added 14 points for the Bearcats (17-2, 6-0 American Athletic Conference), who have won 10 straight.

No. 15 NORTH CAROLINA

80, GEORGIA TECH 66: Luke Maye had 17 points and 11 rebounds, and No. 15 North Carolina beat Georgia Tech. Theo Pinson added 11 points and 10 rebounds, and Joel Berry II and Cameron Johnson finished with 16 points apiece to help the Tar Heels (16-4, 5-2 Atlantic Coast Conference).

No. 17 AUBURN 79, GEORGIA

65: Bryce Brown scored 28 points, and No. 17 Auburn rallied in the second half to beat Georgia. Mustapha Heron had 14 points, and Jared Harper added 13 on just 2-of-9 shooting for the Tigers (17-2, 5-1 Southeastern Conference), who came out flat for the fourth straight game and trailed by 16 points late in the first half.

No. 20 CLEMSON 67, NOTRE

DAME 58: Gabe DeVoe had 17 points, including a crucial 3-pointer with 3:18 to go, and No. 20 Clemson got its first-ever win over Notre Dame. The Fighting Irish (13-7, 3-4 Atlantic Coast Conference) rallied with two straight 3s to draw within 59-56.

No. 21 TENNESSEE 70, SOUTH CAROLINA 63: Lamonte

Turner matched his career high with 25 points, and No. 21 Tennessee pounded the ball inside to get past South Carolina (12-7, 3-4). With the scored tied at 59, Turner made a short jumper and found Admiral Schofield in the corner for a 3-pointer on a fast break, and Tennessee (13-5, 4-3 Southeastern Conference) led the rest of the way.

No. 22 OHIO STATE 67,

MINNESOTA 49: Keita Bates-Diop had 17 points and 12 rebounds, leading No. 22 Ohio State over Minnesota for its seventh straight win. The game was part of a two-sport Big Ten doubleheader at Madison Square Garden. At night, Minnesota and Michigan State were set to meet in hockey.

No. 4 Baylor women win 14th straight, 75-50 over K-State

Associated Press

WACO, Texas - Kalani Brown had 33 points and 19 rebounds, Lauren Cox scored 16 points with a career-high 19 rebounds and No. 4 Baylor stretched its winning streak to 14 games with a 75-50 victory over Kansas State on Saturday.

The Lady Bears (17-1, 7-0 Big 12) and their big post players overcame a sluggish start, going ahead to stay with a 10-0 run to end the first quarter. Baylor also scored the final 10 points before halftime.

Kayla Goth had 22 points for Kansas State (11-8, 3-5), which has lost 28 straight games against Baylor and was outrebounded 69-24.

Freshman Alexis Morris added 12 points for Baylor, including a couple of 3-pointers on plays called by coach Kim Mulkey. The Lady Bears had six turnovers in the game's first 6 ¹/₂ minutes, with K-State trapping and doing all it could to keep the ball out of the hands of the 6-foot-7 Brown and 6-4 Cox. That only worked so long. Baylor got even at 9-all on a three-point play by Brown, who reacted emphatically by slapping her hands together after making the basket before the tying free throw. Brown then made a tiebreaking layup to put the Lady Bears ahead to stay.



ΑΡ ΡΗΟΤΟ

Baylor guard Kristy Wallace, left, of Australia, defends as Kansas State guard Rachel Ranke (12) looks for an opening to the basket during the first half of an NCAA college basketball game Saturday, Jan. 20, 2018, in Waco, Texas.

percent for Oakland. Sha'Keya Graves had 16 points for Oakland.

MICHIGAN 86, ILLINOIS 42: Katelynn Flaherty scored

points for Oklahoma State (14-4, 5-2 Big 12). Maria Castro made all three of her 3-pointers for nine points as the Cowgirls were 10 of 18 from distance. Jensen.

GREEN BAY 81, OAKLAND 48:

ROCHESTER, Mich. - Jessica Lindstrom scored 22 points and grabbed 13 rebounds and No. 23 Green Bay used a 28-3 run in the second half to roll to an 81-48 win over Oakland on Saturday for its sixthstraight win.

Allie LeClaire added 12 points for the Phoenix (17-2, 7-1 Horizon League). Green Bay led 36-26 at the half and was up 39-29 when LeClaire made a layup. That started a run of eight straight points before Taylor Jones scored for Oakland, followed by eight more before a Jones free throw. The Phoenix scored the last five points of the third quarter and the first seven of the fourth quarter for a 65-32 lead with 7:13 remaining.

In that ⁸¹/₂ minutes, Green Bay went 10 for 12 while the Grizzlies (10-9, 3-5) were 1 for 11.

The Phoenix finished 11 of 20 from distance and shot 59 percent overall to 28

27 points, Hailey Brown and Hallie Thome had double-doubles and No. 19 Michigan continued the best start in school history with an 86-42 win over Illinois on Saturday night. Brown had 17 points and 14 rebounds and Thome had 13 points and 11 rebounds to give the Wolverines (17-4, 6-2 Big Ten) two players with double-doubles in the same game since November of 2014. Nicole Munger added 14 points. After the Illini (9-12, 0-7) scored the first five points of the game, Michigan went on a 21-2 run that included back-to-back 3-pointers by Flaherty, who was 5 of 8 behind the arc. It was 24-12 after one guarter and

37-24 at the half before a 17-2 burst to open the third quarter. Michigan made 9 of 17 3s and 33 of 66 overall plus 11

of 14 free throws. Illinois was 18 of 26 (27 percent), 5 of 21 behind the arc and 1 of 3 from the line. Also 21 turnovers led to 31 Michigan points.

OKLAHOMA STATE 70, OKLAHOMA67: Kaylee

Jensen scored 29 points and grabbed 13 rebounds for her 37th career double-double and No. 24 Oklahoma State beat Oklahoma 70-67 on Saturday to claim a Bedlam sweep.

Oklahoma missed a 3-pointer with eight seconds left and Jensen grabbed the rebound but she was called for travelling. The Sooners turned it over on an inbound pass and freshman Braxtin Miller made two free throws with one second left for a three-point lead. Miller finished with 13

averaging 22.2 points and 12.2 rebounds in conference play, was 10 of 20 from the field and 7 of 9 at the line. Freshman Shaina Pellington had a season-high 26 points with six rebounds and three assists for Oklahoma (9-10, 4-4). It was her fifth 20-plus game of the season for the most points by an OU freshman since Aaryn Ellenberg in 2011. Vionise Pierre-Louis added 14 points, 20 boards and three assists for her sixth double-double of the season.

WEST VERGINIA 69, ISU59:

Teana Muldrow had 27 points and 11 rebounds, and No. 17 West Virginia pulled away in the second quarter and cruised to a 69-59 victory over Iowa State on Saturday night to snap a two-game skid.

The Mountaineers (16-4, 4-4 Big 12 Conference) rebounded from a six-point loss at No. 24 Oklahoma State on Wednesday, and a 76-74 home loss to TCU on Jan. 13. Iowa State (8-11, 2-6) has lost six of its last seven games.

Muldrow was 10-of-19 shooting, and the senior forward collected her 10th double-double of the season. Chania Ray added 14 points, and Naomi Davenport had 10 points and 10 rebounds. The Mountaineers outscored Iowa State 20-12 in the second quarter on its way to a 36-23 halftime advantage. Muldrow finished with 13 points in the first half, and converted a 3-point play and followed it with a 3-pointer to stretch West Virginia's lead to 21 points late in the third. Emily Durr had 15 points and Bridget Carleton chipped in 11 for the Cyclones.

No. 6 WEST VIRGINIA 86, TEXAS 51: Jevon Carter scored 22 points and led a big second-half run that propelled No. 6 West Virginia to a victory over Texas. James "Beetle"

Bolden added 19 points,

Daxter Miles Jr. scored 15

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on both feet – before Halep converted on her first match point.

"I never played the third set so long, so I'm really happy I could stay and win it. I'm almost dead," Halep said of the match which equaled Chanda Rubin's win over Arantxa Shanchez Vicario in 1996 – also 48 games – for the Australian Open record in terms of most games.

"I just feel that my muscles are gone," said Halep, who badly twisted her left ankle in the first round. "My ankle is, I don't know how it is because I don't feel it anymore!"

Halep will next play Naomi Osaka, who beat 18th-seeded Ash Barty 6-4, 6-2. No. 20 Barbora Strycova beat U.S. qualifier Bernarda Pera 6-2, 6-2, leaving U.S. Open finalist Madison Keys as the only American woman to reach the fourth round.

Keys advanced 6-3, 6-4 over Ana Bogdan and will next play No. 8 Caroline Garcia. Sixthseeded Karolina Pliskova beat No. 29 Lucie

No. 14 ARIZONA 73, STANFORD 71: Rawle Alkins made a go-ahead layup with 38 seconds remaining, and No. 14 Arizona held on for a comeback win over Stanford to take sole possession of first place in the Pac-12.

Safarova 7-6 (6), 7-5. Kerber's next match is against Hsieh Su-wei, who followed up her win over Wimbledon champion Garbine Muguruza with a 6-2, 7-5 win against No. 26 Agnieszka Radwanska to return to the fourth round at Melbourne Park for the first time in a decade.

Six-time Australian Open champion Djokovic continued his comeback from six months out with an injured right elbow, beating No. 21 Albert Ramos-Vinolas 6-2, 6-3, 6-3.

"I obviously have to be more humble this time with my expectations because I haven't played for six months," said the 14th-seeded Djokovic, who played down the medical time out he took to receive a massage on his back and upper legs as just the tribulations of returning to the tour.

Federer entered the Australian Open last year under similar circumstances, coming off an extended break for a knee injury, and went on to win the title. His defense moved through another round with a

KANSAS STATE 73, No. 24 TCU

68: Dean Wade scored 20 points and Kansas State beat No. 24 TCU. Sophomore Makol Mawien added a career-high 18 points on 8 of 11 shooting. He had totaled just 13 points in Big 12 play this season for the Wildcats (14-5, 4-3).

6-2, 7-5, 6-4 win over No. 29 Richard Gasquet.

"Expectations are different," this year, Federer said. "I'm coming in very fit, very well equipped knowing five sets is not an issue. Don't know if (winning) is going to happen this year, but so far, so good."

Tomas Berdych beat 2009 U.S. Open champion Juan Martin del Potro in straight sets and fifth-seeded Dominic Thiem beat Adrian Mannarino to set up a match against Tennys Sandgren.

Djokovic will next face Hyeon Chung, who took out a Zverev for the second time this week. Chung beat fourthseeded Alexander Zverev 5-7, 7-6 (3), 2-6, 6-3, 6-0 six days after a win over No. 32 Mischa Zverev.

Another loss at a major had the highlytouted Zverev admitting he may have a problem. He's won five tour-level titles, but never gone beyond the fourth round at a major.

"I have some figuring out to do, what happens to me in deciding moments in Grand Slam," he said.

SCOREBOARD

PRO FOOTBALL

NFL PLAYOFF SCHEDULE All times Eastern (National TV in parentheses) Wild-card Playoffs Jan. 6

Tennessee 22. Kansas City 21 Atlanta 26, Los Angeles Rams 13 Jan. 7 Jacksonville 10. Buffalo 3 New Orleans 31, Carolina 26

Divisional Playoffs

Jan. 13 Philadelphia 15, Atlanta 10 New England 35, Tennessee 14 Jan. 14 Jacksonville 45, Pittsburgh 42 Minnesota 29, New Orleans 24

Conference Championships Today

AFC: Jacksonville at New England, 3:05 p.m. (CBS) NFC: Minnesota at Philadelphia, 6:40 p.m. (FOX)

Pro Bowl Sunday, Jan. 28 at Orlando, Fla. AFC vs. NFC, 3 p.m. (ESPN/ABC)

Super Bowl LII Sunday, Feb. 4 at Minneapolis, Minn. AFC champion vs. NFC champion, 6:30 p.m. (NBC)

NFL PLAYOFF INJURY REPORT

The National Football League injury report, as provided by the league (DNP: did not practice; LIMITED: limited participation; FULL: Full participation):

Today JACKSONVILLE at NEW ENGLAND – JAGUARS: QUESTIONABLE: S Tashaun Gipson (foot). PATRIOTS: QUESTIONABLE: QB Tom Brady (right hand), DT Alan Branch (knee), RB Rex Burkhead (knee), RB Mike Gillislee (knee), T LaAdrian Waddle (knee).

MINNESOTA at PHILADELPHIA – VIKINGS: OUT: DT Shamar Stephen (knee, ankle). QUESTIONABLE: CB Mackensie Alexander (rib, illness), S Andrew Sendejo (concussion), WR Adam Thielen (back). **EAGLES:** QUESTIONABLE: LB Dannell Ellerbe (hamstring)

ODDS

PREGAME.COM LINE NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

FAVORITE	LINE	0/U	UNDE	RDOG
at Boston	101/2	208	0	rlando
at L.A. Lakers	Off	Off	Nev	v York
at Detroit	6	208	Br	ooklyn
at San Antonio	6	200	h	ndiana
COLLEGE BASKE	TBALL			
Today				
FAVORITE	OPEN	UNDER	DOG	
Miami	11⁄2	at NC	State	
at Louisville	10	Bosto	n Colleg	le
at Michigan	13	Rutge	rs	
at S. Illinois	Pk	N. Iow	a	
at Valparaiso	11⁄2	Loyola	Of Chi	cago
Virginia	10	at Wa	ke Fores	st
at Utah	12	Washi	ngton S	it.
NATIONAL HOCH	EY LEAC	GUE		
Today				
FAVORITE	LINE	UNDEF	RDOG	LINE
at Washington	-166	Philad	elphia	+156
Vegas	-123	at Can	olina	+113
at Winnipeg	Off	Vanco	uver	Off
at Anaheim	-147	San Jo	se	+137
at Los Angeles	Off	N.Y. Ra	ingers	Off
NATIONAL FOOT	BALL LE	AGUE P	LAYOF	FS
CONFERENCE C	HAMPIO	NSHIPS	5	
Today				
FAVORITE OPE	N TODA	Y 0/U	UNDE	RDOG

at New England 91/2 71/2 46 Jacksonville 31/2 3 381/2 Minnesota at Phila. Updated odds available at Pregame.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

American League BALTIMORE ORIOLES - Agered to terms with C Audry Perez, OF D'Arby Myers, RHP Eddie Gamboa and 3B Anderson Feliz on minor league contracts.

MINNESOTA TWINS – Agreed to terms with RHP Omar Bencomo and OF Jermaine Curtis on minor league contracts.

National League MILWAUKEE BREWERS – Agreed to terms with RHP Ernesto Frieri on a minor league contract.

FOOTBALL

National Football League TENNESSEE TITANS – Named Mike Vrabel coach.

L PCT. GB 18 .617 – Northwest Division **W** 29 .617 .565 Minnesota Oklahoma City 26 20 2½ 24 21 23 23 18 27 Portland .533 .533 4 .500 5¹/₂ Denver 27 .400 10 **L PCT. GB** 9 .804 Utah Pacific Division W 37 .804 .523 Golden State 13 23 21 L.A. Clippers Phoenix 17 29 16 29 .370 20 L.A. Lakers .356 201/2 13 32 .289 231/2 Sacramento

Friday's Games

Toronto 86, San Antonio 83 Brooklyn 101, Miami 95 Memphis 106, Sacramento 88 Washington 122, Detroit 112 Phoenix 108, Denver 100 L.A. Lakers 99. Indiana 86 New York 117, Utah 115 Saturday's Games Oklahoma City 148, Cleveland 124 Chicago 113, Atlanta 97 Miami 106, Charlotte 105 New Orleans 111, Memphis 104 Philadelphia 116, Milwaukee 94 Golden State at Houston, late L.A. Clippers at Utah, late Toronto at Minnesota, late Dallas at Portland, late Today's Games Orlando at Boston, 1 p.m. New York at L.A. Lakers, 3:30 p.m. Brooklyn at Detroit, 4 p.m. Indiana at San Antonio, 7 p.m. Monday's Games Sacramento at Charlotte, 7 p.m. Utah at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m. Chicago at New Orleans, 8 p.m. Miami at Houston, 8 p.m. Philadelphia at Memphis, 8 p.m. Phoenix at Milwaukee, 8 p.m. Washington at Dallas, 8:30 p.m. Portland at Denver, 9 p.m. Minnesota at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

THUNDER 148, CAVALIERS 124

OKLAHOMA CITY (148) George 12-19 7-8 36, Anthony 11-19 4-4 29, Adams 12-13 1-5 25, Westbrook 9-17 4-5 23, Roberson 4-7 0-48, Grant 1-52-24, Huestis 0-20-00, Patterson 2-50-06, Johnson 0-00, Felton 3-80-08, Abrines 0-00-00, Ferguson 4-50-09, Totals 58-100 18-28 148. CLEVELAND (124)

James 8-17 2-4 18, Crowder 7-12 1-1 17, Love 0-2 0-0 0, Thomas 8-14 4-5 24, Smith 3-11 0-0 8, Osman 1-1 0-0 2, Green 4-8 4-5 12, Frye 2-3 0-0 5, Thompson 2-3 5-6 9, Calderon 1-1 0-0 2, Rose 5-9 2-2 12, Wade 4-5 3-3 11, Korver 1-3 1-1 4. Totals 46-89 22-27 124. OKLAHOMA CITY 43 33 38 34 -148

 CLEVELAND
 24
 36
 34
 30
 -124

 3-Point Goals–Oklahoma City 14-30 (George 5-11, Anthony 3-6, Patterson 2-3, Felton 2-4, Westbrook
 1-1, Ferguson 1-2, Grant 0-1, Huestis 0-1, Adams 0-1), Cleveland 10-37 (Thomas 4-8, Crowder 2-5, Smith 2-9, Frye 1-2, Korver 1-3, Wade 0-1, Rose 0-1, Love 0-2, Green 0-2, James 0-4). Fouled Out– None. Rebounds–Oklahoma City 52 (Anthony, Adams 10), Cleveland 28 (Thompson 7). Assists– Oklahoma City 37 (Westbrook 20), Cleveland 32 (James 7). Total Fouls—Oklahoma City 23, Cleveland 18. Technicals—Oklahoma City coach Billy Donovan, Patterson. A-20,562 (20,562).

BULLS 113, HAWKS 97

CHICAGO (113) Holiday 3-8 4-4 13, Markkanen 8-16 3-4 19, Lopez 9-13 2-2 20. Grant 3-6 0-0 8. LaVine 2-9 3-4 8. Valentine 3-7 0-0 9, Mirotic 3-8 3-3 10, Portis 5-9 2-2 14, Arcidiacono 2-2 2-2 8, Pondexter 0-0 0-0 0, Nwaba 2-2 0-0 4. Totals 40-80 19-21 113. ATLANTA (97) Prince 3-6 0-0 7, Ilyasova 4-12 1-1 9, Plumlee 1-2 0-0 2. Schroder 7-17 2-2 18. Bazemore 2-9 4-7 9. Babbitt 2-2 0-0 6, Muscala 1-5 4-4 7, Collins 1-5 2-4 4, Dedmon 5-10 0-0 11, Delaney 2-5 1-2 5, Magette 2-2 2-2 8, Belinelli 3-10 0-0 6, Dorsey 2-7 0-1 5.

Totals 35-92 16-23 97. CHICAGO 29 26 22 36 -113 ATLANTA 21 17 25 34 - 97 3-Point Goals—Chicago 14-32 (Holiday 3-4, Valentine 3-6, Arcidiacono 2-2, Portis 2-3, Grant 2-4, LaVine 1-4, Mirotic 1-5, Markkanen 0-4), 2-4, LaVine 1-4, Mirouc 1-5, Markkaiten 0-4), Atlanta 11-48 (Magette 2-2, Babbit 2-2, Schroder 2-5, Dedmon 1-4, Muscala 1-4, Prince 1-4, Bazemore 1-5, Dorsey 1-5, Collins 0-2, Delaney 0-3, Belinelli 0-5, Ilyasova 0-7). Foulde Out–Valentine. Rebounds—Chicago 48 (LaVine 9), Atlanta 45. (Dedmon 11). Assists-Chicago 31 (Grant 6). Atlanta 27 (Schroder 5). Total Fouls–Chicago 23, Atlanta 21. A–15,597 (19,049).

HEAT 106, HORNETS 105

Richardson 7-20 2-2 17, J.Johnson 9-12 3-4 22, Whiteside 5-10 0-0 10, Ellington 10-15 0-2 26, Jones Jr. 1-2 1-2 3, Winslow 1-4 0-0 3, Adebayo 3-4 0-0 6, Olynyk 6-17 1-2 16, Walton Jr. 1-3 0-0 3. Totals 43-87 7-12 106. CHARLOTTE (105) Kidd-Gilchrist 6-10 2-2 14, Williams 0-5 0-0 0.

No. 10 Kansas 70, Baylor 67

No. 11 Xavier 73, No. 19 Seton Hall 64 No. 12 Cincinnati 86, East Carolina 60 No. 13 Gonzaga at Santa Clara, late No. 14 Arizona 73, Stanford 71 No. 15 North Carolina 80, Georgia Tech 66 No. 16 Arizona State at California, late No. 17 Auburn 79, Georgia 65 No. 18 Kentucky vs. Florida, late No. 20 Clemson 67, Notre Dame 58 No. 21 Tennessee 70, South Carolina 63 No. 22 Ohio State 67, Minnesota 49 Kansas State 73, No. 24 Texas Christian 68 **Today's Games** No. 2 Virginia at Wake Forest, 6 p.m. No. 23 Michigan vs. Rutgers, noon No. 25 Miami at N.C. State, noon

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

EAST Army 93, Lehigh 81 Bethune-Cookman 85, Delaware St. 78 Boston U. 75, Navy 68 Bucknell 77, Holy Cross 56 Central Connecticut St. 72, LIU Brooklyn 63 Colgate 77, Loyola (Md.) 72 Duquesne 95, George Mason 89, 20T Fairfield 104. Niagara 85 Fairleigh Dickinson 73, Mount St. Mary's 72 Georgetown 93, St. John's 89, 20T Jacksonville 63, NJIT 61 Lafayette 62, American U. 53 NC A&T 66, Md.-Eastern Shore 64 Northeastern 76. Delaware 64 Providence 85, Creighton 71 Saint Joseph's 68, Fordham 46 Saint Louis 66. UMass 47 St. Francis (Pa.) 73, Sacred Heart 60 St. Francis Brooklyn 85, Bryant 80 Temple 60, Penn 51 Villanova 81, UConn 61 Wagner 62, Robert Morris 49 West Virginia 86, Texas 51 Xavier 73, Seton Hall 64 Harvard at Dartmouth, late Marist at Rider. late Cornell at Columbia, late Alcorn St. 68. Alabama A&M 52 Auburn 79, Georgia 65 Belmont 83, Austin Peay 59 Clemson 67, Notre Dame 58 Coastal Carolina 74, Troy 73 Coll. of Charleston 76, Hofstra 70 Coppin St. 80, Morgan St. 73, OT Duke 81, Pittsburgh 54 ETSU 66, W. Carolina 50 FIU 79. Charlotte 59 Florida Gulf Coast 66, Kennesaw St. 49 Florida St. 91, Virginia Tech 82 Furman 78, Samford 67 Georgia St. 83, Georgia Southern 66 Grambling St. 72, Jackson St. 45 Howard 84, NC Central 78, OT Jacksonville St. 68, E. Kentucky 60 James Madison 75, Drexel 73 Lipscomb 85, Stetson 82 Morehead St. 74, Tennessee Tech 55 Norfolk St. 78, SC State 54 North Carolina 80, Georgia Tech 66 North Florida 100, SC-Upstate 80 Old Dominion 73, FAU 62 Richmond 81, La Salle 74 SE Louisiana 85, Northwestern St. 58 Savannah St. 103, Hampton 101 South Alabama 83, Appalachian St. 77 Southern Miss. 85, North Texas 78 Southern U. 63, Alabama St. 61 Tennessee 70, South Carolina 63 UCF 71, South Florida 69 UNC-Greensboro 70, Mercer 66, OT VCU 87, George Washington 63 VMI 88, The Citadel 81 Vanderbilt 77, LSU 71 William & Mary 80, Elon 73 Georgia at Auburn, late Alabama A&M at Alcorn St., late UAB at Marshall, late Chattanooga at Wofford, late Rice at Louisiana Tech, late Charlotte at FIU. late Towson at UNC-Wilmington, late Middle Tennessee at W. Kentucky, late Jacksonville St. at E. Kentucky, late Incarnate Word at New Orleans, late Florida at Kentucky, 8:15 p.m. Murray St. at Tennessee St., late Mississippi St. at Alabama, late MIDWEST Akron 82, N. Illinois 67 Butler 79, DePaul 67 CS Bakersfield 89, Chicago St. 78 Cent. Michigan 84, Bowling Green 75 Cincinnati 86, East Carolina 60 Drake 61, Missouri St. 58 Fort Wayne 92, N. Dakota St. 88 Ill.-Chicago 87, Cleveland St. 80 Indiana St. 84, Illinois St. 54 Iowa St. 70, Texas Tech 52 Kansas 70, Baylor 67 Kansas St. 73, TCU 68 Miami (Ohio) 71, Ball St. 53 N. Kentucky 77, Green Bay 65 Northwestern 70, Penn St. 61 akland 92 De Ohio 72, E. Michigan 66 Ohio St. 67, Minnesota 49 Purdue 87, Jowa 64 Rhode Island 88, Dayton 74 SE Missouri 86, E. Illinois 74 UT Martin 70, SIU-Edwardsville 69 Youngstown St. 85, IUPUI 62 Kent St. at Toledo, late South Dakota at Nebraska-Omaha. late Seattle at Rio Grande, late Wright St. at Milwaukee, late Grand Canyon at UMKC, late S. Dakota St. at W. Illinois, late Evansville at Bradley, late SOUTHWEST Abilene Christian 80, Cent. Arkansas 63 Ark.-Pine Bluff 72, Prairie View 66 Arkansas 97, Mississippi 93 Arkansas St. 70, UALR 62 Houston 73, Wichita St. 59 Lamar 84 Sam Houston St 77 OT Louisiana-Lafayette 80, Texas State 55 Oklahoma St. 83, Oklahoma 81, OT SMU 73. Tulane 62 Texas A&M 60, Missouri 49 Texas-Arlington 71, Louisiana-Monroe 55 UTFP at UTSA, late Missouri at Texas A&M, late Denver at Oral Roberts, late Memphis at Tulsa. late McNeese St. at Houston Baptist, late MVSU at Texas Southern, late FAR WEST Arizona 73, Stanford 71 New Mexico St. 86, Utah Valley 59 S. Utah 66, E. Washington 62, OT UNLV 79, Colorado St. 74 Washington 72, Colorado 62 Fresno St. at Air Force, late Cal Poly at CS Northridge, late Idaho at N. Arizona, late San Diego St. at New Mexico, late Southern Cal at Oregon St., late Gonzaga at Santa Clara, late North Dakota at N. Colorado, late Portland St. at Weber St., late Montana at Montana St., late San Diego at BYU, late Sacramento St. at Idaho St., late Wyoming at Utah St., late Portland at Loyola Marymount, late Boise St. at Nevada, late Saint Mary's (Cal) at Pacific, late Pepperdine at San Francisco, late UCLA at Oregon, 10:15 p.m. Cal St.-Fullerton at Long Beach St., late Arizona St. at California, late

No. 7 Oregon at No. 18 Oregon State, late No. 13 UCLA 60, No. 21 California 52 Utah 58, No. 22 Arizona State 56 Saturday's Games No. 4 Baylor 75, Kansas State 50 No. 9 Texas 90, Texas Tech 39 No. 17 West Virginia at Iowa State, late No. 19 Michigan 86, Illinois 42 No. 23 Green Bay 81, Oakland 48 No. 24 Oklahoma State 70, Oklahoma 67 Today's Games No. 1 UConn at Temple, 1 p.m. No. 2 Louisville vs. No. 12 Florida State, 5 p.m. No. 3 Mississippi State at No. 6 Tennessee, 3 p.m. No. 5 Notre Dame vs. Clemson, 1 p.m. No. 7 Oregon vs. No. 18 Oregon State, 8 p.m. No. 10 South Carolina at Kentucky, noon No. 11 Missouri vs. Arkansas, 5 p.m. No. 13 UCLA vs. Stanford, 6 p.m. No. 15 Duke at North Carolina, 2:30 p.m. No. 20 Iowa at Minnesota, 4 p.m. No. 21 California at Southern Cal, 4 p.m. No. 22 Arizona State vs. Colorado, 4 p.m. No. 25 Rutgers vs. Nebraska, 6 p.m.

PRO HOCKEY

NHI EASTERN CONFERENCE Atlantic Division

 GP
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 Tampa Bay Boston 45 27 10 8 62 150 112 48 26 17 5 57 153 139 44 19 19 6 44 126 144 47 19 22 6 44 120 148 45 18 20 7 43 120 138 44 15 20 9 39 121 157 Toronto Florida Montreal Detroit Ottawa Buffalo 46 11 26 9 31 103 162 **Metropolitan Divisio** GPW LOTPtsGFGA
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 Washington New Jersey Columbus N.Y. Rangers
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 Pittsburgh Philadelphia Carolina 46 21 17 8 50 129 141 47 23 20 4 50 161 173 N.Y. Islanders WESTERN CONFERENCE **Central Division** GP W LOT Pts GF GA 47 27 13 7 61 155 128 44 27 11 6 60 135 116 Winnipeg Nashville
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 St. Louis Dallas Colorado
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 Minnesota Chicago Pacific Division
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 L OT Pts
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 San Jose Los Angeles Anaheim
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 166
 Edmonton Vancouver Arizona 2 points for a win, 1 point for OT loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs. Friday's Games Montreal 3, Washington 2 Florida 4, Vegas 3, OT Anaheim 2, Los Angeles 1 Anaheim 2, Los Angel Saturday's Games Philadelphia 3, New Jersey 1 Dallas 7, Buffalo 1 Winnipeg 2, Calgary 1, SO Colorado 3, N.Y. Rangers 1 Boston 4, Montreal 1 Carolina 3, Detroit 1 Toronto 4, Ottawa 3 Florida at Nashville, late Arizona at St. Louis, late Pittsburgh at San Jose, late N.Y. Islanders at Chicago, late Tampa Bay at Minnesota, late Vancouver at Edmonton, late **Today's Games** Philadelphia at Washington, 12:30 p.m. Vegas at Carolina, 6 p.m. Vancouver at Winnipeg, 8 p.m.

San Jose at Anaheim, 9 p.m. NY. Rangers at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m. Monday's Games Detroit at New Jersey, 7 p.m. Colorado at Toronto, 7 p.m. Ottawa at Minnesota, 8 p.m. Tampa Bay at Chicago, 8:30 p.m. Buffalo at Calgary, 9 p.m. N.Y. Islanders at Arizona, 9 p.m.

FLYERS 3, DEVILS 1 NEW JERSEY

PHILADELPHIA First Period–1, Philadelphia, Konecny 7 (Laughton, Gostisbehere), 3:29. 2, Philadelphia, Filppula 10 (Raff, Gudas), 8:30. 3, Philadelphia, Provorov 9 (Konecny, Giroux), 12:15. Penalties-Moore, NJ, Major (fighting),

Monahan, CGY, (holding), 7:56. Second Period – 2, Winnipeg, Perreault 14 (Ehlers, Little), 10:47. Penalties – Morrissey, WPG, (holding), 7:44; Hamonic, CGY, (tripping), 12:08; Wheeler, WPG, (slashing), 13:52. Third Period–None. Penalties–Perreault, WPG, (tripping), 8:55. Overtime-None. Penalties-None Shootout–Winnipeg 2 (Little G, Laine NG, Wheeler G), Calgary 0 (Jankowski NG,

Monahan NG). Shots on Goal–Winnipeg 15-9-9-2–35. Calgary 9-11-8-3–31. Power-play opportunities—Winnipeg 0 of 2; Calgary 0 of 4. Goalies—Winnipeg, Hellebuyck 24-6-6 (31

shots-30 saves). Calgary, Smith 20-13-4 (35-34). A-19,289 (19,289). T-2:44.

Referees—Trevor Hanson, Brad Meier. Linesmen—Shandor Alphonso, Kiel Murchison.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS Through Jan. 19: SCORING LEADERS GP G A PTS

				Р	G		PTS	
Nikita Kucherov,					27	34	61	
Nathan MacKinr		COL			22	35	57	
John Tavares, N	/1				25	30	55	
Phil Kessel, PIT					21		54	
Johnny Gaudrea		iΥ			15		54	
Claude Giroux, F	ΉI		4	5	14	40	54	ł
Steven Stamkos	, TB		4	5	17	36	53	;
Blake Wheeler,	WPG		4	6	14	39	53	;
Jakub Voracek, I	PHI		4	5	8	45	53	;
Connor McDavid	I, ED	М	4	6	15	37	52	
Josh Bailey, NYI			4	3	12	39	51	
Alex Ovechkin, V	NAS		4	7	28	22	50)
Sidney Crosby, F			4	8	17	33	50)
Evgeni Malkin, F			4	4	21	28	49)
Mathew Barzal,						32	48	
AHL								
EASTERN CONF	EREN	ICE						
Atlantic Division								
	GP	W						GA
WB/Scranton	38	24	11	2	1		136	106
Providence	39	23	12	3	1		117	100
Lehigh Valley	41	23	13	2	3		137	135
Charlotte		23		0				120
Bridgeport		18		4	2		113	
Hershey	41	17	17	3	4		108	129
Springfield	43	19	22	1	1	40	130	138
Hartford	42	16	20	3	3	38	115	150
North Division								
	GP	W						GA
Toronto	40	29	11	0	0		129	82
Rochester	41	23	9	4	5		123	109
Syracuse	41	24	13	2	2		136	109
Utica	41	19	14		3		117	
Laval	42	16	19	5	2	39	123	147
Belleville	42	18	21	0	3	39	108	155
Binghamton	40	12	21	5	2	31	101	137
WESTERN CONF	ERE	NCE						
Central Division								
	GP	W	L	OLS	5OL	Pts	6 GF	GA
Manitoba	40	26	9	3	2	57	147	96
Rockford	42	22	15	2	3	49	134	128
Milwaukee	40	21	15	4	0	46	114	120
Iowa	41	18	13	7	3	46	129	131
Chicago	41	19	15	5	2	45	122	120
Grand Rapids	43	20	18	1	4	45	135	133
Cleveland	38	12	20	3	3	30	87	127
Pacific Division								
	GP	W	L	OLS	5OL	Pts	6 GF	GA
Tucson	36	21	12	2	1	4	5120	104
Stockton	37	19	13	2	3	3 43	3114	103
San Antonio	41	22	16	3	() 4	7116	5117
Texas	42	21	15	4			8124	
San Diego	37	20	16	1				120
Ontario	38	20	16	1				104
Bakersfield	38	17	14	7				109
San Jose		18		0				106
2 points for a wi								
Standings deter								
(not shown) not					90			
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Eddards Ormer								

Friday's Games

Toronto 4, Syracuse 1 Rockford 4. Cleveland 3 Providence 1, WB/Scranton 0 Binghamton 5, Springfield 3 Hartford 3, Utica 2, OT Belleville 4, Laval 1 Bakersfield 4, Iowa 3, OT Grand Rapids 5, Milwaukee 2 Texas 4, Manitoba 0 Tucson 2, San Antonio 1, OT Ontario 5. Stockton 2 San Jose 3, San Diego 2 Saturday's Games Rochester at Charlotte, late Providence at Bridgeport, late Lehigh Valley at Hershey, late Svracuse at Utica, late Laval at Belleville, late Milwaukee at Iowa, late Rockford at Grand Rapids, late Toronto at Binghamton, late Texas at Manitoba, late Bakersfield at Chicago, late Tucson at San Antonio, late Ontario at Stockton, late San Jose at San Diego, late Today's Games Rochester at Charlotte, 1 p.m. Springfield at Providence, 3:05 n.m. Cleveland at Chicago, 4 p.m. WB/Scranton at Hartford, 5 p.m. Toronto at Bridgeport. 5 p.m. Monday's Games None scheduled

Jason Dufner	69q-69n-70s-208
Keith Mitchell	70q-66n-72s-208
Ben Silverman	67q-71n-70s-208
Robert Garrigus	72s-65q-71n-208
Brice Garnett	74s-68q-66n-208
Nick Taylor	68n-71s-69q-208
Tom Hoge	69n-73s-66q-208
Chris Stroud	70s-68q-70n-208
Tom Lovelady	73s-64q-71n-208
Wesley Bryan	65n-75s-68q-208
Sam Ryder	67n-71s-70q-208

TENNIS

ATP WORLD TOUR/WTA TOUR

AUSTRALIAN OPEN Today at the Australian Open at Melbourne Park (seedings in parentheses) Purse: Men, \$468,910 (WT250); Women, \$733,900 (Premier). Surface: Hard-Outdoor Women's Doubles Third Round Monica Niculescu, Romania and Irina Begu (10), Romania, def. Anastassia Rodionova, Australia and Nadiia Kichenok, Ukraine, 4-1.

Mixed Doubles

First Round Yung-Jan Chan, Taiwan and Jamie Murray, Britain, def. Raieev Ram, United States and Andreja Klepac, Slovenia, 4-6, 7-5, 11-9.

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

Men's Singles Third Round

Dominic Thiem (5), Austria, def. Adrian Dominic Them (5), Austra, del. Adrian Mannarino (26), France, e-4, e-2, 7-5. Tennys Sandgren, United States, def. Maximilian Marterer, Germany, 5-7, 6-3, 7-5, 7-6 (5). Novak Djokovic (14), Serbia, def. Albert Ramos-Vinolos (21), Spain, 6-2, 6-3, e-3. Vinois (21), Jpani, 62, 63, 64, 64, Alexander Zverev (4), Germany, 5-7, 7-6 (3), 2-6, 6-3, 6-0. Fabio Fognini (25), Italy, def. Julien Benneteau, France, 3-6, 6-2, 6-1, 4-6, 6-3. France, 3-b, 6-2, 6-1, 4-b, 6-3. Tomas Berdych (19), Czech Republic, def. Juan Martin Del Potro (12), Argentina, 6-3, 6-3, 6-2. Marton Fucsovics, Hungary, def. Nicolas Kicker, Argentina, 6-3, 6-3, 6-2. Roger Federer (2), Switzerland, def. Richard Commercial Conf. 2016, 2016. Gasquet (29), France, 6-2, 7-5, 6-4.

Women's Singles Third Round

Simona Halep (1), Romania, def. Lauren Davis, United States, 4-6, 6-4, 15-13. Naomi Osaka, Japan, def. Ashleigh Barty (18), Australia, 6-4, 6-2. Barbora Strycova (20), Czech Republic, def. Bernarda Pera, United States, 6-2, 6-2, Karolina Pliskova (6), Czech Republic, def. Lucie Safarova (29), Czech Republic, 7-6 (6), 7-5. Su-Wei HSeih, Taiwan, def. Agnieszka Radwanska (26), Poland, 6-2, 7-5. Angelique Kerber (21), Germany, def. Maria Sharapova, Russia, 6-1, 6-3. Madison Keys (17), United States, def. Ana Bogdan, Romania, 6-3, 6-4. Caroline Garcia (8), France, def. Aliaksandra Sasnovich, Belarus, 6-3, 5-7, 6-2.

Men's Doubles

Second Round Lukasz Kubot, Poland and Marcelo Melo (1), Brazil, def. Luke Saville, Australia and Max Purcell, Australia, 6-3, 7-6 (2). Guillermo Garcia-Lopez, Spain and Pablo Carreno-Busta, Spain, def. Scott Lipsky, United States and David Marrero Santana, Spain, 3-6, 7-6 (5), 6-3. Hans Podlipnik, Chile and Andrei Vasilevski Belarus, def. Nicolas Mahut, France and Pierre Hughes Herbert (4), France, 7-6 (1), 5-7, 7-6 (6). Dominic Inglot, Britain and Marcus Daniell, New Zealand, def. Benoit Paire, France and Hugo Nys, France, 6-4, 6-2. Leander Paes, India and Purav Raja, India, def. Bruno Soares, Brazil and Jamie Murray (5), Britain, 7-6 (3), 5-7, 7-6 (6). Lleyton Hewitt, Australia and Sam Groth. Australia, def. Horia Tecau, Romania and Jean-Julien Rojer (3), Netherlands, 7-6 (2), 4-6, 7-5. Fabrice Martin, France and Jeremy Chardy, France, def. Matt Reid, Australia and Nick Kyrgios, Australia. Aisam-Ul-Hag Qureshi, Pakistan and Marcin Matkowski (15), Poland, def. Robert Lindstee Sweden and Franko Skugor, Croatia, 7-6 (4), 6-4. Women's Doubles Second Round Viktorija Golubic, Switzerland and Nina

Stojanovic, Serbia, def. Katerina Bondare Ukraine and Aleksandra Krunic, Serbia, 7-6 (0), 6-2.

Kristina Mladenovic, France and Timea Babos (5), Hungary, def. Arantxa Parra Santonja, Spain and Lara Arruabarrena-Vecino, Spain 3-6, 6-3, 6-4.

Sorana Cirstea, Romania and Beatriz Haddad Maia, Brazil, def. Abigail Spears, United States and Alicja Rosolska (15), Poland, 4-6, 6-3, 6-3. Anastassia Rodionova, Australia and Nadiia Kichenok, Ukraine, def, Kristvna Pliskova, Czech Republic and Donna Vekic, Croatia, 1-6, 6-3, 7-6(2). Kyeta Peschke, Czech Republic and Nicole Melichar (13), United States, def. Madison Brengle, United States and Monica Puig, Puerto Rico. 6-2. 6-2. Vania King, United States and Jennifer Brady, United States, def. Casey Dellacqua, Australia and Ashleigh Barty (3), Australia, 6-4, 6-2. Shuko Aoyama, Japan and Zhaxuan Yang (1), China, def. Mona Barthel, Germany and Carina Witthoeft, Germany, 6-1, 7-5. Barbora Krejcikova, Czech Republic and Katerina Siniakova, Czech Republic, def. Zarina Diyas, Kazakhstan and Magda Linette, Poland, 6-4, 6-2.

MIAMI (106)

HOCKEY National Hockey League

NASHVILLE PREDATORS – Reassigned F Frederick Gaudreau to Milwaukee (AHL). Activated F Viktor Arvidsson from injured

NEW YORK RANGERS — Reassigned G Brandon Halverson and D Sergev Zborovskiv from Greenville (ECHL) to Hartford (AHL). VEGAS GOLDEN KNIGHTS – Assigned D Jason Garrison to Chicago (AHL). WINNIPEG JETS – Recalled F Jansen Harkins from Jacksonville (ECHL) to Manitoba (AHL).

American Hockey League MANITOBA MOOSE – Recalled F Elgin Pearce from Jacksonville (ECHL). ROCKFORD ICEHOGS - Assigned D Brandon

Anselmini to Indy (ECHL). TORONTO MARLIES – Recalled F Josh Winquist from Orlando (ECHL).

ECHL

GREENVILLE SWAMP RABBITS - Added G Nolan Bowker as emergency backup. IDAHO STEELHEADS — Released F Gary Steffes. KANSAS CITY MAVERICKS — Released G Kent Patterson MANCHESTER MONARCHS - Signed G Joe

Spagnoli and F Jake Wood. TULSA OILERS – Signed F Ryan Rosenthal. WHEELING NAILERS – Loaned F Garrett Meurs to Manitoba (AHL).

SOCCER

Maior League Soccer LA GALAXY - Traded F Gyasi Zardes and targeted allocation money to Columbus for F

Ola Kamara. North American Soccer League

NEW YORK COSMOS - Agreed on a transfer fee for M Eric Calvillo with the San Jose (MLS).

COLLEGES

BIG TEN CONFERENCE - Suspended Notre Dame hockey player Justin Wade one game under the conference's supplemental discipline

KANSAS — Announced freshman men's basketball F Billy Preston signed with BC Igokea (Division I-Bosnia).

NEW MEXICO — Named Calvin Magee offensive coordinator/running backs coach, Archie McDaniel outside and rush linebackers coach and Perry Elian cornerbacks coach and special teams coordinator.

SOUTHERN CAL – Promoted Bryan Ellis to quarterbacks coach and Keary Colbert tight ends and inside receivers coach.

PRO BASKETBALL

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENC	E			
Atlantic Division	W	L	PCT.	GB
Boston	34	12	.739	-
Toronto	31	13	.705	2
Philadelphia	22	20	.524	10
New York	21	25	.457	13
Brooklyn	17	29	.370	17
Southeast Division	W	L	PCT.	GB
Miami	27			-
Washington	26	20	.565	1
Charlotte	18	26	.409	8
Atlanta	13	32		131⁄2
Orlando	13	32	.289	131⁄2
Central Division	W	L	PCT.	GB
Cleveland	W 27	L 18	РСТ. .600	_
Cleveland Indiana	27 24	18 22	.600 .522	
Cleveland Indiana Milwaukee	27	18 22	.600 .522 .511	- 3½ 4
Cleveland Indiana Milwaukee Detroit	27 24	18 22 22	.600 .522 .511	- 3½ 4 4½
Cleveland Indiana Milwaukee	27 24 23	18 22 22	.600 .522 .511 .500	- 3½ 4 4½
Cleveland Indiana Milwaukee Detroit	27 24 23 22 18	18 22 22 22 22	.600 .522 .511 .500	- 3½ 4 4½
Cleveland Indiana Milwaukee Detroit Chicago	27 24 23 22 18	18 22 22 22 22	.600 .522 .511 .500	- 3½ 4 4½
Cleveland Indiana Milwaukee Detroit Chicago WESTERN CONFERENCI	27 24 23 22 18	18 22 22 22 22 28	.600 .522 .511 .500 .391	
Cleveland Indiana Milwaukee Detroit Chicago WESTERN CONFERENCI Southwest Division	27 24 23 22 18 E W	18 22 22 22 28 L	.600 .522 .511 .500 .391 PCT. .721	
Cleveland Indiana Milwaukee Detroit Chicago WESTERN CONFERENCI Southwest Division Houston	27 24 23 22 18 E W 31	18 22 22 22 28 L	.600 .522 .511 .500 .391 PCT. .721	
Cleveland Indiana Milwaukee Detroit Chicago WESTERN CONFERENCI Southwest Division Houston San Antonio	27 24 23 22 18 W 31 30	18 22 22 28 L 12 17	.600 .522 .511 .500 .391 PCT. .721 .638 .533	

15 30 .333 17

New Orleans Memphis Dallas

-8 2-5 14, Walker 10-25 1 2 22, Batu 8-12 9-10 26, Kaminsky 4-8 2-2 12, O'Bryant III 2-4 0-0 5. Carter-Williams 0-2 0-0 0. Graham 1-3 0-0 3. Lamb 4-13 0-0 9. Totals 41-90 16-21 105. MIAMI 31 26 16 33 -106 27 21 35 22 -105 CHARLOTTE 3-Point Goals—Miami 13-28 (Ellington 6-10, Olynyk 3-8, Winslow 1-1, J.Johnson 1-2, Richardson 1-3, Walton Jr. 1-3, Jones Jr. 0-1), Charlotte 7-27 (Kaminsky 2-5, Graham 1-1, Batum 1-2, O'Bryant III 1-2, Lamb 1-4, Walker 1-8, Carter-Williams 0-1. Williams 0-4). Fouled Out-None. Rebounds-Miami 47 (Whiteside 14), Charlotte 43 (Howard 15). Assists-Miami 28 (J.Johnson 7), Charlotte 22 (Walker 7). Total Fouls-Miami 17. Charlotte 12. A-18,687 (19,077).

PELICANS 111, GRIZZLIES 104 MEMPHIS (104) Brooks 4-8 0-0 10, Green 3-7 2-2 8, Gasol 4-11

5-6 16, Evans 3-16 4-4 12, McLemore 5-9 0-0 10, Henry 0-1 0-0 0, Rabb 0-0 0-0 0, Martin 4-9 0-0 11, D.Davis 3-5 0-0 6, Selden 11-16 4-4 31. Totals 37-82

NEW ORLEANS (111)

Moore 4-10 0-0 9, A.Davis 7-13 7-8 21, Cousins 7-13 8-12 24, Rondo 3-6 0-0 7, Holiday 10-19 6-6 27, Cunningham 2-3 0-0 4, Miller 4-9 2-3 12, Clark 2-5 3-3 7. Totals 39-78 26-32 111. 18 26 37 23 -104 34 25 24 28 -111 MEMPHIS NEW ORLEANS 3-Point Goals-Memohis 15-35 (Selden 5-7 Martin 3-3, Gasol 3-5, Brooks 2-4, Evans 2-9, Henry 0-1, Green 0-2, McLemore 0-4), New Orleans 7-27 (Cousins 2-6, Miller 2-6, Rondo 1-3, Moore 1-4, Holiday 1-5, Cunningham 0-1, Clark 0-2). Fouled Out-Brooks, McLemore, Rebounds-Memphis 44 (Green 16), New Orleans 41 (A.Davis 12), Assists-Memphis 22 (Gasol 7), New Orleans 23 (Holiday Total Fouls—Memphis 29, New Orleans 15. Technicals-Memphis coach JB Bickerstaff, Selden. A-18,212 (16,867).

76ERS 116, BUCKS 94

MILWAUKEE (94) Snell 6-12 0-0 15, Middleton 9-20 4-4 23, Henson 4-6 3-4 11, Bledsoe 5-18 3-5 14, Brown 5-9 0-1 14, Wilson 0-0 0-0 0, Antetokounmpo 0-0 0-0 0, Maker 2-6 2-2 6. Plumlee 1-1 4-4 6. Munford 0-2 0-0 0. Terry 0-2 0-0 0, Dellavedova 1-4 2-2 5, Vaughn 0-0 0-0 0, Kilpatrick 0-2 0-0 0, Brogdon 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 33-82 18-22 94. PHILADELPHIA (116)

Covington 5-8 0-0 13, Saric 4-10 4-4 13, Embiid 11-19 5-6 29. Simmons 8-13 0-0 16. Luwawu-Cabarrot 13 5 0 2, 5 minuto 1 3 5 2 4, Booker 3-4 0-1 6, McConnell 5-10 1-1 11, Young 1-3 1-2 4, Anderson 1-6 0-0 2, Totals 45-85 16-19 116.

MILWAUKEE 29 26 25 14 -PHILADELPHIA 37 24 23 32 -116 3-Point Goals—Milwaukee 10-32 (Brown 4-7. Snell 3-7, Dellavedova 1-3, Middleton 1-5, Bledsoe 1-6, Kilpatrick 0-1, Maker 0-1, Terry 0-2), Philadelphia 10-25 (Luwawu-Cabarrot 3-5 Covington 3-6, Embiid 2-5, Young 1-2, Saric 1-5, Anderson 0-2). Fouled Out-None. Rebounds-Milwaukee 35 (Middleton 14), Philadelphia 45 (Embiid 9). Assists-Milwaukee 20 (Middletor 10), Philadelphia 32 (Simmons 9). Total Fouls-Milwaukee 20, Philadelphia 18, Technicals-Philadelphia coach 76ers (Defensive three second). A-20,826 (21,600).

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

MEN'S BASKETBALL THE AP TOP 25 RESULTS/SCHEDULE

Friday's Game No. 9 Michigan State 85, Indiana 57 Saturday's Games No. 1 Villanova 81, UConn 61 No. 3 Purdue 87, Iowa 64 Oklahoma State 83. No. 4 Oklahoma 81, OT No. 5 Duke 81, Pittsburgh 54 No. 6 West Virginia 86, Texas 51 Houston 73, No. 7 Wichita State 59 Iowa State 70, No. 8 Texa Tech 52

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

EAST Manhattan at St. Peter's, noon Vermont at Hartford, 1 p.m. Stony Brook at New Hampshire, 1 p.m. Canisius at Iona, 1 p.m. UMBC at Albany (NY), 2 p.m. Siena at Quinnipiac, 2 p.m. Mass.-Lowell at Binghamton, 2 p.m. SOUTH Boston College at Louisville, noon Miami at NC State, noon UNC-Asheville at Liberty, 2 p.m. Radford at Campbell, 2 p.m. High Point at Longwood, 3 p.m. Winthrop at Presbyterian, 4 p.m. Gardner-Webb at Charleston Southern, 5:30 p.m. Virginia at Wake Forest, 6 p.m. MIDWEST Rutgers at Michigan, noon N. Iowa at S. Illinois, 4 p.m. Loyola of Chicago at Valparaiso, 4 p.m. FAR WEST UC Davis at Hawaii, midnight Sunday UC Irvine at UC Santa Barbara, midnight Sunday Washington St. at Utah, 8 p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL THE AP TOP 25 RESULTS/SCHEDULE

16:28: Raffl. PHI. Major (fighting), 16:28: Laughton, PHI, (tripping), 17:36; Palmieri, NJ,

(boarding), 19:15. Second Period—4. New Jersev. Bratt 12 (Hall. Butcher), 8:12 (pp). Penalties—Manning, PHI, (roughing), 4:35; Laughton, PHI, (high sticking), 6:41: Palmieri, NJ. (delay of game). 8:55; Hall, NJ, (high sticking), 12:23; Zajac, NJ, (hooking), 19:29. Third Period–None. Penalties–Konecny, PHI, (tripping), 3:59; Hagg, PHI, (cross checking),

19:58. Shots on Goal—New Jersey 5-14-10—29 Philadelphia 13-11-7–31. Power-play opportunities—New Jersey 1 of 5; Philadelphia 0 of 4 Goalies-New Jersey, Appleby 0-0-0 (24 shots-24 saves). Kinkaid 7-4-2 (7-4) Philadelphia, Neuvirth 5-5-1 (29-28). A-19,934 (19,543). T-2:23 Referees-Francis Charron, Jean Hebert. Linesmen-Devin Berg, Brian Mach.

STARS 7, SABRES 1

DALLAS BUFFALO First Period-1, Dallas, Elie 5 (Janmark, Spezza), 5:03. 2, Dallas, Janmark 11 (Lindell, Shore), 14:09 (pp). Penalties—Pouliot, BUF, (slashing), 12:19; Roussel, DAL, (tripping), 17:44.

Second Period—3, Dallas, Janmark 12 (Klingberg, Spezza), 6:25. 4, Buffalo, Reinhart 8 (Eichel, Ristolainen), 8:54 (pp). 5, Dallas, Benn 19 (Lindell, Klingberg), 9:32. 6, Dallas, Lindell 5 (Benn, Radulov), 12:08, 7, Dallas, Faksa 12 (Johns, Roussel), 17:31. Penalties-Radulov, DAL, (tripping), 0:26; Shore, DAL, (tripping), 6:57: Nolan, BUF, Major (fighting), 12:40; Heatherington, DAL, Major (fighting) 12:40; Heatherington, DAL, (cross checking), 12:40; Nolan, BUF, (roughing), 12:40; Gorges, BUF, (interference), 14:52. Third Period-8, Dallas, Pitlick 8 (Klingberg, Faksa), 7:24. Penalties-Heatherington, DAL. (roughing), 4:19. Shots on Goal-Dallas 13-12-7-32. Buffalo 10-10-7-27. Power-play opportunities—Dallas 1 of 2; Buffalo 1 of 4. Goalies—Dallas, Lehtonen 7-5-1 (27 shots-26 saves). Buffalo, Lehner 9-18-6 (19-15), Johnson 1-8-3 (13-10). A-19.070 (19.070). T-2:26. Referees—Tom Chmielewski, Kevin Pollock. Linesmen—Greg Devorski, Andrew Smith.

AVALANCHE 3, RANGERS 1 N.Y. RANGERS

COLORADO First Period—1, Colorado, Johnson 7 (Rantanen, MacKinnon), 9:00. Penalties-Kampfer, NYR, (hooking), 12:51. Second Period–2, Colorado, MacKinnon 23 (Barberio, Johnson), 3:24. 3, N.Y. Rangers, Buchnevich 13 (McDonagh, Zuccarello), 6:55 (pp). Penalties-Bourque, COL, (tripping), Third Period—4. Colorado, Rantanen 17, 19:59. Penalties–None. Shots on Goal–N.Y. Rangers 5-12-11–28. Colorado 12-10-15-37. Power-play opportunities—N.Y. Rangers 1 of 1; Colorado 0 of 1. Goalies–N.Y. Rangers, Lundqvist 21-12-4 (36 shots-34 saves). Colorado, Bernier 13-7-1 (28-27). A-18.056 (18.007). T-2:25. Referees-Marc Joannette, Justin St Pierre. Linesmen-Ryan Galloway, Mark Shewchyk. JETS 2, FLAMES 1, SO

WINNIPEG

CALGARY Winnipeg wins shootout 2-0 First Period-1, Calgary, Brodie 3 (Brouwer), 8:17. Penalties-Winnipeg bench, served by Perreault (too many men on the ice), 7:12;

GOLF

Andrew Landry

Martin Dillor

PGA TOUR CAREERBUILDER CHALLENGE

Saturday's leaders at PGA West, La Quinta, Calif.

Purse: \$5.9 million; s-Stadium Course, Yardage: 7,113; Par: 72 (36-36). q-La Quinta CC Course, 7,060; 72 (36-36). n-Nicklaus Tournament Course, 7,159; 72 (36-36) Third Pound 63n-70s-64q-197 63q-65n-70s-198 Austin Cook

68q-65n-66s-199

65s-68q-67n-200

68n-69s-65q-202

69s-67q-67n-203

64n-67s-67q-198 Scott Piercy 62q-67n-70s-199 Jon Rahm Adam Hadwin 66n-67s-67q-200 Grayson Murray Brandon Harkins 64q-68n-68s-200 63q-67n-71s-201 70s-66q-65n-201 lason Kokrak Seamus Power 65n-69s-68a-202 Jhonattan Vegas Bronson Burgoon 68n-66s-68q-202 John Huh Kevin Kisner 67n-68s-67a-202 67q-64n-71s-202 71n-64s-67q-202 Michael Kim Kevin Chappell Stewart Cink 68n-69s-65q-202 Charles Howell III 67n-70s-66q-203 Ryan Palmer Brian Harman 65a-68n-70s-203 68n-71s-65q-204 71q-65n-68s-204 Tyrone Van Asweger Ricky Barnes Andrew Putnam 69n-66s-69a-204 68s-67q-69n-204 66q-68n-70s-204 Hunter Mahan Hudson Swafford Trev Mullinax 70s-64a-70n-204 69q-64n-71s-204 69n-69s-66q-204 Russell Knox Rory Sabbatini Zach Johnson 67a-64n-73s-204 Nick Watney Kevin Streelman 65s-67q-72n-204 67s-69q-68n-204 Peter Uihlein 70a-64n-70s-204 70s-66q-69n-205 68s-64q-73n-205 Patton Kizzire Brian Gay Ben Crane 70n-67s-68a-205 68n-68s-69q-205 64q-69n-72s-205 Corey Conners Aaron Wise Lucas Glover 66a-68n-71s-205 67q-68n-70s-205 67n-67s-71q-205 Harris English Richy Werenski Rob Oppenheim 67s-68a-70n-205 Brendan Steele 71s-69q-66n-206 73s-67q-66n-206 Billy Hurley III Bud Caulev 67a-68n-71s-206 68s-69q-69n-206 64q-69n-73s-206 Sung Kang Beau Hossler James Hahn 68s-66a-72n-206 70q-67n-69s-206 71s-68q-67n-206 Sam Saunders Brett Stegmaier Nate Lashlev 67s-71a-68n-206 65n-72s-69q-206 66n-70s-71q-207 Talor Gooch Alex Cejka Webb Simpson 69s-66a-72n-207 70s-68q-69n-207 68n-68s-71q-207 John Peterson Tom Whitney Kevin Na 66a-67n-74s-207 66n-74s-67q-207 69n-67s-71q-207 Matt Every Abraham Ancer Chesson Hadley 71a-67n-69s-207 Chez Reavie David Lingmerth 71s-65q-71n-207 Derek Fathauer 71s-66a-70n-207 Sean O'Hair Ben Martin 69s-67q-71n-207 Smylie Kaufman Scott Brown

Mixed Doubles First Round

Storm Sanders, Australia and Marc Polmans, Australia, def. Robert Farah, Colombia and Anna-Lena Groenefeld, Germany, 7-5, 1-6, 10-4. Edouard Roger-Vasselin, France and Andrea Sestini Hlavackova, Czech Republic, def, Max Mirnyi, Belarus and Shuai Peng, China, 6-4, 6-4. Gabriela Dabrowski, Canada and Mate Pavic, Croatia, def. Alex Bolt, Australia and Lizette Cabrera, Australia, 6-3, 7-5.

CALENDAR

MLB

Jan. 24 — BBWAA Hall of Fame voting announced. Jan. 29-Feb. 16 - Salary arbitration hearings, Jan. 30-Feb. 1 — Owners meetings, Beverly Hills, Calif. Feb 15 – Voluntary reporting date for pitchers, catchers and injured players. Feb. 19 - Voluntary reporting date for other Feb. 24 — Mandatory reporting date. March 29 - Opening day. Active rosters reduced to 25 players. April 17-18 — Cleveland vs. Minnesota at San Juan, Puerto Rico, - Amateur draft starts. June 15 – International amateur signing period closes. July 2 — International amateur signing period opens. July 6 - Last day to sign for amateur draft picks subject to deadline. July 10 — All-Star Game, Washington. July 29 - Hall of Fame inductions, Cooperstown July 31 - Last day to trade a player without securing waivers. Oct. 2-3 — Wild-card games. Dec. 10-13 - Winter meetings, Las Vegas. NBA Feb. 8 - Trade deadline. Feb. 16-18, 2018 - All-Star weekend, Los Angeles April 11-14 - Portsmouth Invitational Tournament (Portsmouth, Va. April 11 - Regular Season ends. April 14 - Playoffs begin. April 22 – NBA draft early entry eligibility deadline (11:59 p.m. EDT. May 31 - NBA Finals begin. June 11 - NBA draft early entry entrant withdrawal deadline (5 p.m. EDT June 17 - NBA Finals latest possible date. June 21 - NBA draft.

NHL

67q-69n-71s-207

68s-70q-69n-207

69g-68n-70s-207

70s-69q-69n-208

Jan. 27-28 — All-Star weekend, Tampa, Fla. Feb. 26 — Trade deadline. March 3 - Stadium Series: Toronto at Washington, at U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis Md. April 7 – Last day regular season. April 11 – Playoffs begin. June 22-23 – NHL draft, Dallas.

NFL: NFC Championship **Defense wins championships,** or at least the NFC title

By ROB MAADDI Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA - One team has a suffocating defense. The other has the NFL's No. 1 unit.

Defense should win at least the NFC championship.

Two of the league's elite defenses go at it Sunday when the Philadelphia Eagles (14-3) host the Minnesota Vikings (14-3) in the conference title game.

"They have a great defense, we have a great defense," Eagles linebacker Nigel Bradham said. "Whoever is most complete will win."

The Vikings allowed the fewest yards (275.9) and fewest points (15.8) per game. The Eagleswere fourth in yards allowed (306.5) and fourth in points (18.4).

May the best defense reach the Super Bowl.

"Typically, when you're good defensively, you're going to stay in the ballgames," Vikings coach Mike Zimmer said. "Then you have a chance to win them at the end."

Minnesota has three Pro Bowl players on defense: end Everson Griffen, outside linebacker Anthony Barr and cornerback Xavier Rhodes. Safety Harrison Smith and Rhodes are All-Pros.

"It's just a smothering defense," Eagles coach Doug Pederson said. "(Griffen) is a game wrecker. They just mix it in. You don't know necessarily what's coming. Rhodes is a tremendous corner, safeties are playing extremely well."

Defensive tackle Fletcher Cox and safety Malcolm Jenkins are Philadelphia's Pro Bowl picks. Defensive end Brandon Graham had an excellent season and cornerbacks Ronald Darby and Jalen Mills are solid. Hearing about Minnesota's defense all week is extra motivation for Philadelphia, which is a home underdog for the second straight game. "When you've got the No. 1 defense coming in statistically, obviously, it fires us up," Cox said. "We know



FILE - In this Nov. 23, 2017, file photo, Minnesota Vikings cornerback Xavier Rhodes (29) intercepts a pass against the Detroit Lions during an NFL football game, in Detroit.

going into this game that whoever's defense plays better is going to win the game. The way we're prepared, we won't change nothing that we do. We'll just go out and be ourselves."

Here are things to watch for in the NFC championship game:

BATTLE OF THE BACKUPS: Case Keenum and Nick Foles were teammates in St. Louis in 2015 and began this season as backups. Keenum had a breakout season for the Vikings after Sam Bradford was injured. Foles is 3-1 since MVP candidate Carson Wentz tore his ACL. Expect defenses to focus on the running backs and challenge the quarterbacks.

"We've got to make Nick Foles win the game," Griffen said. "We've got to make him win the game but we've got to stop the running game, affect him and give the ball back to our offense as much as possible so that they can score points." Chicago's offense. The Eagles spread the ball around, so Jeffery had only 789 yards receiving, but his nine TDs were the second most in his career. Jeffery, by the way, turned down more money in free agency from Minnesota to join the Eagles on a one-year deal. Philadelphia gave him a four-year, \$52 million extension during the season.

BROTHERLY LOVE: The Kendricks family from Northern California is guaranteed to have a son playing linebacker in the Super Bowl. Eric Kendricks is in his third season with the Vikings, and Mychal is in his sixth year with the Eagles.

Eric had his best season with 136 tackles to lead the team for the third straight time, nine passes defended and one interception return for a touchdown. Mychal was fifth on the Eagleswith 72 tackles in 2017, adding two sacks.

Both were secondround draft picks, Eric out of UCLA with the two siblings have traded their share of friendly trash talk along the way. Family members have been known to wear split jerseys to support both players. "I always make jokes: I

ΑΡ ΡΗΟΤΟ

feel like my brother gets a little bit of the advantage as far as who the family roots for, because he's the first born," Eric said. "It's all love, though."

FIND THEIR FOOTING: The Eagles laid fresh sod between the hash marks this week to help improve the conditions at Lincoln Financial Field. The weather should help, with a dry forecast and expected temperatures in the 40s, but the Vikings have been preparing for the worst.

Zimmer had a video put together of Falcons players sliding and slipping on the field last weekend. Players have been encouraged to try seven-stud cleats in pregame

NOT YET: The Vikings are 0-3 against the Eagles in the postseason. Philadelphia won a wildcard game in Minnesota after the 2008 season and home games in the divisional rounds on the way to Super Bowl appearances following the 1980 and 2004 seasons. Minnesota has not been to the Super Bowl since 1977 and is 0-4 in them.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL: East-West Shrine game Shimonek throws late TD pass to lift West over East 14–10

By FRED GOODALL Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — For J.T. Barrett, playing in the 93rd East-West Shrine game was more about showing what type of leader he is than impressing statistically.

"I think, at the end of the day, I wanted to show I could command the offense," the Big Ten's career total yardage leader said Saturday. "I think that's part of

"I think that's part of who I am, and at quarterback that's what you need," Barrett added. "I was able to do it at Ohio State, and I think I did a pretty good job this week of commanding the offense and owning it."

Texas Tech's Nic Shimonek threw a 34-yard touchdown pass to Houston's Steven Dunbar with 1:23 remaining to give the West a 14-10 victory.

Barrett completed a 30-yard pass to move the East into West territory, however his bid to pull off a comeback ended with four consecutive incompletions.

"Nic threw a great pass and I couldn't do anything but catch it," said Dunbar, who had three receptions for 52 yards. "It was a play we tried a couple of times, and it was finally there. I'm just thankful to be in a position to do this." Wisconsin safety Natrell Jamerson returned Barrett's early fumble 68 yards for the West's other TD in the nation's longest running college all-star game.

Barrett amassed 12,697 yards and accounted for 147 TDs in four seasons at Ohio State.

He wasn't impressive statistically Saturday in trying to show he has what it takes to make a successful transition from a college spread offense to a pro-style system.

The former Buckeyes star did, however, shrug off his first-quarter turnover to throw a 4-yard scoring pass to Slippery Rock's Marcus Martin that put the East ahead 10-7.

Northern Iowa's Daurice Fountain had three catches for 61 yards and set up Barrett's TD throw to Martin, the NCAA Division II sack leader and 2017 lineman of the year, with a 30-yard punt return and a 16-yard reception.

"A long time ago I heard Andrew Luck say 'you can't go broke taking a profit.' I didn't want to get greedy and skip that first read, so with that I took it and our guy did a great job to catch it and score," Barrett said of the completion to Martin, a defensive end in college who may have a future as a fullback.

COLLEGE: Football Alabama team, fans celebrate especially difficult title run

By JOSH ZENOR Associated Press

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. -Tens of thousands of fans gathered to celebrate Alabama's latest national championship, one that was especially hard to achieve. This time the Crimson Tide had to overcome a loss in the final regularseason game, a series of defensive injuries and a period of uncertainty when it wasn't clear if a fourth consecutive playoff invitation was even forthcoming. Then there was the climactic title game with Georgia that included a 13-0 halftime deficit, a quarterback switch and an overtime that started with a huge sack of Tua Tagovailoa. The final play - Tagovailoa's 41-yard touchdown heave to fellow freshman DeVonta Smith - was etched in the memories of Tide fans, players and coach Nick Saban. "I don't think anybody's ever going to forget" that play, Saban told a crowd Alabama estimated at 40,000. "I know I'll never forget the feeling that I had when Tua takes a sack and one minute later the feeling that I had when we threw the touchdown pass," he said. It was the fifth, and perhaps most eventful, championship run of Saban's 11-year tenure at Alabama. He also matched Bear Bryant with his sixth overall national title. After receiving a much-debated berth despite a loss to Auburn, Alabama toppled playoff nemesis and top-ranked Clemson in the Sugar Bowl before beating the Bulldogs 26-23 in an

All-Southeastern Conference matchup. Second in the SEC West, first in the nation.

"This whole 2017 season, man, it's amazing," senior linebacker Rashaan Evans said.

OWNING MINNESOTA: Eagles receiver Alshon Jeffery has more catches (45), yards (685), and touchdowns (7) against the Vikings than he has against any other team. But Jeffery, who spent his first five seasons with the Bears, did most of his damage against other cornerbacks while also being the featured guy in

45th overall selection in 2015 and Mychal from Cal with the 46th overall pick in 2012. Their father, Marvin, was UCLA's leading rusher in 1970 and 1971 and went on to play in the CFL.

With both teams at the top of the NFC and both defenses at the top of the league all season, the

NFL From Page 1

that's the overall goal," Blount said. "We don't care about personal success. You can't be selfish when everybody has one common goal. You have to make sacrifices for the betterment of the team. We've done that and it's gotten us this far."

Long played 65 percent of the snaps last season and posted four sacks, four tackles for loss and a forced fumble. His role has decreased in Philadelphia – he played 48 percent of the snaps – but he's been an instrumental part of the team's success and keeping a deep defensive line fresh.

Former NFL quarterback Dan Orlovsky said Long is the one player on Philadelphia's defense that he would be concerned with most because "he never stops."

"He has a next-level motor," Orlovsky told The Associated Press. "It's unusual."

The Eagles have other

players who've won Super Bowls — Smith, Malcolm Jenkins, Corey Graham, Dannell Ellerbe, Chris Maragos, and Will Beatty — but Blount and Long did it most recently and were part of the Patriot Way so they've shared valuable experiences.

"There's a lot of good resources on this team for Super Bowl experience," Long said. "Younger players really need to stick to the script, prepare hard and don't try to do too much. The key is to take it out of your head that it's the playoffs and show up and do your work." Blount echoed those

feelings. "You have so many things going on and it's not something you can get away from it because it's on TV, it on your phone, it' on every bit of social media," Blount said. "So you have to make sure you zoom in and zone in on what you have to do and focus on what our goal is and the task at hand."



Evans was so excited after the game at Mercedes-Benz Stadium in Atlanta, he says he didn't take his pads off until returning to the hotel. It was at least the second title celebration for the seniors, and after a snow-filled week in much of the state, temperatures warmed up enough for a comfortable celebration.

Much warmer than the one two years ago.

"I've never seen this many fans at a celebration before," senior center Bradley Bozeman said. "It's unreal. We're really blessed to have this fan base."

Added Evans: "It's almost like a reunion, man. I remember the first time, it wasn't near as many people as it was (today). The fact that all of these fans came out, they took the time out of their day to come out here and just have fun with us, it means a lot."

Team captains Evans, Bozeman, safety Minkah Fitzpatrick and linebacker Shaun Dion Hamilton spoke at the podium. Hamilton missed the past two playoffs because of knee injuries but savored another championship celebration.

"I'd probably say this one is sweeter just because of the way how we finished out," he said. "Nobody would have ever thought that after a sack and us being down, and boom, we come back with a haymaker in overtime. It makes the win that much sweeter."

BUSINESS & CLASSIFIEDS COMICS & PUZZLES INSIDE SECTION D Sunday, January 21, 2018

Expanded Takata air bag recall 14 automakers list more models in recall



COURTESY PHOTO

An additional 1 million Toyota and Honda vehicles in the U.S. are being recalled as part of a third wave of recalls planned by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to fix cars equipped with potentially faulty Takata air bags.

By TOM KRISHER

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS DETROIT - U.S. safety regulators have released models from 14 different automakers that are being recalled to replace potentially deadly Takata air bag inflators.

Documents posted Thursday by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration include many made by Ford, Nissan, Mercedes-Benz, Ferrari, Daimler Vans, Toyota, Tesla, BMW, Fiat Chrysler, Mazda, Subaru, Jaguar-Land Rover, McLaren and Volkswagen. Tovota . Ford and Honda released some of their models last week.

Earlier this month Takata

recalled an additional 3.3 million faulty air bag inflators as it expanded the larg-est automotive recall in U.S. history. Models released Thursday are equipped with those inflators.

The company uses the chemical ammonium nitrate to create a small explosion and fill air bags quickly in a crash. But the chemical can deteriorate when exposed to high humidity and temperatures and burn too fast, blowing apart a metal canister. That can hurl hot shrapnel into unsuspecting drivers and passengers. At least 21 people have been killed worldwide and more than 180 injured.

The U.S. recalls, which

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit nhtsa.gov/recall-spotlight/takata-air-bags

are being managed by NHTSA, are being phased in over the next three years. Older models and those in states with high humidity and temperatures are getting priority.

Some of the recalls are limited to certain groups of states. To see if your vehicle is involved, go to https:// www.nhtsa.gov/recalls and key in your 17-digit vehicle identification number. It can be found on your registration and is stamped on the driver's side dashboard. Automakers and the government say the recall repairs should be done as

soon as possible.

The latest recalls are part of the largest series of automotive recalls in U.S. history, with 19 automakers having to recall up to 69 million inflators in 42 million vehicles. The problem brought a criminal conviction and fine against Takata and forced the Japanese company into bankruptcy protection.

Here are the models posted Thursday:

FORD: 327,796 vehicles including the 2013 Ford Mustang; 2010 Ford Edge,

AIRBAGS | 2

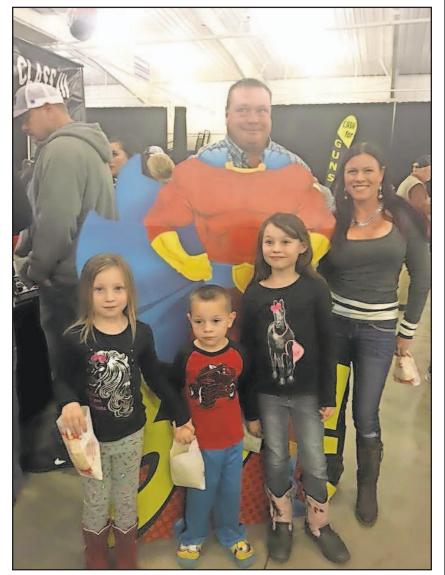
Boom Boom's celebrates 100,000th customer

By MICHELLE BOYLAN

Special to Highlands News-Sun

SEBRING — Since opening the doors for business in 2011, Boom Boom's Guns & Ammo has been the leading Class III Firearms dealer in Highlands County. Providing customers with the opportunity to buy, sell and trade guns. Always looking for a way to better serve the community, Jeri Canale, owner of Boom Boom's, decided to expand her business by constructing a private, indoor, air-conditioned shooting range.

With this addition, the business can provide services including private shooting lessons and Youth Gun Safety Camps. The most popular is the Concealed Carry Class taught by onsite NRA instructor and gunsmith Steve Marabel. Throughout the years, Boom Boom's dba AimRight Training Center has taught over 2,000





COURTESY PHOTO

The new design of Kentucky Fried Chicken's interior includes family-style seating called the "Colonel's table."

Lake Wales KFC to soon feature **bold new look**

SPECIAL TO THE HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

LAKE WALES — Kentucky Fried Chicken franchisee KBP Foods is remodeling its Lake Wales restaurant as part of a multi-million-dollar nationwide KFC brand

participants the importance of gun safety and the laws governing Concealed Carry.

On Jan. 14, Boom Boom's reached 100,000 customers. "We were excited," Canale said. "We knew it was getting close. We've kept records through several different systems and business really has been booming.'

In late December, Boom Boom's counted 999,632 customers. With the big day coming, management and employees were on edge waiting to celebrate this monumental moment. "It was exciting greeting our very first customer, so imagine our 100,00th customer. We had to celebrate," Canale said. And so, they did.

On the last day of the Big Sebring Show held at the Highlands News-Sun Center, Boom Boom's awarded Lawrence Holton with a Legacy Sports 1873 22LR Revolver.

The award for the 100,00th customer is just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to giving back to the community. Over the years

COURTESY PHOTO

Lawrence Holton and family pose with Captain Boom Boom cut out. Holton, Boom Boom's 100,000th customer, was presented a Legacy Sports 1873 22LR Revolver.

in business, Boom Boom's has contributed to charities throughout the county. "We are a tight-knit community; we all have to support each other," Canale said. "We've also sponsored many events like the SWAT Challenge and Clay Shoot just to name a few. We also have the \$25,000 Marabel and Canale Endowment Scholarship with Stetson University, which

is awarded to Highlands County students."

Investing in the community isn't always about the monetary contributions though. Boom Boom's wants to educate as many people as possible on self-defense and situational awareness tactics. Recently, the business has hosted

revamp effort. Barry Dubin, chief development officer of **KBP** Foods, said the company expects to invest over \$40 million renovating about 200



look of these new KFCs."

Mike Kulp president and CEO of KBP Foods

KFCs, including their location in Lake Wales.

The new KFC restaurant design places Colonel Sanders' iconic image front and center. The remodeled restaurant's exterior features sharp graphics in red and white to evoke the Colonel's memorable white suit while alluding to striped tents, suggesting his remarkable instinct for showmanship. The interior includes family-style seating called the "Colonel's table", and a photo wall showcasing the Colonel's legacy as one of the South's original "celebrity chefs."

The prominence of Colonel Sanders — a

CUSTOMER | 2

KFC 2

ON THE MONEY

Bad gifts still hanging around? 6 ways to get rid of them

By ANNE D'INNOCENZIO

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK - With the holidays gone, some people still have bad gifts hanging around. Time is ticking, since many retailers have 30-day return windows. But those who have waited can still find a few ways to discard weird sweaters or duplicate air fryers.

That includes selling them on eBay, using gift-swapping sites or donating them to charity. And if they're lucky, the

purchases came from retailers with more generous return policies.

"There are more options for people who have unwanted gifts because the internet makes it easier for you to be connected to someone who does want that item," says Lindsay Sakraida, director of content marketing with DealNews.com, a price comparison website.

Here are six ways to unload the castoffs: **RETURNS: There's still** time to return gifts at

some retailers, as they're more lenient during the holidays. Many allow returns and exchanges until late January, according to Alex Vlasto, vice president of marketing at StellaService, which monitors customer service at retailers. During the holidays, items shipped by Amazon between Nov. 1 and Dec. 31 can be returned until Jan. 31. And for items from Zappos.com and Bed, Bath & Beyond you have one year to return. For consumer gadgets,

though, it might be too late. Best Buy had set a Jan. 14 deadline for most holiday purchases.

USE SWAP SITES: Plenty of sites allow shoppers to exchange items for something else. Got another copy of a favorite book? Maybe try bookmooch.com, an online community for exchanging used and new books. The website says giving someone a book earns a point and people can get any book on offer in trade. You do have to

MONEY 2



In this Tuesday, Dec. 26, 2017, file photo, J.C. Penney sales associate Wanda Cofield, left, assists Cynthia Putney, right, and Linda Pierce with returns and exchanges at the store, at Golden East Crossing mall in Rocky Mount, N.C.

MONEY **FROM PAGE 1**

pay the cost of mailing the book to the other person. For clothing and accessories, you can try sites like swapstyle.com, where you sign up for free and trade items. Of course, you can always get together in person to swap items too.

TRADE IT IN: Some sites allow shoppers to trade in gifts for cash or its rough equivalent. Gazelle focuses only on electronics, and lets customers get paid via Amazon gift card, checks or PayPal. There's also Letgo, a locally focused mobile app that lets you sell electronics, games, clothes and more. You snap a photo of the item,

AIRBAGS

Fusion, Mustang and Ranger,

Lincoln MKX and Zephyr, and

Fusion, Mustang and Ranger,

Lincoln MKX and Zephyr, and

NISSAN: 52,614 vehicles includ-

ing the 2009-2012 Versa Hatchback

MERCEDES-BENZ: 132,167

vehicles including certain 2013

C250, C250 Coupe, C350 Coupe

Coupe, C63 AMG, C63 Coupe,

E350 Cabrio, E350 Coupe, E550

Cabrio, E350 Coupe 4Matic, E550

Coupe, GLK350 4Matic, GLK250

Coupe, SLS AMG GT Coupe, and

SLS Roadster; certain 2010 C300,

Coupe, E550 Coupe, GLK350, and

2009 C300, C300 4Matic, C63 AMG,

GLK350 4Matic vehicles; certain

FERRARI: 1,073 vehicles in-

cluding certain 2013 California,

458 Italia, 458 Spider, FF, and F12

Bluetec 4Matic, GLK350, SLS

C300 4Matic, C63 AMG, E350

and C350 vehicles.

Berlinetta vehicles.

4Matic, C300 4Matic, C350, C350

Mercury Milan, 2009 Ford Edge,

FROM PAGE 1

Mercury Milan.

and 2011 Versa Sedan.

post it to the app and chat with prospective buyers.

SELL IT: Unload that unwanted toy or sweater on sites like ebay.com, Amazon Marketplace or Craigslist. Check the sites to see how much items similar to yours are going for — and then price it. Got a gift from a significant other who has since faded into insignificance? There's neverlikeditanyway.com, where you can set up a profile using your existing social media ones or from scratch, create a listing and share your breakup story. You can pay \$5 to get extra promotion for your item, and if it's sold the site takes a 6 percent cut of the price. "It's cheaper than therapy," the site savs.

DONATE: Consider

S.

3500 vehicles.

2010 through 2012.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this Tuesday, Dec. 26, 2017, file photo, a man returns a TV to a Best Buy at the Hamilton Mall in Mays Landing, N.J.

donating items to churches, nonprofit groups, schools or other places. Make sure you get a receipt for income tax purchases, and remember for next time to donate before Dec. 31 to get the deduction sooner. **REGIFT: Shhh. As** long as it's not used or

personalized, you can

DAIMLER VANS: 17,413 vehicles

including certain 2013 Freightliner

Mercedes-Benz Sprinter 2500 and

ing certain Toyota Yaris cars from

BMW: 41,808 vehicles includ-

ing the 2007-2013 X5 xDrive30i,

X5 xDrive35i, X5 xDrive48i, X5

xDrive50i, X5 M, 2009-2010 X5

X6 xDrive35i, X6 xDrive50i, and

X6 M; 2007-2010 X5 xDrive30i,

X5 xDrive35i, X5 xDrive48i, X5

xDrive50i, X5 M, X5 xDrive35d,

X6 xDrive35i, X6 xDrive50i and

X6M; 2007-2009 X5 xDrive30i,

X5 xdrive35i, X5 xDrive48i, X5

FIAT CHRYSLER: 317,000

Wrangler, Chrysler 300, Dodge

Challenger and Dodge Charger

vehicles, and 2009-2011 Dodge

Dakota; certain 2009-2010 RAM

4500 Cab Chassis, RAM 5500 Cab

Chassis, RAM 3500 Cab Chassis,

Dakota, Dodge Challenger, and

Jeep Wrangler, Chrysler 300, Dodge

xDrive50i, X5 M, X5 xDrive35d, X6

xDrive35i, X6 xDrive50i and X6M.

vehicles including 2009-2013 Jeep

xDrive35d vehicles and 2009-2013

TOYOTA: 15,000 vehicles includ-

TESLA: 17,846 of the 2013 Model

Sprinter 2500 and 3500 and

easily wrap something anew and give to a friend or family member as a birthday gift or for other occasion. Just make super-sure you aren't presenting it to the same person who gave you the gift. Some frequent re-gifters even keep spreadsheets.

Dodge Charger; certain 2009 RAM 3500, RAM 2500, RAM 4500 Cab Chassis, RAM 5500 Cab Chassis, Dodge Durango, Chrysler Aspen, RAM 3500 Cab Chassis, Jeep Wrangler, Chrysler 300, Dodge Dakota, Dodge Challenger, and Dodge Charger vehicles.

MAZDA: 70,918 vehicles including certain 2013 Mazda6 and CX-9s; 2009 and 2010 Mazda6, CX-7 and CX-9s.; certain 2009 and 2010 RX-8s; certain 2009 B-Series trucks. Mazda previously announced 159 2006 B-Series trucks.

SUBARU: 229,538 vehicles including certain 2009-2010 Tribeca, Impreza, Forester, WRX, Legacy, and Outbacks; 2009-2013 Legacy, Forester, Tribeca, WRX and Outbacks; 2009-2011 Imprezas.

JAGUAR-LAND ROVER: 36,520 vehicles including certain 2009-2012 Land Rover Range Rovers; certain 2009-2015 Jaguar XFs.

MCLAREN: 231 vehicles including certain 2013 MP4-12Cs.

VOLKSWAGEN: 10,166 vehicles including 2009-2011 Audi A6 Avant, A6 Sedan and S6 vehicles; certain 2009 Audi A4 Cabriolet and S4 Cabriolet vehicles.

CUSTOMER FROM PAGE 1

a Women's Self Defense Seminar with Lake Placid Police Chief James Fansler.

KFC **FROM PAGE 1**

well-known personality throughout the U.S. for his famous finger lickin' good fried chicken, delicious biscuits, and tasty sides - goes hand-in-hand with KFC's recent efforts to refocus customers' attention on the Colonel.

Mike Kulp, president and CEO of KBP Foods, said, "The Colonel is central to everything Kentucky Fried Chicken stands for - doing things

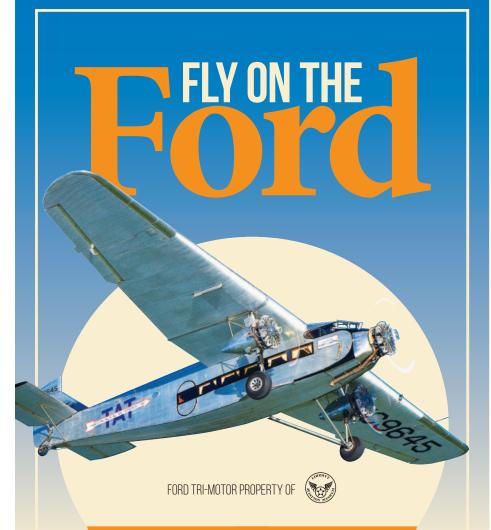
"This is the most anticipated event we have ever hosted. The ladies are taught to become more aware of their surroundings and how to defend themselves against an attacker," Canale said.

the hard way and serving the World's Greatest Fried Chicken.

I think the Colonel would be really happy with the look of these new KFCs." Kulp added, "KBP Foods recently acquired these restaurants and the reinvestment is long overdue. I can't wait for the people of Lake Wales to see their new KFC".

The State Road 60 location is set to reopen in mid-February. The drive-thru will remain open during the remodel process.







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a free golf membership for 1 year!

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\$189,000





Sebring, FL 33870



Crystal lagoons unveiled **BUSINESS HIGHLIGHTS** ----

First-ever lagoon amenity in the U.S.

BUSINESS WIRE

MIAMI — The much anticipated first-ever Crystal Lagoons[®] amenity in the nation is full in Florida as Crystal Lagoons U.S., Corp. and Metro **Development Group** team up to bring the world's top amenity to the U.S. Metro Development Group hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony today to commemorate the inaugural lagoon at the Epperson community, located in Wesley Chapel, Florida.

Epperson has had unprecedented sales success with its first 400 lots sold out within 45 days and a 3,000-person waiting list. The Epperson lagoon will soon have exciting features such as a waterslide, in-water obstacle platform, tidal pool, family beach, an entertainment plaza and an area for special events; the community will have 2,000 homes upon completion.

Globally, Crystal Lagoons® boasts a portfolio of more than 600 projects, in different stages of negotiation and development, in 60 countries. The company has announced 16 lagoon projects in the U.S. thus far with leading real estate developers, including Metro Development Group, Tavistock Development Group, Land Tejas, and a joint-venture with LeFrak and Turnberry Associates.

Crystal Lagoons U.S. Corp has an additional 44 lagoon projects in the works, representing an investment of \$53.4 billion and increasing real estate sales velocity by up to 60%

In addition, Crystal Lagoons® has developed a public access model for their lagoon projects, including a partnership with Steve Wynn for Paradise Park on the



METRO DEVELOPMENT GROUP

The Epperson residential community in Wesley Chapel features the first Crystal Lagoons® amenity in the U.S. V isit MetroDevelopmentGroup.com and www.MetroPlaces.com.

multinational company, with U.S. headquarters in Miami and additional offices in Dallas and Los Angeles, that has developed an innovative concept and technology, patented in 190 countries, allowing for the construction and maintenance of unlimited size bodies of water in crystal clear conditions at low cost. Crystal Lagoons® impressive turquoise waters are revolutionizing not only the real estate world but also water and energy production. Applications range from bringing idyllic beach life to locations otherwise thought unimaginable, to providing industrial solutions for closed-circuit cooling systems for thermal power plants

and data-centers, among others. For more information, please visit www. crystal-lagoons.com and follow us on LinkedIn.

About Metro **Development Group**

A Tampa-based company founded in 2003, Metro Development Group is committed to bringing some of the most innovative technologies and amenities to homebuilders and homebuyers. With the introduction of the Connected City, Metro Places, ULTRAFi and Metro Lagoons by Crystal Lagoons®, Metro continues to be the gold standard in the development of master planned communities.

Apple to build 2nd campus, hire 20,000 in \$350B pledge

SAN FRANCISCO — Apple is planning to build another corporate campus and hire 20,000 workers during the next five years as part of a \$350 billion commitment to the U.S. economy that will be partially financed by an upcoming windfall from the country's new tax law. The pledge announced Wednesday comes less than a month after Congress approved a sweeping overhaul of the U.S. tax code championed by President Donald Trump that will increase corporate profits.

Trump claims credit for economy

WASHINGTON -President Donald Trump relentlessly congratulates himself for the healthy state of the U.S. economy, with its steady growth, low unemployment, busier factories and confident consumers. But in the year since Trump's inauguration, most economists tend to agree on this: The economy is essentially the same sturdy one that he inherited

from Barack Obama.

US stock rally lifts Dow above 26,000

NEW YORK — A broad rally on Wall Street propelled the Dow Jones industrial average to close above 26,000 points for the first time Wednesday. The sharp gains also delivered record highs for the Standard & Poor's 500 index and the Nasdaq composite, wiping out the market's modest losses from a day earlier. Technology and health care companies accounted for much of the gains. Financials stocks also rose, even as some big banks fell after reporting hefty quarterly losses.

Walmart offers way to turn leftover opioids into useless gel

NEW YORK - Walmart is helping customers get rid of leftover opioids by giving them packets that turn the addictive painkillers into a useless gel. The retail giant said Wednesday it will start providing the packets for free with opioid prescriptions filled at its pharmacies. When mixed with warm water, the powder

in the packet turns the pills into a gel that can be thrown in the trash.

Bank of America 4Q profits fall

NEW YORK — Bank of America says fourth-quarter profits fell by nearly half from a year ago after it booked \$2.9 billion in charges related to the new tax law. The bank says its effective tax rate will drop to 20 percent, and the CEO expects the savings to mostly go to shareholders in the form of stock buybacks and dividends.

Federal consumer regulator under review

NEW YORK — The Trump-appointed acting director of the Consumer **Financial Protection** Bureau says the entire operational structure and approach of the federal government's consumer watchdog agency is now under scrutiny. The announcement by director Mick Mulvaney is the clearest sign yet that the agency's direction will be dramatically different than it was under the Obama administration. — The Associated Press

Expanding Quality HEALTHCARE **15 Hospitals Strong**

Welcome **Highlands Regional Medical Center**

With headquarters in Ft. Lauderdale, the HCA East Florida Division encompasses 15 hospitals and 4 freestanding emergency care facilities spanning South Florida, from the Treasure Coast to South Dade County.

As the largest healthcare system in East Florida, HCA East Florida continues to invest in quality

iconic Las Vegas strip. In Florida, Crystal Lagoons U.S. Corp has partnered with one of Miami's main theme parks to build a Public Access Lagoon project.

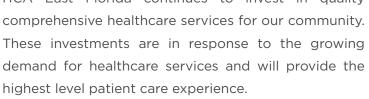
"Ćrystal Lagoons has become the premier amenity for master planned communities in the U.S.," said Christopher Souza, East Coast Regional Director, Crystal Lagoons U.S., Corp. "Metro Development Group has been a valued partner of ours from the beginning as they were the first to break-ground, first to fill and now the first developer to inaugurate a Crystal Lagoons amenity in the U.S."

A grand opening celebration for the first Crystal Lagoons® amenity in the U.S. at Metro Development Group's Epperson community is scheduled for early spring where Crystal Lagoons® Global Ambassador Michael Phelps is scheduled to appear.

"We are excited to be the first developer to bring this world-class amenity to the U.S. in partnership with Crystal Lagoons," said Greg Singleton, President of Metro Development Group. "We are looking forward to continuing our partnership with them to bring our five Metro Lagoon communities to West Central Florida where families can enjoy together for many generations to come."

About Crystal Lagoons

Crystal Lagoons® is a





Aventura Hospital and Medical Center + Highlands Regional Medical Center + JFK Medical Center + JFK Medical Center North Campus Kendall Regional Medical Center + Lawnwood Regional Medical Center + Mercy Hospital + Northwest Medical Center + Palms West Hospital + Plantation General Hospital Raulerson Hospital + Sister Emmanuel Hospital + St. Lucie Medical Center + University Hospital and Medical Center + Westside Regional Medical Center

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PHOTO BY ALLLISON WILLIAMS

From left, Lake Wales Medical Center CEO Rebecca Brewer, Dr. James Nelson, Tiffany Rodriguez, Amanda Williams, Mayor Gene Fultz, and Lake Wales Chamber Chairman Wayne Weathersby throw the first shovels of dirt for the new Wound Healing Center at Lake Wales Medical Center.

Lake Wales Medical Center expanding

By CHARLES A. BAKER III CBAKER@SCMGINC.COM

LAKE WALES – Dozens of Lake Wales Medical Center supporters helped to celebrate the ground breaking of the hospital's expanded wound healing center Jan. 9.

"We are so busy at the center that the expansion has become necessary," said Lake Wales Medical Center Director of Marketing Maryemma Bachelder. "The wound care clinic is always bustling with patients."

Chronic, non-healing wounds, those that haven't shown signs of improvement in several weeks or are not responding to typical treatments, need extra type to heal according to the hospital website. Lake Wales Medical Center provides specialized treatment for those types of wounds and now that the wound healing center is expanding, they will be able to help even more patients.

One of the hospital's supporters is Lake Wales Mayor Eugene Fultz.

"The expansion of Lake Wales Medical Center is wonderful for the city," Fultz said. "We are looking at it as not "We are looking at it as not only a better quality of life for our citizens, but expanded economic development as well."

Lake Wales Mayor Eugene Fultz

expanded economic development as well."

At 5,100 square feet, the new center, to be built across the street from the Lake Wales Arts Center at the corner of State Road 60 and 11th Street, will nearly double the size of the current wound center.

"This is an exciting milestone for us," said Lake Wales Medical Center Chief Executive Officer Rebecca Brewer. "It marks a significant investment in our community, and we are happy to be able to expand on the already great service we are offering patients in our area."

The new center will include six patient rooms, three hyperbaric treatment chambers, a private waiting area lobby with enhanced wheelchair and stretcher accessibility.

Construction is scheduled to be competed by the end of 2018, Bachelder said.

"Our wound center is among the top 4 percent in the nation," said Lake Wales Medical Center Medical Director of the Wound Healing Center, Dr. James Nelson. "We've won the Center for Excellence award four years in a row, and the Center of Distinction Award five years in a row."

Lake Wales Medical Center Program Director Tiffany Rodriguez said many of the patients develop relationships with staff at the center.

"We get to spend a lot of time with our patients and we're truly invested in helping them get a great outcome," Rodriguez said. "This new larger facility will help us provide an even better environment in which they can receive care."

The hospital is partnering with developer Fischbach Land Company, architect Chapuis Design Group, Precise Construction and engineering firms of ICT

'Renaissance' breaks ground in Lake Wales

By CHARLES A. BAKER III CBAKER @ SCMGINC.COM

LAKE WALES -

Construction of a \$678,243 trail connecting the downtown area to Lake Wailes Park began last week with a groundbreaking ceremony. The project is currently

scheduled to be completed sometime in 2019.

The first phase of the trail construction will be along Ridge Scenic Highway from Central Avenue to West Crystal Avenue north of the library. Phase two of the project will bring the trail around Crystal Lake and connect to the trail surrounding Lake Wailes.

City staff received four sealed bids for this project, but one firm retracted their bid, and another was ruled as unqualified. A third firm submitted a bid substantially higher than the winning bid from the Bartow construction firm SEMCO Construction Inc.

Included in the project is the beautification of the parking lot on the east side of Ridge Scenic Highway and Central Avenue, and building a pavilion near the library. Gazebos, historic markers, lighting and free Wi-Fi will be built along the path all the way to Lake Wailes, allowing residents to use the Internet while exercising. According to the winning bid, there will be around \$17,145 in stamped concrete, \$22,684 in landscaping, \$4,800 on monuments, \$7866 on benches, 22 light poles with concrete bases and other features. Irrigation will tie into an existing water



PHOTO BY CHARLES A. BAKER III

Lake Wales Commissioners Robin Gibson, Terrye Howell, Lake Wales Assistant City Manager James Slaton and SEMCO staff helped break ground on the Lake Wales Trail Tuesday night.

source.

"The Lake Wales Trail is the first tangible step toward what will become a Renaissance for downtown and the town's historic center," said Lake Wales Deputy Mayor Robin Gibson during the ground breaking ceremony.

Gibson said three important components will be coming together in 2018. The first draft of the new Community Redevelopment Plan is due Jan. 19; Karen Thompson, the new full time Lake Wales Main Street manager, is now off and running; and third, the city commission is committed to this fiscal year as the year of the downtown.

"Perhaps most important is the fact that the CRA now has money," Gibson said. "We have the responsibility to spend that money wisely and carefully. I believe in one to two years, the Renaissance we're talking about will be readily apparent, and downtown and the historic area will be well on its way. In a word, the ground breaking for the Lake Wales Trail is only the beginning."

In addition to winning the contract to build the trail, SEMCO staff was also named as the primary contractor for the city back in December 2016. The three-year contract, which ends in September 2019, can be renewed for up to two additional one year terms. Since becoming the primary contractor, SEMCO staff have already been awarded four other projects in Lake Wales: repairing the fishing pier, repairing the CSX building, replacing the roof on the fleet maintenance building and repairing the Depot Museum. These four projects cost around \$148,147.

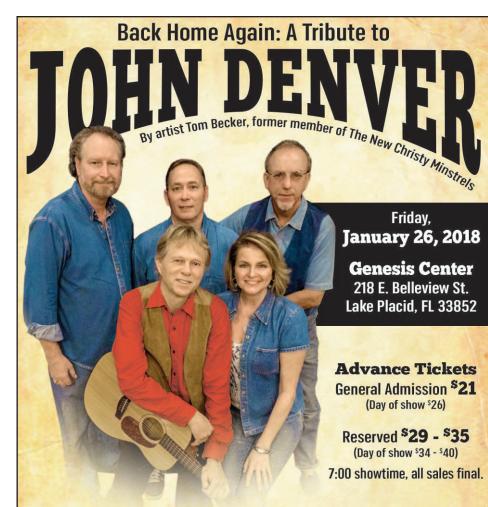
According to City Manager Ken Fields, all the facilities had been in disrepair for years and were in dire need of repair.



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Business owners help employees deal with emotional problems

By JOYCE M. ROSENBERG The Associated Press

NEW YORK — An employee is severely depressed and unable to complete a task. Or has mood swings and outbursts, unnerving colleagues and disrupting the workplace. These are some of the hardest situations small business owners and managers can face.

John Crossman has had employees at his commercial real estate company whose personal problems made it hard for them get work done. He's sympathetic, because he's struggled with depression and sought counseling in the past.

When he sees an employee in emotional distress, he asks, "Is there something we can do to be helpful?" At the same time, "You have to decide, what business boundary are you going to put up," says Crossman, whose eponymous company is based in Orlando, Florida.

Small business owners juggle competing concerns when they're dealing with employees' mental health issues, and it can be particularly difficult for the many owners who don't have a dedicated human resources staff. They may be worried on a personal level about a troubled staffer's well-being, but they also have a business If employees cannot get their work done properly or on time, revenue can suffer. In cases where a staffer has angry outbursts, co-workers might complain of a hostile work environment or might quit. If staffers alienate customers or vendors, an

to run.

owner will have to repair the relationships. Owners also must comply with federal, state and local laws. The Americans with Disabilities Act, which applies to companies with 15 or more employees, prohibits discrimination against workers with disabilities including mental illness and requires employers to make reasonable accommodations to help staffers work. The Family and Medical Leave Act, which provides for up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave for medical conditions including mental illness, applies to companies with 50 or more employees. Some state laws offer employees even more protection. And workers who feel discriminated against because of emotional issues might file charges with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

At Maple Holistics' warehouse, one worker suffered from severe social anxiety. He couldn't always make it into work on time, and



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this Tuesday, Dec. 19, 2017, photo, John Crossman meets with one of his employees at his office in Orlando. Crossman has had employees whose angry outbursts disrupted his commercial real estate company, and staffers whose personal problems made it hard for them get their work done.

he didn't communicate well with his nine co-workers. Managers at the Farmingdale, New Jersey-based company that manufactures maple food and personal care products knew they had to make accommodations.

"I knew he was not necessarily going to make it in from 9 to 5 every day," marketing manager Craig Eckersley says. "I was never critical because I knew it was something he had to deal with."

The staffer, who worked on an hourly basis, wasn't paid for the time he missed. But he also wasn't disciplined.

Eckersley and other Maple Holistics bosses helped other staffers understand that their co-worker needed compassion. While some initially asked, "What's up with this guy?" they grew to welcome him. "He carved out his niche and people got to work well with him," Eckersley says.

Crossman believes helping a staffer in trouble will help his company as well. In one case, an employee was struggling to cope after being served with divorce papers in the office. Crossman suggested the man take time off, and he did. When another employee had emotional problems, Crossman persuaded her to start working with the counselor he had seen, and when she couldn't

afford the sessions, he paid part of the cost.

Crossman sees dealing with troubled staffers as a fact of life as a business owner.

"We live in a world where there are so many broken people," he says.

Some owners might want an emotionally troubled staffer to seek treatment. But the laws about medical and mental conditions also protect staffers' privacy. So a boss can't tell an employee, "You're having emotional problems and you have to see a therapist," or ask if they're on medication.

"But if the employee says, I've got depression, or I've got bipolar personality disorder, whatever the case is, the employer would be able to have a dialogue with the employee and say, 'OK, what can we do to help you?" says Jonathan Yarbrough, an employment law attorney with Constangy Brooks Smith Prophete in Asheville, North Carolina. Once employers are aware of workers' medical conditions, bosses can be required to make some accommodations for them. The answer may be that an emotionally troubled staffer needs a schedule change or to have time away from work to see a mental health provider.

But owners must also address any impact that staffers' behavioral issues have on co-workers, says Jay Starkman, CEO of Engage PEO, an HR provider based in Hollywood, Florida.

"An employer has an absolute obligation to provide a workplace that is safe for other employees and to provide a workplace that is not a hostile working environment. Those two things trump everything," Starkman says.

Owners should get advice from an HR professional or employment law attorney on how to address a staffer's emotional or mental problems, and to ensure the company is complying with federal, state and local laws.

Even if staffers acknowledge they're suffering from an emotional problem or mental illness, if they're not able to do their work despite the owners' attempts to make accommodations, the company can consider disciplinary action, Starkman says.

"You have a right as an employer to have performance at an acceptable level," he says.

In Britain, which also has laws to protect people with disabilities including emotional problems, Lisa Forde wants to be sure her 11 staffers don't feel they'll be judged harshly if they contend with emotional issues.







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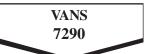
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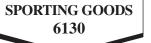
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hat good financial advice looks like

Good financial advice can help you achieve your life goals. Bad financial advice can cost you a fortune and leave you worse off than if you had tried to go it alone.

Unfortunately, you're still on your own in trying to determine the good advice from the bad. The U.S. Department of Labor has delayed key portions of a fiduciary rule that would require financial advisers to put their retirement account clients' interests first. The provisions are set to begin July 1, 2019, but it's anyone's guess if that will happen.

Officials say they need more time to consider possible changes to the rule, which was crafted under the Obama administration. Opponents of the delay say the rule has already survived legal challenges and a congressional effort to block it, so the delay amounts to a repeal.

"The safe thing is for the investor to assume it's still the same buyer-beware market that's always existed," says Barbara Roper, director of investor protection for Consumer Federation of America, a nonprofit advocacy group.

Many Americans believe, incorrectly, that their financial advisers already are required

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Amazon narrows list for new headquarters

NEW YORK (AP) — Amazon has narrowed its search for a second headquarters city to 20 locations, concentrated mostly in the East and the Midwest. Toronto made the list as well Tuesday, keeping the company's international options open. Other contenders include: Boston; New York; Washington, D.C.; Chicago; Indianapolis; Columbus, Ohio;

to act in their clients' best interests. In reality, most are held to lower standards. Asking advisers to disclose their conflicts of interest is always a good idea, but here are some other ways to spot advice that truly puts clients first:

Good advice doesn't promise the moon and stars

Beware of advisers who only want to talk about their investing prowess and how they plan to beat the market. Few advisers can consistently deliver market-beating returns, and attempts to do so usually drive up their clients' costs. A better approach for most people is to invest all or most of their portfolios in low-cost index mutual funds or index exchange-traded funds that strive to match various market benchmarks.

Good advice doesn't promote "high-commission garbage."

That's what financial journalist Bob Veres, publisher of Inside Information, a service for advisers, calls products that are notorious for high costs and potential to enrich advisers at the expense of their

and Los Angeles, the only West Coast city to make the cut.

Emirates throws Airbus A380 a lifeline

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — The Middle East's largest airline, Emirates, is purchasing 20 A380 aircraft with the option for 16 more in a deal worth \$16 billion. With Thursday's deal, the airline is throwing a lifeline to the European-made



LIZ WESTON Nerd Wallet

clients. These can include non-traded real estate investment trusts, indexed annuities and variable annuities inside retirement accounts.

Proprietary mutual funds also can be problematic. These are the house-brand funds offered by the bank, brokerage or investment company where you have your account. Your adviser may earn extra compensation for pushing them, and they can have higher costs or worse performance than competing funds. Advisers may be able to make an argument why any of these products make sense for you, but it's worth getting a second opinion from someone who doesn't make commissions selling them.

"The more complex, opaque

double-decker jumbo jets. Airbus had said earlier that if it didn't close the deal with Emirates, it would end production of the jet.

Morgan Stanley's profits fall 59 percent

NEW YORK — Morgan Stanley's earnings fell 59 percent in the fourth quarter as the investment bank had to book \$990 million in charges related to the new tax law.

and illiquid the investment, the more generous the compensation to the adviser tends to be," Roper says. "The incentives line up in a way that is directly contrary to the investor's best interest."

Good advice doesn't pretend to be free or cheaper than it is

All investments have costs, and advisers can be paid in a variety of ways that may not be readily apparent to their customers. Financial advisers should be straightforward in explaining those costs and the ways they're compensated.

Also, investors who pay a percentage of their portfolios for advice should know how that fee is calculated. A fee that's "only" 0.35 percent each quarter seems dirt cheap, but that adds up to 1.4 percent a year, which isn't. Veres' survey of about 1,000 advisers found most charge annual advisory fees of around 1 percent for portfolios worth less than \$1 million.

Good advice doesn't deliberately confuse people

Some advisers make a big deal about being fee-based,

American Express posts \$1.2 billion loss

NEW YORK - Credit card company American Express posted a \$1.2 billion loss in its latest quarter after booking large one-time charges related to the new tax law. The company also announced it would suspend its share buy-back program for six months to rebuild its capital following the charge.

but that means they also accept commissions or other incentives. Fee-only financial advisers, by contrast, are compensated solely by fees their clients pay. Also, some advisers have been telling their clients that the fiduciary rule required them to start charging fees. That's not true, Roper says.

Good advice comes from an adviser who puts clients first

Only a few categories of advisers are required to be fiduciaries, or someone obligated to put their clients' interests ahead of their own. Those advisers include registered investment advisers and certified financial planners when they're offering financial planning advice. Certified public accountants have a professional code of conduct similar to a fiduciary standard.

When advisers don't have a RIA, CFP or CPA after their names, ask if they're willing to be fiduciaries and to put that promise in writing. The Committee for the Fiduciary Standard, a volunteer group promoting the standard, has an oath advisers can download and sign.

Company to make cheap generic drugs

TRENTON, N.J. - Several major not-for-profit hospital groups are trying their own solution to drug shortages and high medicine prices: creating a company to make cheaper generic drugs. The plan, follows years of shortages of generic injected medicines that are the workhorses of hospitals.





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523 Entrada Ave. RV Parking New floors, Quartz countertop just remodeled. Caged pool, garden & more.



2 Bed 2 Bath Lake Josephine

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Furnished. all updated,

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of the charming characteristics of a 50's ranch including a sunken living room. Large rooms throughout this beauty with tile and hardwood flooring. Huge Dining Room. MLS # 243522

Florida! Great construction standards. Over 2,500 sf living area with a game room. Pool table, shuffleboard table, and poker table all go to buyer. Home is located directly on the canal to Lake Istokpoga. MLS # 243811 \$189,900

from Hurricane Irma. Looking for that perfect weekend

getaway with room for all? This home is convenient to both coasts and located on the 5th largest lake in

LAKE FRANCIS



Owner has completely remodeled this home Everyone's favorite deep, clear water ridge from top to bottom while retaining some lake. Property is located on a canal, just steps from the lake, fishing or skiing in a matter of seconds. Large 3 Bedroom, 2-1/2 bath home. On quiet cul-de-sac. \$214,000 MLS # 245173

\$140,000



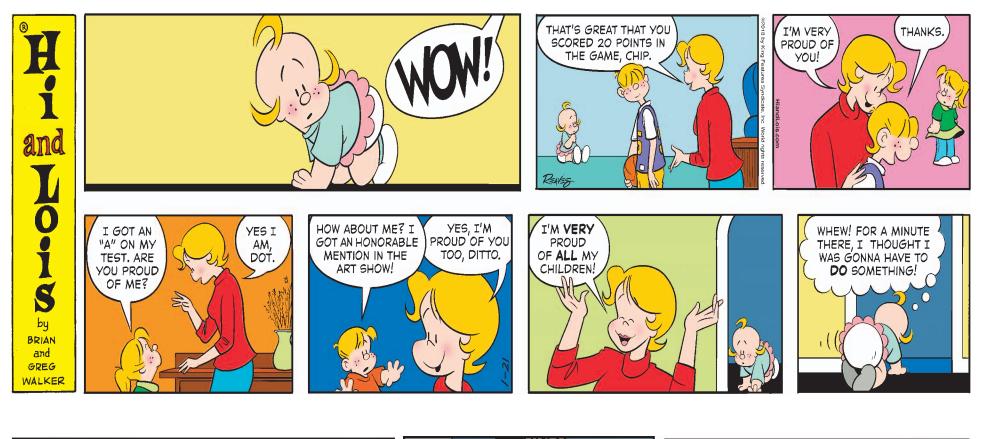
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Hurry to choose your colors and finishes. This 2 car garage, screen porch overlooking the pond and within walking distance to the clubhouse MLS # 245449



One of Highlands premier builders with high end NEW Metal Roof, NEW Flooring, NEW Fence, NEW finishes located in a gated development with Water System. 3 bed/ 2 baths Well maintained convenience to everything yet peaceful and quiet. home on canal to Istokpoga only seconds from the lake, the 5th largest lake in Florida almost home will feature 3 bedrooms and 2 baths with a 27,000 Acres! Large outdoor living area with porches, spa, workshop, boat house with lift and more. Furnishings and Pontoon Boat available MLS # 244268 \$212,900

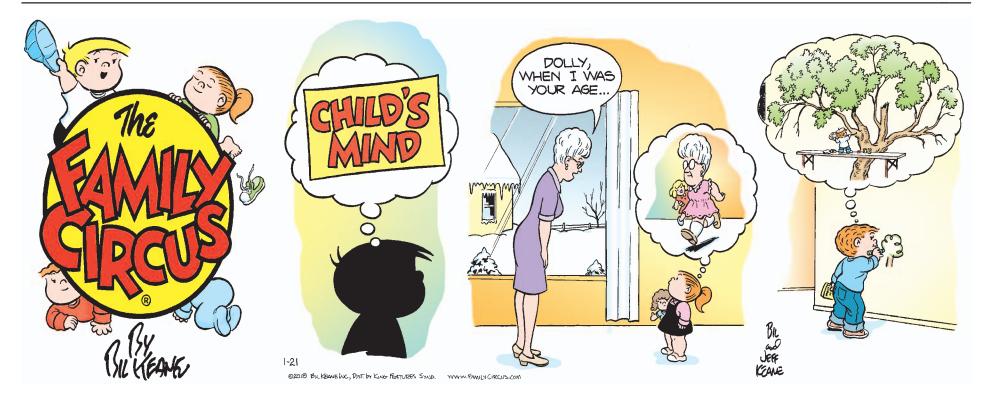












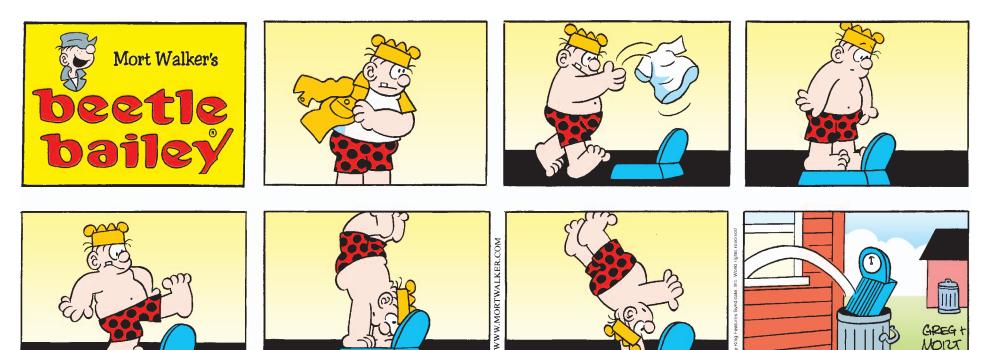






















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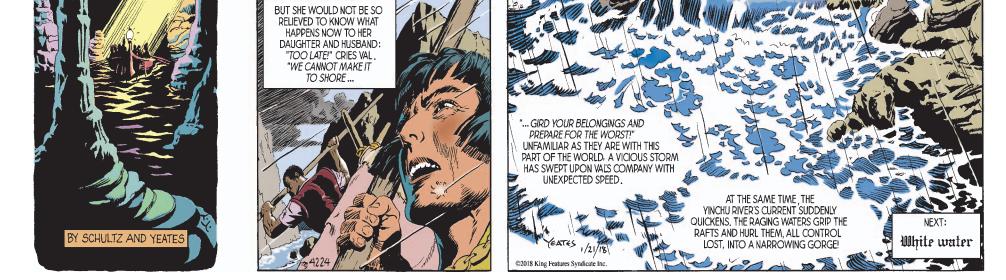






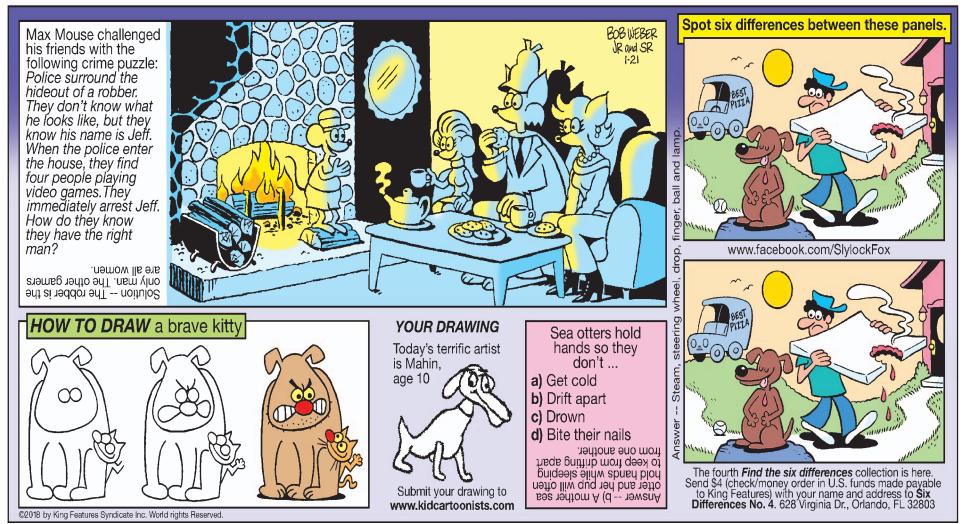






SLYLOCK FOX and COMICS FOR KIDS

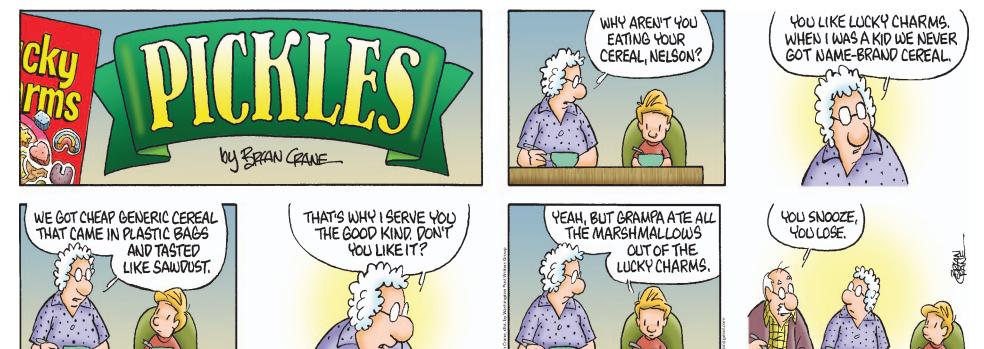
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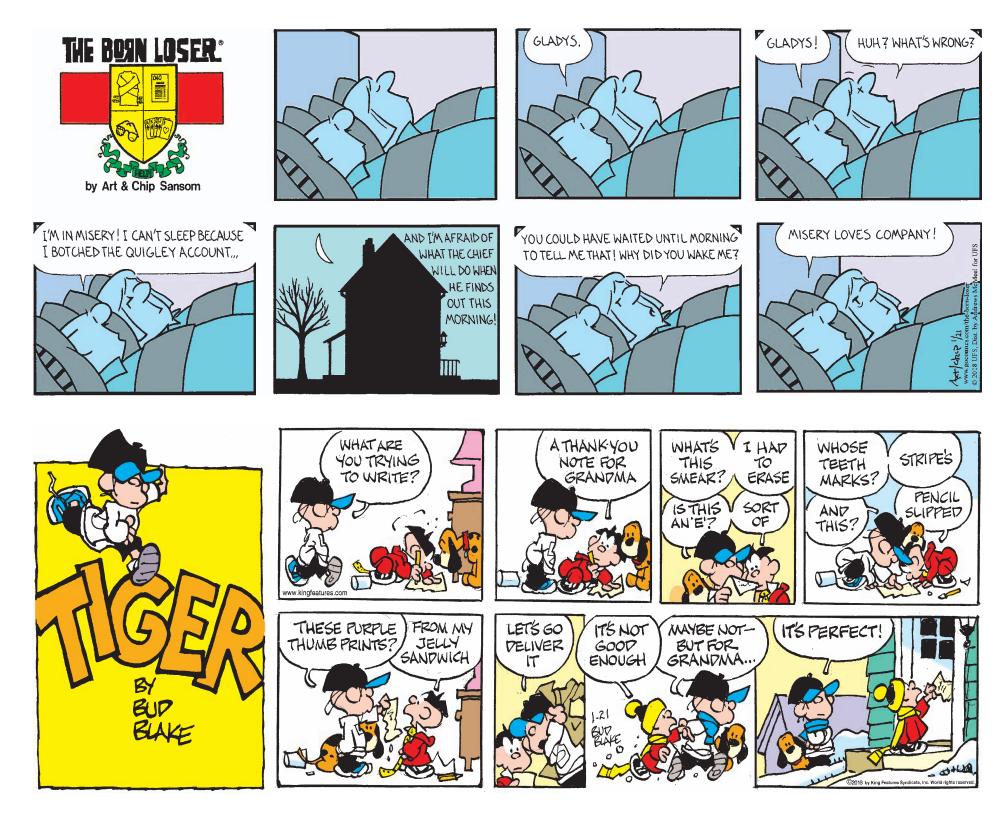




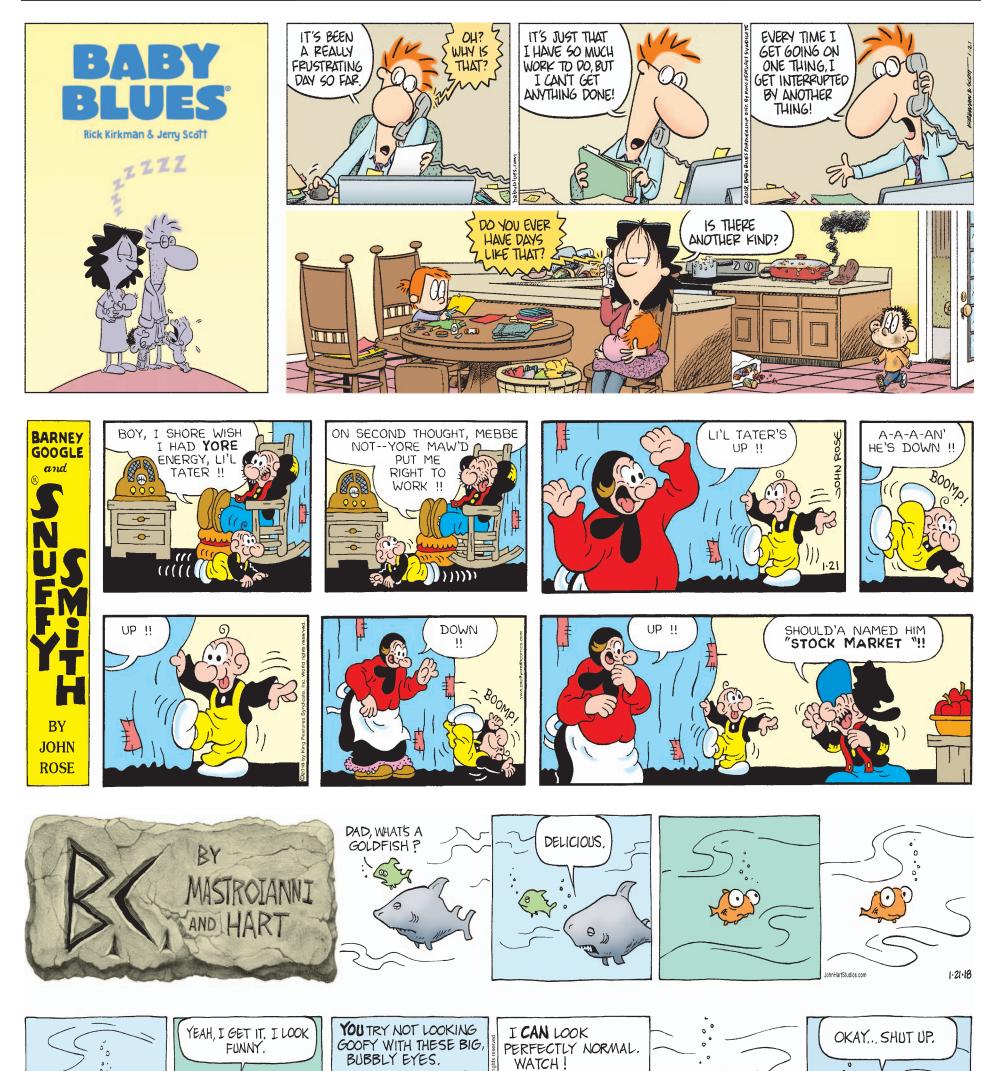


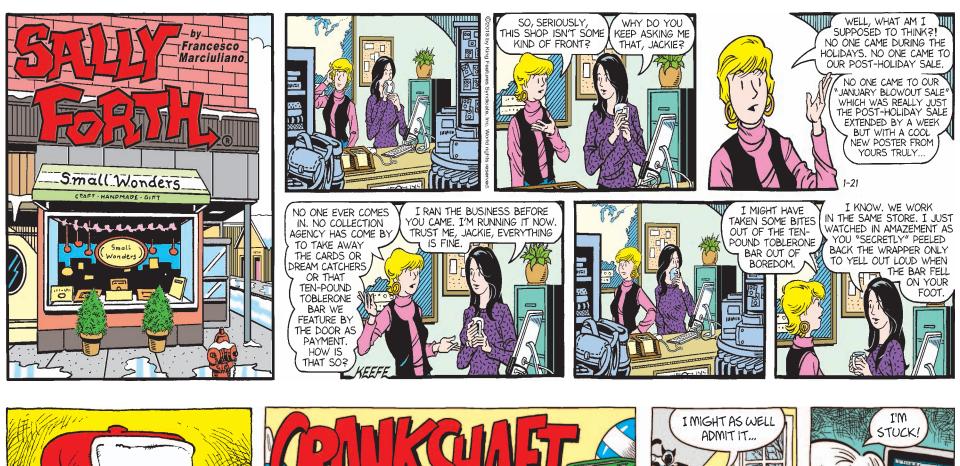
















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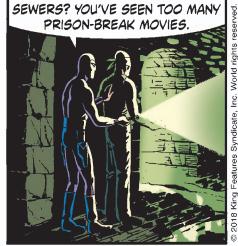
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THE PHANTOM

BY LEE FALK













NON SEQUITUR BY WILEY

HEY ... WHAT'S THAT, BOSS? MY LATEST 0,0 TORTURE DEVICEI 0 IT SENDS NEW COOL! WHAT ARRIVALS BACK TO HORRIFIC A YEAR AGO TODAY PAIN DOES TO RELIVE THE THIS ONE ENTIRE YEAR CAUSE? AGAIN ... 0

DENNIS THE MENACE

BY HANK KETCHAM

