

HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

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YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1919

An Edition Of The Sun

Highlands Virtual School open enrollment



COURTESY PHOTO

A Highlands Virtual School orientation session. Open enrollment for full-time HVS students for the second semester continues through Wednesday.

By **MARC VALERO**
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — The School Board of Highlands County's online education program, Highlands Virtual School, is in open enrollment for the second semester for full-time students.

Highlands Virtual School data clerk Rebecca Torres said open enrollment continues through Wednesday.

The school board's homepage at: www2.highlands.k12.fl.us



provides a link to the Highlands Virtual School website, which includes an online application.

During the first semester Highlands Virtual added its driver's education course, Torres noted. "It's the online

portion; We don't do the actual driving portion that can be done through the DMV [Department of Motor Vehicles].

Including lead teacher, Lorie Layfield, the virtual school has five full-time teachers and two adjunct teachers.

Currently, Highlands Virtual School has about 50 full-time students, but many more students who are attending the "brick and mortar" schools also take online classes for a total of about 900 students taking courses

through the virtual school, Torres said.

For example a Sebring High student can take an algebra course online instead of in a classroom, she said.

Highlands Virtual School is a school of choice and offers a full-time program for students in grades 6-12.

Full-time HVS students are registered as public school students, take part in district and state testing and have

SCHOOL | 8A

Little Lambs: Child porn addiction strong as drugs

By **PHIL ATTINGER**
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — In a taped interview played at his 2016 molestation trial, Camren Robinson said he watched pornography with a 4-year-old boy, which led to sex acts over two years.

On Dec. 21 this year, Polk County sheriff's deputies arrested William "Billy" Lee Smith, counselor at Youth and Family Alternatives Inc., on 15 counts of possessing child pornography he allegedly used for sexual fantasy, traded over the internet and thought protected him from actually touching a child.

He also allegedly said he was addicted to child porn, knew it was illegal, and needed help.

Eileen Sala, of Little Lambs Inc. Christian-based addictions counseling, agrees Smith needs help, but disagrees with his belief that using porn protects an innocent person from harm.

She said anyone under that assumption is a "walking bomb."

"That's saying, 'If I don't have this available, I would move into worse things,'" Sala said.

Addictions, especially porn, start small and grow, she said. People get used to a level of excitement and then crave things more challenging and dangerous, like violence or underage partners.

Sala and her late husband, John, founded Little Lambs Inc. in 1997 and moved to Sebring in 1998. Robinson and Smith, both from Sebring, were 8- and 9-year-old elementary school students at that time.

Clients have told Sala they first saw pornography at such early ages, finding discarded magazines in an alley or a porn collection hidden under a bed.

Some were also abused, Sala said. Today, the most common source is the internet: Children browsing without filters or supervision.

How much? How often?

Sources vary on how much internet pornography exists and how many view it. FightTheNewDrug.org claims 72 percent of online pornography viewers are men and 28 percent are women.

The site said 90 percent of female viewers watch online porn at least once a week — two-thirds using smartphones — 31 percent of women watched every week and another 30 percent did so a few times a month.

Men's Journal, citing San Francisco-based sex therapist Elizabeth McGrath, said women are expected to seek out a partner, not pornography, while men are expected to use it as a "release valve." However, McGrath estimates 40 to 50 percent of women watch porn.

The article also states McGrath encourages women to "explore" sex through porn.

Sala said it's not necessary for people to "explore" for internet porn. While recently researching a health issue, her browser got inundated with pop-up windows from porn sites.

She eventually got them all closed, but for a child, Sala said, curiosity to stay and see more would be too tempting.

Varying stats

Statistics vary on how much is out there. An

PORN | 7A

To gym or not to gym



ROBERT MILLER/STAFF

The Highlands County Family YMCA gym offers state-of-the-art machines with a little something for everyone. From treadmills to ellipticals and yoga to weightlifting, there is something for all fitness enthusiasts.

By **ROBERT MILLER**
NEWS CLERK

SEBRING — Christmas has come and gone, you've returned that elephant tie that Aunt Edna bought you and you've recovered from the New Year's Eve party you found yourself invited to. What's your next step?

For many, January is a time for New Year's resolutions, usually involving losing weight and/or going to a gym. Even with wearable fitness items such as Fitbit or a renewed emphasis on eating healthier, gym memberships are still up.

According to a re-albuzz.com article, 45 million Americans

have gym memberships; that's 14 percent of the

population. While Gold's Gym

in Sebring has already begun to feel the influx of new members, the Highlands County Family YMCA expects to feel "the surge" this Monday. Laura VanFleet, health and wellness director at the YMCA, said the increase happens every year about the same time.

"Our goal this year is to hang onto those new members in January by providing them with upbeat, fun classes," VanFleet said.

VanFleet went on to say that the school calendar always affects memberships, with a small drop-off in the summer but a

GYM | 8A



Gold's Gym Sebring offers the perfect machine for any workout. Treadmills, ellipticals, weights, stationary bikes and more are always ready to go. The machines also sport streaming so that you can watch your favorite show while you work out, so don't forget those headphones.



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Good morning To
Joel Emerson
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COURTESY PHOTO

Lorrie Lammie, Ken Keyser and Fred Rebstock are tax preparers at H&R Block in Lake Placid.

Tax refunds may be delayed with shut down

By KIM LEATHERMAN
STAFF WRITER

LAKE PLACID – Tax preparers and accountants are watching Capital Hill with eyes wide open. With millions of Americans heading into tax season, the government shutdown has brought up more questions than answers.

Before the government shut down, the tax season was going to be a challenge with new laws that the Internal Revenue Service staffers had to learn called the Tax and Jobs Act of 2017. According to the IRS, only 12.5 percent of its workers are authorized to work during the government shutdown that started on Dec. 22. Issuing refunds is considered a “non-expected activity,” meaning no one will be harmed if that part of the government is furloughed.

H&R Area Manager and Tax Preparer Lorrie Lammie said the IRS used

to open every Jan. 15 for tax returns but has been late the last few years, opening around Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

There’s good news and bad news if the government shut down doesn’t get resolved before the IRS would normally open for tax returns. The good news is the government will gladly accept any payments that you have to make. The bad news is that you will not see a penny of your refund until the government shut down is over.

Lammie said that many people use their tax returns to get out of Christmas debt, plan a vacation or even use it as a savings account.

“The government won’t fund anyone who has an earned income credit, child tax credit and additional child tax credit or education credit until Feb. 15,” Lammie said.

“We know that’s hard on people so, we offer a portion of the refund in

advance. It is at no charge to the client and it helps them out.”

Lammie is urging people to get their tax forms in order and start the return process.

“That way the return is in the queue,” she said. “They work on a first come first, serve basis.”

Once a return is accepted, it is usually paid in about 21 days, assuming there are no audits or problems with the return, Lammie explained.

“If you get lucky and the government has a soft opening, they might process the return before the official opening,” Lammie said. “They do a soft opening to make sure everything is working smoothly.”

The government put out a 110-page guide to handle the shutdown for the first five days. They will be re-writing it. The IRS is not taking any phone calls yet but information can be found at IRS.gov.

Sideswiped near Sun ‘n Lake



PHIL ATTINGER/STAFF

Two cars collided before 10:30 a.m. Friday morning on the northeast corner of Sun ‘n Lake Special Improvement District after one driver apparently pulled out of Ponce de Leon Boulevard in front of southbound U.S. 27 traffic. The wreck is still under investigation by the Florida Highway Patrol. Both the white 2011 Dodge Caravan and the white 2012 Ford Fusion sedan had deployed airbags and had to be towed from the scene. One individual was reportedly transported to a local hospital with a broken arm.

Sebring man arrested for car theft

By KIM LEATHERMAN
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — Wilbert Segarra, 18 from Sebring was arrested at 4:22 a.m. on Dec. 30 by the Sebring Police Department officers. The officers say Segarra stole a silver 2013 Chevrolet Silverado pickup truck from the unsuspecting victim’s residence on Hitakee Avenue in Sebring.

Segarra has been charged with felony burglary of an unoccupied conveyance, unarmed; felony grand theft of a motor vehicle; possession of marijuana under 20 grams and drug equipment possession.

The victim told deputies that he had fallen asleep on his living room couch but he woke up as he heard the Silverado’s

engine rev to life. According to the police report, the victim jumped up and exited the residence. Once outside, the victim saw his truck driving away, headed southwest on Hitakee Avenue toward Lakeview Drive.

The arresting officer wrote that the victim ran back into his house to get his phone and call 911. However, this action caused the victim to not see which way the stolen truck was headed once it got to Lake View Drive.

Upon their arrival, the victim told officers that no one had permission to drive his car. He admitted that he left the truck



SEGARRA

unlocked and a spare key in the cup holder in the center console.

The Silverado was equipped with Onstar, a GPS service. Officers had the company ping the location of the vehicle and found it sitting in front of 110 Bluefish Dr. The Onstar service was able to put a lock on the vehicle’s engine so that it would not start again once it was shut off.

The suspect was in the truck talking to a female who was standing by it. Segarra was Mirandized and arrested.

As he was searched, officers found a corn cob pipe in the suspect’s pocket with a green leafy substance in it that would later field test positive for marijuana. Officers took Segarra to Highlands County Jail.

Correction in advertisement

The advertisement that appeared on page 8A of Saturday’s Highlands News-Sun for Diane Reis with Berkshire Hathaway contained an error. Reis sold \$2,690,700 in real estate sales during 2018, not \$4,695,200 in sales.



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OBITUARIES

Beverly A. Burke



Beverly A. Burke passed away peacefully at home, surrounded by her loving family on New Year's Eve, Dec. 31, 2018.

Daughter, sister, wife, mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, great-grandmother, friend, business owner ... those were just some of the many impactful roles that Beverly shared with the world.

Born Oct. 13, 1932 to Emma J. Koepfel and Raymond V. Thomas, she was the eldest of five children. On July 1, 1950 she married Paul M. Burke. Together, they celebrated 60 years of marriage and the birth of seven children, Michael Burke, Gary Burke (Jan), Paul Burke (Lori), John Burke (Dawn), Valerie James (Jeff), Kathleen Ripp and Mary Gerard (Dan). Beverly was also overjoyed to welcome 18 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Bev and Paul co-founded Makerite Manufacturing in Roscoe, Illinois where they worked side by side until retirement. As snowbirds, they shared their time between Roscoe, Illinois and Lake Placid, Florida where

Bev enjoyed golfing, watching the Chicago Bears, cooking for family and friends, attending the weekly meat raffle at the American Legion where she was a member of the Auxiliary, and the company of her family and her many friends.

As a devout Catholic, she was member of St. Peter's Church in South Beloit, Illinois as well as St. James Catholic Church in Lake Placid, Florida.

Bev was predeceased by her parents; all of her siblings; her husband, Paul and her son, Gary. The family wishes to thank Sheila Griffin and OSF Hospice, especially Michelle Craven.

A Funeral Mass will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, Jan. 7, 2019 at St. Peter Catholic Church, 620 N. Blackhawk Blvd. in South Beloit, Illinois with Fr. Steven Sabo officiating. Burial will be in Roscoe Township Cemetery.

A visitation will be held at McCorkle Funeral Home, 767 N. Blackhawk Blvd. in Rockton, Illinois from 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 6, 2019. A scripture service will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Beverly's name to the Rockton American Legion Auxiliary or your local animal shelter or food pantry.

Henry B. Webster

Henry Byron Webster



passed away late Dec. 24, 2018 in Leavenworth, Kansas. Hospice care and his wife, Charlene were by his side.

Henry was a "Dr. Weems" baby born in Sebring, Florida on July 13, 1938 to Henry Nelson and Jane (Yates) Webster. He attended the First Methodist Church. He refused to go to Kindergarten, but did become a Blue Streak in 1956.

He is survived by sisters, Margaret (Kent) Mueller and Linda Stevenson; sons, Henry Kenneth (Kim), Scott Frederic (Gail), Daniel Byron (Barbara), Kedric J. (Jennifer); and first wife, Jacquelin (Jackie) Haslinger Webster; grandchildren, Henry Jacob, Samantha, Frederic (Fritz), Jordan Scott, Elizabeth Jane; and great-granddaughter, Johanna, parents, Fritz (Ione) Germany; four stepchildren and their families.

Henry was preceded in death by his parents, Hank and Jane Webster; sister, Carol Noble; grandparents, Mammie (Burgess) and Byron L.

Yates of Okeechobee; six aunts; Uncle Joe Yates and brother-in-law, Joel Stevenson.

After attending Chipola Junior College, Henry went to the University of Florida. He attended the Army's six-month reserve training in Georgia before graduating with a Mechanical Engineering degree. Over the years Henry primarily worked for the Tennessee Valley Authority and veterans hospitals in Tuskegee, Alabama; Grand Island, Nebraska; Seattle, Washington and Leavenworth, Kansas.

Henry was especially proud of taking the Houston, Texas VA Hospital from a "hole in the ground" to total completion and running well.

Three of his sons graduated from Leavenworth High School, two from the University of Kansas (KU), Scott from Kansas State University (KSU) and Kedric J. from Bryan College in Tennessee. Afterwards, Kedric J. moved to Sebring with his mother in 1986.

Funeral services will be Saturday, Jan. 5, 2019 at a funeral home in Leavenworth.

Billie Lee Briere Watkins

Billie Lee Briere Watkins, 71, of Sebring, Florida passed away



peacefully at her home on Dec. 30, 2018 surrounded by her family. Billie was born on

June 6, 1947 in Havre, Montana to Albert D. and Lucille P. (Liberty) Briere. Billie married Robert Watkins in 1972.

Billie and Robert moved to Sebring in 1981 from Hawthorne, Nevada. Billie was an LPN for 43 years and worked at the Lake Placid Health Care for 26 years before retiring. Billie was a proud Native American of the Chippewa/Cree Tribe and graduated with her LPN from the Indian School of Nursing in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Billie is survived by her husband, Robert (of 46 years); daughter, Angela Mitchell (Patrick) of Grand Haven, Michigan; sisters, Jacki Schmidt of Glendive, Montana, Pamela G. Darrah and Bridgette E. Briere, both of Chinook, Montana and JoLynn Russell of Helena, Montana; and two grandchildren, Jimmy James and Sadie Sue.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to hospice or breast cancer awareness.

Banks/Page-Theus Funeral Home of

Wildwood, Florida assisted the family with the arrangements.

Nancy I. Syphers



Nancy I. Syphers, 88, of Ormond Beach, Florida, passed away Nov.

1, 2018. She was born in Cleveland, Ohio on Aug. 8, 1930. Nancy Trimmer graduated from Lakewood High School. She was married to Thomas G. Syphers on Oct. 2, 1949. Nancy had a career in real estate for HGM Realtors.

She was a member of Bible Fellowship Church in Sebring, Florida and had a passion for traveling the USA in an RV with husband Tom, church, volunteering, JAARS, mission trips, helping people and loved her family dearly.

Nancy is survived by her children, Marlene Waehner, Karen Knowles, David Syphers and Lora Callihan; 10 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband, Thomas; son, Thomas and grandson, Matt Callihan.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. on Jan. 19, 2019 at Bible Fellowship Church, 3750 Hammock Road, Sebring, FL 33872.

Couple accused of possessing over 20 grams of marijuana

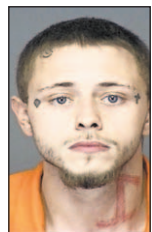
By **MELISSA MAIN**
STAFF WRITER

AVON PARK — On Dec. 30 Highlands County Sheriff's Office deputies responded to a reported domestic disturbance, but law enforcement officers ended the investigation by arresting both individuals for possessing over 20 grams of marijuana.

Dalton Ray Krell, 21, whose address is not listed on the arrest report, was arrested by HCSO deputies on Dec. 30. Krell was charged with possession of over 20 grams of marijuana; he also faces domestic battery charges on Sabrina Smith. He was previously found guilty of domestic violence and felony criminal mischief on March 28, 2017.

Sabrina Lucille Smith, 42, who is listed as being in a romantic relationship with Krell, was also arrested by HCSO deputies on Dec. 30. Smith was charged with possession of marijuana over 20 grams.

Deputies were called to the scene to investigate a domestic disturbance between Smith and Krell. According to the arrest report, a third party called



KRELL



SMITH

one of the deputies that led the deputy to suspect the illegal drugs, but that statement was redacted from the arrest report.

When the vehicle was searched, the deputies allegedly found 23.9 grams of marijuana.

dispatch regarding the dispute.

Smith reportedly told deputies that she had been residing with Krell as a family unit for approximately one year. The couple went to Krell's mom and stepdad's home to assist them with manual labor, she said.

Krell allegedly pushed her on her right shoulder forcefully when she was trying to enter his mom and stepdad's house, and he also reportedly threw a plant of the top of the hood when she attempted to leave. He "placed himself behind the rear driver tire to prevent her from leaving the area," the report states.

One deputy mentioned to another deputy that the vehicle the couple were driving in might have illegal narcotics in it, the report states. Krell had reportedly uttered a spontaneous statement to

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A household is defined for the purposes of the Lifeline program as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Lifeline service is not transferable, and only eligible consumers may enroll in the program. Consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain Lifeline telephone or broadband service can be punished by fine or imprisonment and can be barred from the program.

If you live in a CenturyLink service area, please call 1-855-954-6546 or visit centurylink.com/lifeline with questions or to request an application for the Lifeline program.



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CenturyLink participa en un programa de beneficios gubernamentales (Lifeline) para hacer que el servicio telefónico residencial o el servicio de banda ancha sea más económico para los individuos y familias de bajos recursos que cumplan con los requisitos. Los clientes aptos para este programa son aquellos que cumplen con los estándares de elegibilidad conforme lo definido por la FCC y las comisiones estatales. Los residentes que viven en tierras tribales reconocidas federalmente pueden calificar para obtener beneficios adicionales si participan en ciertos programas federales adicionales de elegibilidad. El descuento Lifeline está disponible únicamente para un teléfono o servicio de banda ancha por hogar que califique, y dicho servicio puede ser alámbrico o inalámbrico. Las velocidades de banda ancha deben ser de 18 Mbps de descarga y de 2 Mbps de subida o más rápidas para calificar.

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 26 • 7 P.M.

Saturday, March 30 8 p.m.

"Come On Down" and play to win real prizes at this live on stage version of the longest running and most popular game show...

the Price is Right LIVE!

2018-19 ARTIST SERIES



2018-19 ADVENTHEALTH TRENDING NOW SERIES



2018-19 MATINEE SERIES



2019 JAZZ SERIES



SPECIAL EVENTS

Sara Evans
Sat., Jan. 26 • 7 p.m.

The Price is Right Live
Sat., March 30 • 8 p.m.

ADVENTHEALTH TRENDING NOW SERIES

Forever Young
Sun., Jan. 13 • 3 p.m.

Wild World of Animals
Sat., Feb. 16 • 7 p.m.

Rhythm in the Night
Sun., Feb. 24 • 3 p.m.

Cirque Zuma Zuma
Sun., March 3 • 3 p.m.

ARTIST SERIES

The Doo Wop Project
Weds., Jan. 23 • 7 p.m.

Jon Secada
Sat., Feb. 2 • 7 p.m.

The Florida Orchestra
Thurs., Feb. 14 • 7 p.m.

Chita Rivera and Robert Klein
Weds., Feb. 20 • 7 p.m.

Wayne Newton
Thurs., Feb. 28 • 7 p.m.

Legally Blonde
Thurs., March 7 • 7 p.m.

The Sound of Music
Weds., March 20 • 7 p.m.

Sandi Patty
Sat., March 23 • 7 p.m.

MATINEE SERIES

Let's Hang On
Tues., Jan. 8 • 1:30 p.m.

Simon & Garfunkel: Live in Central Park Revisited
Tues., Jan. 22 • 1:30 p.m.

Brian Gurl
Tues., Jan. 29 • 1:30 p.m.

Phil Dirt and the Dozers
Tues., Feb. 5 • 1:30 p.m.

Divas 3
Tues., Feb. 12 • 1:30 p.m.

Alter Eagles
Tues., Feb. 19 • 1:30 p.m.

Nashville Legacy
Tues., Feb. 26 • 1:30 p.m.

My Mother's Italian...
Tues., March 5 • 1:30 p.m.

Doug Cameron
Tues., March 19 • 1:30 p.m.

UF Concert Choir
Tues., March 26 • 1:30 p.m.

JAZZ SERIES

Hotlanta Dixieland Jazz
Fri., Jan. 11 • 7 p.m.

Eddie Metz Trio
Fri., Feb. 15 • 7 p.m.

The Lew Del Gatto Quartet
Fri., March 1 • 7 p.m.

Nicole Henry
Thurs., March 28 • 7 p.m.

Terry Lower and Edey Evans Hyde
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VIEWPOINTS

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SUN

ANOTHER VIEW

Words of wisdom

Many notable people died in 2018 and not only do they leave their historical footprint, but discernment in their recorded words that can continue to guide us into the next year.

George H.W. Bush: "No problem of human making is too great to be overcome by human ingenuity, human energy, and the untiring hope of the human spirit."

Barbara Bush: "Never lose sight of the fact that the most important yardstick of your success will be how you treat other people — your family, friends, and coworkers, and even strangers you meet along the way."

John McCain: "Courage is not the absence of fear, but the capacity to act despite our fears."

Aretha Franklin: "It would be a far greater world if people were kinder and more respectful to each other."

Billy Graham: "Each life is made up of mistakes and learning, waiting and growing, practicing patience and being persistent."

Stephen Hawking: "My advice to other disabled people would be, concentrate on things your disability doesn't prevent you doing well, and don't regret the things it interferes with. Don't be disabled in spirit as well as physically."

Kate Spade: "If you're as honest and fair as you can be, not only in business but in life, things will work out."

Stan Lee: "We live in a diverse society — in fact, a diverse world — and we must learn to live in peace and with respect for each other."

We are a better nation, and a better world for the insight these and others shared during their lifetime. And while we remember them, let's also remember those whose paths didn't lead to fame — those who serve our military, those who serve as police officers, firefighters, and first responders whose lives exemplify service that's often overlooked, but who kept us, and continue to keep us safe anyway.

We thank them all for continuing to serve and inspire us into a new year.

This time of year is traditionally one of reflection.

Let that life analysis include at least one goal that will extend beyond a New Year's resolution.

Let's strive to have our historical footprint — whether famous or not — leave the kind of wisdom that will improve on what's left behind, and gratitude from those whose paths we have crossed.

An editorial from the TimesDaily, Florence, Alabama.

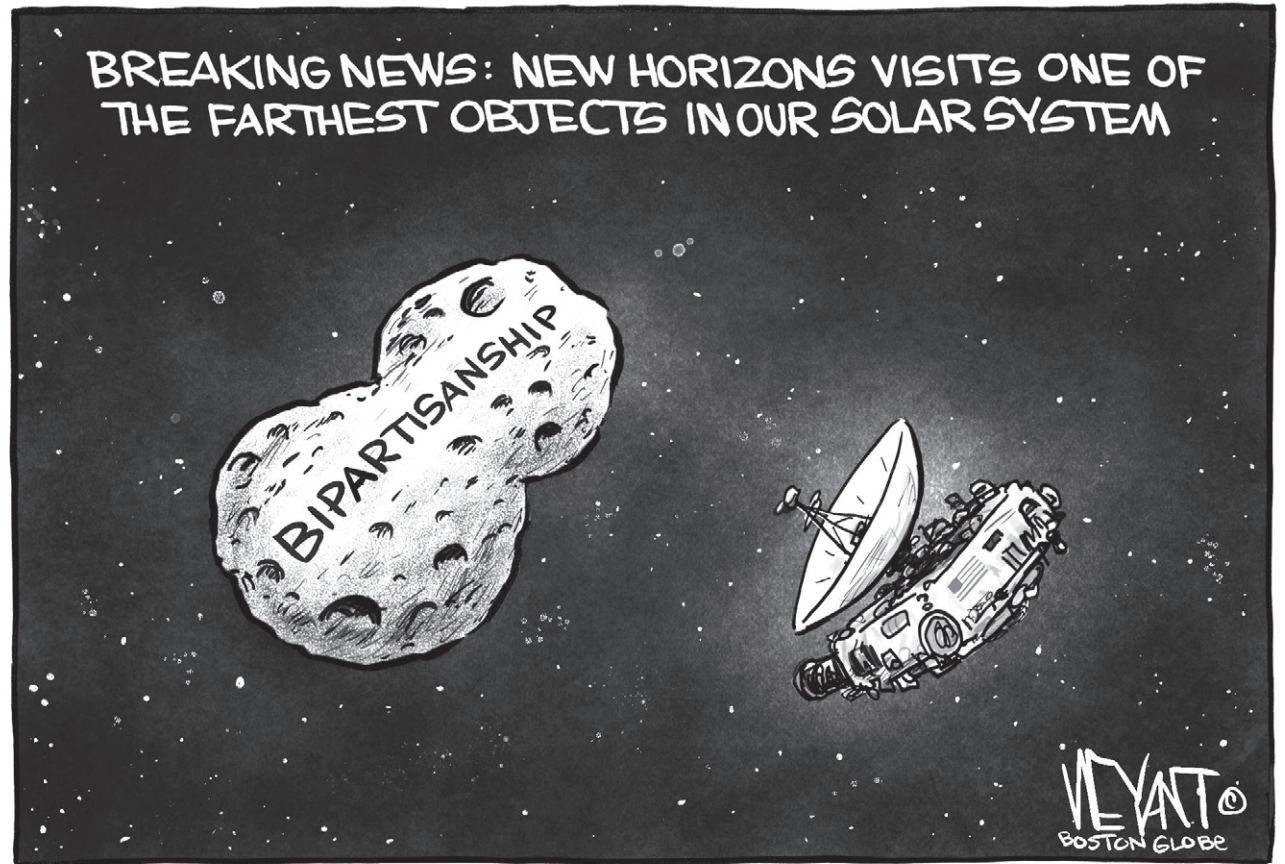
JOIN THE CONVERSATION

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 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.



In Illinois, a sign of life in the Democratic Party

COLUMNIST
George Will

WASHINGTON — If Republicans have a lick of sense, they are alarmed by a recent sign of intelligent life in the other party. The sign is the election by Democrats in the House of Representatives of Illinois Rep. Cheri Bustos as chair of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee. In November she won a fourth term by 24 percentage points, the largest margin of any Democrat running in a district Donald Trump carried in 2016. Her task as chair, which is to cement the Democrats' House majority in 2020, involves this arithmetic:

In the next Congress, 31 Democrats will represent districts Trump carried. In 2018, 40 Democrats flipped districts from red to blue — 41, if the Democrat wins the North Carolina race clouded by allegations of vote fraud. Twenty-two Democrats won by 5 percentage points or less. Twenty-three lost by 5 points or less. Democrats have noticed that Bustos prospers in a mostly rural district that extends along the Mississippi from the Wisconsin border to a portion of Peoria. Sixty percent of the district's residents live in towns with populations of 1,000 or fewer, 85 percent are in towns of 5,000 or fewer. In November, she won all of her district's 14 counties, 11 of which are

entirely rural.

What lessons can Democrats learn from her success among Trump voters? They might start by marrying a cop. She says she gets "instant credibility" by telling audiences that her husband, who has been in law enforcement for 34 years, is the sheriff of Rock Island County. Regarding guns, it is helpful if one of your sons finished second in the national collegiate trap-shooting competition. It also is helpful if another son is a union welder.

Favorable trends might tempt Democrats to think that that they can thrive without the voters Bustos reaches. The Economist, noting that Trump's approval rating is "stratified by age," reports that baby boomers — those born between 1946 and 1964 — who have been America's largest age cohort for more than five decades will in 2019 be outnumbered by millennials, those born between 1981 and 1996. Boomers are — were; they are shuffling off stage — almost 75 percent white; millennials are 56 percent white. In this year's midterm elections, Democrats won two-thirds of voters ages 18 to 29, and 71 percent of millennial women.

Furthermore, the GOP,

which thinks of itself as the redoubt of the devout, is competing in an increasingly secular country. The Economist says that "Nones" — people with no religion — "already outnumber Catholics and mainline Protestants," and in 2019 might outnumber evangelicals. "There will soon be more Nones than any single group of Christians." Ex-Catholics are 13 percent of the American population.

Furthermore, The New York Times reports that with the Democrats' capture of New York's 11th Congressional District, which includes Staten Island and part of Brooklyn, Republicans now hold no "truly urban" district. Since Republicans lost four Orange County, California, seats in November — the Democrats lost only two seats nationally — come January there will be no Republican from there in Congress for the first time since 1940. And there will be no Republicans from New England.

If, however, Democrats aspire to be less of a coastal party — come January, there will be more House Democrats from California than from 36 other states combined — they should want to emulate Bustos' success among voters she calls "Trump triers," those who are less than his devoted acolytes.

Republicans can hope

that in 2020, with Trump presumably at the top of their ticket, the turnout will be much larger and very unlike that of 2018. But analyst Charlie Cook, citing Michael McDonald of the United States Elections Project, says the 2018 turnout of 50.1 percent was the highest of any midterm election since 1914. David Wasserman of the Cook Political Report says Republicans lost 96 percent of House contests in districts Trump either lost or carried by less than 7 points.

Bustos sometimes connects with her constituents by asking them what they do for fun. When one woman answered "cable television," Bustos asked if her family did not go out to movies. No, the woman replied, four tickets and popcorn exceed the family's budget. This answer spoke volumes about the constituent's disposable income. Bustos' question revealed a well-honed political intuition. Democrats, she says, have to "own" districts like hers, "not rent them." This is what ownership looks like: Her four margins of victory have been 6 percentage points, 11, 20 and 24.

George Will's email address is georgewill@washpost.com. Columns are the opinion of the writer, not necessarily that of the Highlands News-Sun.

YOUR VIEW

Some areas need different security

In reply to the guest column by M. Gerson, the only metaphor I can see is Mr. Gerson's waste of education suggested and confirmed by his column in today's Highland News-Sun. The problem with all-over academic and under prudent people is they are so impressed with their words they sometimes leave common sense completely out of their writings.

The wall was never intended to be a continental wall. We all know, including the president, that some areas need different security.

Forty billion dollars would be cheap compared to the fiascos Congress has passed. Remember, not too long ago, the stimulus package? Even Obama laughed about

shovel-ready jobs.

The wall has worked pretty well in Israel, hasn't it? Maybe the smugglers and drug traffickers can learn different ways to get in, but the wall, where appropriate, will be a permanent structure that is a lot better than just tech, which in the end cost more and gets hacked daily.

Mr. Gerson needs to do some living and growing in the real world and maybe get out of the Washington press sewer sometimes. The Trump haters are starting to wear the rest of our patience thin.

Jay Broker
Sebring

What is retirement?

After 25-30 years in the factory, store, shop or mill, you have finally made it to Paradise, i.e. Florida. Now this gives you a whole bunch of entitlements

that you have worked for. They are (name one) (1) sleep late ... but of course you still get up at 5 a.m. and put on your darkest clothes and walk the neighborhood terrifying the younger people who are going to work and can't see you in the dark (it's like driving through a minefield).

Your next entitlement is that at exactly 8 a.m. you go to a fast food restaurant and sit until 9:30 with the same group of people telling the same stories every day. The next scheduled event is noon (the time is important) when you again go to the same or different restaurant for lunch. The time is important because that is also the time when the working people come for lunch and they have only 45 minutes to eat. Now most of the working people are 13th or 14th in line behind us retirees and by the time

you decide whether or not you want the bacon burger or chicken wrap their 45-minute lunch break is down to 31 minutes, but don't forget we are entitled (plus you get your senior citizen discount).

Moving on to the highlight of the day, Early Bird Special. You rush out to yet another restaurant for the evening meal. You go early so that you can get back home and in your pajamas for early evening TV, then off to bed because you have to get up at 5 a.m. and put on your dark clothes, etc., etc.

Ah, retirement. If the shoe fits, wear it. If not, I'm just putting you on. Incidentally, I wrote this letter a year ago, but we now have a whole new group of retirees so I thought I would bring them up to speed.

Hal Graves
Sebring

Conserve water by skipping irrigation

By **KIM LEATHERMAN**
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — The grass may be greener where it's watered, but Southwest Florida Water Management District is asking residents to curb their water usage. SWFMD has started a "Skip a Week" campaign where a homeowner would do without irrigating their lawns for a week during the cooler months.

SWFMD stated in a press release that over-watering can make grass less resistant to drought, wastes water and can cause pests and disease.

Master Gardener Diedrich Dierks agreed that grass does not need as much watering in the cooler months between November and March. For new lawns, Dierks recommends Bahia grass as it grows well in the sandy soil and goes dormant in the winter. It requires considerably less water than St. Augustine that is much higher maintenance. St. Augustine requires constant watering and Dierks said it requires a lot of fertilizing to keep it "pretty." He noted the runoff from the grass will include the excess fertilizer going into the aquifers.

Proper irrigation should start with proper materials.

"We were required in the mid-1990s to have rain sensors on



the irrigation systems," Dierks said. "The problem is, many people don't do it and no one enforces it. That's why you see sprinklers going when it's raining out."

Over watering can cause brown spots and bugs.

"Bugs like water," Dierks said. "If your grass is wet, the bugs will go to your house for lunch. Chinch bugs like to munch on roots and cause brown spots."

One of the best ways to measure the amount of water a lawn is getting is by putting several short and wide cans around the yard — Dierks recommends tuna fish cans. After the sprinklers finish a cycle, measure the water in the can.

SWFMD recommends a half inch to three quarters of an inch when using a sprinkler system. Thousands of articles can be found on the University of Florida IFA Extension Office website on agriculture; Dierks

siad sprinkler calibration 'how-to' articles are listed at edis.ifas.ufl.edu.

According to SWFMD, residents should only need to water every 10 to 14 days in the cooler months.

"Grass is Florida's largest agriculture crop," Dierks said. "About 50 percent of the water coming from our aquifers is being dumped on sod."

So, when do you water? SWFMD says it is time

to water the grass when a blade of grass folds in half, the blades take on a blue-gray color and when footprints remain in the grass after the foot has been moved.

The SWFMD website shows the days and times for residential watering. Watering is not to be done more than twice a week. The SWFMD schedule should be followed unless a town or county government has a different. The website states:

- Even addresses may water on Thursday and/or Sunday before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m.
- Odd addresses may

water on Wednesday and/or Saturday before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m.

•Locations without a discernible address, such as rights-of-way and common areas inside a subdivision, may water on Tuesday and/or Friday before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m.

•Hand watering and micro-irrigation of plants (other than lawns) can be done on any day and any time.

There are exceptions for new lawns and other variances. To find more information about "Skip a Week" or watering schedules, visit swfwm.d.state.fl.us.

PORN

FROM PAGE 1A

article in Psychology Today cites CovenantEyes.com, producer of internet use tracking and blocking software, claims there were 2 billion web searches for porn, worldwide, in 2015.

CovenantEyes.com also claims:

20 percent of mobile-device searches are for porn.

90 percent of boys and 60 percent of girls get exposed to it by age 18.

56 percent of divorces involve a spouse's using online porn.

Adulterers are twice as likely as faithful spouses to view online porn.

Psychology Today also cites Internet Safety 101/Enough is Enough as stating:

Porn sites get more visits per month than Amazon, Netflix and Twitter, combined.

30 percent of internet content is porn, 88 percent showing violence against women.

Searches for "teen porn" tripled to 500,000 a day from 2005 to 2013.

Young adults who view violent porn become six times as likely to commit sexual assault.

The General Social Survey (GSS), launched in 1973 by the National Science Foundation as a continuing survey of American beliefs and behavior, suggests internet porn content is closer to 10-15 percent, and that links to violent behavior are less probable.

Who is right? The author of the Psychology Today article leans toward the GSS figure, but Sala said the amount of porn

doesn't matter to addicts. They have to remove all triggers.

Fighting addiction

Clients have had to toss out internet, certain television channels and all suggestive material on disks, hard drives, flash drives, movies, songs, books or magazines.

They also need an accountability partner and relationship with God, she said. Clients have to recognize their lives are out of control and surrender to God's direction.

That means putting focus on others, not one's self, she said, and being sorry for committing the act, not for getting caught.

That's because porn hurts both the children in the films and the users' families, she said. A spouse can't live up to the fantasy, and the user's family gets neglected.

"It's so sad," Sala said. "It's one of the saddest things I've witnessed."

Harm to innocents

Smith got married in mid-October, and reports said he uploaded child porn files the week before the wedding. He was arrested at home, in front of his wife.

Out of 48 files from his Tumblr.com account, Polk deputies found at least 15 boys and girls, ages 5 and 12, having sex with apparent adults and/or exposing themselves.

Robinson, convicted of sexual battery, got life sentences on four of his 13 charges. Sala said the victim, now 9, has a life sentence, too.

"The man made a decision as an adult," Sala said. "The child made no decision here."

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ROBERT MILLER/STAFF

Gold's Gym Sebring has its own version of a movie theater where you can watch a movie and get your workout in at the same time. There is a different movie every day and the movie plays continuously all day long, so you never have to worry about missing a show time.

GYM

FROM PAGE 1A

second influx of patrons in the winter when snowbirds return.

"The YMCA wants you to feel welcome when you come to the gym, as if you are among friends who are looking forward to your next visit," VanFleet said.

She explained that individuals just need to take that first step and walk in the front door. Meeting the instructors and the other patrons can help, as well as the right classes.

"Our fitness classes are where it's at," VanFleet said.

This year, the YMCA is introducing a new class, Strength Train Together. This choreographed strength training class begins Monday and will be available at all YMCA's across the country.

The Sebring location will be the first YMCA in Florida to implement it. It will be offered as part of its early morning boot camp. The YMCA will also

be accepting applications for their Biggest Loser program, which begins the following week.

Both programs require a separate fee outside the normal monthly membership. The YMCA offers family memberships for \$72 per month and individual memberships for \$41 per month, all of which come with unlimited use of the facilities and pool.

Michael Bloemsma, membership director at Gold's Gym, says empathy is big and giving people a better way of life is what he loves most about working in the gym. He goes on to emphasize that everyone at Gold's Gym is there to help you achieve your fitness goals.

Bloemsma said he likes making people feel better about being at the gym. "Fitness is for everybody," he said.

Bloemsma is excited to learn everyone's name and recognize faces when they walk in the door.

"I've never worked in a gym where people remember your first name," he said. Not only

do patrons remember employee's names, some even come in and ask for a trainer by name. "Gold's is for everyone," Bloemsma said.

Gold's Gym also has a family plan for \$91.99 per month, which gives you and your family access to the machines, the pool and the onsite daycare. Individual memberships range from \$24.99 to \$42.99 per month, depending on your specific needs.

For more information on memberships or general inquiries, the Highlands County Family YMCA can be reached at 863-382-9622. Gold's Gym Sebring can be reached at 863-382-9400.



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Venus man arrested on drug charges

By MELISSA MAIN
STAFF WRITER

LAKE PLACID — After a Venus man was pulled over for running a stop sign, the police officer allegedly found cocaine in his possession.

Jacob David Knowles, 46, of Venus, was arrested on Sunday by an officer from the Lake Placid Police Department. Knowles was charged with possession of cocaine and possession of

drug paraphernalia.

A police officer reported seeing Knowles run a stop sign and enter into his lane. The officer took evasive action and turned around on the vehicle to conduct a traffic stop, the arrest report states.

When the office contacted dispatch, he



KNOWLES

reportedly learned that Knowles was on probation with a submit to search stipulation. The officer allegedly found a pack of gum with a white powdery substance that field tested positive for cocaine.

Knowles was transported to the jail, and booking personnel reportedly found a small piece of paper with a white powdery substance that gave a positive result for cocaine.

SCHOOL

FROM PAGE 1A

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Check the Highlands Virtual School website for additional requirements.

Students who wish to enroll part time in HVS may request courses from

the guidance department of their current school of enrollment.

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Buckeyes and fans enjoy Pasadena

Ohio State faithful rewarded with Rose Bowl win

By **MARK PINSON**
SPORTS EDITOR

As you get older you realize that time is fleeting and making the most of it is important. I lived in Ohio until I was 10 years old and some of my earliest memories are watching the Ohio State Buckeyes football team on a black-and-white television set.

Seeing the images of legendary coach Woody

Hayes leading the Buckeyes to victories on Saturday afternoon's are indelibly etched in my mind.

Beating Michigan and winning the Big Ten championship meant a trip to the Rose Bowl and a game against the Pac-12 champion on New Year's Day in Pasadena, Calif.

I had always wanted to go to the Rose Bowl, which is known as the "Granddaddy of Them

All," because it is the oldest of all of the college bowl games, but had never made the journey out west.

After Ohio State defeated Northwestern to win the Big Ten title in December and was left out of the College Football Playoff, the Buckeyes were selected to play in the Rose Bowl against Pac-12 winner, the Washington Huskies.

With Ohio State head

football coach Urban Meyer stepping down after the game and prolific Buckeyes quarterback Dwayne Haskins probably turning pro, this was as good a time as any to make my dream come true and head for California. A "Bucket List" item if you like.

My wife Mary, who is a University of Florida graduate, and a huge

OHIO | 2B



PHOTO BY MARY PINSON/SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

The Rose Parade was held on a cool and sunny New Year's Day morning in Pasadena, Calif. The Rose Bowl Game featuring The Ohio State University and the University of Washington was held Tuesday afternoon.



HIGHLANDS BASS ANGLER

Dave Douglass

Good fishing during the new moon

The Freshwater Fishing Forecast for the second week of January gives anglers a perfect Florida winter weather forecast and the second half of the new moon phase. All fishing factors considered, anglers will experience fish adjusting to two minor back to back cold front, a daily wind direction change, and plenty of atmospheric pressure change each day.

The new moon occurred last night, however the lunar orbit apogee (furthest point from earth) will occur Wednesday. This translates to a very weak lunar influence on fish feeding migrations, especially leading up to the day of the orbit apogee. So you can expect not much help from the new moon but it will yield slightly more than an average day on the water.

The weather this week will be what I consider a normal typical average Florida winter pattern; a ten-degree temperature change every three days, more than an average atmospheric pressure-change each day, and ideal wind speeds and sun-to-cloud ratios.

Since our last 28-degree temperature cold front a few weeks ago, the recent warmer weather pattern has produced ideal water temperatures. This in turn created a three-day feeding pattern, meaning every third day fish feed at above average rates.

Last Thursday pressure increased by over 0.13 In Hg between 8-11 a.m. and fishing was spectacular all throughout the heartland. Then Friday the pressure did not change, fish fed very little if at all, and yesterday feeding was sparse with only small bass occasionally feeding.

Today therefore, you can expect an above-average fishing result if you move deeper in the mornings and shallow during the high-temp period of the day. Atmospheric pressure has been peaking daily on the lunar overhead period and I expect that to continue today.

Best Fishing Days: Today through Wednesday fish will be adjusting to constant changing wind directions and plenty of pressure change—0.10 In Hg or more. It also could be true that Monday's activity rating could be better than today rating due to weather pattern timing.

New moon periods produce three daily feeding periods, triggered by the harmonizing of the moon with the sunrise, solar noon (12:33 p.m.), and sunset periods.

Major Fishing Period: Today the moon is overhead thirty minutes after solar noon---1:04 p.m. A feed intensity rating of 4 will occur from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Daily expect this period to move later by about 50 minutes.

Minor Fishing Periods: Today there are two minor periods centered on the sunrise and sunset. Due to warmer water temperatures during the sunset period, the rating will be a half or full point better than the

FISHING | 4B

Bloodhounds nip Blue Streaks



RUTH ANNE LAWSON/STAFF

Sebring's Norris Taylor (22) looks for an open man as Auburndale's Dorian Allen (12) defends during Thursday night's game. The Bloodhounds rallied to beat the Blue Streaks by a score of 78-73.

Auburndale edges Sebring in basketball

By **RUTH ANNE LAWSON**
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING – In an action-packed game that was close to the end, Auburndale hung on for a 78-73 win over Sebring on Thursday night. The loss dropped Sebring to 9-2 on the season.

"We played one quarter of basketball," said Sebring Head Coach Princeton Harris. "We did not play a full game and Auburndale played the whole game. We were up by 18 points and then lost by 5 and that is unacceptable. We stopped doing what made us get to where we were and that was defense. Defense creates our offense and when we stopped playing defense this is what happens."

Sebring came out strong and jumped to a substantial lead in the

first period. Norris Taylor had a putback and Alvin Tumblyn was sent to the line where he made one of two free throws.

Sebring's Eric Brown had a pair of layups and Taylor and Jacob Pasley added baskets to give the Blue Streaks an 11-2 lead with 1:45 left in the first quarter.

Auburndale narrowed its deficit when Andre Blake made a 3-pointer. Tumblyn was sent to the line for the Blue Streaks where he went two-for-two. Blake made another 3-pointer for the Bloodhounds to make it 13-8.

Tumblyn made a layup and Shamar Hawthorne sank a deep 3-pointer to give the Blue Streaks an 18-8 lead at the end of the first period.

Sebring started the

STREAKS | 2B



Sebring's Eric Brown makes a layup in Thursday night's loss to Auburndale.

Chiefs atop AFC playoff picture



PHOTO BY CHARLIE RIEDEL/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kansas City quarterback Patrick Mahomes (15) had a record-breaking regular season and has the Chiefs on a roll heading into the postseason.

Kansas City earns bye for best record in conference

By **ARNIE STAPLETON**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

For the first time in a decade, the top seed in the AFC playoffs goes to a team not led by Tom Brady or Peyton Manning.

The Kansas City Chiefs earned the No. 1 seed for the first time since 1997 after switching from Alex Smith to Patrick Mahomes, the sensational second-year star who reminds so many of Brett

Favre.

The New England Patriots lost five times on the road but still managed to win their customary first-round bye, slipping past the Houston Texans to earn a week off to rest for the 10th consecutive year.

They're the only teams back in the AFC playoffs following a year of comebacks.

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS (12-4). Last Lombardi:

Super Bowl 4, 23-7 over Minnesota on Jan. 11, 1970.

SHOOTOUT: The Chiefs haven't had a true franchise QB since Len Dawson led them to their only Super Bowl title. But after letting him learn the ropes under Alex Smith, Mahomes broke out with one of the best seasons in NFL history for a first-year starter (5,097 yards and 50 touchdowns). K.C. scored at least 26 points

in every game, the only team ever to do so.

STRIKEOUT: The defense is a dud. Their four losses this season came when they put forth as much resistance as tissue paper: shootout losses to the Rams, Patriots and Seahawks and a fourth-quarter meltdown against the Chargers. Of course, those are all playoff-bound teams.

CHIEFS | 4B

STREAKS

FROM PAGE 1B

second period with Jehovany Garcia sinking a pair of 3-pointers and Taylor had a layup to give the Blue Streaks a commanding 26-8 lead with 5:20 left in the first half.

The Bloodhounds went on a run to trim their deficit to 28-18. Brown made an easy layup and Tumblin went two-for-two at the line. The Bloodhounds made a pair of baskets and a couple of free throws to trail 34-27 at the half.

"I think we could have played a lot better," said Sebring's Eric Brown. "We opened up pretty well but then we let up. We need to execute, make free throws and play the whole game. I think we can do better. My personal goal is to always get better and improve each game. We have district games next week and we are going to work hard and focus to get ready."

Auburndale cut the deficit in the third period as Isaiah Turner made a 3-pointer, but Sebring's Brown made another layup and Garcia sank a 3-pointer for the Blue Streaks.

The Bloodhounds went on a 8-point run that brought the score to 50-46 at the end of the third quarter with Sebring still on top.

Auburndale came out strong in the fourth period with Turner making a shot off the glass. The Blue Streaks widened the gap with Tumblin going two-for-two at the line and Brown making a layup.



RUTH ANNE LAWSON/STAFF

Sebring's Norris Taylor dribbles the ball during Thursday's game against Auburndale. Taylor led the Blue Streaks with 20 points.

Auburndale answered with a pair of layups to pull within 54-52. Tumblin scored and Taylor scored. Taylor finished with 20 points and Brown contributed a total of 18.

Auburndale's Turner made a 3-pointer and Beymer sank a basket off the glass to bring the Bloodhounds within 58-57.

Garcia made another 3-pointer for the Blue Streaks, his fourth of the night, and Taylor went two-for-two at the line.

Auburndale tied the game at 63 and then claimed a 66-63 lead. Tumblin brought the Blue Streaks within a point with a shot off the glass bringing the score to 66-65. Tumblin had 17 points.

The Bloodhounds extended their lead with Beymer putting up five additional points. Taylor sank a 3-pointer and added a free throw but the Blue Streaks trailed the Bloodhounds 73-69.

Auburndale netted 5 points from the line

and Taylor made a pair of layups but it was not enough as the Bloodhounds held on for the victory.

"I think we lost defensively tonight," said coach Harris. "We play Haines City and Lake Wales next week. Lake Wales is a district game so we are going to get after it. We are going to work on defense. That is our main focus. If we work on the defense than everything else falls into place and if we do that we will be fine. We have been doing well offensively but we have to sit down and guard people. We are capable of doing it but we just have to do it. We had good competition in Auburndale and that's what we want to continue facing."

The Sebring Blue Streaks are back in action on Tuesday when they host the Haines City Hornets at 8 p.m. The Blue Streaks will host their Class 6A-District 10 foes, the Lake Wales Highlanders on Friday at 8 p.m.

OHIO

FROM PAGE 1B

Gator fan, went with me. Urban Meyer won two national championships in his time as head coach of the University of Florida football team that was led by quarterback Tim Tebow.

We arrived in Los Angeles on Sunday and spent the next two days buying some Ohio State merchandise, sightseeing in Pasadena, and we enjoyed a train ride around the surrounding area.

New Year's Day morning was cold after a low of 39, but it was sunny and warmed up to 58 as the day progressed.

We enjoyed the 130th edition of the Tournament of Roses Parade which we had seen many times on television. The floats were beautiful and it was a spectacle to see in person.

After the parade, we made our way to the Rose Bowl on a shuttle bus and then settled into our seats in the giant bowl that opened in 1922.

The national anthem was played by the combined bands from Ohio State and Washington and a B-2 Stealth Bomber flew over as more than 91,000 fans roared with delight as the 105th Rose Bowl was set to begin.

The game was very entertaining as Ohio State jumped out to a 21-3 lead at the half.

The Buckeyes increased their lead to 28-3 early in the third quarter before Washington mounted a stirring comeback.

The Huskies scored a touchdown to pull within 28-23 with under a minute remaining in the game. But the ensuing sides kick was recovered by Ohio State to seal the



PHOTO BY MARY PINSON/SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

The Ohio State University Buckeyes football team and their fans celebrate a 28-23 win over the University of Washington at the end of the Rose Bowl on New Year's Day in Pasadena, Calif.

hard-fought victory as the sun set over the picturesque San Gabriel Mountains.

Haskins threw three touchdown passes for Ohio State and was selected as the Offensive Player of the game. The talented red-shirt sophomore totaled 50 touchdown passes on the season and is projected to be a first-round pick in the NFL draft if he chooses to turn pro. College players who are eligible to be drafted, have until Jan. 15 to let the NFL know their decision.

As is customary for Ohio State, the football players, coaches and fans joined in to sing the school song, "Carmen Ohio" played by the band.

At the end of the song, Urban Meyer saluted the band and waved to the roaring throng of Buckeyes fans. As he

left the field to cap a remarkable and historic career, shouts of O-H-I-O reverberated around the Rose Bowl.

It was a busy four days in the Los Angeles area and dealing with everything that comes with trying to get around in a thriving and sprawling metropolis.

The trip was worth all the effort with Ohio State earning a win on the gridiron and being in the stands to see the panoramic Rose Parade. It's great looking at the photos from the trip and these are moments I will always treasure."

O-H-I-O.



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H2A Complete II, Inc. - 12 Temporary Workers needed in Lake Wales, FL for March 04, 2019 to June 20, 2019. Applicants must be 18 years or older and able to follow the supervisor instructions. All tools, supplies and equipment will be provided at no cost to the worker. Proper work attire is required. Random drug testing may occur at the employer's expense. Cell phone can only be used during breaks and emergencies. Due to possible Date of Need changes, worker is required to purchase travel insurance if available. We will reimburse the worker for transportation cost (including travel insurance) and subsistence to the employers work site from the place of recruitment upon completion of 50 percent of the contract period. Transportation payment will be no less (and is not required to be more) than the most economical and reasonable common carrier transportation charges for the distances involved. Workers should expect little to no work when going from 1 variety of fruit to another depending on the maturation of each fruit. During this slow time, workers may choose to go home at their own expense. A copy of the work contract or a copy of the ETA 790 in lieu of a work contract, and any modifications, will be provided to the worker on or before the day, the work commences. The worker must be able to harvest on the average of one volumetric tub per hour (equivalent to 10-bushel boxes per hour) in grove conditions that are considered "good picking". There is a possibility of earning a higher piece rate. If the employee is unable or unfit to harvest one tub per hour after the 14-day trial period, the employee will receive warnings, hours may be reduced to the minimum allowed in the certified petition or terminated. Employees with low production will not be allowed to return in future seasons. We will explain the "Overview of Warnings" and give workers a copy of this form at orientation. Employer may conduct a criminal background check. CITRUS - The worker will place a picking sack over their shoulder and carry an 18' to 22' ladder from the field truck to the particular area of the grove to be harvested. The picking sack is a canvas bag equipped with a shoulder strap for support, an opening for the insertion of fruit, and an opening to remove fruit. A fully loaded sack weighs between approximately 80 and 100 pounds, depending upon the size, condition and variety of fruit. When picking sack is full, take full sack to fruit container located in the grove and drop fruit from pick sack into container. In order to perform this kind of work, the worker must be physically able to harvest citrus, fill his assigned sacks, and transport it to the tub. The employee must be able to climb ladders with extra weight of the sack. The worker must be able to work outside for at least 6 hours a day in all kinds of weather and be in possession of the requisite physical strength and endurance to repeat the picking process rapidly, working quickly and skillfully with their hands. Packing House - Workers may be required to perform miscellaneous packing house work, including grading, clean-up, stacking packed cartons, dumping fruit from cartons, and constructing boxes. Grove Clean-up - Workers may be required to perform miscellaneous grove clean-up work. These activities may include removing ladders, debris, boxes and discarded fruit from fields to clean growing areas. Other activities may include pruning, pulling vines and weeds by hand or with hoe, painting trees, repair and or replace irrigation equipment and maintaining fence lines. Workers performing grove clean-up work will be paid the adverse effect wage rate, the prevailing rate or the minimum wage rate, the agreed upon collective bargaining wage or the Federal or State minimum wage whichever is higher, except where a special procedure is approved for an occupation or specific class of agricultural employment. The worker will be paid \$11.29 per hour or applicable piece rates depending on crop activity, three fourths guarantee, 35 hours per week, housing and transportation provided at no cost to workers who cannot reasonably return to their permanent residence at the end of each work day. Workers must have valid identification for I-9 preparation when they report to begin work. Complete job description can be found at your local SWA/Job Center. **Apply for this job at the State Workforce Job Center office in your area; please call FL 566-482-4473, AL 256-259-1835, GA 404-656-6000, MS 662-842-2175 using job FL10847635.**

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FISHING

FROM PAGE 1B

sunrise period. So during the hours of 5-8 a 3-rating will occur with perhaps a slightly better rating as the sun sets.

Prime Monthly Periods:

January 6-8 new moon, 19-23 super full moon, February 2-6 new moon, 17-21 super full moon.

Highlands Bass Angler Bass Guide Specials: A 6-hour fall charter for \$250.00 for one or two anglers, all gear, artificial bait and tackle included. Cold water and weather protection provided. Custom bass fishing charter package options available. Call 863-381-8474 to plan and book your bass fishing experience today.

Istokpoga.info News:

The lake level is at 39.40 feet above sea level, which is 1.5 inches below the seasonal-annual high level of 39.50". The minimum level currently is 38.50". Saturday at 4 a.m. all S68 spillway gates are closed.

Visit Istokpoga.info website and click on the links to the South Florida Water Mgmt. (SFWMD) real-time S68 and S68X spillway gates status webpage. You'll find water level and flow status data of all water-way structures from Kissimmee to Clewiston. Also provided is a link to the Army Corps of Engineers' graphical plot, annual water-management schedule website link.

Access this article online at BassFishingForecast.com, or HighlandsBassAngler.com

Fishing from Shorelines:

Learn where the deeper water comes closest to shorelines by consulting a lake contour map. There are forty-five Highlands County lake maps published online at FloridaLakesMaps.com. Each map is edited to include boat ramp locations and have been enlarged for easy reading. You'll discover that 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, 72 lake-contour maps and additional map sources, and fishing philosophy. Personalized custom fishing package options for beginners to professional anglers are available upon request.

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

Fraternal Order of Eagles Annual Golf Tournament

Activities you can enjoy in the Heartland

HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN
SPORTS STAFF

The Fraternal Order of Eagles Annual Golf Tournament is set for March 9 at Harder Hall Golf Club. Sign up now for the 8 a.m. shotgun start, four-man scramble that will begin with a sign in at 7 a.m. The event is restricted to amateur players. The entry fee is \$60 per person and the fee includes 18 holes of golf, a golf cart, rib dinner at Eagles 4240 after play, Free on-course beverages, and chances to win various prizes. The tournament will have three flights of prizes, longest drive and closest-to-the-pin prizes. For more information or to register please call Eagles 4240 at 863-655-4007 by March 1st. Make checks payable to Eagles 4240.

After School Tennis Classes

After school tennis classes are being offered at the Thakkar Tennis Center at the Country Club of Sebring. The classes run from Jan. 7 to Feb. 1, and are for youngsters ages 4-18 and are run by USPTA certified professional Horace Watkis. The four-week sessions which include one session a week, are for any skill level. Tiny Tots, ages 4-6, are on Tuesday's from 3:15 to 4 p.m. and the cost is \$37. Future Champs, ages 6-12, are any day of the week from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. and the cost is \$45.

Pre-Tournament Academy is Wednesday's from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. and the cost is \$60. High School Team level is Thursday's from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. and the cost is \$60.

For more information, call Watkis at 863-414-2164 or 863-386-4282. Email is horacewatkis@hotmail.com.

Lake Placid Senior Softball

The Lake Placid Senior Softball League is currently practicing for the 2019 season on Mondays and Wednesdays at 8:30 a.m. at the Lake June Ballfield. Interested men 60 and over should come with their bat,

glove, and enthusiasm to sign up and get in shape for the upcoming season which will run from January through March. League games will be played at the County Sports Complex. For further league information please visit lpssoftball.com.

Hammock Half Marathon, 5K

The Friends of Highlands Hammock State Park will present the 11th Annual Highlands Hammock Half Marathon & 5K at the park on Saturday, January 19 with a 7:30 a.m. start for both distances.

The Central Florida Striders running club under the direction of Chet Brojek will manage race timing and scoring. All proceeds from the event will benefit park projects.

Entry fee for the 5K is \$20 and Half Marathon fee is \$40 thru January 10, 2019. Late fees are \$25 for the 5K and \$50 for the Half Marathon thru race day registration. Participants will get a custom designed sport tech tee, awards in both races, food, fun and a great chance to test their skills in the New Year.

Checks payable to Central Florida Striders along with entry form may be snail mailed to race director Brojek at: 3310 Par Road, Sebring, FL 33872 or you may register online at: <http://endurancesportstiming.com/race-calendar/>

The Half Marathon may be run by an individual or by a team relay for the 13.1 mile distance. Those desiring to form a relay team should contact the coach at: cbrojek@comcast.net to discuss details and special relay pricing. The Half Marathon includes almost nine miles of the beautiful trails throughout the park. "Our Hammock Half is a challenging course, but it allows participants to see parts of the park seldom viewed by visitors."

Anyone needing an entry form may email Brojek at: cbrojek@comcast.net and he will get one out to you right away.



PHOTO BY KELVIN KUO/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Baltimore rookie quarterback Lamar Jackson and the Ravens host the San Diego Chargers in an NFL playoff game today.

CHIEFS

FROM PAGE 1B

Don't forget on offense the ouster of RB Kareem Hunt, who had 14 TDs. The Chiefs have gone 3-2 since cutting last year's rushing champ.

SHOUTOUT: "I always feel like there is a bull's-eye every week, and that's OK. That's the way you want it. We've earned the right to be in this position." — Coach Andy Reid.

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS (12-4). Last Lombardi: Super Bowl 51, 34-28, OT, over Atlanta on Feb. 5, 2017.

FAR OUT: At 41, he finally showed signs of age this season. But having Tom Brady on their roster makes the Patriots a title contender. Coming off an MVP season, Brady fell off — by his lofty standards — with 4,355 yards, 29 TDs and 11 interceptions. Getting a week off to rest is important because the Patriots have not been a wild-card team since 2009, when they were blown out by Baltimore.

FLAME OUT: Every time Brady has won a Super Bowl ring, he had a star-studded defense helping him. The Patriots have given up 30 or more points five times this season, going 2-3. They haven't been able to get to the quarterback like last year, when they were tied for seventh in the league with 42 sacks. This

season, they tied for 30th with just 30 sacks.

SHOUTOUT: "11-5 is nothing to be sad about. I mean, we fought pretty hard and put ourselves in a decent position here, and now we've got to go try to take advantage of it." — Brady.

BALTIMORE RAVENS (10-6). Last Lombardi: Super Bowl 47, 34-31 over San Francisco on Feb. 1, 2013.

BREAKOUT: The Ravens are dangerous if rookie QB Lamar Jackson shows the same poise he displayed in leading Baltimore on a 6-1 streak after taking over from an injured Joe Flacco. With Jackson efficiently operating the run-pass option, Baltimore controlled the clock and the rested defense manhandled opponents. John Harbaugh's Ravens boast the NFL's second-ranked rushing attack and No. 1 defense.

DROPOUT: Baltimore beat the Chargers in L.A. on Dec. 22, but QB Philip Rivers should be ready for the rematch against a defense that last week was burned by Baker Mayfield for 376 yards and three TDs. Jackson ran for nearly 700 yards, but with only one career game of 200 yards passing, there's still some question whether he can bring Baltimore back from a deficit with his arm.

SHOUTOUT: "This is what a real team looks like. They block out all the outside, turn to each

other for strength and are there for one another.

... This is the best team I've been around." — Harbaugh.

LOS ANGELES CHARGERS (12-4). No Lombardis. Lost Super Bowl 28 to San Francisco 49-26 in 1995.

CLOUT: Philip Rivers had a 105.5 passer rating in 2018, equaling his career best. Melvin Gordon had 1,309 yards from scrimmage and 14 TDs and Austin Ekeler emerged as a change-of-pace back. Keenan Allen led the team in catches again but Mike Williams developed into another big-play receiver. The Chargers also aren't fazed by hitting the road, where they were 7-1 with wins at Seattle, Pittsburgh and Kansas City.

DOUBT: The Chargers head into the playoffs with only one healthy starter at linebacker. Denzel Perryman and Jatavis Brown are out with season-ending injuries and their replacements are undersized, something opponents will certainly scheme to exploit. They've been outscored 43-14 in the first quarter of the past six games as Rivers has thrown an interception on the first drive in each of the last three games.

SHOUTOUT: "We just had to be in the playoffs. Our goal is to try to make a run and try to get to the Super Bowl." — CB Casey Hayward Jr.

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SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

DAYTONA BEACH – The start to what promises to be an unforgettable season of full fields and unprecedented manufacturer involvement was much anticipated.

The feeling of anticipation was palpable among the many IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship Daytona Prototype international (DPI), LMP2, GT Le Mans (GTLM) and GT Daytona (GTD) making the media rounds.

“You see great names coming already for this race,” said Helio Castroneves, who is returning for his second full season of WeatherTech Championship competition as co-driver of the No. 7 Acura Team Penske DPI with 2017 Prototype co-champion Ricky Taylor. “It sounds like we’re going to have a lot of cars with DPI, but also in GTD and GTLM. You have factories, there are so many in the series. When you have that kind of scenario, it shows that everybody is interested. I see no reason for it going down. It’s actually just going to continue going up.”

“It’s just amazing,” said Dirk Mueller, 2017 Rolex 24 GTLM winner and co-driver of the No. 66 Ford Chip Ganassi Racing Ford GT with Joey Hand and Sebastien Bourdais. “I don’t know how long we’ve been saying, ‘It’s the best

championship, it’s the best championship, it’s the best championship.’ It is the best championship, that’s for sure. It keeps on getting better and better.

“All the ingredients are in here: fantastic cars, really, really good teams, good manufacturers, good drivers and it keeps getting better. It makes me somewhat proud to be part of it. It’s like a huge community and people outside it, they’re getting jealous.”

While there have been plenty of glimpses of what is in store for IMSA’s 50th Anniversary in 2019, the official start to the celebration begins this weekend at the Roar Before the Rolex 24.

The celebration will last throughout the season in each championship. The four cornerstones of the golden anniversary include Drivers & Teams, Tracks, Manufacturers and Fans. During the year there will be many opportunities for fans to relive their IMSA memories to see historical cars and meet drivers from the past. Many teams and manufacturers have already announced plans to run historical liveries during the year.

IMSA released a commemorative book in August entitled “IMSA: Celebrating 50 Years.” The 216-page book is available for purchase and contains the stories of the drivers, cars, teams, manufacturers, events and executives

that make up the storied history of IMSA.

The book tells the story of its formation between John and Peggy Bishop and Bill France, Sr., to the first race at Pocono in 1969, to its current standing as a highly regarded sanctioning body that will lead seven motorsport platforms in 2019, including its flagship – the IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship.

IMSA also will be featured marque at the annual Rolex Monterey Motorsports Reunion at WeatherTech Raceway Laguna Seca in August.

New for 2019
Michelin begins its status as the “Official Tire Supplier” of IMSA this weekend as well as officially beginning its



FILE PHOTO

Helio Castroneves returns for his second full season of WeatherTech Championship competition as co-driver of the No. 7 Acura Team Penske DPI with 2017 Prototype co-champion Ricky Taylor.

entitlement of the IMSA Michelin Pilot Challenge and the IMSA Michelin Endurance Cup which begins at the Rolex 24 at Daytona.

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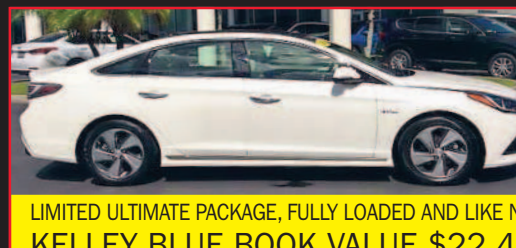
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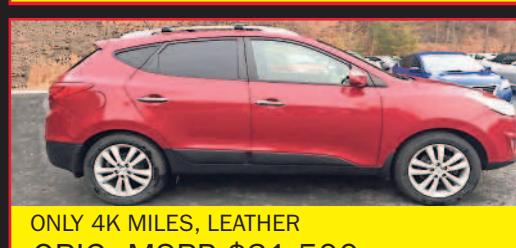
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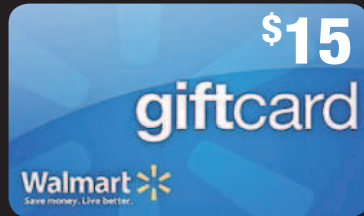
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3 killed, 4 injured
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shooting

See page 3



Shutdown talks conclude without a breakthrough

By CATHERINE LUCEY
and LISA MASCARO
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — White House officials and congressional aides emerged from talks to reopen the government without a breakthrough Saturday, though they planned to return to the table the following day.

President Donald Trump tweeted: “Not much headway

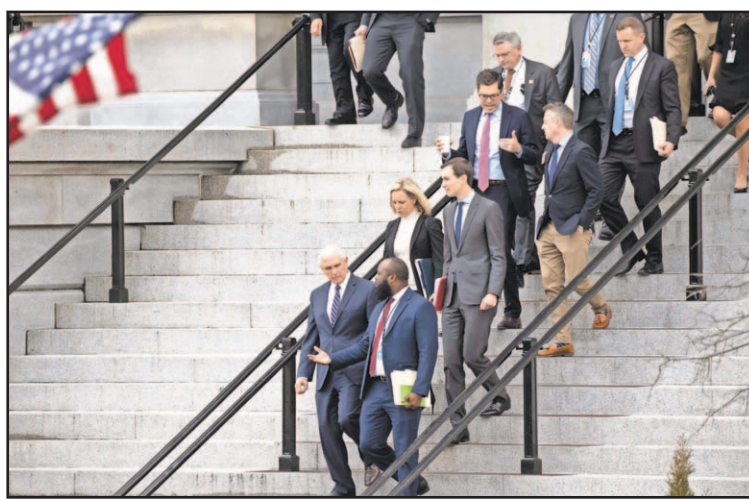
made today.” Democrats agreed there had been little movement, saying the White House did not budge on the president’s key demand, \$5.6 billion to build a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border.

The White House said funding was not discussed in-depth, but the administration was clear they needed funding for a wall and that they wanted to resolve the shutdown all

at once.

Accusations flew after the more than two-hour session led by Vice President Mike Pence. Acting chief of staff Mick Mulvaney, in an interview with CNN’s “State of the Union,” accused Democrats of being there to “stall.” Democrats familiar with the meeting said the White House position was “untenable.”

TALKS | 4



AP PHOTO

Vice President Mike Pence, left, White House legislative affairs aide Ja’Ron Smith, Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen, second row left, White House Senior Adviser Jared Kushner, and others, walk down the steps of the Eisenhower Executive Office building, on the White House complex, after a meeting with staff members of House and Senate leadership, Saturday.

Time for king cake, revelry



AP FILE PHOTO

The rest of America may be winding down from Christmas and New Year’s. But in New Orleans, another party is about to get started.

Mardi Gras season officially starts today

By REBECCA SANTANA
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW ORLEANS — As the rest of America winds down from the parties, overeating and merriment of Christmas and New Year’s, New Orleans keeps the party going. Mardi Gras season officially kicks off today, Jan. 6, and is often referred to as Epiphany, Twelfth Night or Three Kings’ Day and commemorates the day the Bible says the three wise men reached the baby Jesus. For weeks,

the city is taken over by elaborate parades and people stuffing their faces with sugary king cake. The party culminates on Fat Tuesday, which this year falls on March 5.

Here’s a look at some of the things to expect this Mardi Gras season:

TWELFTH NIGHT

A number of parading groups often dubbed krewes take to the streets Sunday to kick things off. One group parades through the French Quarter

to honor the fallen French hero, Joan d’Arc. Another group, Phunny Phorty Phellows, heralds the arrival of Carnival with a streetcar ride down St. Charles Ave. wearing costumes. This year they’ll be trailed by a new group called the Funky Uptown Krewe, who will ride on a separate streetcar with New Orleans producer and rapper DJ Mannie Fresh performing. Craig Mangum, the krewe’s founder, said they’ll also be handing out CDs and

MARDI GRAS | 4

Woman in vegetative state for decade reportedly gives birth

PHOENIX (AP) — A woman said to have been in a vegetative state for at least a decade at a private health care facility in Phoenix reportedly gave birth recently, triggering a police investigation and reviews by state agencies in a situation that the state governor’s office called “deeply troubling.”

Azfamily.com, a news website for television stations KPHO and KTVK, first reported late Thursday that, according to sources not identified by the website, a woman gave birth Dec. 29 living at a Hacienda HealthCare facility where the staff was unaware that she was pregnant.

Two other Phoenix television stations later aired similar reports.

According to some reports, the woman was a victim of a near-drowning more than 10 years ago. Her identity hasn’t been reported, and it’s not known if she has family or a guardian.

Sources quoted in the reports said the woman was heard to be moaning and that the baby’s head was starting to emerge when a nurse came in.

“None of the staff were aware that she was pregnant until she was pretty much giving birth,” azfamily.com quoted a source familiar with the situation as saying. That person said the baby was said to be alive and healthy.

Following the azfamily.com report, Hacienda Health Care and state officials issued brief statements about the situation, expressing concern and describing reviews being conducted and steps being taken. But they did not specifically confirm the reported pregnancy and birth.

A Phoenix Police Department spokesman, Sgt. Tommy Thompson, said only that the “the matter is under investigation.” He declined to confirm whether the investigation involved a possible sex crime or elaborate on the circumstances that prompted the investigation.

Hacienda said it in a statement it was cooperating with law enforcement and reviewing its security protocols after becoming aware of a “deeply disturbing incident and “an unprecedented matter.”

“While federal and state privacy laws prohibit us from publicly discussing a patient’s health

BIRTH | 4



AP PHOTO



SHUTTERSTOCK PHOTO



AP PHOTO

Netflix and chill no more — streaming is getting complicated

By MAE ANDERSON
AP TECHNOLOGY WRITER

Streaming TV may never again be as simple, or as affordable, as it is now.

Disney and WarnerMedia are each launching their own streaming services in 2019 in a challenge to Netflix’s dominance. Netflix viewers will no longer be able to watch hit movies such as “Black Panther” or “Moana,” which will soon reside on Disney’s subscription service. WarnerMedia, a unit of AT&T, will also soon have its own service to showcase its library of blockbuster films and HBO series.

Families will have to decide between paying more each month or losing access to some of their favorite dramas, comedies, musicals and action flicks.

“There’s definitely a lot of change coming,” said Paul Verna at eMarketer, a digital research company. “People will have more choices of what to stream, but at the same time the market is already fragmented and it is only going to get more so.”

Media companies are seeking to capitalize on the popularity and profitability of streaming. But by fragmenting the market, they’re also

narrowing the once wide selection that fueled the rise of internet-based video. About 55 percent of U.S. households now subscribe to paid streaming video services, up from just 10 percent in 2009, according to research firm Deloitte.

Just as Netflix, Hulu and Amazon Prime tempted people to “cut the cord” by canceling traditional cable TV packages, the newer services are looking to dismember those more-inclusive options.

Disney Plus is set to launch late next year with new Marvel and Star Wars programming, along with

STREAMING | 4



AP PHOTO



SHUTTERSTOCK PHOTO



AP PHOTO

HEADLINES AROUND THE WORLD

Firm pledges to find shipping containers lost in North Sea

BERLIN (AP) — Switzerland-based shipping company MSC is pledging to pay the cost of cleaning up hundreds of containers one of its cargo vessels lost in a North Sea storm.

The company said Saturday that it was committed to finding and retrieving the containers that went overboard on Jan. 2 “until the last one is found.” Authorities say two contained potentially hazardous materials.

The MSC Zoe, one of the largest freight ships in the world, lost more than 270 containers as it sailed from Portugal to Germany.

Dozens have since been spotted near islands off the coasts of Germany and the Netherlands or washed ashore while spilling light bulbs, plastic toys, flat-screen TVs and shoes onto beaches.

MSC said it appointed a specialist firm to help coordinate the search with authorities.

USGS: Magnitude 6.8 quake shakes remote part of west Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — A powerful earthquake has shaken northwestern Brazil near its border with Peru, affecting a remote part of the Amazon rainforest. There were no immediate reports of damages.

The U.S. Geological Survey said the magnitude-6.8 quake had an epicenter 55 miles west of Tarauaca, Brazil, and 204 miles east of Pucallpa, Peru. It hit at 2:25 p.m. local time and had a depth of 575 kilometers.

The Seismological Observatory of the University of Brasilia said on its website that it was a “deep, no risk earthquake” in the jungle state of Acre.

A powerful 7.1-magnitude quake hit the Peru-Brazil border in August.

Yemen’s war rivals exchange artillery fire around port city

SANAA, Yemen (AP) — Security officials say Yemen’s Shiite rebels and government forces are shelling each other in areas south of Hodeida, straining an already shaky cease-fire in the Red Sea port city.

They said each side blamed the other for Saturday’s shelling, and that both were reinforcing their forces in the city in violation of the U.N.-brokered truce reached in Sweden last month.

The violence coincided with the arrival Saturday

in Sanaa of U.N. envoy Martin Griffiths, his first visit to Yemen since the Sweden talks.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to brief the media.

Yemen plunged into civil war in 2014 when the rebels known as Houthis captured Sanaa. A Saudi-led coalition intervened in the war a year later, fighting alongside government troops.

UK police arrest suspect in fatal train stabbing

LONDON (AP) — British police on Saturday arrested a suspect in the fatal stabbing of a man who was killed in front of his 14-year-old son on a suburban London train.

Lee Pomeroy was on board a train from the town of Guildford to London with his son when he was stabbed multiple times Friday afternoon.

Pomeroy would have turned 52 on Saturday, his family said in a statement.

Chief Inspector Sam Blackburn said the attack was “not believed to be a random assault.” He said the two men appeared to have been involved in an argument that escalated in the moments leading up to the killing.

The suspect was detained early Saturday on suspicion of murder. A 27-year-old woman was also arrested on suspicion of assisting an offender.

Police said no one else was being sought in connection with the killing.

“Lee took his son on a trip to London hoping to spend some quality time with him which was cut short by (a) horrific and pointless attack,” Pomeroy’s family said in their statement.

6 schoolchildren, bus driver die in road accident in India

NEW DELHI (AP) — Six schoolchildren and their bus driver were killed as the vehicle rolled down a gorge on a hilly road in northern India, police said.

Another 12 children were hospitalized with injuries after the school bus skidded off the road in Himachal Pradesh state on Saturday, said police officer Rohit Malpani.

Malpani said three students aged 5 to 14 and the driver died on the spot. Three students died later in a hospital.

The cause of the accident is being investigated.

Around 150,000 people die every year on India’s roads, often because of reckless driving, badly maintained roads and vehicles overcrowded with passengers.

In September, 55 people were killed when a bus carrying pilgrims from a Hindu temple in the hills of south India plunged off a road.

and circumstance is fine, but ultimately this is about putting the pedal to the metal.”

Teacher caught with student in Airbnb rental

WILTON MANORS (AP) — A biology teacher is facing a criminal charge after deputies say he was caught with a 14-year-old student in an Airbnb rental in South Florida.

Authorities say Diego Guzman Carranza is facing a charge of engaging in lewd and lascivious act with a minor. He was arrested Thursday and remained in jail on Friday on \$50,000 bond.

The Sun Sentinel of South Florida reports that the 14-year-old girl told authorities that she and Guzman Carranza had intercourse and that

French president condemns ‘extreme violence’ after Yellow Vest clashes

By POL O GRADAIGH
DPA

PARIS — French President Emmanuel Macron promised Saturday that justice “will be done” after the first Yellow Vest protests of the new year were again marked by violent clashes in Paris.

About 50,000 protesters took to the streets across France, Interior Minister Christophe Castaner said.

The turnout seemed something of a revival for the protests after declining numbers in the last weeks of 2019.

Few turned out during the holiday season. Macron had offered an expensive package of tax cuts and pay bonuses to appease protesters demanding improved living standards.

For Macron’s government, it was the scenes of violence that marked the day, as protesters clashed with police on the Seine riverside and on a pedestrian bridge.

The small Line News agency got more than 1.7 million Twitter views for footage showing a man — apparently a boxer — taking on riot police with his bare hands and, along with other protesters forcing them back on the bridge.

A figure wearing the same clothing can be seen in another clip apparently kicking a policeman who had fallen to the ground.

A police trade union said on



AP PHOTO

A demonstrator wearing the French National flag takes a images with his mobile phones during a yellow vest protest in Paris, Saturday, Jan. 5, 2019. Hundreds of protesters were trying to breathe new life into France's apparently waning yellow vest movement with marches in Paris and gatherings in other cities.

Twitter that the man had been identified, and described it as a “cowardly and intolerable attack.”

But radical leftist leader Jean-Luc Melenchon, who has backed the protest movement that initially sought — with success — the cancellation of planned fuel tax rises, took a different view.

“Hand-to-hand combat on the bridges of Paris,” Melenchon said on Twitter. “Are the authorities who give such orders republicans?”

Government spokesman Benjamin Griveaux said he had had to leave his office after the

door of his ministry building was forced by people who stole heavy machinery from the street outside.

“Once again an extreme violence has attacked the Republic — its guardians, its representatives, its symbols,” Macron wrote on Twitter. “Justice will be done.”

Macron has promised a national debate on the wide range of issues raised by the movement, including taxation, the cost of living, democracy and public services.

“Everyone must regain self-control to bring about debate and dialogue,” he said.

Mexico launches plan to stimulate US border economy

By AMY GUTHRIE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MEXICO CITY — President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador launched an ambitious plan Saturday to stimulate economic activity on the Mexican side of the U.S.-Mexico border, reinforcing his country’s commitment to manufacturing and trade despite recent U.S. threats to close the border entirely.

Mexico will slash income and corporate taxes to 20 percent from 30 percent for 43 municipalities in six states just south of the U.S., while halving to 8 percent the value-added tax in the region. Business leaders and union representatives have also agreed to double the minimum wage along the border, to 176.2 pesos a day, the equivalent of \$9.07 at current exchange rates.

Lopez Obrador, who took office on Dec. 1, said the idea is to stoke wage and job growth via fiscal incentives and productivity gains. U.S. President Donald Trump has repeatedly complained that low wages in Mexico lure jobs from the U.S. Mexico committed to boost wages during last year’s negotiations to retool its free trade agreement with the U.S. and Canada.

Speaking from Ciudad Juarez, a manufacturing hub south of El Paso, Texas, Lopez Obrador said Saturday he agrees with Trump that Mexican wages “should improve.” He decried, for instance, that Mexican auto



AP PHOTO

Mexico’s President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador holds his first news conference as president, which started at 7 a.m. local time in Mexico City. Lopez Obrador has published a financial disclosure form on Thursday, that reveals relatively few possessions and the fact that his wife makes more than he does.

workers earn a fraction of what their U.S. counterparts take home, topping out at just \$3 an hour versus a typical wage of \$23 an hour in the U.S.

Yet the economic plan comes at a delicate moment for the border region. Trump threatened as recently as last week to close the U.S.-Mexico border “entirely” if Democrats refuse to allot \$5.6 billion to expand the wall that separates the two countries.

Economy Minister Graciela Marquez noted Saturday that the border region targeted for economic stimulus accounts for 7.5 percent of Mexico’s gross domestic product. And in recent years, she said, the 43 municipalities included in the plan have boasted combined economic growth of 3.1 percent,

above the national average of 2.6 percent for the six years through 2017.

Much of that robustness owes to trade and proximity with the U.S., the world’s biggest economy.

“We have to take advantage of this locomotive that we have on the other side of the border,” she said.

Marquez expressed optimism that the stimulus plan will direct more Mexican and foreign investment into the border region. The plan for the border region is part of what Lopez Obrador calls “curtains of development” to shore up different corridors of the country so that Mexicans stay rather than migrating in search of better economic prospects.

Incoming Gov. DeSantis cancels inaugural parade

TALLAHASSEE (AP) — There will be no parade when Florida Republican Gov.-elect Ron DeSantis is sworn in next week as the 46th governor.

DeSantis will be sworn into office on Tuesday. The festivities begin with a prayer breakfast at Florida A&M University before the ceremony on the steps of the Historic Capitol Building and will continue with an address to legislators and Cabinet officials in the Capitol Rotunda. It concludes with a ball at the Donald Tucker Civic Center.

The 40-year-old governor decided to cancel the parade, opting to get to work quickly.

He told The Associated Press on Saturday “the pomp

they had an ongoing sexual relationship.

No attorney was listed in online court records for the Miami-Dade County teacher.

An Airbnb spokesman in a statement to The Associated Press calls the behavior abhorrent and says the company has permanently banned the teacher from its platform.

Hospital worker run over, killed outside where she works

WESTON (AP) — A Cleveland Clinic worker in South Florida was hit by a car and killed in front of the hospital where she works.

Broward County Sheriff’s Office investigators said 52-year-old Margarita Almonte was walking through a cross-walk to her car in a hospital

parking lot after her shift on Wednesday when she was hit by a car.

Investigators said her body was carried a short distance and then hit the pavement, and the car ran over her.

Almonte’s co-workers in the hospital carried her to the emergency room at the Cleveland Clinic where she was pronounced dead.

The sheriff’s office said in a statement that a preliminary investigation shows neither excessive speed nor driver impairment or mechanical failure played a role in the crash.

School custodian arrested for soliciting minor

BLOUNTSTOWN (AP) — State law enforcement agents said they’ve arrested a school

custodian in the Florida Panhandle for trying to solicit a 14-year-old girl online.

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement says John Grande was arrested Thursday.

He is charged with lewd and lascivious conduct and online solicitation of a minor.

An FDLE spokeswoman says the teenage girl wasn’t a student at the middle school where Grande worked.

After the 14-year-old girl told detectives she had received messages via a mobile app from Grande, FDLE agents assumed the identity of the girl and began communicating with Grande.

The FDLE said Grande requested lewd photos of the girl.

Online court records showed no listing for an attorney for Grande.

3 killed, 4 injured in California bowling alley shooting

By SCOTT FAIN AND SOPHIA ROSENBAUM
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TORRANCE, Calif. — Three men were fatally shot late Friday and four injured when a brawl at a popular Los Angeles-area bowling alley and karaoke bar erupted into gunfire that had terrified patrons, some children, running for their lives.

Police in the coastal city of Torrance responded shortly after midnight to calls of shots fired at the Gable House Bowl. They found seven people with gunshot wounds.

Three men were pronounced dead at the scene and two were taken to a hospital, Sgt. Ronald Harris said. Two other men were struck by gunfire but “opted to seek their own medical attention.”

Authorities have not identified the victims nor suspects or released details about what led to the shooting. Witnesses said it stemmed from a fight between two large groups.

Dwayne Edwards, 60, of Los Angeles, said he received a call from his nephew that his 28-year-old son, Astin Edwards, was one of those killed. His nephew told him his son was attempting to break up a fight when a gunman “just started unloading.”

“I’m thinking this is a dream and I’ll wake up,” Edwards told the Orange County Register. “He was a good kid. I don’t understand it.”

A grieving mother told KABC-7 her 28-year-old son, Robert Meekins, was also trying to break up the fight and that Meekins and Astin Edwards were friends.

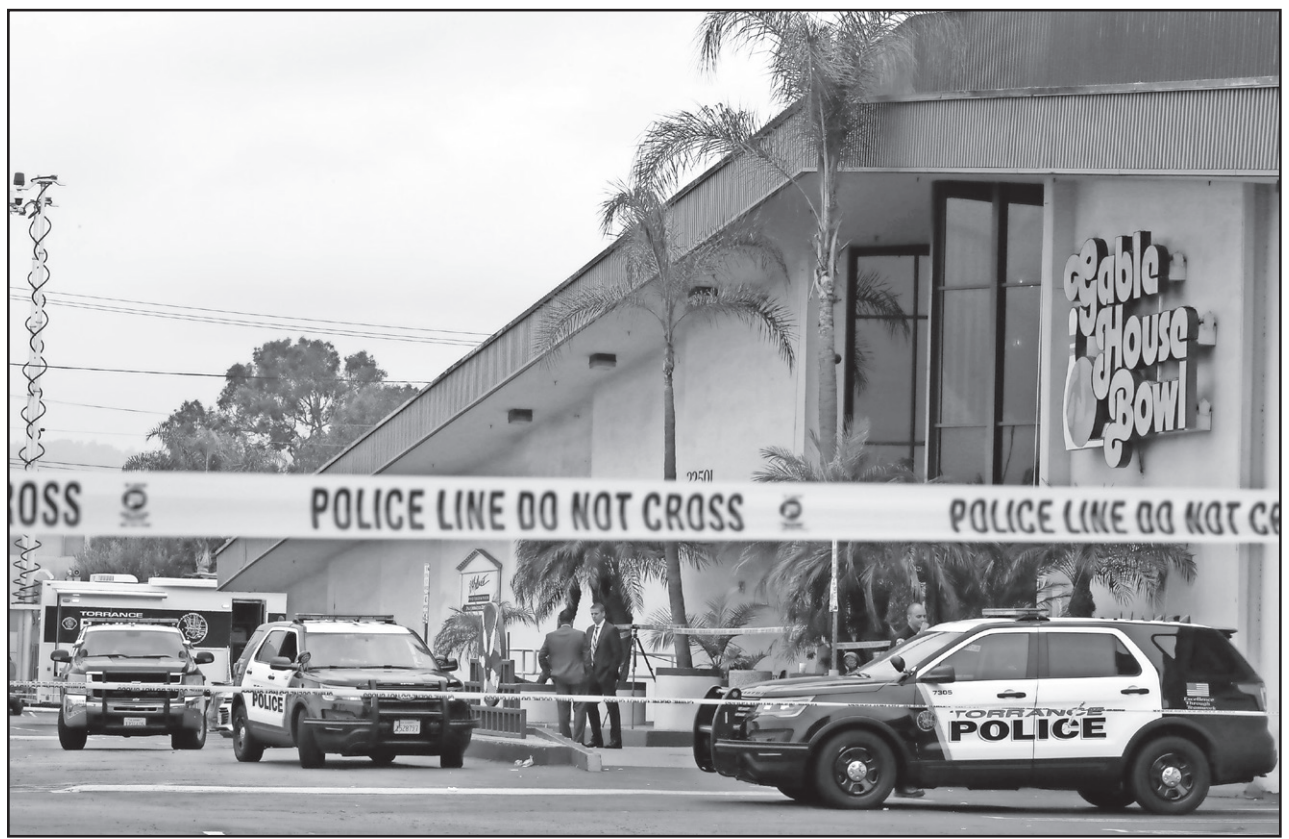
“They were friends, so I know he probably jumped in and helped Astin and whoever he was with ... but I don’t think my son deserves to die,” Anglean Hubbard said.

“My son was a loving person. He loved life, he loved his son, and he loved his family. Nobody can imagine what I’m going through right now,” Hubbard said.

The third victim was 20-year-old Michael Radford, his sister Latrice Dumas told the Torrance Daily Breeze.

“He was happy. He was always a protector,” Dumas said. “That’s how he got into this, he was trying to protect others.”

Wes Hamad, a 29-year-old Torrance resident, said he was at the bowling alley with his 13-year-old niece and cousin when he saw a “huge fight” break out. Hamad said the brawl, which lasted about five minutes, blocked the entrance and spiraled into “complete chaos.” “I grabbed my niece



AP PHOTO

Police officers investigate a shooting incident with multiple fatalities at the Gable House Bowl in Torrance, Calif., Saturday. A brawl between two large groups at the popular Los Angeles-area bowling alley and karaoke bar erupted into gunfire early Saturday according to witnesses.

and started running toward the far end of the bowling alley,” he said. “As we were running, we heard 15 shots.”

As he was leaving, Hamad said he saw a woman weeping over a man who had gunshot wounds to his head and neck.

Damone Thomas was in the karaoke section of the bowling alley, a

regular stop for him and his friends after work on Fridays, when people ran in saying there was a shooting. The 30-year-old Los Angeles resident said his friend flipped a table to shield them as they heard gunshots.

Thomas said he didn’t feel scared because he was “just trying to survive.” But when he was driving home, he said he realized how

traumatic the situation was and said he hasn’t been able to fall asleep.

“Closing my eyes, all I can see is the women against the wall crying, not knowing what to do,” he said.

Thomas and Hamad said they had never witnessed any violence there in the past. But Hamad said he had stopped going for a while because he heard

someone with a gun was recently seen there.

“I definitely won’t be going back anymore,” he added.

In a tweet, California U.S. Sen. Kamala Harris said her heart breaks for the victims.

“We must do more to address gun violence,” she said. “Americans should be able to go to a bowling alley and be safe.”

Hundreds rally as 7-year-old girl’s killer remains at large

By JUAN A. LOZANO
ASSOCIATED PRESS

HOUSTON — Hundreds of people who gathered at a rally Saturday for a 7-year-old Houston girl whose killer remains at large were asked to think of the victim as their own child and to be part of an “army” that will help authorities catch the person who fatally shot her.

The rally was held in the parking lot of a Walmart near where the shooting happened on Dec. 30 as Jazmine Barnes and her family drove to a grocery store.

During the rally, people held up balloons and stuffed animals, as well as signs that said “Justice for Jazmine.” Organizers of the rally also led the crowd in chants that repeated the phrases, “What do we want Justice. Who do we want



AP PHOTO

People attend a community rally outside Walmart, Saturday, in Houston for seven-year-old Jazmine Barnes, who was killed on Sunday. Jazmine was shot to death nearby while riding in a car with her mother and three sisters.

it for? Jazmine.”

Jazmine’s family believes her death was racially motivated. The girl was black and the alleged shooter is described as a white man in a red truck.

Police have said they are pursuing various leads after a composite sketch of the suspect was

released on Thursday. Investigators added that they have not yet determined a motive, including whether race might have played a role.

Lee Merritt, a national civil rights attorney working with Jazmine’s family, said there were no updates in the search on Saturday.

In an emotional speech, Jazmine’s aunt, Sharonica Watt, asked her niece’s killer why he took the little girl’s life.

“We’re asking you to turn yourself in right now, in the name of Jesus. We’re asking you to give justice to me and my family,” Watt yelled in between tears.

Deric Muhammad, a community activist who helped organize Saturday’s rally, told the crowd that everyone there had a role to play “in finding justice for this baby.”

“We all consider ourselves soldiers in Jazmine’s army,” he said.

Jazmine’s mother, LaPorsha Washington, also addressed the crowd, thanking them for their support.

“We going to find him no matter what corner we have to turn. No matter what rock we have gotta go under, we

are going to find you,” Washington said.

Various local and federal officials, including Houston Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee, attended the rally. Houston-based rappers Paul Wall and Trae tha Truth asked the crowd to reach out to authorities if they have any information on the shooter.

“At the end of the day, Jazmine is ours. She’s my kid. She’s your kid,” Trae tha Truth said. “There’s no excuse. It’s no what I shoulda, what I coulda. At the end of the day it’s simple. We all have to stand up.”

Lee said she planned to reach out to federal authorities to ask them to create a national manhunt for Jazmine’s killer. The Harris County Sheriff’s Office in Houston, which is leading the investigation, said it’s

already working with the FBI and other federal agencies.

A \$100,000 reward is being offered for information leading to an arrest.

Others at the rally discussed their belief that the shooting was racially motivated and was reflective of what they see as growing intolerance and attacks on minorities and immigrants in the United States.

Community activists said the attack is similar to a 2017 incident in the area in which a suspect described as white shot into a vehicle carrying at least two black people. That shooting remains unsolved.

“This is a disgrace to our nation and we want the hate to stop. We want love to rise up,” said Bishop E. L. Usher, the pastor at the church attended by Jazmine’s father.

The ‘AARP version’ of bond prices and value

Dear Mr. Berko: I have eight long-term maturity bonds from eight different public companies, each with coupons between 5.5 percent and 5.65 percent. They are all rated BBB, which is still bank-quality, and I paid about \$10,000 for each bond. My stock-broker wants me to sell these bonds because he believes interest rates will go up to 10 percent in the next few years. He told me that these bonds, which I bought about a year ago, could decline in value by 50 percent. I am concerned that I would lose a lot of money if rates were to rise. But I don’t understand how bonds could fall in price if the issuing bond companies maintain their credit ratings and earnings. Could you please help me under-



Malcolm BERKO
COLUMNIST

stand this? Is my broker right about interest rates rising? I’ve been reading your column for 30 years. — HR, Jonesboro, Ark.

Dear HR: Interest rates will rise, but I believe that a 10 percent rate is unrealistic and that your broker’s a blockhead, a bonehead, a lunkhead and a dunderhead. I should be able to answer your bond question, but please bear with me. After 45 years of writing this column, I’m discovering that it’s so much easier to get older than wiser! So, here’s my AARP version.

Assume today’s interest rates are 6 percent and you’ve decided to invest \$10,000 and buy a long-term AAA-rated 6 percent corporate bond that will mature in 30 years. That corporate bond will pay you \$600 in annual interest until maturity. And if necessary, you could sell the 6 percent bond today (bonds trade actively on the market) for very close to what it cost you — give

or take \$50.

A week later, Jerome Powell, chairman of the Federal Reserve, announces that he must raise long-term interest rates from 6 percent to 12 percent. So you decide to buy a \$10,000 long-term AAA-rated bond that will pay you 12 percent, or \$1,200, in interest annually until maturity. And if necessary, you could sell the 12 percent bond today for what it cost you — give or take \$50.

So, you have \$10,000 invested in two AAA-rated bonds, both of which will mature in 30 years. One bond pays you 6 percent interest yearly (\$600), and the other pays you 12 percent interest yearly (\$1,200). Now it’s six months later, and interest rates are still 12 percent. The Fed tells us they’re likely to remain that high for many years.

Assume you wish to sell the \$10,000 bond that pays you 6 percent interest. Because current interest rates are now

12 percent, how much would an investor be willing to pay you for it? Certainly, a knowledgeable investor wouldn’t pay \$10,000 for this bond because he could invest \$10,000 and buy a bond that would pay him 12 percent.

Assume the investor pays you \$8,000 for your \$10,000 bond. Well, you have a \$2,000 loss — and the investor will earn \$600 in annual interest. Because he invested \$8,000 to earn \$600 in interest, his yield is 7.5 percent. Note that 7.5 percent of \$8,000 is \$600. But that’s not good if long-term interest rates are 12 percent.

Now assume the investor pays you \$7,000 for your \$10,000 bond. Well, you have a \$3,000 loss — and the investor will earn \$600 in annual interest. Because he invested \$7,000 to earn \$600 in interest, his yield is 8.5 percent. Note that 8.5 percent of a \$7,000 investment is \$600. Again,

that’s not good if long-term interest rates are 12 percent.

But assume the investor pays you \$5,000 for this 6 percent bond that cost you \$10,000. Well, you have a \$5,000 loss, and the investor will still earn \$600 in annual interest.

However, because he invested \$5,000 to earn \$600 in interest, the yield on this investment is 12 percent. And that’s just right because current interest rates are 12 percent! Get it? Got it? Good!

Email Malcolm Berko at mjberko@yahoo.com.

ANSWER TO CROSSWORD

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TALKS

FROM PAGE 1

A White House official said the meeting included a briefing on border security by Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen. Democrats sought written details from the Department of Homeland Security on their budget needs, which the White House said it would provide.

With talks stalled, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi announced that House Democrats plan to start approving individual bills to reopen shuttered departments starting with Treasury to ensure Americans receive their tax returns.

"While President Trump threatens to keep the government shut down for 'years', Democrats are taking immediate further action to re-open government, so that we can meet the needs of the American people, protect our borders and respect our workers," Pelosi said.

In an interview with NBC's "Meet the Press," set to air Sunday, Mulvaney argued that the administration was willing to deal. He said Trump was willing to forgo a concrete wall for steel or other materials.

"If he has to give up a concrete wall, replace it with a steel fence in order to do that so that Democrats can say, 'See? He's not

building a wall anymore,' that should help us move in the right direction," Mulvaney said.

The president has already suggested his definition of the wall is flexible, referring to slats and other "border things." But Democrats have made clear they see a wall as immoral and ineffective and prefer other types of border security funded at already agreed upon levels.

Trump had campaigned on the promise that Mexico would pay for the wall. Mexico has refused. He's now demanding the money from Congress.

Trump, who did not attend the discussions, spent the morning tweeting about border security.

Showing little empathy for the hundreds of thousands of federal workers furloughed or working without pay, Trump declared — without citing evidence — that most are Democrats. He also asserted: "I want to stop the Shutdown as soon as we are in agreement on Strong Border Security! I am in the White House ready to go, where are the Dems?"

One Democrat, Maryland Sen. Chris Van Hollen, said in his party's weekly radio address that the shutdown "is part of a larger pattern of a president who puts his personal whims and his effort to score political points before the needs of the American people. ... He is pointing fingers at everyone but himself."

Airports see rise in security screeners calling off work

By ALEXANDRA OLSON and JULIE CARR SMYTH
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — The federal agency tasked with guaranteeing U.S. airport security acknowledged an increase in the number of its employees calling off work during the partial government shutdown.

Employees of the Transportation Security Administration are expected to work without pay during the shutdown because their jobs are considered essential.

The TSA said in a statement Friday that call outs that began over the holiday period have increased. The agency did not say how many of its employees have called out, but it said the call outs have had "minimal impact given that there are 51,739 employees supporting the screening process." The statement said wait times "may be affected" but so far "remain well within TSA standards."

"TSA is closely monitoring the situation," the agency statement said. "Security effectiveness will not be compromised."

The Department of Homeland Security and President Donald Trump pushed back Saturday on suggestions that the call outs represented a "sickout" that was having significant consequences on U.S. air travel. White House officials and congressional aides were in talks Saturday to end the shutdown, which entered its 15th day. Negotiations are at an impasse over Trump's demands for \$5.6 billion



AP FILE PHOTO

The federal agency acknowledges an increase in the number of employees calling off work during the partial government shutdown. The agency said wait times may be affected but so far "remain well within TSA standards."

to fund a wall at the U.S.-Mexico border.

TSA spokesman Michael Bilello tweeted that 5.5 percent of the TSA workforce at Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport called out Friday, compared with 3.5 percent on a normal day. He said wait times "may be affected" but that all passengers would be screened as normal.

Hydrick Thomas, president of the national TSA employee union, told CNN that up to 170 TSA employees at New York's John F. Kennedy Airport have called out each day this week.

Airport officials said no unusual screening delays were being experienced at JFK, Chicago's O'Hare and Midway airports, or Miami International Airport.

BIRTH

FROM PAGE 1

or case, Hacienda has and will continue to cooperate fully with law enforcement and all the relevant regulatory agencies regarding this matter," Hacienda said in its statement.

Hacienda's website said it serves infants, children and young adults who are "medically fragile" or have developmental disabilities.

Gov. Doug Ducey's office said Ducey was briefed on the "deeply troubling" reports as soon as the office learned of

them and that state agencies "immediately began taking every measure to protect patient safety."

According to the Arizona Department of Health Services, an agency that regulates health care facilities, the 60-bed Hacienda facility was required to tighten

security procedures to protect patients in wake of the report.

"We are aware of this situation and are actively working with local law enforcement in their criminal investigation," the department said in a statement.

The state Department

of Economic Security, a social-service agency whose functions include serving disabled people, said it performed health and safety checks on all of the residents at the Hacienda facility after the birth was reported and was working with police on their investigation.

MARDI GRAS

FROM PAGE 1

mixtapes featuring New Orleans artists such as Bonerama and Hot 8 Brass Band. Riders will also be wearing costumes, he said: "As funky as you want."

LET THEM EAT CAKE

Probably the biggest single sign that Mardi Gras season is upon us is king cake. The ring-shaped cakes often decorated in the Mardi Gras tri-color of purple, green and gold can be found at bakeries, restaurants, office parties and homes across town during the season. Cakes can be plain or filled with fruit and cream or laced with cinnamon. Bakers go all out.

For example, Alton Osborn, who owns Bywater Bakery with his wife Chaya Conrad, is this

year introducing three savory king cakes — crawfish, boudin and spinach/artichoke — to accompany their nine sweet king cakes. They're also hosting a full lineup of live music Sunday to entertain restaurant goers. King cakes account for a "huge part of our business," Osborn said. He's got high hopes for the new savory king cakes: "It's going to blow some minds."

OUTSIDE NEW ORLEANS

Towns and cities in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama also host parades and events during Mardi Gras season. Last year, Alabama's state tourism agency purchased 10 billboards around New Orleans and southern Mississippi to promote Carnival in Mobile. Rather than mentioning Mobile specifically, the signs told drivers how many miles they are from "America's

original Mardi Gras." And they didn't mean New Orleans. New Orleans officials took the ribbing in stride with then-Mayor Mitch Landrieu saying: "There's only one great Mardi Gras in the world." And he didn't mean Mobile.

In southern Louisiana's Cajun country, costumed participants ride on horseback or run through towns stopping at houses to collect ingredients for gumbo in a tradition called Courir de Mardi Gras.

PARADE CHANGES

Traditionally the bulk of the parades happen around the two weekends ahead of Fat Tuesday. Scheduling changes this year mean that Krewe of Chewbacchus, a walking parade devoted to science fiction, is rolling earlier than in previous years. Richard Riggs, one of the

three overlords that organizes the parade, said the change came because city officials said they didn't have the policing resources to protect the ever-growing parade on their traditional date while also staffing the large parades that also roll at the same time through the city's Uptown neighborhoods.

A total of three groups were affected by the changes, said city spokesman Trey Caruso, who said the "growing popularity" of the groups requires "more coverage from our public safety assets."

Chewbacchus, for example, has grown from a few hundred members when they started in 2011 to about 1,800 participants last year, Riggs said.

But with no other competing parades on their new date of Feb. 9, Riggs said they're optimistic that they'll "have a bigger turnout than usual."

STREAMING

FROM PAGE 1

its library of animated and live-action movies and shows. It hasn't announced pricing yet, but Disney CEO Bob Iger said in an August call with analysts that it will likely be less than Netflix, which runs \$8 to \$14 a month, since its library will be smaller.

AT&T plans a three-tier offering from WarnerMedia, with a slate of new and library content centered around the existing HBO streaming app. No word on pricing yet.

Individual channels, such as Fox, ESPN, CBS and Showtime, are also getting into the act. Research group TDG predicts that every major TV network will launch a direct-to-consumer streaming service in the next five years.

Netflix and others have invested heavily in original movies and TV shows to keep their customers loyal. Netflix, for instance, said Wednesday that 45 million subscriber accounts worldwide

watched the Sandra Bullock thriller "Bird Box" during its first seven days on the service, the biggest first-week success of any movie made for the company's nearly 12-year-old streaming service.

That first-week audience means nearly a third of Netflix's 137 million subscribers watched the movie from Dec. 21 through Dec. 27 — a holiday-season stretch when many people aren't working and have more free time.

But Netflix, Hulu and others may soon have to do without programs and movies licensed from their soon-to-be rivals. In December, Netflix paid a reported \$100 million to continue licensing "Friends" from WarnerMedia.

Why are media companies looking to get in? Data and dollars. Sure, they get money when they sell their programs to other services like Netflix. But starting their own service allows networks and studios access to valuable data about who is bingeing on their shows.

For services with

ad-based options, that data translates into more dollars from advertisers. And services that rely only on subscription revenues, media companies can use the data to better tailor their offerings for individual tastes, helping to draw in more subscribers.

"I think all media companies are coming to grips with the reality that you better establish a relationship directly with your audiences," said AT&T CEO Randall Stephenson at an analyst conference earlier this month.

The business model that some networks and content companies are currently using, distributing their TV shows and movies only by licensing them to streaming platforms, is getting "disrupted aggressively" as more companies launch their own services, said Stephenson, whose company acquired WarnerMedia in June.

Forrester analyst Jim Nail compares this moment to the "Cambrian explosion," a historic era when plant and animal species rapidly multiplied after Ice Age glaciers receded.

But a multiplicity of streaming services could easily overwhelm or confuse consumers. To get a full slate of programming, TV watchers may soon have to subscribe to several services instead of just one or two.

Among those options will be services like Netflix and Hulu that offer a wide range of video from a variety of sources; cable-like "skinny bundles" such as FuboTV, Sling and YouTube TV that offer a variety of live channels; and channel- or network-specific services like Disney Plus.

Consider just AT&T's plan to launch a three-tiered service this year centered on HBO. An entry-level bundle will offer mostly movies; a second, slightly more expensive tier will include original programming and newer movies. A third and still more expensive offering would add more WarnerMedia entertainment such as "Friends."

The cost of multiple streaming services could quickly approach the average cost of a cable bill — not counting the cost

of internet service. That's around \$107 per month, according to Leichtman Research Group.

"It's unlikely any of the services individually can charge more than \$10 per month," Forrester's Nail said. "The great unknown is how many individual streaming services people are willing to sign up for."

Companies are already trying to tame this chaos by bundling multiple streaming services together. Amazon Prime customers can add-on subscriptions to HBO, Showtime or Starz. Roku and Chromecast viewers can access their different services from a central place; Roku said Wednesday it will start selling in-app access to Showtime, Starz and other channels as well.

How should consumers deal with all the coming change?

"Be patient," said Michael Greeson, president of research group TDG. "We're in a time of dramatic change for the TV and video business. There'll be great benefits, and question marks and consequences."

ALMANAC

Today is **Sunday, Jan. 6**, the sixth day of 2019. There are 359 days left in the year.

Today in history

On **Jan. 6, 1945**, George Herbert Walker Bush married Barbara Pierce at the First Presbyterian Church in Rye, New York.

On this date

In **1759**, George Washington and Martha Dandridge Custis were married in New Kent County, Virginia.

In **1838**, Samuel Morse and Alfred Vail gave the first successful public demonstration of their telegraph in Morristown, New Jersey.

In **1912**, New Mexico became the 47th state.

In **1941**, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, in his State of the Union address, outlined a goal of "Four Freedoms": Freedom of speech and expression; the freedom of people to worship God in their own way; freedom from want; freedom from fear.

In **1968**, a surgical team at Stanford University School of Medicine in Palo Alto, California, led by Dr. Norman Shumway performed the first U.S. adult heart transplant, placing the heart of a 43-year-old man in a 54-year-old patient (the recipient died 15 days later).

In **1974**, year-round daylight saving time began in the United States on a trial basis as a fuel-saving measure in response to the OPEC oil embargo.

In **1993**, authorities rescued Jennifer Stolpa and her infant son, Clayton, after Jennifer's husband, James, succeeded in reaching help, ending the family's eight-day ordeal after becoming lost in the snow-covered Nevada desert.

In **1994**, figure skater Nancy Kerrigan was clubbed on the leg by an assailant at Detroit's Cobo Arena; four men, including the ex-husband of Kerrigan's rival, Tonya Harding, went to prison for their roles in the attack. (Harding pleaded guilty to conspiracy to hinder prosecution, but denied any advance knowledge about the assault.)

In **1998**, in a new bid to expand health insurance, President Clinton unveiled a proposal to offer Medicare coverage to hundreds of thousands of uninsured Americans between the ages of 55 to 64.

In **2003**, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein accused U.N. inspectors of engaging in "intelligence work" instead of searching for suspected nuclear, chemical and biological weapons in his country.

One year ago: Japanese air bag maker Takata said it was recalling an additional 3.3 million faulty air bag inflators, expanding the largest automotive recall in U.S. history.

Today's birthdays

Country musician Joey, the CowPolka King (Riders in the Sky) is 70. Former FBI director Louis Freeh is 69. Rock singer-musician Kim Wilson (The Fabulous Thunderbirds) is 68. Singer Jett Williams is 66. Actor-comedian Rowan Atkinson is 64. World Golf Hall of Famer Nancy Lopez is 62. Actor Scott Bryce is 61. Rhythm-and-blues singer Kathy Sledge is 60. TV chef Nigella Lawson is 59. Rhythm-and-blues singer Eric Williams (BLACKstreet) is 59. Movie director John Singleton is 51. Actor Aron Eisenberg is 50. Actor Norman Reedus is 50. TV personality Julie Chen is 49. Actor Danny Pintauro (TV: "Who's the Boss?") is 43. Actress Cristela Alonzo is 40. Actress Rinko Kikuchi is 38. Actor Eddie Redmayne is 37. Retired NBA All-Star Gilbert Arenas is 37. Actress-comedian Kate McKinnon is 35. Actress Diona Reasonover is 35.

Bible verse

"But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." — **Romans 5:8.**

Long before it was decided which way you were going Jesus went to the cross to assure you of the abundant and eternal life. "He that believeth in the Son hath life, he that believeth not in the Son shall not see life."

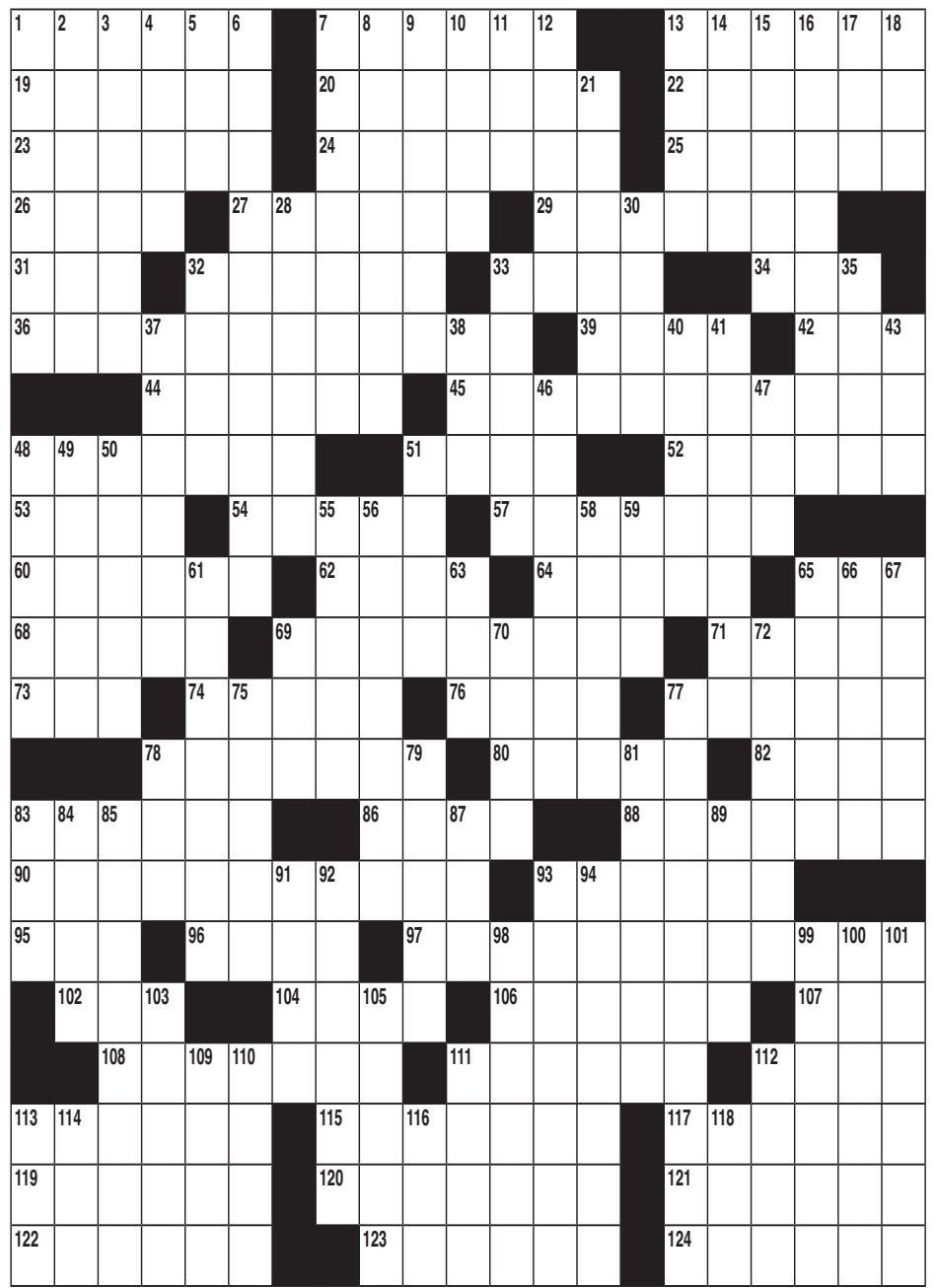
NEW YORK TIMES SUNDAY CROSSWORD

No. 1230

"NO DUH!"

BY LUKE VAUGHN / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS 1 Fixture on a ski lodge deck 7 Sound quality 13 West African capital 19 Like counting your chickens before they've hatched 20 Going great guns, as business 22 Come to terms with 23 "Good golly!," across the pond 24 Close enough 25 Cloaklike garment 26 Nosh 27 Goes around 29 Hardly a right-minded individual? 31 N.C.A.A. rival of Duke 32 To which one might respond "Salud!" 33 Superlative suffix 34 Summer setting in Seattle: Abbr. 36 Reason for an R rating? 39 McGregor who played Obi-Wan Kenobi 42 Gobble 44 Quaint photos 45 Cuban or Zuckerberg? 48 Archie's pal at Riverdale 51 Dry as a bone 52 Largest species of the genus Leopardus 53 Fighting 54 Sprang 57 More ready to go 60 Show stopper? 62 Pure and simple 64 Part of the eye where vision is sharpest 65 Old hand 68 Maker of the MDX luxury S.U.V. 69 Needing certain ink for a color printer? 71 Epitome of laziness 73 Freestyle, e.g. 74 Harbor city of NW France 76 Went to court, say 77 It may be right under your nose, informally 78 Fixture behind the bar 80 IHOP order 82 Billy of infomercial fame 83 Only European capital on both a river and an ocean 86 Kind of vision 88 Fit for the job 90 Impetus behind a paternity test? 93 Not so far 95 "Straight Outta Compton" group 96 "The path to the dark side," per Yoda 97 On a Paleo diet, say? 102 Slow boat 104 ___ Studies (college major) 106 Big Starbucks orders 107 Year the Office of Homeland Security was created 108 Some paints 111 Rumbles 112 "The world's greatest ...," e.g. 113 Opposite 115 Capital of Thessaly 117 Washington air hub 119 Post-workout activity 120 Unusually short 121 Start to take off, in a way 122 Shanghai 123 Accents and Sonatas 124 100-meter and 200-meter DOWN 1 Commotion 2 Connected 3 Reaction to a really bad pun 4 Something you might need to kill 5 Treat like an object 6 Really, really needing some sun? 7 Neighborhood north of the World Trade Center 8 Charges 9 Weasel's relative 10 Beach tops 11 ___ Tin Tin 12 2003 Economics Nobel Robert 13 One's most ardent supporters 14 Finisher of cakes 15 86 16 Buy one circus animal, get one circus animal free? 17 Most newspapers have one 18 Sport-___ 21 Theodor ___ (Dr. Seuss's real name) 28 Live 30 Stealth bomber, familiarly 32 Partner of snick 33 French Alpine river 35 Root of Polynesia 37 Mesopotamian mother goddess 38 Female in a pen 40 In front of, old-style 41 Cowboys' home, for short 43 It's more than a warning: Abbr. 46 Street handout, maybe 47 View from la plage 48 "Aladdin" villain 49 City between Albany and Rochester 50 Stimulate 51 2017 World Series winner, for short 55 Something required 56 Dog or cat transporter 58 Often-smoked cheese 59 First lady 61 Shia of "Transformers" 63 Beginnings of fame and fortune? 65 Some SAT study 66 Kind of alcohol 67 "___ Days" (1990s platinum Bon Jovi album) 69 Anthem contraction 70 On another call 72 Hedy ____, subject of the 2017 documentary "Bombshell" 75 Woman's name meaning "born again" 77 Installment of a women's clothing catalog? 78 Common potato chip flavor, in brief 79 Hybrid tourney style 81 Pure 83 Worker at a hosp. 84 Waterloo's home 85 Something up for grabs on a fishing boat? 87 Director Lee 89 Rules, informally 91 Untagged 92 Quavering sounds 93 Rating somebody? 94 The Supreme Court and the Muses 98 Zoroastrianism's sacred text 99 Author of "The Joy Luck Club" 100 Collision 101 Barbara and Jenna Bush, to Jeb 103 Famous 105 Exams for future J.D.s 109 Traveling from coast to coast, maybe 110 Car sticker fig. 111 "Do you ___?" 112 Robust 113 Part of A.M.A. 114 X 116 Medicinal plant 118 Part of S.A.S.E.: Abbr.



FOR ANSWERS TURN TO PAGE 3

Ask the Fool

Overnight Changes

Q I observed a stock start trading one morning at a price very different from where it closed the day before. Can you explain that? — F.W., Greensburg, Pennsylvania

A There may have been a stock split, or some big news (or rumors) may have broken after the market closed. If, for example, the company is being bought out or it posted an unexpectedly good or bad earnings report, that could have caused buy or sell orders to pile up overnight, resulting in big overnight price moves.

Stock prices simply reflect supply and demand, so if lots of people want to sell, the price will fall to a point at which some will buy — and vice versa. After-hours trading, which occurs before the market opens and after it closes, is another factor.

Q Are share buybacks good for a company's shareholders? — P.A., Tulsa, Oklahoma

A It depends. If a company buys back shares when they're overvalued, it's wasting money that could have been spent in more productive ways (such as being paid out as a dividend or used to grow the business). But if it repurchases shares when they're undervalued, that benefits shareholders.

The shares bought back on the open market are essentially retired, leaving each remaining shareholder owning a bigger piece of the company. For example, imagine that earnings at the Rubber Chicken Catering Co. (ticker: CHEWY) are \$3 million and it has a million shares outstanding. Its earnings per share (EPS) are thus \$3. If CHEWY buys back a tenth of its shares, leaving 900,000, then its EPS suddenly rises to \$3.33 (\$3 million divided by 900,000). Still, investors should prefer earnings to grow mostly due to business growth, not share buybacks.

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Fool's School

What If Your Portfolio Tanks?

The stock market has experienced some big swings in recent months, and it's got some investors jittery. Do you know what you would do if your stock portfolio suddenly took a dive? Here's some guidance.

For starters, instead of fearing stock market drops, expect them. They will happen every few years, and some years can shrink your portfolio considerably. In 2008, for example, the S&P 500 plunged more than 36 percent. It dropped for three years in a row in 2000, 2001 and 2002, with 2002's drop a hefty 22 percent. Those can be alarming, but know that there were plenty of years with double-digit gains before and after those years. The average annual gain over many years has been close to 10 percent.

So keep that perspective in mind whenever the stock market retracts or crashes. It shouldn't hurt you severely if you've sensibly kept any money you might need in the

next five (or even 10) years out of stocks. Your investments need time to recover after any downturn.

Another smart thing to do if the market drops is to go shopping! It can be hard, psychologically, to buy stocks when others are selling and the media is obsessing about market losses, but that's often a great time to buy, as many terrific stocks will be temporarily sporting significantly lower prices.

If you like the idea of shopping during downturns, you might aim to keep a modest portion of your portfolio in cash, ready for opportunities. Five or 10 percent is often plenty, though — remember that any money not invested could have been growing for you. When you shop, you might favor healthy dividend-paying stocks, as they can provide welcome income. (Remember — when a stock's price falls, its dividend yield rises.)

Remember that the best investors are patient, and they don't freak out when the market retracts. They expect it — and often profit by it, too. Tune out the noise in the media and focus on buying into great businesses for the long term.

My Dumbest Investment

Lost in the Citi

My dumbest investment was buying shares of Citigroup. Something I read made me see it as a promising investment, so I bought some shares, only to see them fall in value by more than 90 percent. I hung on while they recovered a bit, and sold for a significant loss. I should have used a stop order.

Another dumb thing about this is that during this period, I left for a safari vacation and wasn't able to track my stocks. — L., online

The Fool Responds: Citigroup was one of many financial institutions to get whacked by the subprime mortgage crisis, and its shares are still trading well below past levels. After many layoffs and billions of dollars written off, it's on sounder footing now.

A stop, or stop-loss, order can indeed prevent such losses, as it directs your brokerage to sell your stock if it falls to a certain price. But remember that many good stocks are somewhat volatile, and stop-loss orders can get you ejected out of stocks that hiccup temporarily, causing you to lose out on future gains.

As for the safari, most investors shouldn't have to monitor their holdings every day (or hour!), standing ready to sell at any moment. Superinvestor Warren Buffett has said: "If you aren't willing to own a stock for 10 years, don't even think about owning it for 10 minutes."

Name That Company

I trace my roots back to the 1876 opening of Thomas Edison's laboratory in New Jersey. I was incorporated a bit later, in 1892, and encompassed the assets of several companies. Over the years, I have been in businesses as diverse as aircraft engines, finance, medical equipment, power transmission, renewable energy, transportation, appliances, water treatment systems, plastics, media and entertainment. Based in Boston now, I recently sported a market value topping \$60 billion, but that's down from more than \$270 billion a few years ago. I was one of the original 12 companies on the Dow Jones Industrial Average. Who am I?

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

LAST WEEK'S TRIVIA ANSWER

I trace my roots back to 1865, when a Scot founded a bank in Hong Kong and Shanghai that aimed to finance international trade. I was the first commercial bank in Thailand and printed its first banknotes. Many of my staff became prisoners of war during World War II. I bought Marine Midland Bank in the 1980s and, over the years, many other banks, too. Today, with a market value recently topping \$160 billion, I serve more than 38 million customers via roughly 3,800 offices in 66 countries and territories. P.G. Wodehouse once worked for me. Who am I? (Answer: HSBC Holdings)



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.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

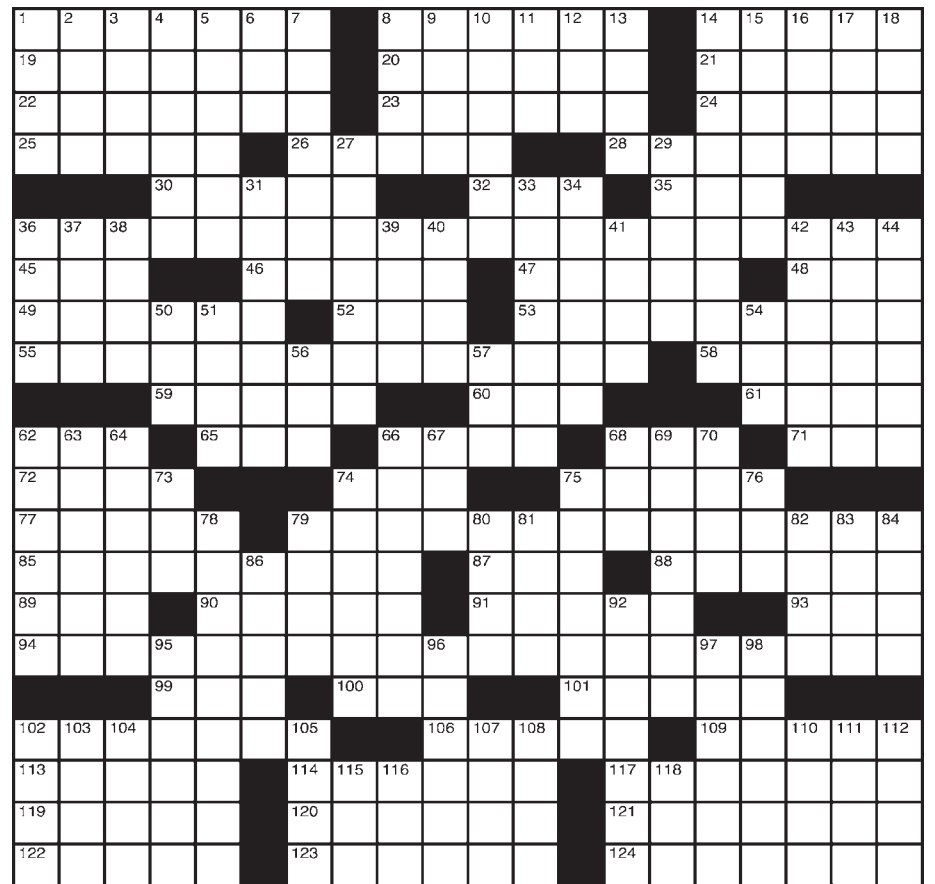
BUT IS IT ART?

By Garry Morse

- ACROSS**
- 1 Ohm reciprocal
 - 8 With 123-Across, speaker of the quip
 - 14 Hybrid tableware
 - 19 Black Sea country
 - 20 Poke holes in, as a lawn
 - 21 Judge of the Yankees
 - 22 Start of a quip
 - 23 Beauty goddesses
 - 24 Crunchy snack
 - 25 Big Apple restaurateur
 - 26 Chef's amts.
 - 28 Dexterity
 - 30 "Wedding Bell Blues" soloist
 - 32 Org. with an Acid Rain Program
 - 35 Three before kappa
 - 36 Quip, part 2
 - 45 Monotony metaphor
 - 46 Heads of the Sorbonne
 - 47 Sticker
 - 48 Evil Luthor
 - 49 Bring out
 - 52 NYC line that stops at Yankee Stadium, familiarly
 - 53 Truce
 - 55 Quip, part 3
 - 58 Glee club member
 - 59 Expected results
 - 60 "___ so you!"
 - 61 Out of shape
 - 62 Boise's st.
 - 65 Email afterthoughts
 - 66 Quip, part 4
 - 68 Short alias?
 - 71 European carrier
 - 72 Kilauea Point National Wildlife Refuge denizen
 - 74 Safari beast
 - 75 Maestro Ozawa
 - 77 Shrek creator
 - 79 Quip, part 5
 - 85 "My mom's gonna kill me!"
 - 87 Air traffic mgmt. group
 - 88 Arts section regular
 - 89 ___-fi
 - 90 Frayed
 - 91 Either of two hearth borders?
 - 93 Altar constellation
 - 94 Quip, part 6
 - 99 Rhyming boxer
 - 100 Work with thread
 - 101 Calrissian of "Star Wars" films
 - 102 Putting out
 - 106 Laker or Raptor, briefly
 - 109 Bass-baritone
 - 113 Trolley sound
 - 114 Lowest points
 - 117 End of the quip
 - 119 "War of the Worlds" target
 - 120 Play areas
 - 121 Entered stealthily, perhaps
 - 122 ___ tie
 - 123 See 8-Across
 - 124 Letters-to-the-editor writers
- DOWN**
- 1 Indian titles
 - 2 State admitted to the Union after Texas
 - 3 Hosp. "room"
 - 4 400+ million of them are produced daily
 - 5 Draw in
 - 6 Insignificant point
 - 7 Principe's island partner
 - 8 Droops
 - 9 Former ACC Cavalier rival
 - 10 Old-fashioned editing tool
 - 11 Little sucker?
 - 12 Seine summer
 - 13 Loch with a legend
 - 14 Circus security
 - 15 Outcast
 - 16 One may be left in a copier. Abbr.
 - 17 ___ IRA
 - 18 One in a sailor's repertoire
 - 27 Dressy pasta?
 - 29 Creepy looks
 - 31 Fast sailing ships
 - 33 Subjects of many online videos
 - 34 Balkan capital
 - 36 Geographical measure
 - 37 Think (over)
 - 38 Elec., e.g.
 - 39 Mount Olympus VIP
 - 40 Town line sign abbr.
 - 41 1950s tennis great
 - 42 Dior creations
 - 43 Shakespearean title city
 - 44 Applies, as pressure
 - 50 Whse. unit
 - 51 Chain with syrup choices
 - 54 Shortest mo.
 - 56 Eng. ship title
 - 57 ___City: computer game
 - 62 Refuse to bargain
 - 63 Separate
 - 64 Lethargy cause
 - 66 Pain reliever
 - 67 Daiquiri liquor
 - 68 DDE opponent
 - 69 Cooking show title word
 - 70 Barely open
 - 73 Köln cooler
 - 74 Free
 - 75 Mariner's home
 - 76 "Lord, is ___?": Matthew
 - 78 Matchless one's question
 - 79 Many a political party
 - 80 Giant in nonstick pans
 - 81 Call from the curb
 - 82 Six-sided state
 - 83 Country name that includes its own abbreviation
 - 84 Permanent mark
 - 86 "Spish Splash" singer
 - 92 Con artist, often
 - 95 Jeers
 - 96 Street shader
 - 97 City east of El Paso
 - 98 How uncut grass goes
 - 102 "Law & Order: SVU" actor
 - 103 Sandwich side
 - 104 Indian garment
 - 105 Work on, as a bone
 - 107 Buddy, in slang
 - 108 No. 2
 - 110 Bit of defiance, in slang
 - 111 Gulf States prince
 - 112 "Last four" ID verifiers
 - 115 Sea-Tac abbr.
 - 116 Agnus ___
 - 118 Oil-rich fed.

Los Angeles Times Sunday Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis



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1/6/19

GOREN BRIDGE

WHO CAN EXPLAIN IT?

East-West vulnerable, North deals

NORTH
 ♠ K J 8
 ♥ A 5 4
 ♦ A 10 7 6 4 3
 ♣ 3

WEST
 ♠ 9
 ♥ Q 9 8 2
 ♦ 9 8
 ♣ A Q J 10 5 4

EAST
 ♠ A 10 3 2
 ♥ J 10 7 6
 ♦ J 2
 ♣ 9 7 6

SOUTH
 ♠ Q 7 6 5 4
 ♥ K 3
 ♦ K Q 5
 ♣ K 8 2

The bidding:
 NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST
 1♦ Pass 1♠ Dbl
 *Redbl 2♥ 4♠ All pass
 *Redbl = Exactly three-card spade support

Opening lead: Two of ♥

Sometimes a great player makes a great play that is difficult to explain. At least it is difficult for us to explain. Maybe that's why they are great players. Karen McCallum, a multiple World Champion, was South, in today's deal from a team game.

At the other table, South won the opening heart lead in hand and led a low spade to dummy's jack, which East allowed to hold. Declarer continued with the king of spades and could no longer make the hand. East won with her ace and shifted to the nine of clubs, ducked all around. A second club forced dummy to ruff and South couldn't avoid the loss of two trumps and two clubs.

McCallum also won the heart lead in hand and led a spade to the jack, also ducked. At this point, she found the only way to make her contract — she played three rounds of diamonds! East ruffed and led the nine of clubs, covered by the king and ace. A second club was ruffed in dummy and McCallum continued leading high diamonds from dummy. East ruffed with the 10 and was over-ruffed. Declarer's last club was ruffed in dummy and the defense had to settle for the ace of trumps. Making four!

McCallum could reason, from the auction, that the hearts were 4-4. Also, West might have led a diamond with a singleton, so it was reasonable to place West with two diamonds. But playing the black suits to split like that? A remarkable guess.

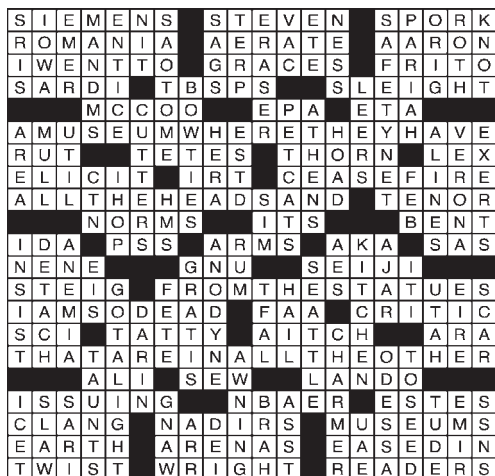
CRYPTOGRAMS

CRYPTOGRAMS LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE by Myles Mellor

1. " L G J F J ' B N P T P G N V V D V N L A J P L Y P
 Z A P J Y P J . G J B N D B G J ' B A P C A B A E Z J ."
 W Y M L Y F (C J F D E Y F J W) : " L J Z Z G A U A
 M N P ' L B J J G A U L A Z Z B T P W N D . "
2. Q O N R A U K A N J O N W Y V N E O U K
 U F U N W K R N M M . Q L W N O F M O F A V E O Z F
 D F W K M O F W T R K U Y A F U F L Y K J Y M Z Q T
 Y A D Y T J F !
3. F Z C V B M R J Y X P B V L B D E Y X D J R Z
 L B R P F W L B I S J L E C E A S C J Y X E I - L J A .
 J L M W Y L J Y B Y W W E D E Y P B S L L K W
 B L K W D !
4. P B Y I F E X R I N B D M D Y P Z Z X B K K L
 L K J N K Y N Y U D Q N K R D T P U Y Z X J P Z F
 R D J P I Q D A D A P Q P Z K N K T
 E P N U D M N Q .

PUZZLE ANSWERS

(Puzzles on previous pages)



JUMBLE

Answer:

STIGMA GARISH MULLET
 GOSSIP FUTURE WORTHY

The computer coder wanted his lazy co-worker to —

GET WITH THE PROGRAM

1. "There's an unhappy patient on line one. He says he's invisible." Doctor (very bored) : "Tell him I can't see him till Sunday."
2. I told my doctor about my memory loss. I protested but he very sternly made me pay cash in advance!
3. My scowling doctor angrily told me to quit asap using a Q-tip. It went in one ear and out the other!
4. A grumpy but generally good doctor tries to be fairly calm because he has a lot of patients.

HOLIDAY MATHIS HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). If you haven't laughed yet, the day hasn't really taken off. Mining humor won't be necessary. If humor were diamonds, they would be spit out of the cave's mouth, gleaming, just waiting to be scooped up.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Many people live in fear of the unexpected, but without some of that sprinkled over a day, all would be forgotten. So don't be afraid. Today's unexpected things will, in retrospect, seem designed just for your delight.
GEMINI (May 21-June 21). There was a problem. You tried a solution, and the first try worked. Because of such effectiveness, you're likely to keep doing it that way. But is it really the best way? You'll have the luxury of being able to experiment and find out.
CANCER (June 22-July 22). Redemption — if you're meditatively inclined, this is the word that will carry you far into your soul today. To recognize the mistakes and debts that need to be redeemed and to seek absolution is to invite heaven to touch down.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The uncomfortable rub between you and another person or circumstance is just an external sign pointing to the real battleground, which is inside your mind. Fight it out there and the external condition will ease.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You're getting even better at managing your emotions, which is to say using the enormous power of your feelings as motivation instead of seeing them as faults or obstacles to success.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). In the classroom of life, you teach people how to treat you. Lectures in this forum are extremely unpopular. Rather, it's usually a

modeling situation. You care for yourself, and others pick up on the cues.
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You already know that you're a deep person who feels things acutely and thinks further into life than most people. Even so, you have a desire to get to new levels. The reading you do will carry you there.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Children have one mode of speaking for every situation, but as people mature, they learn different modes — formal, professional, informal, intimate and so on. Success depends on using the right style at the right time.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). There's a sense of yearning alive in you. This sort of emotion doesn't happen every day. It's actually quite rare. What do you think might happen if you were to make your desire known?
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Even though you're a naturally social person whom others are drawn to, you're having a hard time feeling completely like yourself in a current group situation. To examine the dynamics at play will be most enlightening.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). When the passenger inside your head is in a dark, negative mood — spouting unhelpful and unpleasant opinions — get up and change seats. Move to a different train car or another environment entirely. It will solve the issue.
TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 6). You're not a role, a religion or a philosophical embodiment. As you interact with the world without the added pressures of self-definition, you will live unselfconsciously and become more realized than you've ever been. Invest savings in March when your financial and professional luck triples up. Capricorn and Pisces adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 24, 33, 28 and 42.

Former Defense Secretary Harold Brown dies at 91

By WILL LESTER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Harold Brown, who as defense secretary in the Carter administration championed cutting-edge fighting technology during a tenure that included the failed rescue of hostages in Iran, has died at age 91.

Brown died Friday, said the Rand Corp., the California-based think tank which Brown served as a trustee for more than 35 years. His sister, Leila Brennet, said he died at his home in Rancho Santa Fe, California.

Brown was a nuclear physicist who led the Pentagon to modernize its defense systems with weapons that included precision-guided cruise missiles, stealth aircraft, advanced satellite surveillance and improved communications and intelligence systems. He successfully campaigned to increase the Pentagon budget during his term, despite skepticism inside the White House and from Democrats in Congress.

That turbulent period included the Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan and the Iranian hostage crisis. An effort in April 1980 to rescue the hostages failed when one of the helicopters on the mission struck a tanker aircraft in eastern Iran and crashed, killing eight U.S. servicemen.

"I considered the failed rescue attempt my greatest regret and most painful lesson learned," Brown wrote in his book "Star Spangled Security."

Brown faced numerous obstacles when he took the job as Pentagon chief, including pressure to reduce the defense budget both from within the administration and from influential congressional Democrats.

Wary of the growing Soviet threat, Brown sought to withstand the pressure to cut defense and,



AP FILE PHOTO

Former Secretary of Defense Harold Brown arrives at the White House, to meet with President Bush. The Rand Corp. says Harold Brown, the defense secretary during the Carter administration, died Friday.

gradually, managed to increase spending.

"The constant Cold War competition raged hot during the Carter administration and preoccupied me throughout the four years," Brown wrote. He noted later that "the Defense Department budget in real terms was 10 to 12 percent more when we left than when we came in," which he said was not an easy accomplishment.

And he cited the technological advances in defense systems, especially weapons systems such as precision-guided cruise missiles, stealth aircraft and advanced satellite surveillance.

Brown was born in New York City on Sept. 19, 1927, attended public schools and went to Columbia University on an accelerated wartime schedule, receiving an undergraduate degree in physics in 1945 "when I was not quite 18," then going to graduate school at Columbia, receiving a doctorate in physics.

Not long after graduation he moved to California and went to work on projects that related to the

development of plutonium. He then went to work at a nuclear weapons lab. He worked his way up to director of the Lawrence Radiation Laboratory at Livermore in 1960.

In 1961, Defense Secretary Robert McNamara invited him to be director of defense research and engineering in the Kennedy administration. In 1965 he became secretary of the Air Force during the Johnson administration and, as he described it later, "served in that role through some of the most difficult and divisive parts of the Vietnam War."

After the 1968 election put a Republican, Richard Nixon, back in the White House, Brown accepted the position of president at the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena serving until he went back into government work and was a delegate to the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks in the 1970s.

Carter nominated Brown to be defense secretary in 1977. He was quickly confirmed and served throughout Carter's term. During the 1980 campaign Brown actively defended the Carter administration's policies, speaking frequently on national issues in public.

After leaving the Pentagon, he remained in Washington, joining the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies as a visiting professor and later the university's Foreign Policy Institute as chairman. He remained active in matters of national security, including service on the Defense Policy Board, which meets quarterly to offer perspectives to the current secretary of defense. He served as a consultant to many corporations, often serving as a member of the board of directors.

Carter awarded Brown the Presidential Medal of Freedom. President Bill Clinton gave him the Energy Department's Enrico Fermi Award for achievement in science and technology.

Flu toll mounts in California, with 42 deaths so far

By SOUMYA KARLAMANGLA
LOS ANGELES TIMES

California's flu season has just begun to ramp up, but 42 people in the state have already died of influenza, according to officials.

The death tally began in October, the official start of the flu season nationwide. The season runs through May and typically reaches its height in February.

Older people are more likely to develop serious complications, such as pneumonia, after catching the flu. Half the deaths in California this season are among people over 65, according to state data.

In California and nationwide, the flu strain going around is H1N1, a kind of Influenza A known as "swine flu." Nationally, 77 percent of flu cases so far have tested positive for H1N1, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

H1N1 tends to be most dangerous for children and pregnant women, said Los Angeles County chief medical officer Dr. Jeffrey Gunzenhauser. So far this season, 10 people in L.A. County have died of the flu, he said.

Nationwide, there have already been two high-profile flu deaths this season.

On Dec. 24, an 8-year-old boy who was being held in U.S. custody in New Mexico after being

apprehended at the border died of the flu. Later that same week, Bre Payton, a 26-year-old writer for online magazine the Federalist, died of encephalitis caused by the flu, according to her employer.

In general, however, health officials say this year's flu season will probably be milder than the last, when the deadly H3N2 strain was the most prevalent across the country. Then, so many people fell ill that hospitals overflowed with patients and ran out of medicines. The season led to one of the country's highest flu death tolls ever, second only to the 1918 Spanish flu pandemic that killed thousands, according to Gunzenhauser.

Although H1N1 tends to be a less harmful strain, Gunzenhauser still encourages everyone older than 6 months of age to get vaccinated, especially as cases pick up on the West Coast. The vaccine takes about two weeks to take effect.

The flu shot reduces a pregnant woman's chance of catching the flu by 40 percent and provides immunity for her baby, he said. People who receive the shot and then still catch the flu typically experience less severe symptoms.

Last year's flu season killed 185 children, 80 percent of whom were not vaccinated, according to the CDC.

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\$12,818

2011 CHRYSLER TN & CTRY



LIMITED, ONE OWNER, STOW N' GO, LEATHER, LOADED

\$11,818

2012 KIA SORENTO



LX MODEL, EBONY BLACK, BLUETOOTH, MICHELIN TIRES

SOLD

2017 FORD ESCAPE



SE MODEL, 26,500 MILES, ONE OWNER, ECOBOOST, NEW

\$16,818

2017 HYUNDAI SANTA FE SPORT



22,100 MILES, ONE OWNER, 2.4 LITER, BIG UPGRADES

\$18,887

2012 GMC TERRAIN



LEATHER, SUNROOF, HARD TO FIND V-6, LOCAL TRADE

\$12,587

2010 FORD ESCAPE



ONE OWNER, 59,100 MILES, V-6 POWER, NICE IN AND OUT

\$10,518

2016 HYUNDAI SANTA FE



SE MODEL, ONE OWNER, CONVENIENCE PACKAGE, RED

\$17,818

2017 HYUNDAI TUCSON



ONE OWNER, SE MODEL, 23,000 MILES, 5/60 WARRANTY

\$17,887

2011 NISSAN ALTIMA



2.5 S MODEL, LOW MILES, POWER SEAT, HANDS FREE

\$10,018

2015 CHEVROLET EQUINOX



ONE OWNER, LS MODEL, 42,000 MILES, CROSSOVER SUV

\$15,587

2004 JEEP LIBERTY



ONE OWNER, V-6, 89,000 MILES, FOUR WHEEL DRIVE, NICE

\$6,818



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SECTION C

Beautiful Sebring home with acreage

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

This home is at 3107 State Road 66 in Sebring. It is priced for \$330,000 and is listed with Rona Port with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Properties Group.

This one-of-a-kind property has almost 2.5 acres and features a fully-furnished four-bedroom, three-bath home with a two-car attached garage plus a massive, detached 36 by 40 garage/workshop with multiple roll-up doors. There is an opportunity for the fourth bedroom to be used as a mother-in-law suite complete with a full bath.

As you enter the gated property, there is plenty of parking in addition to the two-car attached garage. Built in 1989, this home has 2,325 living square feet. Entering the home, you are greeted by a large living room with views of the serene land beyond the back screened porch.

This very large screened porch is accessible from both the living room and the master bedroom so you can enjoy the

PORT | 2C

DIRECTIONS

3107 State Road 66, Sebring

From U.S. 27 in south Sebring, turn west onto State Road 66. The home is on the left, just before McRoy Road.



COURTESY PHOTO

This home is at 3107 State Road 66 in Sebring. It is priced for \$330,000 and is listed with Rona Port with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Properties Group.

Gorgeous waterfront home on Lake Byrd

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

This home is at 91 Lake Byrd Blvd. in Avon Park. It is priced for \$274,900 and is listed with Kevin and Teresa Bock with Re/Max Realty Plus in Sebring.

This waterfront property is the perfect place to call home. The neighborhood is a rare find, tucked away and very quiet and private. The home is built with reinforced concrete walls to withstand hurricane winds, has vinyl siding and a large oversized garage plus a boat dock for fishing, swimming or just relaxing.

This home offers panoramic views of Lake Byrd from the living and dining rooms and two of the bedrooms.

The living and dining area features vaulted ceilings with tongue and groove cedar and terra cotta tile flooring for easy maintenance. Windows line the front of the house and overlook the front porch. It has a gorgeous view of Lake Byrd with French doors leading to the porch.

The kitchen has wood cabinets with plenty of counter and storage space. it

BOCK | 2C

DIRECTIONS

91 Lake Byrd Blvd., Avon Park

From U.S. 27 in north Avon Park, turn onto Stryker Road. Turn right onto Lake Byrd Boulevard. Turn left onto Lake Byrd Boulevard. The home is on the left.



COURTESY PHOTO

This home is at 91 Lake Byrd Blvd. in Avon Park. It is priced for \$274,900 and is listed with Kevin and Teresa Bock with Re/Max Realty Plus in Sebring.

Lake Front living on Lake Sebring

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

This home is at 1014 Lake Sebring Drive in Sebring. It is priced for \$249,900 and is listed with Nancy May with Advantage Realty #1.

This is lake front living at its best. A boater's paradise — enjoy water sports, fishing, and a sandy beach in your own backyard.

This spacious two-story home features three bedrooms and three baths. The home has a formal living room, a separate family room and an over-sized kitchen. The family room has a gas fireplace along with a wet bar and is the perfect space for entertaining.

The master bedroom is the entire upstairs with a private balcony and a roof sun deck overlooking the lake. The master has two large walk-in closets and an adjoining master bath. The master bath has a double vanity, separate large tub and walk-in shower.

The utility room is a fully sized room with plenty of extra space that could be

MAY | 2C

DIRECTIONS

1014 Lake Sebring Drive, Sebring

From U.S. 27 in Sebring, turn onto Sebring Parkway. Turn left onto Memorial Drive. Turn right onto Lake Sebring Drive. The home is on the left.



COURTESY PHOTO

This home is at 1014 Lake Sebring Drive in Sebring. It is priced for \$249,900 and is listed with Nancy May with Advantage Realty #1.



COURTESY PHOTO

An enclosed lanai is the perfect space for outside eating or simply a quiet place to enjoy the lake view.

MAY
FROM PAGE 1C

used as a bonus room. The enclosed lanai is perfect for outside eating or simply serving as a quiet place to enjoy the lake view.

Lake Sebring is a 494-acre lake with a public boat ramp. This natural lake is named after Sebring's founder George Sebring. The home has

great water views from the family room, dining room and master bedroom.

The yard has some mature fruit trees (orange & papaya). The roof was installed in 2008. This home is everything that you have been waiting for — it is a must see.

For more information or to make an appointment to see this house, call May at 863-852-6687. As about MLS 249992.



COURTESY PHOTO

The large screened porch is accessible from both the living room and the master bedroom.

PORT
FROM PAGE 1C

peaceful views of the back acreage previously used as part of the neighboring nursery (which is also available for purchase). There would be plenty of room to build a pool in this beautiful yard right off the porch.

The kitchen, which is to the right of the entrance, has stainless steel appliances. The cabinets have been replaced and a reverse osmosis system has been installed. A nicely sized eat-in area is part of this large kitchen. The garage is accessible from the kitchen and houses the washer and dryer.

The expansive 15 by 22 master bedroom, which is toward the back of the home, boasts an attached bath with large, separate vanities, a jetted spa tub, two new skylights and a 10 by 10 walk-in closet.

Two additional bedrooms and bath are at one end of the home and the fourth bedroom and bath are off the living room at the opposite side of the home. The fourth

bedroom would make a perfect in-law suite complete with walk-in closet and it is close to the kitchen.

The massive, detached 36 by 40 garage has three separate roll-up doors and has power to the building.

The seller has replaced both air conditioners in 2017 and 2018 as well as the irrigation pump.

The interior and exterior has a fresh coat of paint. The home has all tile flooring throughout and the property has new landscaping. It is ready for new owners today. The adjacent nursery is also available for purchase, which is on approximately 7 acres.

For more information, call Port at 863-414-6570. Ask about MLS 249718.

Mapp joins Re/Max Realty Plus

Special to Highlands News-Sun

SEBRING — Chris Mapp is a native Floridian. He spent his school years in Indiana and learned why he loved the Florida sunshine so



MAPP

much.

Mapp returned to the sunny South shortly after school where he met his wife, Linda, in Leesburg. They went on to become partners in the family restaurant business where Chris Mapp trained others in the importance of providing great customer

People in Real Estate



Kevin and Teresa Bock are with Re/Max Realty Plus in Sebring. Call 863-381-9063 or 863-381-7884.



Nancy May is with Advantage Realty #1. Call 863-852-6687.



Rona Port is with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Properties Group. Call 863-414-6570.

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.

service.

The Mapps then moved to Sebring in 2006, where Chris Mapp chose a career in sales and customer service. He recently decided to follow

his dream and join the real estate community. He is looking forward to all of the new friends he will make in the years to come.

If you are looking to sell

or buy, give Chris Mapp a try. He can be reached directly at 863-446-0854 or stop by the office at 809 U.S. 27 South, Sebring, just south of Sonny's BBQ.



COURTESY PHOTO

This waterfront home in a quiet and private neighborhood in Avon Park offers panoramic views of Lake Byrd.

BOCK
FROM PAGE 1C

is open to the living and dining area, making this an ideal place to cook and entertain.

All three bedrooms are generous in size and include full baths, with plenty of space; all bathrooms include step-in showers and wide doorways, making them handicap friendly.

The over-sized garage has screened windows for better ventilation, a skeeter beater screen and offers plenty of space for water toys. This is an ideal place also to use as an

over-sized porch.

This home has a metal roof and has just been updated with newer landscaping in the front and freshly mulched landscaping beds.

If you are looking for a super nice waterfront home with private setting and plenty of fun on the water, then this may be the home for you!

For more information or to make an appointment to preview this home, call Kevin and Teresa Bock at 863-381-9063 or 863-381-7884, or email Teresa@TeresaBock.com.

Ask about MLS 250430. You can also see all their listings at teresabock.com.

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices named Real Estate Agency Brand of the Year
In 2018 Harris Poll EquiTrend study

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

IRVINE, CA — Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices, part of the HSF Affiliates LLC family of real estate brokerage franchise networks, has been recognized as "Real Estate Agency Brand of the Year" and "Most Trusted Real Estate Brand" in the 30th annual Harris Poll EquiTrend study.

More than 77,000 U.S. consumers rated 3,000 brands in about 300 categories in the online study in 2018. Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices received the highest ranking in the Real Estate Agency category based on consumers' perception of its brand familiarity, quality and purchasing consideration, among other qualifying factors.

"We are honored to be recognized by consumers in the respected Harris Poll EquiTrend study," said Gino Blefari, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices president and CEO. "It's a tribute to

our franchisees' tireless work and support of clients and the exemplary way they represent our brand in the marketplace."

The EquiTrend study reflected an emerging trend in consumer behavior — the push to simplify and align with brands they know and trust.

"Trust is earned," said Blefari. "We are absolutely proud consumers chose our Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices as 'Most Trusted Real Estate Brand.' It speaks to the way our franchisees conduct business every day and deliver on their promises."

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices has momentum in eyes of consumers. The brand was recognized for "Highest Overall Satisfaction for Repeat Home Sellers Among National Full Service Real Estate Firms" in J.D. Power's 2017 Home Buyer/Seller Satisfaction Study.

"Our network

POLL | 3C

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Does an annuity belong in your retirement plan?

An annuity is a stream of monthly income guaranteed for life, starting immediately or deferred to a specified time in the future, in exchange for an upfront lump sum payment. For example, a woman of 65 investing \$500,000 can receive about \$2,700 a month starting immediately, \$3,900 a month starting in five years, or \$5,900 a month starting in 10 years. The five and 10 years are the deferral periods, which can be as long as 25 years.

These are stand-alone quotes, meaning that the annuity is not tied to any other feature of the annuitant's retirement

MORTGAGE PROFESSOR
Jack Guttentag

plan. In my view, annuities are best deployed as one part of an integrated plan in which part of the retiree's assets are used to purchase a deferred annuity and the balance is used to live on during the deferral period. My colleagues and I have been developing the technology for such a plan, called the Retirement Income Stabilizer (RIS), which I will be writing about in the months ahead. But this article is about misperceptions of annuities in general.

A major misperception

is that annuities are a bad deal because the rate of return credited to them by insurance companies is substantially lower than the return available to a retiree on the same amount invested in equities. Insurers invest primarily in fixed-income securities, which over long periods yield less than equities.

Annuity payments, however, are also affected by the mortality of purchasers. The insurer stops paying annuitants who die, leaving more for those still living. On Dec. 21, 2018, I measured the mortality effect using RIS. The hypothetical annuitant was a 65-year

old woman who had a nest egg of \$1 million of common stock and wanted it to support her to age 104 if necessary.

I found that if she used part of her nest egg to purchase a deferred annuity and the remainder to live on during the deferral period, she would receive \$4,260 a month starting immediately, rising by 2 percent a year. For the nest egg to support her without the annuity, it would have to earn a return of 6.2 percent to 6.5 percent, depending on the length of the annuity deferral period used in the calculation. Those rates can be viewed as the return paid

to the annuitant taking account of mortality.

A quick proviso: Those returns are available only to an annuitant who has shopped the market, as I did. The annuity amount referred to above was the highest offered by the 11 companies for which I have data.

Another critical difference between a retirement plan that includes an annuity and one based entirely on draws from financial assets is that annuity payments are guaranteed where investment returns are not. The 65-year-old retiree with a portfolio of common stock is probably going to earn

more than 6.5 percent on it over the next 39 years, but may not. Over the 577 39-year periods between 1926 and 2012, the median rate of return was 7.8 percent, but during 2 percent of those periods the return was 4.7 percent or less. If that came to pass, the consequence of impoverishment at an advanced age is horrendous.

An annuity provides insurance against this low-probability hazard. *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.*

US average mortgage rates fall

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — U.S. long-term mortgage rates fell this week, starting the year with an inducement to prospective homebuyers.

Mortgage buyer Freddie Mac said Thursday the average rate on the benchmark 30-year, fixed-rate mortgage declined to 4.51 percent from 4.55 percent last week. Despite recent declines, home borrowing rates remain far above last year's levels. The key 30-year rate averaged 3.95 percent a year ago.

The average rate for 15-year fixed-rate loans edged down to 3.99 percent this week from 4.01 percent last week.

Mortgage rates began to spike after President Donald Trump signed

broad tax cuts, financed by government deficits, into law in December 2017. But rates have eased in recent weeks amid steep declines in the stock market and tumbling interest rates on the 10-year U.S. Treasury note — which influences long-term mortgage rates.

The decline in mortgage rates could help boost home sales, which have stumbled last year as higher borrowing costs have eroded affordability.

Low mortgage rates and slowing growth in home prices "should get prospective homebuyers excited to buy," Freddie Mac chief economist Sam Khater said. "However, it will be interesting to see how the recent turmoil in the stock market will affect home buying activity in the coming months."



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this Dec. 10, 2018, file photo, a sold sign stands in front of a home in Surfside. On Thursday, Jan. 3, 2019, Freddie Mac reports on this week's average U.S. mortgage rates.

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 as points, which most borrowers must pay to get the lowest rates.

The average fee on

30-year fixed-rate mortgages was unchanged this week at 0.5 point. The fee on 15-year mortgages held steady at 0.4 point.

The average rate for five-year adjustable-rate mortgages declined to 3.98 percent from 4 percent last week. The fee fell to 0.2 point from 0.3 point.

POLL

FROM PAGE 2C

professionals are passionate about client satisfaction and service," said Blefari. "We are elated their hard work and dedication to their profession has been recognized by

consumers."

The 2018 Harris Poll EquiTrend study measures and compares the brand health of companies.

Respondents offer their perceptions of brands, gauging their emotional connection to them plus brand awareness, influence and familiarity.

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Explore shower options with a pre-molded base

By **ED DEL GRANDE**
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Question: Ed: I'm quite the handy homeowner and plan to install a large walk-in shower. My family would like a tile shower stall complete with a built-in tile seat. However, building a tile shower base and seat will really push my contracting skills, and I want to do this job myself. Any ideas to ease my workload and still please my family? — Marty, Mississippi

Answer: Tile shower stalls can be tricky, especially if you plan to install a tile base with a seat. Basically, you'll need to lay out a shower base with a water containment pan, a thick layer of mortar with a drain setup, floor tiles and a custom-made seat. Since you want to do the job yourself, I understand your concern and have another option for you to explore.

I suggest you install a premade acrylic shower base with a built-in seat and install tile only on the shower walls. These one-piece units include a special tile flange that allows you to connect the tile to the top of the molded shower receptor.

Bottom line: If you install a smart-looking acrylic shower base with an integral seat, you can do a stand-up job and still incorporate tile.

Keeping up with new kitchen faucet technology

Question: Dear Ed: I am way overdue to install



METRO CREATIVE IMAGES

Tile shower stalls can be tricky, especially if you plan to install a tile base with a seat.

a new kitchen faucet. I want a one-handle style with pull spray, but I'm behind on the new faucet technology. To make my choice easier, can you please bring me up to speed on new kitchen faucets? — Claire, Ohio

Answer: A lot of modern upgrades and options are available for new kitchen faucets. Since you're looking for a one-handle kitchen faucet with a pull spray, I'll go over the basics for just that one type of faucet.

You should consider and choose your new kitchen faucet options from these three categories:

1. PULL TYPE
Decide if you want a pullout or pull-down spray. Pullout is nice for filling pots, while pull-down is great for washing the sink bowl.

2. SPRAY HEAD
You can choose between multi-spray options or just a basic spray head.
3. TOUCHLESS



METRO CREATIVE IMAGES

A lot of modern upgrades and options are available for new kitchen faucets.

Finally, you can even add electronic touchless technology to your one-handle faucet. I hope this info helps you get a handle on your new

kitchen faucet options.

Master Contractor/Plumber Ed Del Grande is known internationally as the author of the book

"Ed Del Grande's House Call," the host of TV and Internet shows, and a LEED green associate. Visit eddelgrande.com or write eadeldg@cs.com.

How fine details can make your decor shine

DESIGN RECIPES
Cathy Hobbs

Just like the icing on a cake, when it comes to decor, a room can come to life with the help of fine details. From artwork to accessories, look for fine details to help make individual spaces stand out.

DO:
Add one or two accessories to a side or coffee table, such as a decorative vase or accent piece.

Group accessories as a pair or in a vignette. Three items grouped together can work well.

Mix accent pieces with books when styling a bookshelf.

Use metallics. Brass remains a hot finish in home decor, especially in accessories. Feel free to also mix brass with silver finishes such as

nickel and chrome.

Use greenery. Greenery as well as florals, succulents and blooms can help add texture and color.

DON'T:
Clutter a tabletop or surface. In general following the rule of three works well.

Overlook books as decorative items. From coffee table books to small hardbacks placed on shelves, books can be an affordable and colorful decor addition.

Forget black and white are colors. Often neutral colors such as white, taupe and black can be used

to help highlight bright colors or finishes.

Mix too many colors and patterns. In general, a color palette should have a maximum of three colors.

Forget to plan your look. Purposefully selected accents and accessories can go a long way in creating a cohesive design.

Cathy Hobbs, based in New York City, is an Emmy Award-winning television host and a nationally known interior design and home staging expert with offices in New York City, Boston and Washington, D.C. Contact her at info@cathy-hobbs.com or visit her website at cathyhobbs.com.

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DANA OLSON:
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dolsonrealtor@gmail.com
RENTAL SPECIALIST

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4212 LOQUAT RD, SEBRING

Well maintained 2BR, 2BA, 2 CG w/room to park an RV! Open floor plan, kitchen features wood cabinets, & an Island. LR & DR have vaulted ceiling w/plant shelves. Original patio has been enclosed for additional living space, not under air put easily can be. Large screened in patio.

MLS#260327

Contact: Anita Zahn: 863-840-1420
anitazahn@gmail.com

6315 COLUMBUS BLVD, SEBRING

Beautiful 3BR, 3BA, 2 CG w/ separate golf cart garage on half an acre. New roof and AC in 2018. Home offers open floor plan w/ large Master suite, walk in closets, LR, DR & open kitchen perfect for entertaining family & friends. Detached 24x24 Detached garage equipped w/electric & water. MLS#260497 **\$224,900**

Contact: Andrea Cranmer: 863-451-6400
acranmerrealtor@gmail.com

JUST LISTED!

N US HWY 17, WAUCHULA

Prime Commercial Vacant Land
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MLS#249993 **\$1,000,000**

Contact: Mark Lambert: 863-832-0401
mark33862@gmail.com

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502 CHELSEE WAY, LAKE PLACID

This resort style 3BR, 2BA is located right off US 27. Community pool, club house & lake views!!! Lanai has been closed in & opened to living room for even more space. Master has a wall of built ins. Full size stack washer and dryer included. You will want to check this ONE out!!!

MLS#243591 **\$1100/mo.**

Contact: Dana Olson: 863-451-1775
dolsonrealtor@gmail.com

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Contact: Andrea Cranmer: 863-451-6400
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REDUCED!

3780 US HWY 17 S, ZOLFO SPRINGS

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MLS#248671 **\$1,714,700**

Contact: Mark Lambert: 863-832-0401
mark33862@gmail.com

636 LAKE GROVES RD NW, LAKE PLACID

2BR, 2BA, fenced yard and fruit trees. Eat in kitchen washer, dryer hook ups all tile floors.

MLS#244852 **\$1050/mo.**

Contact: Dana Olson: 863-451-1775
dolsonrealtor@gmail.com

SYLVAN SHORES

1544 CHURCHILL ST, LAKE PLACID

Features 2BR, 2BA, large living room w/vaulted ceiling, cozy gas fire place. Freshly painted Living room. Dining, Kitchen and bedroom. Kitchen has plenty of storage, work space w/gas stove. Master bedroom has large walk in closet & nice view of the back yard. Split bedroom plan. Deck with sea wall and deck area on first canal to Lake Clay. MLS#248150 **\$136,000**

Contact: Anita Zahn: 863-840-1420
anitazahn@gmail.com

523 ROSE AVE, SEBRING

Imagine 3BR, 1.5BA located in Down Town Sebring such a Unique property which boasts Old world charm! So many possibilities surround this property such as R3P zoning. Excellent use as professional offices, residential or income property. Ideal location close to the Highlands County Court House and the Sheriffs Dept. Great Curb appeal

MLS#249622 **\$82,000**

Contact: Andrea Cranmer: 863-451-6400
acranmerrealtor@gmail.com

JUST LISTED!

0 JOHNSTON RD, ZOLFO SPRING

Amazing 5 acres to nearly 200 improved pasture. Owner will divide! Currently used for cattle w/12+ acres planted palms 2 Ponds & 2 Wells

MLS#248668 **\$1,163,952**

Contact: Mark Lambert: 863-832-0401
mark33862@gmail.com

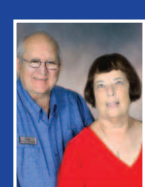
1828 W. DINNER LAKE, SEBRING

Florida living right on the water! 3BR, 3BA w/pool, great lake view, furnished and ready for a family. (can be rented seasonally or short term.(other rates apply)) Large LR w/ brick fire place. Game room w/pool table, view of the lake. Enclosed sun-room with view of the water the length of the home. MLS#260245 **\$1800/Mo**

Contact: Dana Olson: 863-451-1775
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NANCY NEWMAN MAY:
Realtor
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Nmay121@gmail.com

LAKE FRONT

2000 FAIRMOUNT CT, SEBRING

3BR, 3BA, fully furnished overlooking Lake Jackson. Driveway will accommodate 2 RV parking w/ 50 amp hook ups. Kitchen has breakfast nook, SS appliances & two large pantries. Access to a shared covered dock with boat lift. Home has hardwood flooring, carpet, tile & sound system. MLS#243653 **\$2500/ Mo**

Contact: Amelia Duran: 863-253-1140
ameliaduranpm@gmail.com

HIGHLANDS PARK AREA

215 WASHINGTON BLVD, LAKE PLACID

3BR, 2BA affordable home with large living space! Master bath w/walk-in shower. New roof 2018, storage shed.. MLS#248918 **\$135,000**

Contact: Clarence (C.B.) Brewer: 863-441-5617
clarencereb21@gmail.com

1451 WHISPER CIR, SEBRING

Move in ready single wide fully furnished 2BR, 2BA w/screened lanai. View of canal, new roof, central A/C.

MLS#250442 **\$14,130**

Contact: Beth Linn Mackes: 863-446-1149
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MLS#250402 **\$875.00**

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Black walls make a quiet comeback

By **KIM COOK**
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

There was a time when black walls were mostly the purview of goth teens and indie movie theaters. But the color has been quietly cultivating a broader following among designers and homeowners who want a cozy, enveloping ambiance that's still got theatrical flair.

Bedrooms, libraries and bathrooms clad in inky or charcoal tones can be relaxing retreats. If you've got loads of windows, the color helps frame exterior views. And if the space is mostly walls, black creates a cocoon-like setting that can showcase a collection of objets d'art, vibrantly patterned rugs and furniture, or meditative warm woods and textures.

Laboratory-white kitchens are also yielding ground to kitchens dressed in dark hues. Houzz.com editor Mitchell Parker says black is having a moment in the cooking space.

"Our community of homeowners is embracing a heavy dose of dramatic color with large swaths of black range hoods, island accent colors and full-on, all-black cabinetry," he says.

For a kitchen in Brentwood, California, Shannon Wollack and Brittany Zwickl of Studio Life.Style wanted to add a little more punch. "The kitchen's all-black palette, infused with a large slab of black-and-white marble and bold brass accents, warms and fills the space without feeling too heavy," says Wollack.

LG, GE, Kitchenaid, Bosch, Frigidaire, Smeg, JennAir and others are offering suites of charcoal-black appliances with either a matte or satin smudge-proof finish. And there's black cabinetry, countertop gadgets and cookery as well.

Designer Mark Zeff and his wife, Kristen, have a home in East Hampton, New York, that celebrates black in several ways. The exterior is half-white, half-black. Inside, black serves as a narrative thread for large design elements including a floating fireplace, a stained pinewood wall in the master suite, and a glass wall in the shower. Punctuation is added with black cowhide rugs; curvy Bibendum chairs by Eileen Gray; and Eero Saarinen Womb chairs.

"Black has properties that make it ideal for interior design: It's calming to the eye, it's elegant and it underscores organic beauty," says Mark Zeff.

"Some may think white is a more 'natural' choice,

but it's actually much starker in comparison to black when blended with an environment. Because of the use of black, our home appears to hunker down and stay closer to the earth, like a natural landmark."

Adds Kristen Zeff: "We also like that black can paradoxically open up a smaller space when applied as a paint, to make a room feel much larger than if white is used. The illusion is achieved by tricking the eye into not knowing where a room ends, by disguising the edges."

She says they painted pine wood with Benjamin Moore's Black Jack. "The grain comes through, to develop a texture that deepens the shade."

Kristen Ekeland of Chicago-based Studio Gild also likes adding black, using Benjamin Moore's Midnight in a recent bedroom project. "We wanted to create a space that's calming and cozy. It's dark, but it has an ethereal feeling," she says. Along with the paint, the designers selected a black sideboard from Sabin to add depth and texture.

Dee Schlotter, PPG's senior color marketing manager, says using black on feature walls, interior surfaces and furniture serves as an anchor to neutrals, patterns and mixed materials, and



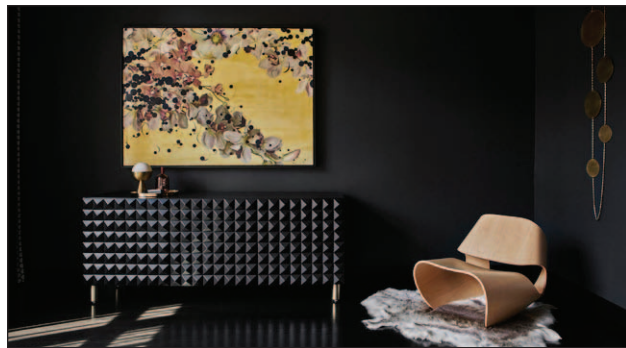
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In their East Hampton, N.Y. home shown here, Mark and Kristen Zeff have embraced black both inside and outside.

provides a solid, classic element in any room while creating a sense of space and quiet.

Her color team liked the hue so much that they chose Black Flame as PPG's 2018 Color of the Year. Glidden picked Deep Onyx, another black, as theirs.

"Black reflects the current state of rebelliousness and contentiousness in the world, but it also provides a feeling of privacy and protection," says Schlotter.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This photos shows how Studio Gild painted the walls of this Chicago home in Benjamin Moore's Midnight. "We wanted to create a space that's calming and cozy," says Kristen Ekeland. A black sideboard from SABIN adds depth, texture and drama.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In their East Hampton, N.Y. home shown here, Mark and Kristen Zeff have embraced black both inside and outside. "Black has several properties that make it ideal for interior design," Zeff says. It's calming to the eye, elegant, and it underscores organic beauty."

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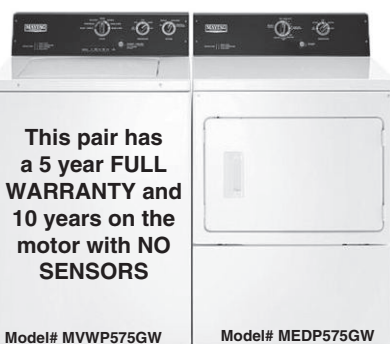
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What is the water table, and how does it affect homes?

METROCREATIVE SERVICES

The groundwater table plays a role in home construction, foundation stability and home comfort. Because the groundwater table is so significant, it behooves homeowners to understand how it works.

National Geographic defines a water table as the boundary between water-saturated ground and unsaturated ground. Well beneath the ground, at various depths depending on geography, topography and weather conditions, pockets of water, called aquifers, exist. The water table marks the boundary between that available water and the dry surface.

Ground water is impacted by precipitation, irrigation and ground cover. It also may be affected by land use and tides. The water table can fluctuate with the seasons and from year to year because it is affected by climatic variations, as well as how much water may be drawn from underground, advises Encyclopedia Britannica. The water table where one person lives may be several inches or feet below the surface of the ground and follow the topography of the land. For others, it may be much higher, even coming above the surface of the soil.

The water table as well as local soil conditions and drainage can impact homes and their foundations. If soil drains efficiently and there is a relatively

low water table, it may not be problematic. However, if soil is dense and absorbent and the water table is high, the ground around a home may swell and become saturated. This can exert significant pressure against the foundation walls, states Rytech, a water damage and mold rehabilitation company.

In areas where a local water table rises near the surface, water can push against the underside of the foundation in a condition known as "hydrostatic pressure." This may cause water to infiltrate through the bottom of the foundation — even permeating solid concrete over time. If hydrostatic pressure is severe, it could lift certain portions of the foundation out of the ground, but this is very unlikely. But it could cause shifting of foundation walls and structures like fencing and decks.

Even if ground water does not cause foundation cracking or shifting, it could lead to humidity issues, resulting in rust, bacteria and mold. Wood structures in a home may be compromised by a high level of humidity.

The home improvement resource Angie's List says certain steps may need to be taken to protect against damage from a water table and abundant ground water. Basement and foundation waterproofing professionals can help homeowners develop a plan to mitigate water damage. This can include grading changes and the installation of



METRO CREATIVE IMAGES

If not properly addressed, ground water can affect an existing foundation and the ability to build successfully.

drains and pumps to move water away from the house. Special paints and sealants also can protect the foundation.

Ground water can be a

hindrance when it affects the home, but homeowners who learn about it can be in a position to confront any ground water issues.

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THIS HOME HAS IT ALL 3/2 home is being sold furnished with new refrigerator, garbage disposal and microwave. Engineered Wood Floors throughout. SB2225 Donald Lariviere (863)450-3340 \$92,500	SPACIOUS LIGHT AND BRIGHT 2/2 w/front kitchen with cabinets, applique cabinets and plenty of storage space. The wood laminate floors add to the charm. Indoor laundry room includes an office desk area. SB2289 Amy Slane (863) 450-3336 \$30,388
WELL MAINTAINED HOME Elite 3BR, 2BA has so much to offer. 2 YR old roof over home, New roof over lanai & carport, 3 YR old AC, good size Den, living room, dining room and kitchen. Open floor plan is great for entertaining. SB2308 Ray Hammond/Hammond Team (863) 450-3339 \$76,500	MOTIVATED SELLER!!! 2 BR, 2 BA updated home freshly painted inside and out, new landscaping, appliances, electric installed Florida room with ceramic tile flooring, laminate in kitchen, dining and living room, carpet in bedrooms. Extended shed and carport. Move in ready! SB2274 Amy Slane (863) 450-3336 \$22,800
WELL MAINTAINED HOME W/UPGRADES 1 1/2 park model is fully furnished. The brand-new central AC has a 10 Year Warranty; the 10-month-old membrane roof has a 160 MPH Rating. Newer windows have a 150 MPH wind rating. SB2329 Larry Robinson (317) 979-1294 \$22,500	COMPLETE GETAWAY 2/2 turnkey and move in ready. Nicely furnished and equipped just bring your clothes has great storage, extended privacy carport. SB2295 Kim Strasser (863) 279-3386 \$24,950
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A 5 STAR COMMUNITY 2BR, 2BA wider or man cave, all new SS appliances, new roof in 2017. Furnished home is move in ready. Great open floor plan with plenty of natural light. SB2333 Pete Blake (702) 579-5155 \$129,900	LIKE A MODEL HOME! 2/2 w/upgraded maple kitchen cabinets, stainless steel appliances, maple laminate flooring along w/new carpet throughout. New AC in 2017. Custom window treatments. 23 X 9.5 Florida Room. Extra Large golf cart garage. SB2265 Reggie Maxon (863) 808-1706 \$45,000
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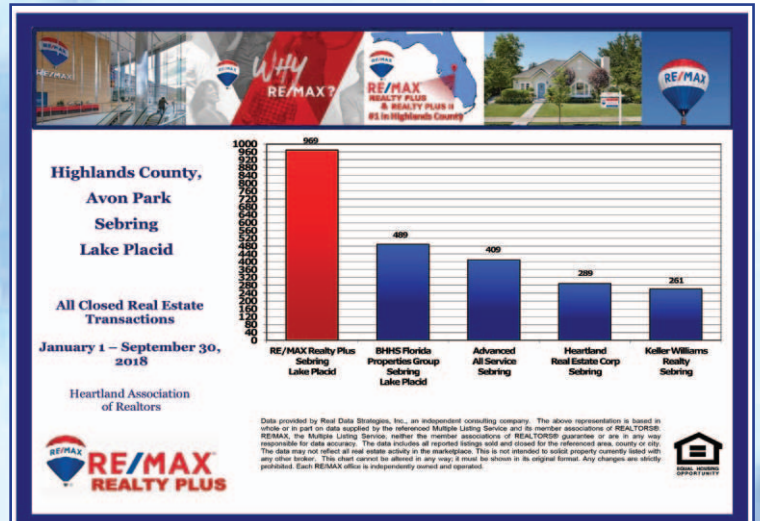


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■ **BOYS BASKETBALL: Seminole 67, Charlotte 49**

Slow start, injury sours tourney for Tarpons

By **JACOB HOAG**
STAFF WRITER

LEHIGH ACRES — Sluggish from the start, the Charlotte High boys basketball team couldn't get into much of a rhythm in their lone Lehigh New Year's Shootout game on Saturday, falling to Seminole 67-49.

To make matters worse, star forward Ahmad Johnson went down with an apparent ankle injury and did not return.

"Terrible start, but that's on us," Charlotte coach Tom Massolio said. "We were not ready to play, not ready to go today."

The poor start Massolio referred came in the opening five minutes where the Tarpons went 0 for 6 from the field with five turnovers, enabling Seminole to jump out to a 13-0 lead.

The Tarpons' first basket came on a fade-away jumper from Johnson with 2:19 left in

the quarter. A buzzer-beating 3-pointer stretched Seminole's lead to 18-7.

Things wouldn't get much better in the second quarter where the Tarpons were outscored 21-16. Charlotte, who gave up their highest point total in a half this season, had nine first-half turnovers while allowing six 3-pointers from the fluid Seminoles.

"Give them a lot of credit,



SUN PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER G. BLAKE

Charlotte's Makai Reeves drives to the basket against Seminole High School during Saturday's Lehigh New Year's Shootout game at Lehigh Senior High School. Reeves led the Tarpons with 14 points.

TARPONS | 3

■ **NFL**

Bucs interview former Cardinals coach Arians

By **RICK STROUD**
TAMPA BAY TIMES

TAMPA — Bruce Arians could fix quarterback Jameis Winston and would love to work with general manager Jason Licht.

For those reasons, the former Cardinals head coach has been the favorite to land the Bucs head coaching job and took a big step in that direction Sunday when he interviewed for the position in Tampa.

Arians, 67, is the only known former NFL head coach to meet with the Bucs since they fired Dirk Koetter after three seasons last Sunday.

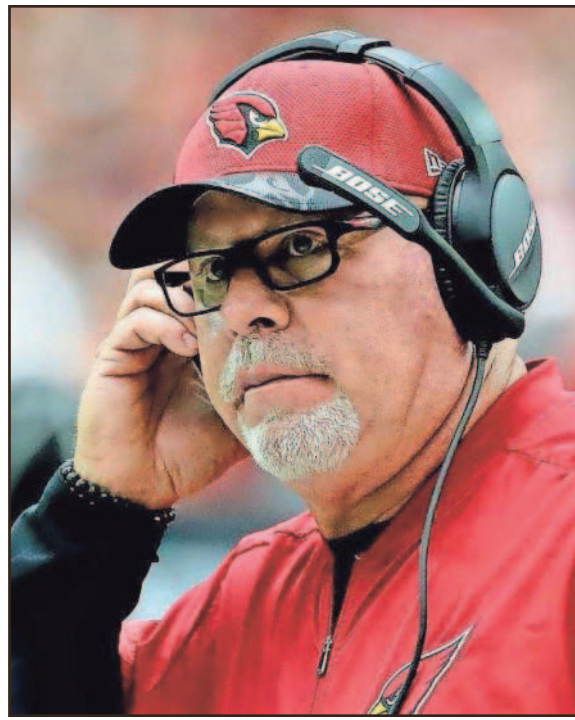
Licht interviewed Chiefs offensive coordinator Eric Bieniemy on

Wednesday and Vikings defensive coordinator George Edwards on Friday. The Bucs are scheduled to meet with Dallas Cowboys defensive backs coach Kris Richard on Sunday.

But none of those candidates have ever been head coaches, nor do they check as many boxes for the Bucs as Arians.

Start with the fact that Arians has known Winston since the Bucs quarterback attended his football camp in Birmingham, Ala., when he was a kid.

Licht and Arians worked together at Arizona in 2013 when Licht was the Cardinals vice president of player personnel.



AP PHOTO

Former Arizona Cardinals head coach Bruce Arians is one of the leading candidates for the vacant head coaching job with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

BUCS | 6

■ **COLLEGE FOOTBALL PLAYOFF CHAMPIONSHIP**

Alabama, Clemson pay attention to detail

By **RALPH D. RUSSO**
AP COLLEGE FOOTBALL WRITER

SAN JOSE, Calif. — At Alabama and Clemson, being the best at one thing means being the best at everything.

That sounds like coach speak or corporate-retreat lingo, but Crimson Tide coach Nick Saban and Clemson coach Dabo Swinney strive to make it a reality. It is the common thread that runs through the very different personalities leading college football's most dominant programs. From social media to branding to career development to training table, every aspect of the organization is connected to success on the field.

Thad Turnipseed, Clemson's director of recruiting operations and external affairs, has worked with both Saban and Swinney to implement their holistic

approaches to building championship teams.

"Everything matters in every area of your program," Turnipseed said Saturday at media day for the College Football Playoff national championship game.

No. 1 Alabama (14-0) and No. 2 Clemson (14-0) will meet Monday night at Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara, the fourth straight year the Crimson Tide and Tigers have played in the playoff and third time they will decide the title.

Turnipseed is a former teammate of Swinney's on Alabama's 1992 national championship team who was working as an administrator in Tuscaloosa even before Saban took over in 2007. Turnipseed oversaw facilities projects, but Saban expanded that role.

Analytics, recruiting, branding

the program through graphic design, Turnipseed's job was to build a structure for Saban's process to thrive.

After former Alabama athletic director Mal Moore died in 2013, Swinney and Turnipseed reconnected.

"And he really just said come make us better," Turnipseed said.

Swinney said: "I mean, he's just been one of the best hires that I've ever made for sure."

The first big project at Clemson was a massive restructuring of the recruiting department, using Alabama's war-room evaluation as a blueprint and increasing staff from a handful to dozens of evaluators. The difference was Swinney wanted to place greater emphasis on how players fit Clemson's culture, which flows

CHAMPIONSHIP | 6

■ **AFC WILD CARD: Colts 21, Texans 7**

Luck leads thumping of Houston



AP PHOTO

Colts QB Andrew Luck threw for 222 yards and two touchdowns to advance to the AFC divisional round versus the Kansas City Chiefs.

Indianapolis takes early lead, puts pressure on Watson, advances to divisional round against Kansas City Chiefs

By **KRISTIE RIEKEN**
AP SPORTS WRITER

HOUSTON (AP) — Andrew Luck threw for 222 yards and two touchdowns and the Indianapolis Colts raced out to a big lead and cruised to a 21-7 win over the Houston Texans in the wild-card game on Saturday.

Luck put on a show in his hometown, throwing for 191 yards and two touchdowns before halftime to help the Colts (11-6) build a 21-0 lead.

Running back Marlon Mack had 148 yards and a touchdown for Indianapolis, which advances to face the top-seeded Kansas City Chiefs in the divisional round next weekend.

Houston (11-6), which overcame a 0-3 start to win the AFC South, gave up too many big plays and couldn't get anything going on offense in the first half to

fall into the huge hole.

Deshaun Watson, who was sacked an NFL-leading 62 times in the regular season, was sacked three times and hit eight more times in a disappointing playoff debut. He finished with 235 yards passing with a touchdown and an interception.

The Colts, who opened the season 1-5, continued an impressive run by winning their fifth straight and for the 10th time in 11 games. Saturday was their first playoff appearance since the AFC championship game loss at New England in the "Deflategate" game in the 2014 season.

It was another good game in a splendid season for Luck, who grew up in a suburb of Houston. He threw for 4,593 yards and 39 touchdowns in the regular season after missing all

COLTS | 6

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Table with lottery results for PICK 2: Jan. 5N, 5D, 4N, 4D, 3N, 3D, D-Day, N-Night.

PICK 3

Table with lottery results for PICK 3: Jan. 5N, 5D, 4N, 4D, 3N, 3D, D-Day, N-Night.

PICK 4

Table with lottery results for PICK 4: Jan. 5N, 5D, 4N, 4D, 3N, 3D, D-Day, N-Night.

PICK 5

Table with lottery results for PICK 5: Jan. 5N, 5D, 4N, 4D, 3N, 3D, D-Day, N-Night.

FANTASY 5

Table with Fantasy 5 results: Jan. 5, 4, 3, payoff for Jan. 4, 4-5 digit winners, 301 4-digit winners, 9,088 3-digit winners.

CASH FOR LIFE

Table with Cash for Life results: Jan. 3, Cash Ball, Dec. 31, payoff for Jan. 3, 0 5-5 CB, 0 5-5, 2 4-5 CB, 9 4-5.

LUCKY MONEY

Table with Lucky Money results: Jan. 4, Lucky Ball, Jan. 1, payoff for Jan. 1, 1 4-of-4 LB, 6 4-of-4, 35 3-of-4 LB, 604 3-of-4.

LOTTO

Table with Lotto results: Jan. 5, Jan. 2, Dec. 29, payoff for Jan. 2, 0 6-digit winners, 5 5-digit winners, 838 4-digit winners, estimated jackpot \$8 million.

POWERBALL

Table with Powerball results: Jan. 5, Powerball, Jan. 2, payoff for Jan. 2, 0 5-5 + PB, 0 5-5, 1 4-5 + PB, 28 4-5, estimated jackpot \$69 million.

MEGA MILLIONS

Table with Mega Millions results: Jan. 4, Mega Ball, Jan. 1, payoff for Jan. 1, 1 5 of 5 + MB, 0 5 of 5, 4 4 of 5 + MB, 77 4 of 5, estimated jackpot \$45 million.

AREA PREP: Lady Tarpons Basketball

Tarpons quietly dominate visiting Lions

By JUSTIN RAFFONE SUN CORRESPONDENT

As the Lady Tarpons basketball team hosted First Baptist Academy on Friday night, there was one common theme being yelled from the home coaches, “talk more.” The Tarpons would cruise to a 65-31 victory over the Lady Lions, but for almost three quarters, the sound of shoes squeaking on the court was more prevalent than teammates communicating.

Charlotte led by 10 after

SPORTS ON TV

Table listing sports on TV: BOWLING (11 a.m.), MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL (12 p.m.), WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL (12 p.m.), GOLF (6 p.m.), LUGE (6 p.m.), RUGBY (10 a.m.), COLLEGE WRESTLING (3:15 p.m.), GOLF (4:30 p.m.), RUGBY (10 a.m.).

one quarter and 12 at the half, but on a night where the referees were plenty liberal with the use of their whistles, the game felt like it got off to a slow, silent beginning.

After the half, senior forward Matisyn Moses scored the first seven points to push the Tarpons lead to 37-22, and with roughly a minute and a half left in the third quarter, the team started to give their coaches what they were demanding all night, more communication.

FBA wound up being outscored 20-9 in the third quarter, which would effectively end any chance of holding the game close, as the Tarpons finally showed the intensity

they're known for. Open shots were not falling early for some Tarpons, including sophomore Bella Desjardins, who still wound up with nine first half points and 14 on the night.

With the number of fouls called in the first half (16), each team may have been granted forgiveness for being thrown off rhythm and playing out of their element. That didn't seem to be a good enough excuse for the the Charlotte coaching staff, however—visibly frustrated by the lack of talk on the court by their girls.

The Tarpons were also at times very young on the court, as freshmen Maya Joseph, Kassidy Hopper

and Ary Hicks logged plenty of minutes. Hicks, the Tarpons' lightning fast point guard, was not able to display her patented break-away speed to drive to the basket, as Charlotte focused more on setting up plays at the top of the key and feeding the ball from the inside-out.

Grace Dean was the lone problem for the Tarpons to defend, scoring 10 first half points and ending up with 14, after getting into foul trouble in the third quarter. The 3A Lions were ultimately no match for the depth and overall talent of the 7A Tarpons. Dean didn't see the court much in the fourth quarter, one where the Lions ended

up scoring just four points.

The persistent badgering from the Charlotte bench seemed to finally click after one player was told if she didn't want to come off the court, to simply be vocal with her teammates. The game was never in doubt, and Charlotte played suffocating defense the whole night, but a better showing will be needed against some upcoming foes.

Charlotte will travel to Cape Coral on Monday to battle for first place in the district, as both teams have yet to lose in district play.

CHS 20 10 20 15 65 FBA 10 8 9 4 31

NHL ROUNDDUP

Brodie's OT goal leads Flames past Flyers 3-2

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The Flames just needed to get out of their own way.

TJ Brodie scored 1 minute, 59 seconds into overtime after Matthew Tkachuk tied it with 4:17 left in regulation to lead Calgary to a 3-2 victory over the Philadelphia Flyers on Saturday.

Tkachuk assisted on the winner in the 3-on-3 extra session. Philadelphia's Jordan Weal turned the puck over in the Flyers offensive zone to set up a 2-on-1 break. Tkachuk sent a cross-ice pass to Brodie, who beat goalie Carter Hart to lift the Pacific Division leaders to the win.

“Not every game is going to be pretty and these are the games that make a difference at the end of the year,” Brodie said.

Calgary committed five penalties, including two for too many men on the ice, resulting in four Philadelphia power plays. The Flames also gifted the Flyers a go-ahead goal in the third period when goalie David Rittich misplayed the puck way out in front of his crease.

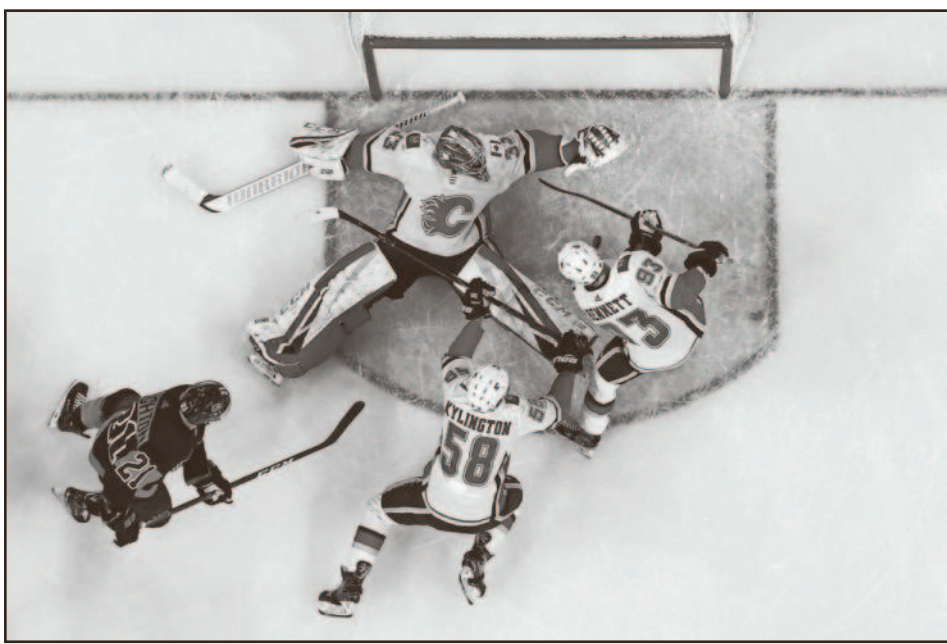
When it mattered, though, Calgary figured out how to do what it has been doing all season — win. “We settled in and found a way to get it done,” coach Bill Peters said. “That’s a greasy road win.”

Johnny Gaudreau notched his 24th goal of the season for the Flames, whose 56 points are tops in the Western Conference.

Travis Sanheim and Travis Konecny scored for Philadelphia, which dropped its season-worst sixth straight game. The Flyers are in last place in the Metropolitan Division; they entered tied with Los Angeles and Ottawa for the fewest points in the league. It has been a forgettable season for the Flyers, who already have replaced their general manager and coach.

“It’s tough because we’re playing good hockey,” Konecny said. “It just seems like teams are just scoring on the one opportunity that they’re getting. It usually doesn’t go that way, but that’s just the way it’s going for us right now.” Tkachuk tied it with 4:17 left in regulation when he beat Hart past the right pad with a wrist shot from the slot.

Konecny had given Philadelphia a third-period lead, taking advantage of a mistake by Rittich to put the Flyers ahead 2-1 at 5:57 of the period. With Philadelphia's Claude Giroux applying pressure on defenseman Rasmus Andersson, Rittich came way out of his crease to play the puck. Konecny intercepted



AP PHOTO

Philadelphia Flyers' Scott Laughton (21) tries to get the puck past Calgary Flames' David Rittich (33), Sam Bennett (93) and Oliver Kyllington (58) during the second period of an NHL hockey game, Saturday, in Philadelphia.

Rittich's clearing attempt, and then fired a wrist shot from the left circle past the retreating Flames goalie for his 10th of the season.

The victory was a sigh of relief for the Flames goalie.

“I made a mistake that almost cost us the game, so I was happy,” he said.

Asked if he spoke to Tkachuk after the tying goal, Rittich said, “Yeah. ‘Thanks bro, I love you.’”

Gaudreau tied it at 1 with a pretty wrist shot from the right circle that whizzed over Hart’s left shoulder during 4-on-4 play in the second period.

The 20-year-old Hart returned to the net after Michal Neuvirth suffered a lower-body injury in Philadelphia's 5-3 home loss to Carolina on Thursday, continuing the Flyers goalie carousel.

The rookie was solid, if not spectacular, and couldn't be faulted for any of the goals.

“I was seeing the puck,” he said. “I felt comfortable. I wasn't overthinking things and just stuck to my game.”

Hart, who made 29 saves, dropped to 2-4.

Veteran journeyman Mike McKenna was signed on Friday to back up Hart, who was making his sixth career start. If McKenna dresses for the Flyers, he would become the seventh goalie to suit up and that would tie an NHL record.

Sanheim got the Flyers on the board with a power-play goal with 7:50 left in the first period. His pass, which was intended for Weal in front of the net, caromed off the skate of Brodie and over the right shoulder of Rittich.

Rittich returned after missing the previous two games with a lower-body injury and made 32 saves.

Wild 4, Senators 3

OTTAWA, Ontario (AP) — Jared Spurgeon and the

Minnesota Wild turned a tough start into a nice win.

Spurgeon scored twice to help the Wild beat the Ottawa Senators 4-3 on Saturday.

Jordan Greenway and Zach Parise also scored for the Wild (20-17-3), who improved to 2-0 on a four-game trip. Devan Dubnyk stopped 24 shots.

“I thought we were really bad in the first period and Dubnyk kept us in,” coach Bruce Boudreau. “It was almost totally opposite of the Toronto game where he had a rough start and the team played really well. If he hadn't played as well as he had we probably would have been down three by the 10-minute mark I figure. Once we got our skating legs we started to go a little better.”

Matt Duchene, Ryan Dzingel and Mark Stone scored for Ottawa (15-22-5), which dropped its seventh consecutive game.

“In the second we got away from what we were doing that made us successful,” Duchene said. “We weren't playing bad, but we weren't playing the way we were and they get three goals and obviously two of them are kind of fluky, but that’s just the way it’s going right now.”

Anders Nilsson made 22 saves in his Senators debut after he was acquired Wednesday in a trade with Vancouver.

“It’s always good to get the first game, but obviously I would have hoped for a better result,” Nilsson said. “There’s nothing I can do about it now, it’s just turn the page and it’s a new day tomorrow and a new game.”

Parise gave the Wild a 4-2 lead when he jumped on a rebound 6:07 into the third. But the Senators pulled within one when Stone tipped

a Cody Ceci shot past Dubnyk for his 20th of the season midway through the period.

Ottawa had a two-man advantage for the last 26 seconds of the game, but was unable to capitalize.

“Sometimes it takes something extraordinary to get out of a skid like this,” Duchene said. “We’re going to keep pushing; we’re not packing it in. There’s lots of hockey left to be played and hopefully we can work our way out and things will start bouncing a little bit more, but it’s tough right now.”

The Senators got off to a much better start than they had in their previous few games. They were outshooting the Wild 12-2 midway through the first and might have had a few early goals if not for Dubnyk's performance.

Ottawa got on the board in the final minute of the first. Duchene stepped out of the penalty box, took a pass from Zack Smith and muscled his way through the Wild defense before getting around Dubnyk for an empty net.

Spurgeon tied the game just 41 seconds into the second. He took a drop pass from Luke Kunin and beat Nilsson for his sixth of the year.

Ottawa regained the lead on Dzingel's 16th, but the Wild tied it back up when Greenway jammed a puck under Nilsson 14:10 into the period.

Minnesota grabbed the lead for good when Spurgeon scored his second from a sharp angle with 3:29 left in the period.

“I just fired it,” Spurgeon said. “I just tried to put it on net and I think (Parise) was already in front of the net so worse case there's a rebound for him, but I think it just trickled over his pad.”

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■ **BOYS BASKETBALL: Venice 64, Seacrest Country Day 49**

Indians hold on to snap losing skid

By **VINNIE PORTELL**
VENICE SPORTS EDITOR

Leading by 19 early in the fourth quarter, the Venice boys basketball team looked to be well on its way to snapping out of a five-game losing streak.

But it wouldn't be so easy for the Indians (3-9), as they found themselves leading Seacrest Country Day by just six in the closing minutes before finally pulling away for a 64-49 win at the New Year's Shootout at Lehigh Senior High School.

"I was just thinking, 'We need to put the ball in the basket. We need to find a way,'" Indians senior Chason Rockymore said of when his team was up just six points. "We can break the press, but we were moving too fast for ourselves. I looked at Chip (Barber) because he's been playing consistent, and I said, 'I need you.' We need to learn how to win, I think."

Venice turned the ball over five times in the fourth quarter and missed the front end of three one-and-one's in a row, giving the Stingrays plenty of chances to come back.

The Indians struggled with Seacrest's full-court press, with most of their turnovers in the period coming on failed attempts to pass the ball up court. However,

Rockymore wasted no time taking over the game.

With his team up just six points in the final four minutes, Rockymore finished strong, scoring seven points and pulling down three rebounds over the final minutes as Venice held on for its first win since beating Palmetto on Dec. 18. Rockymore led all scorers with 25 points and also played tight defense, coming up with two blocks and two steals.

"I think they're sticking to it," Venice coach John Flynn said of his team working through struggles. "When you're on a slide like that, everything gets magnified a little bit more. And even though we struggled down the stretch, we still had enough to keep it together."

One of Venice's biggest advantages over Seacrest was its first-half defense.

Switching back and forth between man defense and a 2-3 zone, the Indians built their lead with one of the most complete defensive quarters a team can have.

Aside from two points off free-throw shots by Stingray Matt Riley, Venice didn't allow Seacrest to score at all.

By the time halftime rolled around, the Indians held a 29-13 lead and appeared to be in full control of the game.

"We were playing lockdown defense," Rockymore said. "That really impressed me. You gotta be happy with that."

Both teams traded buckets in the third quarter, heading into the fourth quarter with the Stingrays trailing, 46-30.

But two 3-pointers and 5-for-5 free-throw shooting from Seacrest in the beginning of the fourth brought the Stingrays in reach for the first time since the first few minutes.

Though Venice was temporarily rattled, the ball-handling of Barber and captain Brett Keyso calmed the Indians down just enough for Rockymore to put the Stingrays away for good.

For Venice, the win couldn't have come at much of a better time as it readies to play the undefeated Port Charlotte Pirates (11-0) on Thursday before beginning the heart of its district schedule on Friday night against Sarasota.

"When you're trying to win your first game in a while, I think there was a little bit of anxiousness, knowing that we have to win," Flynn said. "You have to learn how to win. Winning is a habit."

"We've got a tough one on Thursday, but then we start Friday. And that's what we've been working toward is Friday. We can't wait for Friday."

■ **BOYS BASKETBALL: Cardinal Gibbons 79, North Port 55**

One quarter not enough for Bobcats

By **CHUCK BALLARO**
SUN CORRESPONDENT

LEHIGH ACRES — If the North Port High School boys basketball team could have played like it did in the third quarter Saturday, on the second day of the Lehigh New Year's Shootout at Lehigh Senior High School, it might have been a different story for them.

However, games are 32 minutes long and not eight, and Cardinal Gibbons was able to play consistently on both sides of the ball while holding the Bobcats for most of the game.

Isaiah Edden scored 24 points to lead an otherwise balanced Chiefs attack in an easy 79-55 victory for the school from Fort Lauderdale.

Gertautas Urbonavicius had 10 points and seven rebounds, while freshman Kamden Ayers had nine points and six assists to lead Gibbons (10-3), which won its third straight and seventh of its last eight.

"We have a young team with one senior so we're still gelling with my style

and the way we want to play," said first-year Cardinal Gibbons coach Devin Barta. "We were efficient and we preach sharing the ball. We tell them not to do it alone, but together and we did that well today."

North Port (6-7) couldn't get anything going in the first half as it was held to 17 points and found itself down 23 at the half.

Ryan Power, North Port coach, said unlike the previous night against Southwest Florida Christian, they just didn't bring the effort.

"We got away from our defensive mentality and they were able to jump out to the lead and pick up the defensive mentality, and when we can't get stops, we can't get into our transition game," Power said. "Gibbons is big and physical and were able to switch out every screen, but we need to execute on offense. We made a lot of silly turnovers."

But the Bobcats found their offensive stroke in the third quarter, hitting six three-pointers as Eric

Baker scored 11 of his 13 points in that span. Being as far behind as they were, they were only able to get within 15 as the Chiefs were able to score 20 and pulled away again in the fourth.

Mitch Tosi came off the bench to also score 13 points for North Port. Nick Passamonte added 11.

"If we had come out in the first quarter like in the third quarter, I would like to replay that game, but Gibbons started strong early and kept it up," Power said.

CARDINAL GIBBONS 79, NORTH PORT 55
Cardinal Gibbons 17 23 20 19 — 79
North Port 7 10 26 12 — 55
Cardinal Gibbons (79): Isaiah Edden 24, Gertautas Urbonavicius 10, Ayers 9, Vertus 8, Boynton 8, Udine 7, Gaines 4, Taylor 4, Antoine 3, Rodriguez 2. Totals: 32(5) 10-16 79.

North Port (55): Mitch Tosi 13, Eric Baker 13, Nick Passamonte 11, Morales 8, Curley 5, Iribarren 3, Brown 2. Totals: 18(8) 11-15 55.

■ **BOYS BASKETBALL: Lemon Bay 56, South Fort Myers 36**

Mantas sting Wolfpack

By **PETE SISK**
SUN CORRESPONDENT

LEHIGH ACRES — The preliminaries are over. Now comes the serious work for the Lemon Bay Manta Rays.

Lemon Bay (8-5) closed out its holiday tournament schedule Saturday with a 56-36 victory against South Fort Myers in the Lehigh New Year's Shootout.

The win, against the 0-12 Wolfpack, was to be expected.

Still, it took the Manta Rays a little while to get going. The score after one period was 11-8, and in the middle of the second quarter, Lemon Bay's lead was just 18-10.

"We had to change the tempo," Manta Rays coach Sean Huber said. "We play a lot better when we play faster. At the halftime, I said, 'Doesn't this feel slow?' And they're like, 'Yeah.'"

"More energy, and things get going faster, things go our way better."

And that's exactly what happened. Lemon Bay scored more points in the third period (24) than the entire first half (23).

Part of the problem was that center Caleb Geisendorfer, the key to Lemon Bay's attack, couldn't hit from the field in the first two quarters. All five of his first-half

points came at the free-throw line.

"He struggled," Huber said. "He's struggled in the last couple of games. We made it a point to try and feed him and try to get him spots. We started the third quarter with him in his favorite spot. He scored. Once that went in, he got going."

Geisendorfer scored 13 of his game-high 18 points in the third quarter, then took a seat before the period ended.

With a solid lead, Huber made sure other players got some valuable minutes in the later stages of the game.

"We have the big part of our schedule coming up," Huber said. "Our schedule doesn't get easier. It gets harder as things go on. We'll go back and watch the film and try and find things we need to improve on, things we need to do a little better job on."

"We're getting the shots we want. We just need to make more of them. When the shots are wide open, they've got to go down."

Geisendorfer also had 12 rebounds for Lemon Bay. Martell Yale scored 12 for the Manta Rays. After a winnable District 7A-10 game Tuesday at home with Island Coast, things start getting tough. There's a home game Friday against Charlotte,

and a trip to Port Charlotte comes up later this month. Outside the district, there's a game with Fort Myers in the Wally Keller Classic.

It's been something of a rebuilding season at Lemon Bay, with the key players from last year's district championship team having graduated.

"I do have seven seniors on the team, and some of them do have some pretty good experience, but they haven't been through as many wars as the guys had in the past," Huber said.

"So every time we play, no matter who we play, it's a learning experience. Try to get better every week, and look forward to February."

February? That's tournament time.

SOUTH FORT MYERS 8 5 16 7 — 36
LEMON BAY 11 12 24 9 — 56

3-pointers: SFM 5 (McClinton 3, Keller 2), LB 2 (Harvey, Martinez).

South Fort Myers (36): Wilson 2, Tyler 4, McClinton 9, Keller 8, Julian Durham 11, Bounds 2. Totals: 13 (5) 3-11 36.

Lemon Bay (56): Morrill 6, Martell Yale 12, Fleming 7, Caleb Geisendorfer 18, Harvey 5, Kriessler 2, Hedges 2, Martinez 3, Patel 1. Totals: 21 (2) 12-16 56.



SUN PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER G BLAKE

Lemon Bay's Martell Yale scores during Saturday's basketball game against South Ft. Myers.

PREP SPORTS CALENDAR

■ **Basketball**

Charlotte Girls at Cape Coral, 7 p.m.

■ **Soccer**

Port Charlotte Boys at DeSoto County, 7:30 p.m.

Port Charlotte Girls vs. DeSoto County, 7 p.m.

TARPONS

FROM PAGE 1

they're a good basketball team," Massolio said. "A lot of team speed. We just buried ourselves there and were trying to catch up the whole game. That's hard to do."

The biggest blow came in the third quarter when Johnson came down awkwardly after a rebound. He instantly showed he was in a fair amount of pain and later returned to the bench with his ankle taped with ice.

Massolio didn't elaborate on the severity of the injury.

The Tarpons oddly had their best stretch of the game following Johnson's exit. Down 45-26 with 5:40 left in the third quarter, Charlotte embarked on a 10-0 run capped by an and-1 by Laz Carbello and cut the lead to nine.

"We were taking better shots, making shots"

Massolio said. "It's part of the game, you have to make shots. We just didn't do a very good job at the start there and against a good team, you're gonna struggle."

But Seminole got back on track quickly and regained a strong lead in the fourth. Brian Brooks led the Seminoles with 12 points, but five players scored in double figures.

Leading the Tarpons was senior Makai Reaves with 14 followed by senior Kenny Scribner with 11. Five Tarpons finished with at least five rebounds.

The Tarpons will look to rebound as they travel to play Bishop Verot on Tuesday at 7 p.m.

SEMINOLE 67, CHARLOTTE 49

SHS 18 21 8 20 — 67

CHS 7 16 13 13 — 49

SHS — Brooks (12), Baker (11), Douglas (10)

CHS — Reaves (14), Scribner (11), Carbello (10)

Email Jacob Hoag at Jhoag@sun-herald.com and follow him on Twitter @ByJacobHoag.



SUN PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER G BLAKE

Charlotte's Tyrik Gainer drives through the lane Saturday.

■ NFL PLAYOFFS

Bears exit hibernation to tackle Eagles

Chicago plays first postseason game since 2010, against team with personal ties

By **ANDREW SELIGMAN**
AP SPORTS WRITER

LAKE FOREST, Ill. — Not long after he was hired, Matt Nagy watched the Super Bowl with his wife at a bar near the Chicago Bears' practice facility. His good friend Doug Pederson was coaching the Philadelphia Eagles to their first Super Bowl championship.

The place was just about empty. He even had to ask for the game to be turned on.

"It was awesome," he recalled.

Nagy hopes things don't go so well for his pal when the NFC North champion Bears host the Eagles on Sunday in a wild-card game packed with storylines.

Chicago (12-4) is in the playoffs for the first time since the 2010 team won the division, making a huge jump in Nagy's first season after four straight last-place finishes. The Bears are on a 9-1 tear; the Eagles (9-7) have won five of six.

Chicago quarterback Mitchell Trubisky will make his first playoff appearance.

Eagles quarterback Nick Foles — last year's Super Bowl MVP — will try to deliver another standout performance while filling in for Carson Wentz. He's 6-0 in those situations the past two seasons.

Foles was particularly good the past three games with Wentz sidelined by a back injury. He tied Philip Rivers' NFL record in last week's win over Washington by completing 25 consecutive passes.

Alshon Jeffery will play in Chicago for the first time since the star receiver left the Bears

after five seasons to sign with Philadelphia in 2017. Chicago's Trey Burton will try to beat the Eagles this time after throwing a touchdown to Foles on a trick play — "Philly Special" — in the Super Bowl victory over New England.

There will be Long brothers — Chicago guard Kyle and Philadelphia defensive end Chris — on opposing teams.

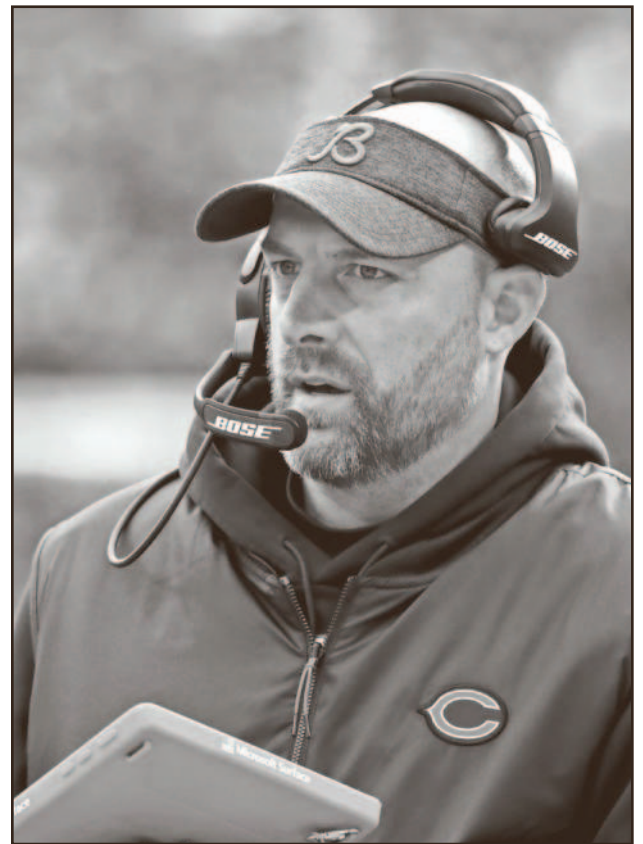
And there will be two coaches on opposite sidelines with a strong bond formed while working under Andy Reid in Philadelphia and Kansas City.

NO-NAME SECONDARY:

The Eagles have relied on backups and reserves after losing three-fourths of their starting secondary to season-ending injuries. Second-year pro Rasul Douglas and rookie Avonte Maddox have stepped up at cornerback since starters Ronald Darby and Jalen Mills went down. Veteran Corey Graham replaced safety Rodney McLeod. Maddox even played safety when Graham was out. Second-year pro Tre Sullivan also has filled in at safety and former Bears defensive back Cre'Von LeBlanc has played nickel cornerback with Sidney Jones out of the lineup.

"They've both settled into those roles well and they've made enough plays for us to win five of our last six and get in," defensive coordinator Jim Schwartz said of LeBlanc and Sullivan.

Douglas, who played just 10 snaps in the first five games, led the team with three



AP PHOTOS

Chicago Bears first-year head coach Matt Nagy (right) will put his longstanding friendship with Philadelphia Eagles coach Doug Pederson (left) aside when they meet in the NFC Wild Card game Sunday in Chicago.

interceptions.

The anchor in the secondary is Malcolm Jenkins, who played every defensive snap and another 136 on special teams.

ON TARGET:

Like Foles, Trubisky is on a roll.

The No. 2 overall pick in the 2017 draft, he threw three interceptions in a 15-6 victory over the Los Angeles Rams on Dec. 9 after missing the previous two games because of a shoulder injury. Since then, he's been

making all the right reads.

Trubisky has a 109.7 rating the past three games, completing 63 of 83 passes for 644 and three touchdowns without an interception.

BACKFIELD BY COMMITTEE:

After relying on undrafted rookie Josh Adams for a bulk of the carries following season-ending injuries to Jay Ajayi and Corey Clement, the Eagles are splitting the ball

carrying among Adams, veteran Darren Sproles and Wendell Smallwood.

MOVING ON?:

Bears defensive coordinator Vic Fangio insisted he was preparing only for the Eagles, not any head coaching interviews. "I've done zero on that second part," he said.

The 60-year-old Fangio has overseen a defense that led the NFL in rushing defense, takeaways (36) and interceptions (27) while tying for third in sacks (50).

All 12 playoff coaches tied to Walsh or Parcells

By **BARRY WILNER**

AP PRO FOOTBALL WRITER

There is no denying the impact on the coaching world that Bill Walsh and Bill Parcells have had. The hard evidence is apparent again as the NFL playoffs begin.

All 12 of the coaches have some sort of tie-in to either three-time Super Bowl champion Walsh or two-time winner Parcells. Yes, all 12.

Some are direct: New England's Bill Belichick, New Orleans' Sean Payton and the Chargers' Anthony Lynn were assistants under Parcells.

Other affiliations on the coaching tree go out on a bit of a limb. The Colts' Frank Reich worked for Doug Pederson, who coached under Andy Reid, who worked for Mike Holmgren, who was a Walsh protege.

It all gets a bit complicated, but as Bob Glauber, the NFL columnist at Newsday points out, all the connections are legitimate.

Indeed, Glauber's recent book, "Guts And Genius," is all about not only Walsh and Parcells, but Washington's Joe

Gibbs. The subtitle of the book tells it all: The story of three unlikely coaches who came to dominate the NFL in the '80s.

"As I was researching the book, I discovered how those two coaches really concentrated on helping other coaches," says Glauber, the current president of the Pro Football Writers of America. "Parcells learned from his high school basketball coach, Mickey Corcoran, that he had to give back and help other coaches, and he always lived by that rule.

"Walsh was so upset he was passed over as Bengals head coach by Paul Brown (in 1976) that he promised himself that if he ever did get a head coaching job, he would make it a point to help develop other coaches. He started what I think is the most productive coaching tree in pro sports history, not just in the NFL."

Consider that such Walsh disciples as George Seifert, Mike Shanahan, Mike Holmgren and Pederson have won Super Bowls.

Glauber points out that since 1981, 30 of the 37 Super Bowls have been won by a

coach with ties to either Walsh or Parcells.

Seattle's Pete Carroll coached with the 49ers under George Seifert, who was Walsh's defensive guru and Walsh's replacement as head coach in San Francisco

Dallas' Jason Garrett worked for Nick Saban, who coached under Belichick.

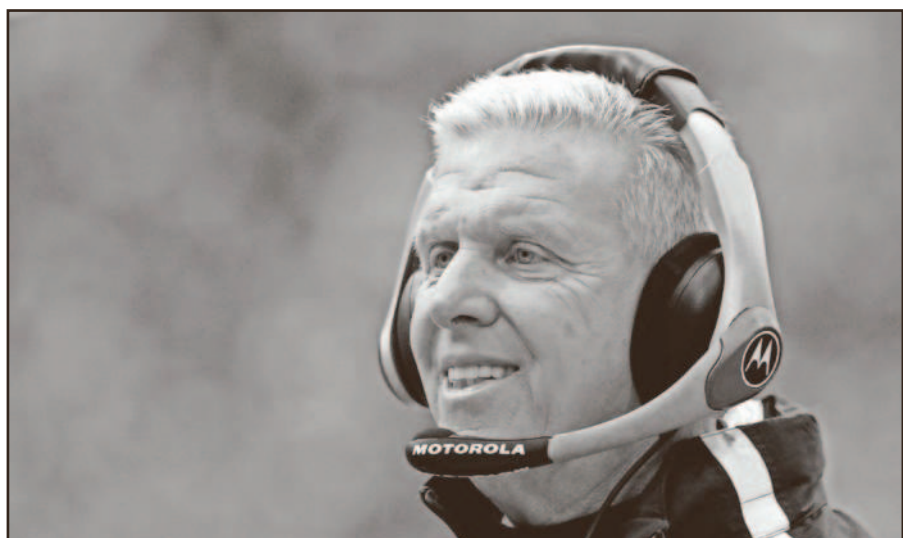
Los Angeles Rams' Sean McVay was on Shanahan's staff.

Chicago's Matt Nagy served as offensive coordinator for Reid.



AP PHOTOS

Thirty of the last 37 Super Bowls have been won by coaches with ties to either Bill Parcells (below) or former San Francisco 49ers coach Bill Walsh (above with quarterback Joe Montana, 49ers owner Edward DeBartolo, Jr. and the Lombardi Trophy after winning the Super Bowl in 1985 over the Miami Dolphins).



Chargers, Ravens in rematch of late-season game

By **DAVID GINSBURG**

AP SPORTS WRITER

BALTIMORE — It's been six years since the Ravens hosted a playoff game, so forgive Pro Bowl guard Marshal Yanda for forgetting protocol regarding the distribution of tickets.

"Somebody was asking me if we got tickets during the playoff games, and I couldn't really remember," he said this week. "I was like, 'Uh, it's been a little while.'"

The last time Baltimore was at home in the postseason was in 2012, when linebacker Ray Lewis and quarterback Joe Flacco engineered a 24-8 victory over Indianapolis to launch

a surprising Super Bowl run.

Lewis is now in the Hall of Fame, and Flacco will be on the bench when rookie Lamar Jackson and the Ravens (10-6) face the Los Angeles Chargers (12-4) in a wild-card game Sunday.

It's a rematch of a pivotal contest two weeks ago, when Baltimore took control of the AFC North with a 22-10 victory that dropped the Chargers to the No. 6 seed. The Ravens' top-ranked defense limited Los Angeles quarterback Philip Rivers to 181 yards passing with two interceptions.

"You know they're going to come back with changes, with wrinkles, and they're going

to play that much harder, because they know what happened the first game," said Ravens safety Eric Weddle, who played nine years with the Chargers before signing as a free agent with the Ravens in 2016.

The game plan is important, but minimizing errors is what really counts.

If experience means anything at quarterback, the Chargers have the edge. The 37-year-old Rivers has been flinging the football in the NFL since 2004 and has started nine playoff games.

Jackson, a junior at Louisville just a year ago, has been a starter for just under

two months. The 21-year-old will be the youngest quarterback ever to start in the postseason.

But the Ravens are 6-1 with Jackson as a starter, and his ability to run has turned Baltimore's offense into a very efficient unit.

BEEN A WHILE

This is the Chargers' first postseason appearance since the 2013 season, and second since 2010.

"When you're younger you think this is it; you get a shot every year," Rivers said. "Then when you go once in the last nine or 10 years, you realize

how fleeting it is and how hard it is to get in."

Baltimore is coming off a three-year playoff absence.

ALL ON THE LINE

With the Chargers' linebackers undersized because of injuries, the defensive line will need another good game. Joey Bosa has four sacks in six games since missing the first 10 with a foot injury.

The Chargers had three sacks in the first meeting against Baltimore, but Jackson also had plenty of plays in which he was able to move up in the pocket to complete passes in his lone 200-yard game.

■ NBA ROUNDUP

Jokic scores 39 to pace Nuggets past Hornets

DENVER (AP) — Nikola Jokic's impressive numbers took a backseat to his coast-to-coast dunk.

Cheered by the sellout crowd for his jam, he was also teased by his teammates. To him, the slam was a thing of beauty.

"Poetry in motion," the 7-footer said.

Jokic scored a season-high 39 points and grabbed 12 rebounds, reserve Paul Millsap added 18 points and the Western Conference-leading Nuggets knocked off the Charlotte Hornets 123-110 on Saturday for their 10th straight home victory.

That's two straight games where Jokic's now had a memorable dunk.

"If I'm not tired and 100 percent sure I'm going to dunk it, I'm going to dunk," Jokic explained. "But two points is two points — however you score."

His slam in the third quarter led to some good-natured ribbing from teammates such as Torrey Craig, who also had a high-flying dunk.

"He's feeling pretty bouncy lately," Craig playfully said.

Jokic took it all in stride.

"Just because (Craig) can jump high, doesn't mean he can dunk better," Jokic said.

Jokic turned in another

impressive stat line, also adding six assists, three steals and one blocked shot. He was 16 of 29 from the floor and 4 of 5 from the line.

Jazz 110, Pistons 105

Donovan Mitchell scored 24 of his 26 points in the second half, and the Utah Jazz rallied from an 18-point, second-quarter deficit to beat the Detroit Pistons 110-105 on Saturday night.

The Jazz nearly squandered an 11-point lead of their own in the final quarter, allowing the Pistons to cut the lead to one on a 3-pointer by Blake Griffin. Ricky Rubio made two free throws for Utah with 12.3 seconds remaining, and Detroit turned the ball over on its next possession.

Griffin scored 34 points for the Pistons.

76ers 106, Mavericks 100

Joel Embiid hit two key free



AP PHOTO

Nuggets guard Malik Beasley, left, drives past Charlotte Hornets guard Malik Monk in the first quarter Saturday.

throws late for Philadelphia, which was without Jimmy Butler for the second straight game due to an upper respiratory infection.

The four-time All-Star wasn't around to address a

published report that said he recently challenged coach Brett Brown in a disrespectful way about his role in the offense.

JJ Redick added 20 points for Philadelphia, which

improved to 17-3 at home while winning its fourth in the last five.

Wesley Matthews had 18 points to pace short-handed Dallas, which fell to 3-18 on the road.

■ HORSE RACING

Horse of the Year: Justify, Accelerate in tight duel

By TIM REYNOLDS

AP SPORTS WRITER

HALLANDALE BEACH, Fla. — Justify and Accelerate never got to face off on the track.

Instead, they'll duel for Horse of the Year.

Justify, Accelerate and Monomoy Girl were the three finalists announced Saturday for Horse of the Year. The top prize will be handed out at the Eclipse Awards on Jan. 24. Justify won the Triple Crown, Accelerate won the Breeders' Cup Classic and Monomoy Girl capped her year with a win in the Breeders' Cup Distaff.

Justify raced six times in his career, all in 2018, and prevailed every time

before retiring in July because of issues with his left front ankle.

The rest of the year belonged to Accelerate, who won his last four races. All were of the Grade 1 variety, capped by winning the Classic.

"I read somewhere where it said maybe he did this all on the wrong year," Accelerate owner Kosta Hronis said after the Classic victory, while lobbying for the Horse of the Year prize as well. "But maybe Justify won the Triple Crown in the wrong year."

If Justify wasn't retired, he almost certainly would have faced Accelerate in the Breeders' Cup Classic.

Their lone matchup will be settled on paper.

The voters have decided — officials said Saturday that out of 271 eligible voters, 249 returned ballots. Voters made three selections in each category to determine the finalists, but only first-place votes will be counted when choosing the Eclipse Award winner in the 17 categories.

The only Triple Crown winner not to be declared Horse of the Year was Omaha, in 1935.

"I think he's the greatest of all time," said Mike Smith, who rode Justify to the Triple Crown.

Monomoy Girl won the Kentucky Oaks as part of her six-victory year, and she's the likely winner in the 3-year-old filly category. Justify

is almost certain to win top honors in the 3-year-old male division, and Accelerate — whose final race is set to be the \$9 million Pegasus World Cup Invitational at Gulfstream Park on Jan. 26 — is the heavy favorite now in the older dirt male race.

Bob Baffert, who trained Justify, is one of the finalists for top trainer, along with two-time reigning winner Chad Brown and 2008 and 2009 winner Steve Asmussen.

Jose Ortiz, the Eclipse winner as top jockey in 2017, is a finalist alongside his brother — Irad Ortiz Jr. — and Smith, who could win the Eclipse for the first time since 1994.

The finalists in each category:

Horse of the Year — Accelerate, Justify, Monomoy Girl
2-year-old Male — Game Winner, Improbable, Knicks Go
2-year-old Filly — Bellafina, Jaywalk, Newspaperofrecord
3-year-old Male — Catholic Boy, Justify, McKinzie
3-year-old Filly — Midnight Bisou, Monomoy Girl, Rushing Fall
Older Dirt Male — Accelerate, City of Light, Gun Runner
Older Dirt Female — Abel Tasman, Marley's Freedom, Unique Bella
Male Sprinter — Imperial Hint, Roy H, Stormy Liberal

Female Sprinter — Finley'sluckycharm, Marley's Freedom, Shamrock Rose

Male Turf Horse — Expert Eye, Glorious Empire, Stormy Liberal

Female Turf Horse — A Raving Beauty, Enable, Sistercharlie

Steeplechase Horse — Jury Duty, Optimus Prime, Zanjabeel

Owner — Peter Brant, Hronis Racing LLC, partnership of WinStar Farm, China Horse Club, Starlight Racing, and Head of Plains Partners

Breeder — Mike Abraham, John D. Gunther, WinStar Farm

Trainer — Steve Asmussen, Bob Baffert, Chad Brown

Jockey — Irad Ortiz, Jr., Jose Ortiz, Mike Smith

BUCS

FROM PAGE 1

And most importantly, Arians is a bit of a quarterback whisperer. Arians has worked with quarterbacks Ben Roethlisberger, Peyton Manning, Andrew Luck and Carson Palmer.

Ironically, two of Winston's worst defeats came to the Cardinals under Arians.

In 2016, the Bucs lost at

Arizona 40-7 as Winston went 27 of 52 for 243 yards with one touchdown and four INTs.

Two years ago, the Bucs fell at Arizona 38-33. Winston went only 5 of 10 passing for 61 yards before having to leave the game after injuring his right shoulder after being hit by Chandler Jones.

Arians compiled a 49-30-1 record as the Cardinals head coach and twice was named the NFL Coach of the Year by the Associated Press.

He was 9-3 as an interim head coach with the Indianapolis Colts in 2012, when he took over after Chuck Pagano was diagnosed with leukemia.

Arians retired as the Cardinals head coach after the 2017 season and last year worked as a broadcaster.

He had said recently the only job he would consider was the Cleveland Browns but amended that to say he would be open to talk to Licht about the

Bucs head coaching position.

Furthermore, there is speculation that Arians would bring former Jets head coach Todd Bowles as his defensive coordinator.

The Bucs also would likely retain defensive line coach Brentson Buckner, who is under contract for another year and worked with Arians in Arizona.

What's unknown is if the Bucs would have to give compensation in the form of a

draft pick to Arizona if they hire Arians. The Cardinals had a club option on Arians' contract for 2019.

Richard has three interviews scheduled for Sunday following the Cowboys wildcard playoff game against Seattle today.

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But it sure feels like this thing is wrapping up quickly and Arians is and always has been the front runner.

CHAMPIONSHIP

FROM PAGE 1

from the head coach's warmer approach and emphasis on a family feel.

Saban might lack Swinney's personal touch and easygoing manner, but in his own steely way he is very much a players' coach. When talking about his program, Saban constantly references the need to create value for the players.

"I think being successful is really the same formula, whether it's as a football player or being an executive at Apple," Saban said.

ESPN announcers Chris Fowler and Kirk Herbstreit, who have called all four CFP national championship games, get a look behind the curtain at Alabama and Clemson more than maybe any other members of the media.

"The similarities are an absolute rock-solid top-down commitment from each school," Fowler said. "They pour resources in, human resources,

financial resources, incredible attention to detail. The recruiting machine at each school, they know that's the fuel that keeps the engine running. They're both great at it in different ways, different styles perhaps. The way they round up talent is what sets them apart."

Herbstreit said Saban and Swinney have far more differences than similarities in how they set the tone for their programs. But the similarities are crucial to explaining their success.

At Clemson, Turnipseed has overseen the building of Clemson's \$55 million Allen N. Reeves Football Complex, which opened in 2017. The one with a slide, which is definitely more Swinney than Saban.

Turnipseed took control of the food services in the facility to ensure higher quality and more involvement with Clemson's nutritionists.

COLTS

FROM PAGE 1

of 2017 with a shoulder injury.

The Texans didn't score until rookie Keke Coutee grabbed a 6-yard touchdown pass to cap a 16-play, 89-yard drive that included a fourth-down conversion that cut it to 21-7 with about 11 minutes left.

They led the NFL with nine comeback wins this season, but their attempt at a rally ended on their next possession when Watson's pass on fourth-and-10 from the Indianapolis 24 fell short with about four minutes left.

Luck threw for 863 yards with six

touchdowns as the teams split two meetings in the regular season. He picked up right where he left off in this one, when he found Eric Ebron on a 6-yard TD pass on their first drive. That play was set up by a 38-yard catch by T.Y. Hilton, who had 63 yards receiving on that drive.

Hilton didn't have any catches on the next drive, but the Colts still drove down the field easily and made it 14-0 on a 2-yard run by Mack later in the first.

Houston went for it on fourth-and-4 from the Indianapolis 45 on its second possession and Watson was intercepted by Kenny Moore II. It was his first interception since he threw two

against the Redskins on Nov. 18.

The Colts got to the 17 after that before J.J. Watt deflected Luck's pass and he was intercepted by Brandon Dunn. But the Texans couldn't move the ball and had to punt.

Indianapolis pushed the lead to 21-0 when Luck connected with Dontrelle Inman on an 18-yard touchdown pass in the second quarter.

The Texans had a fourth-and-1 from the 9 late in the second quarter and went for it again instead of settling for a field goal. The gamble didn't pay off when Watson's pass to DeAndre Hopkins was low and bounced in front of him in the end zone.

■ MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

Alabama upsets Kentucky in SEC opener

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. (AP) — This time, Alabama held on. The Crimson Tide are rolling. Tevin Mack made six first-half 3-pointers on his way to 22 points, and Alabama held off No. 13 Kentucky 77-75 on Saturday in the Southeastern Conference opener for both teams.

Dazon Ingram scored all 11 of his points after halftime, including some key free throws in the Crimson Tide's fifth consecutive win. The Wildcats gave them a big scare in the final seconds after surging back from 11 points down.

Alabama coach Avery Johnson said the team probably had its hardest four-day stretch of practice of his tenure this week.

"We talked a lot about it behind the scenes," Johnson said. "We needed to beat Kentucky."

Ingram made two free throws with 23 seconds left in between back-to-back layups by Ashton Hagans. Hagans' second cut it to 76-73 with 16 seconds left. Alabama (10-3) got the ball across midcourt but Hagans came away with the ball on a steal from Ingram.

PJ Washington scored on a dunk with 5 seconds to play and Kentucky (10-3) quickly fouled John Petty, who made one of two from the line.

Tyler Herro's 3-point try at the buzzer bounced off the rim. Hagans passed him the ball after he couldn't find an opening for a shot.

Kira Lewis Jr. had 12 points for the Tide, who had five players score in double figures. Donta Hall had 11 points and 10 rebounds. Herbert Jones finished with 10 points, eight rebounds and six assists.

Washington led the Wildcats with 15 points and they also had all five starters reach double figures. Keldon Johnson finished with 13.

No. 3 Tennessee 96, Georgia 50

Jordan Bowden scored 20 points off the bench as No. 3 Tennessee opened Southeastern Conference competition by trouncing Georgia 96-50 on Saturday.

Tennessee recorded the most lopsided triumph in this series'

156-game history, surpassing a 105-69 Volunteers victory from Feb. 1, 1975.

Grant Williams and Admiral Schofield scored 18 points each for Tennessee (12-1). Kyle Alexander had 12 points and 14 rebounds, and Jordan Bone added 11 points.

Derek Ogbeide scored 17 points for Georgia (8-5, 0-1), which had a three-game winning streak snapped.

No. 4 Virginia 65, No. 9 Florida State 52

Kyle Guy scored 21 points and No. 4 Virginia limited No. 9 Florida State to just 15 field goals in a 65-52 victory.

Guy scored 18 of his points in the first half as the Cavaliers (13-0, 1-0 Atlantic Coast Conference) took a 42-23 lead. Braxton Key added 12 points in the half and finished with 20 for Virginia.

Phil Cofer scored nine points to lead the Seminoles (12-2, 0-1 ACC). Florida State shot just 34 percent (15-44) and became the 11th team held below 60 points by Virginia this season. The Seminoles finished with as many turnovers as field goals, and Virginia scored 21 points off those miscues.

Iowa State 77, No. 5 Kansas 60

Marial Shayok scored 24 points, and Iowa State routed No. 5 Kansas 77-60 on Saturday for its fifth straight win.

Freshman Tyrese Haliburton made four 3-pointers and scored 14 points for the Cyclones (12-2, 2-0).

Despite getting outrebounded 41-26, Iowa State made easy work of Kansas.

Quentin Grimes scored 19 points for Kansas, and Dedric Lawson had 13 points and 12 rebounds

No. 8 Michigan State 86, No. 14 Ohio State 77

Riding a seven-game winning streak, No. 8 Michigan State came to Columbus to play No. 14 Ohio State with captain and scoring machine Joshua Langford sidelined indefinitely with an ankle injury. The team's two other veterans had to pick



AP PHOTO

Alabama guard/forward Tevin Mack celebrates with fans after a 77-75 upset win over No. 13 Kentucky in Tuscaloosa, Ala. Mack scored 22 points, including six first-half 3-pointers, as the Crimson Tide won their fifth straight game.

up the slack.

Cassius Winston scored 18 of his 25 points in the second half, and Nick Ward had 21 as the Spartans rallied and then pulled away late in the second half to beat Ohio State 86-77.

Michigan State (13-2, 4-0 Big Ten) hasn't lost since Nov. 27.

Kaleb Wesson scored 25 points despite being in second-half foul trouble, and Luther Muhammed had 12 for the Buckeyes (12-2, 2-1).

No. 11 Texas Tech 63, Kansas State 57

Davide Moretti scored 19 points and Matt Mooney added 14 to help No. 11 Texas Tech hold off Kansas State 63-57 on Saturday in a matchup of defensive-minded teams.

Barry Brown led the Wildcats with 16 points and Cartier Diarra added 11 on a day when they hit just 33 percent from the field.

Kansas State (10-4, 0-2 Big 12) erased most of a 34-19 halftime deficit when Brown knocked down a 3-pointer with 6:55 to go that pulled the Wildcats to within 43-42.

But Texas Tech (13-1, 2-0) found some offensive rhythm to pull away. Moretti hit a series of big shots in the second

half to account for 10 straight points and help the Red Raiders overcome 13 turnovers in the half.

Playing again without Big 12 preseason player of the year Dean Wade, the Wildcats fell into a huge hole early because they couldn't make shots.

Kansas State missed its first 13 shots from the floor until Diarra got loose on a runout and hit a driving layup at the 9:12 mark.

No. 15 North Carolina 85, Pittsburgh 60

North Carolina forward Cameron Johnson hit his first three shots on his way to 15 points and nine rebounds as the 15th-ranked Tar Heels opened Atlantic Coast Conference play with a lopsided 85-60 victory.

Johnson grew up in the Pittsburgh suburbs and spent three seasons at Pitt.

He graduated in the spring of 2017 and asked for his release.

The Panthers initially balked at Johnson transferring to a conference rival but gave in after Johnson went public with the request.

White led the Tar Heels

with 22 points, Luke Maye added 17 points and 11 rebounds for UNC.

The Tar Heels (11-3) had little trouble against the young and undersized Panthers (10-4, 0-1), who are in the midst of a massive rebuild under first-year coach Jeff Capel.

Trey McGowens scored 17 points and fellow freshman Xavier Johnson chipped in 14 for the Panthers, who lost their 23rd straight regular-season ACC game.

The Panthers shot just 31 percent (19 of 62) from the field and struggled to get into any kind of rhythm.

No. 23 Oklahoma 74, Oklahoma St. 64

Kristian Doolittle had 16 points and eight rebounds, and No. 23 Oklahoma beat Oklahoma State 74-64 on Saturday.

Brady Manek scored 15 points and Christian James added 14 points and 11 rebounds for the Sooners (12-2, 1-1 Big 12), who bounced back from a 70-63 loss at No. 5 Kansas on Wednesday.

Thomas Dziagwa scored 16 points and Michael Weathers added 13 for Oklahoma State (6-8, 0-2).

■ WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

Charles leads No. 4 Maryland over Ohio

By DAVID GINSBURG
AP SPORTS WRITER

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — Kaila Charles scored 24 points, Stephanie Jones added 16 and No. 4 Maryland slipped past Ohio State 75-69 Saturday in a rematch of the 2018 Big Ten title game.

Coming off an upset loss to Rutgers, the Terrapins (13-1, 2-1) never really got into a groove against the retooled Buckeyes (4-8, 0-3). Maryland trailed 62-61 with 5:25 left, went ahead 70-66 on a 3-pointer by Taylor Mikesell with 3:04 to go and held on.

Ohio State made only one basket over the final four minutes while being outscored 9-3.

It was the 499th career victory for coach Brenda Friese, who's 442-120 with the Terrapins after going 35-22 at Ball State and 22-8 at Minnesota.

Though Maryland and Ohio State were the class of the conference last season, this Buckeyes squad bears no similarity to the one that captured the conference championship and finished 28-7.

Coach Kevin McGuff had to replace all five starters and welcomed eight new players, including six with undergraduate degrees. The new mix may ultimately

prove successful, but at the juncture Ohio State has lost five straight and sits alone in the conference cellar.

Freshman Dorka Juhasz, a 6-foot-4 forward from Hungary, led the Buckeyes with 18 points.

Maryland missed 16 of 20 field goal attempts in the third quarter while being outscored 22-14.

No. 17 Gonzaga 88, Pacific 65

Zykeria Rice scored 21 points, Jenn Wirth added 16 and No. 17 Gonzaga turned up the defensive pressure to win its 11th straight game, 88-65 over Pacific on Saturday.

Jill Townsend added 13 points for the Bulldogs (15-1, 4-0 West Coast Conference), who went 23 of 36 in the middle two quarters and held the Tigers (9-4, 2-1) to 10 of 26.

Pacific hit 4 of 5 3-pointers in the first quarter to open a 25-14 lead. But Gonzaga responded with 34 points in the second quarter and 26 in the third, in both cases doubling up the Tigers for a 74-55 lead entering the fourth.

Gonzaga forced 19 turnovers, turning those



AP PHOTO

Ohio State guard Carmen Grande, right, attempts to steal the ball from Maryland guard Taylor Mikesell in the first half Saturday.

into 25 points, and had a 40-21 rebounding advantage. LeeAnne Wirth had eight rebounds, Rice and Jenn Wirth seven apiece.

Ameela Li led Pacific with 21 points and Brooklyn McDavid had 15.

No. 25 Iowa State 82, Kansas 73

Bridget Carleton scored 33 points on

11-of-17 shooting, moving up two spots in Iowa State's all-time top 10 scoring list, and the No. 25 Cyclones defeated Kansas 82-73 on Saturday.

Kristin Scott had a perfect day shooting going 7 for 7 with three 3-pointers for 17 points for the Cyclones (12-2, 2-0 Big 12). Carleton moved up to seventh on the career list with her 29th 20-point game.

Iowa State, which has won six straight, outscored the Jayhawks 22-12 in the second quarter to lead 39-29 at the half. The Cyclones were 5 of 10 from 3-point range.

They stretched the lead to 17 after three quarters and 21 early in the fourth quarter before Kansas raced back. An 8-0 run, followed by a 10-0, had the Jayhawks within 63-71 when Kylee Kopatich hit a 3-pointer with 3:14

to play. Kopatich had a 3 on the next possession to make it a seven-point deficit but the Jayhawks couldn't stay hot and Iowa State made 9 of 10 from the foul line in the final 2½ minutes.

Christalah Lyons led Kansas (10-2, 0-1) with a career-high 24 points. The Jayhawks were off to their best start since opening 13-1 eight seasons back and had won seven straight at home.

Xclusive Detailing is quite inclusive

By **BILL ROGERS**
CORRESPONDENT

SEBRING — Calvin Arjona has a daily mindset that keeps him motivated and humble in running Xclusive Detailing.

"I wake up every day like I could be fired every day," Arjona said. "I look at everybody like they are my boss. Whatever you want done, I'm going to do it."

He started the mobile detailing business in 2013. Its slogan is: "Bringing you that new car feeling to your office or home."

Arjona began it by

himself, handling the detailing, being a salesman and doing the paperwork. A person has to be "all in one," he said, adding that it will probably require long hours.

Building trust and consistency are important in establishing relationships.

"A lot of people start, and they are not consistent," he said. "They think they are going to just get in this business and make this amount of money ... They don't realize you have to go through a lot to gain."

There is a difference between a car washer and a detailer. As Arjona

put it, "Anybody can go out there with a water hose and say, 'Hey, I wash cars.'"

"I'm an experienced detailer," he said. "I can run a high-speed buffer. I have a shampooing machine. We do claybars. We do waxes."

Arjona said if there is a problem with a job, he will respond quickly.

"I take call backs very seriously," he said. "If somebody calls and says 'I have a fingerprint on my windshield,' I don't care what I'm doing, we are going to get to you that day. We're going to get that fingerprint off your window."

Arjona said he worked at a car wash in Orlando for a couple of years, where he managed the detailing employees. He decided to return to Highlands County because he thought there was an opportunity to set up a mobile detailing business since there weren't that many doing it.

Another reason he came back is that his family is here.

Arjona said his grandfather, Jack Terry, taught him things that have served him well, such as work ethic, integrity and being trustworthy.

He said a lot of his

business comes from referrals, noting he has a number of clients including Insight Auctioneers, Highlands County Property Appraiser, King Equipment, and All About Lawns.

He will work on practically anything. Cars, SUVs, motor homes, boats, semi-trucks, trailers, pickups, motorcycles, tractors and even a crane truck have been detailed.

Arjona has expanded the business to include pressure washing of things such as homes and driveways.

He can be reached at 407-879-0360.



COURTESY PHOTO

Calvin Arjona, owner of Xclusive Detailing, works on a truck. He has expanded his auto detailing business to include pressure washing of structures and driveways.

Stock market more complex by the day

Editor's note: This article is the first in a three-part series.

News about the stock market dominates our headlines. We hear the terms "bears" and "bulls" often. What do those terms mean?

This may help you remember: a hard day's work is often referred to as a "bear" in a negative context. A "bull" charges forward, much like a market that keeps growing in value. Both the bears and the bulls give their take on what the future holds. This rhetoric becomes redundant, yet the stock market becomes still more complex every day.

When you think of the stock market, what comes to mind? The Dow Jones? The S&P 500? Mutual funds and bonds? Maybe you think of movies like "Wall Street" or "The Big Short." Or, perhaps you think about your 401(k) and all the time and energy it took to build that



GUEST COLUMN

Jason C. Bianca

STOCKS | 6D

Local banks offer helpful savings accounts

By **MELISSA MAIN**
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — What happens when people don't save for the holidays or other major expenses? What can be done to change the situation? According to a survey from MagnifyMoney, the average American accumulated \$1,054 of debt this Christmas season.

Forty-four percent of the respondents said that they had more than \$1,000 of holiday debt, and five percent had more than \$5,000, according to the MagnifyMoney survey.

Local banks in Highlands County can help with the holiday shopping blues that often hit in January. There's no need to feel sticker shock when opening up credit card bills this month. Instead customers can take advantage of savings accounts.

MidFlorida Credit Union offers a specialized holiday savings account called the Holiday Club.

"Ease your mind when it comes to shopping for the holidays by preparing all year long with a Holiday Club account," MidFlorida's website states. "By discouraging withdrawals prior to Nov. 1, you can keep your temptation in check and your holiday stress at a minimum. Holiday Club funds are paid out during the first week of November — just in time for all the big sales!"

According to a Help Desk representative, "People also open up special savings accounts to help them save for down payments on their homes. They can label the savings account, and it keeps down

SAVINGS | 6D

Flavorful cheese

Wisconsin cheesemakers find a niche with distinctive flavors

By **NATHAN PHELPS**
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

KIEL, Wis. — Kerry Henning is on a quest.

It's a search for a bloody mary-flavored cheese. It's not quick or easy: He's wrestling with getting the right tomato flavor.

"I bet you I'm close to two years on that, and I think I've still got a ways to go to perfect that one," said Henning, a master Wisconsin cheesemaker and one of the owners of Henning's Wisconsin Cheese near Kiel.

Flavored cheeses can take months and years to perfect — and sometimes don't come to fruition at all — but the eight family owners of Henning's Cheese aren't afraid to chase new tastes in a rural Manitowoc County cheese plant.

"Coming up with flavors can be a lot of work. Some flavors I've invested two years of time into making them," Henning said to the Green Bay Press-Gazette. "The one thing that makes cheese making and flavors different, than say a chef, is a chef can immediately taste his product as soon as it's made ... but cheese is a living organism and is always changing."

The first tasting is about 30 days after it's made and flavors will change in the coming months and years. Taste is checked again at three and six months.

USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin's State of Opportunity series spent 2018 talking to workers from around the state about their jobs and the satisfaction they take from their daily toils. Subjects ranged from cell tower technicians who work



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this Nov. 29, 2018, photo, Henning's Wisconsin Cheese employee Sean Pingel packages wheels of cheese at plant in Kiel, Wis.

hundreds of feet in the air to the crews working on the Washington Island Ferry in Door County.

The series wraps up with one of the state's most iconic industries: cheese making.

Wisconsin makes about 26 percent of the nation's cheese, and 45 percent of all specialty cheese, at 144 plants around the state, according to 2017 figures from Dairy Farmers of Wisconsin, formerly the Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board. At 3.17 billion pounds, the state was the nation's leading cheese producer in 2016.

Dairy is valued at a \$44 billion state industry annually and ranks No. 2 in milk production behind California. About 90 percent of Wisconsin's milk is used for cheese.

The store in Henning's Cheese plant is stocked

with flavors ranging from the stalwart sharp cheddar and farmer cheeses to more exotic flavors like tequila lime and cranberry orange.

Over the years, the business has been asked to incorporate flavors like blueberry cobbler (a two-year process) and mild Hatch chili peppers into cheeses that have made it to market. Alcohol-flavored cheeses, like those infused with bourbon, have been a recent trend in the industry, Henning said.

"Just yesterday we had some folks in here from Mexico who said, 'We like your pepper cheeses and chipotle, but here's the hottest pepper right now in Mexico, look into this and we might be real interested,'" Henning said. "You get a lot of great ideas from your customers ... But not every idea is going to make

it into cheese."

More than 99 percent of the 3 million pounds of cheese produced by Henning's annually stays in the lower 48 of United States. Grocery stores are the main retail outlet.

"Customers come to us knowing they can seek unique and different flavor profiles," said Kert Henning, Kerry's brother and another of the company's owners. "We have the ability to try a lot of small batches."

There are typically between three and seven cheeses under development at Henning's, which employs between 30 and 40 people and purchases its milk from 23 small farmers in Manitowoc, Sheboygan and Calumet counties.

Both Kert and Kerry Henning say job

CHEESE | 6D



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this Nov. 29, 2018, photo, Henning's Wisconsin Cheese employee Scott Kautzer adds a batch of salt during the cheese-making process at plant in Kiel, Wis.

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SAVINGS

FROM PAGE 1D

the temptation to take money from that account.

“People also set aside savings accounts for vacations,” the representative said.

MidFlorida offers 2.50 percent annual percentage yield (APY) on balances up to \$4,000 in the Holiday Club accounts. People only need \$20 to open an account, and there are no monthly fees.

There is a \$5 fee to withdraw the money before Nov. 1, the representative said. However, the money can be taken out if needed.

Although Wauchula State Bank and Heartland National Bank do not offer a specific Holiday Club account, both of these banks do offer savings accounts people can use for the same purpose.

Wauchula State Bank offers a savings account that can be used for any type of savings — holidays, emergencies or vacations.

“The savings is an interest bearing account designed to accommodate for unforeseen emergencies or those special occasions,” Wauchula State Bank’s website states. “With only a \$50 minimum opening deposit and a \$300 minimum daily balance you will avoid a \$3.00 monthly maintenance fee.”

Heartland National

Bank also offers interest on its savings accounts. Customers must maintain a \$300 balance to avoid the \$4 per month fee.

“We do offer regular savings accounts that can be used for saving for any type of expenses including home repairs, holidays or vacations,” Heartland National Bank Senior Vice President Janice Walker said.

“We also offer a minor savings account which teaches children about saving and gets them into the habit of saving,” Walker said. “A good way to save is to have a fixed amount payroll direct deposited into your savings account from each paycheck.”

Health Savings Account

Besides saving for the holidays, many people also need to save for medical expenses, because they have high deductibles on their health insurance. Health Savings Accounts or HSAs help people with high insurance deductibles save for medical deductibles in ways that often help reduce taxes.

According to the Internal Revenue Service, the following qualifications must be met to use a Health Savings Account:

- You are covered under a high deductible health plan (HDHP) on the first day of the month
- You have no other health coverage (See IRS rules for exceptions)
- You aren’t enrolled in

Medicare

• You can’t be claimed as a dependent on someone else’s tax return
“Heartland National Bank offers Health Savings Accounts where you can contribute to future medical expenses,” Walker said. “There are certain advantages to putting money into these accounts, including favorable tax treatment.

“Contributions can be made by you or your employer or both,” Walker said. “However the total contributions are limited annually. If you make a contribution you can deduct the contributions when completing your income tax return.

“You can use the money in the account to pay for any ‘qualified medical expense’ permitted under federal tax law,” Walker said. “Heartland National offers a free HSA account to qualified customers.”

Of course, customers are encouraged to speak with their tax professionals regarding specific advice for their situations. MidFlorida doesn’t offer HSA accounts, the Help Desk representative said. Wauchula State Bank does offer HSA accounts, but did not wish to comment.

Savings accounts help people save for the holidays and medical treatment. They help people avoid sticker shock from credit card bills and provide a way to cover high insurance deductibles.

Foodhandler class offered

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

AVON PARK — Ridge Area Arc will offer a SafeStaff Foodhandler Certificate program to the public from 2-6 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 16, at Ridge Area Arc’s main campus.

Anyone in the food service industry or those who are interested in working in the field and want to obtain a certificate can enroll in this class being taught by a Certified Professional Food Manager. Florida law requires that all food service employees be trained in an approved food safety program. A public food service establishment has 60 days from the date of hire to train their employees with a Florida approved food safety training program.

This includes all employees responsible for food storage, preparation, display or any service of food and beverages. It is

recommended that even volunteer organizations (churches, clubs and other non-profits) serving food should have their food workers trained in a food safety program.

The SafeStaff Foodhandler Training Program is the contracted program of the Department of Business and Professional Regulation. The class will cover the six mandated key food safety principles: 1. Ensuring proper personal hygiene; 2. Preventing cross-contamination; 3. Controlling time and temperature when handling food; 4. Proper cleaning and sanitizing; 5. The causes and effects of major foodborne illnesses; and 6. Ensuring proper vermin control.

A study guide will be provided and given to each student. A certificate and an original wallet card will also be presented to the students at the end of the class that will be valid for three years.

Students only need to bring to class a No. 2 pencil and a picture ID.

Cost is \$15 per student and must be paid in advance by 5 p.m., Jan. 11. There will be no refunds for students not attending the class since books have to be ordered in advance but a substitution of another person can be made. Checks can be made payable to Ridge Area Arc and mailed to 4352 Independence St., Avon Park, FL 33825 or stop by the Arc administration office on College Drive to make a payment. When submitting payment, include your name, birthdate, address and phone number. For more details or to verify there is still an opening, call 863-452-1295, Ext. 124.

The class will be taught in Ridge Area Arc’s training room at the workcenter, 4352 Independence St., off College Drive, Avon Park. Students can show up 30 minutes prior to class time.

CHEESE

FROM PAGE 1D

satisfaction comes from feedback from customers, both grocers and individual consumers.

“The responses I get back are amazing. They say, ‘I never thought cheese should taste this good,’” Kert Henning said. “We still follow the old traditional ways of making cheese ... (and) your flavor profiles are uniquely different.”

Kert rattles off a half dozen ways the company’s cheeses can be

prepared — from shredded into pancakes to dip in chocolate.

One of the biggest changes the industry has seen in recent years is a rapidly expanding number of flavors and choices at cheese judging events.

It’s not uncommon for the brothers to meet their customers directly at promotions and other events.

“I maybe get out of the plant four, five, six times a year ... and when the people say ‘Wow, this is really good,’ or ‘I never thought this would make

a good combination,’ that’s the enjoyable part,” Kerry Henning said. “When you see the appreciation people have for your product, that’s a real rush.”

In their late 50s, Kert and Kerry — along with their dad, Everett, and sister, Kay Schmitz — are bringing in another generation of Hennings to make cheese and run the family business.

“Where does a small company fit in with all the big players out there?” Kerry Henning said. “Our job is to keep coming up with unique items.”

STOCKS

FROM PAGE 1D

retirement savings.

Regardless of what comes to mind, one thing is for sure: the stock market is truly complicated. It is a complex network of money, the same pieces of paper (actually, cotton) that we use to buy food, electricity, gas, medicine, iPhones, and even this newspaper you are reading.

Currency is central to our lives. In a similar sense, to understand the stock market better, we need to understand money better. Before the stock market, there was simply banking. At the core of banking is the American Dollar. Our country’s lineage is in England, therefore it isn’t much of a surprise that the American dollar’s lineage essentially begins there as well.

Do you remember King Charles I from history class? Probably not. He wasn’t spoken of that much due to the fact that he inherited a lot of debt. To add insult to injury, he himself wasn’t terribly good at managing money. In 1640, things became so bad King Charles I seized gold coins leaving the mint that were intended to be delivered to the Crown’s major creditors: the goldsmiths.

King Charles I eventually paid it all back; however, the people had lost faith in their government’s ability to manage the country’s monetary affairs. The goldsmiths of that time realized an opportunity, the University of Exeter explains: “The realization by goldsmiths that borrowers would find them just as convenient as depositors, marks the start of the use of banknotes in England.”

This was a major event in the history of banking as we understand it today. It was the first time private businesses lent money. The government was no longer the only game in town. Goldsmiths and private banks soon became an everyday part of society. Both individuals and companies realized that borrowing money

prudently was essential for growth. Commerce, development, and trade grew rapidly.

As currency continued to circulate more and more, so did counterfeit coins. By the mid to late 17th century, the British government was in dire need to stop the counterfeiting to keep the stability of their monetary system. Scotland Yard did not call on Sherlock Holmes to investigate, but rather Sir Isaac Newton, the physicist and mathematician that defined the basis for how we understand and interact with the natural world (yes, the “falling apple” guy).

It is not commonly known that he also had a profound impact on the world of finance. He was 54 when he became the United Kingdom’s Master of the Mint, serving from 1699 until his death in 1727. Through his understanding of matter, he standardized gold coins. This revolutionized commerce. Based on Sir Isaac Newton’s recommendation, King William III adopted the gold standard.

The gold standard simply means that a currency can be exchanged for actual gold. It proved that

coins being traded were actually worth something. The gold standard was the backbone of commerce for the next 200-plus years. In honor of his influence, the British two pound (£2) coin has an inscription from a letter by Sir Isaac Newton referencing the debt he owed to other scientists: “If I have seen further it is by standing on the shoulders of giants.”

Thanks to the consistent and reliable nature of standardized currency, economic development grew at an astounding pace. If not for the standardization of money and the inception of private banking, we would have not experienced the Industrial Revolution to the same magnitude as we did. Banking soon made its way to the United States.


In the second part of this series we will talk about how banking gave birth to the New York Stock Exchange — the most valuable marketplace the world has ever seen.

Jason C. Bianca is co-owner and a Certified Financial Planner professional with J. Bianca Financial in Sebring.

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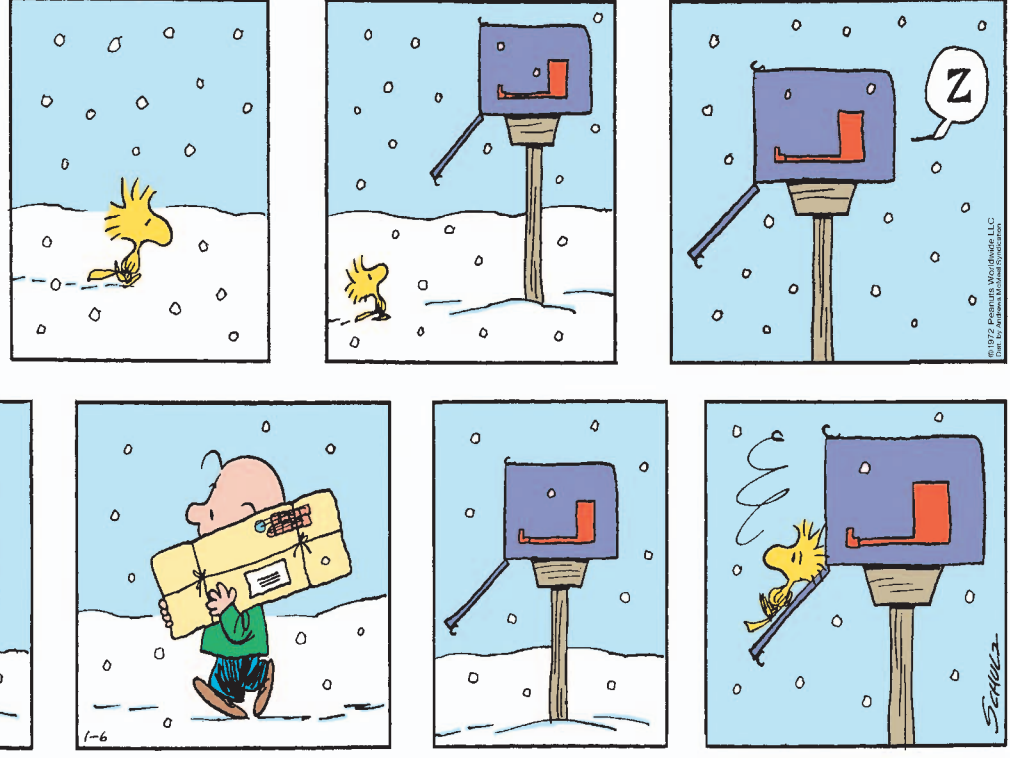
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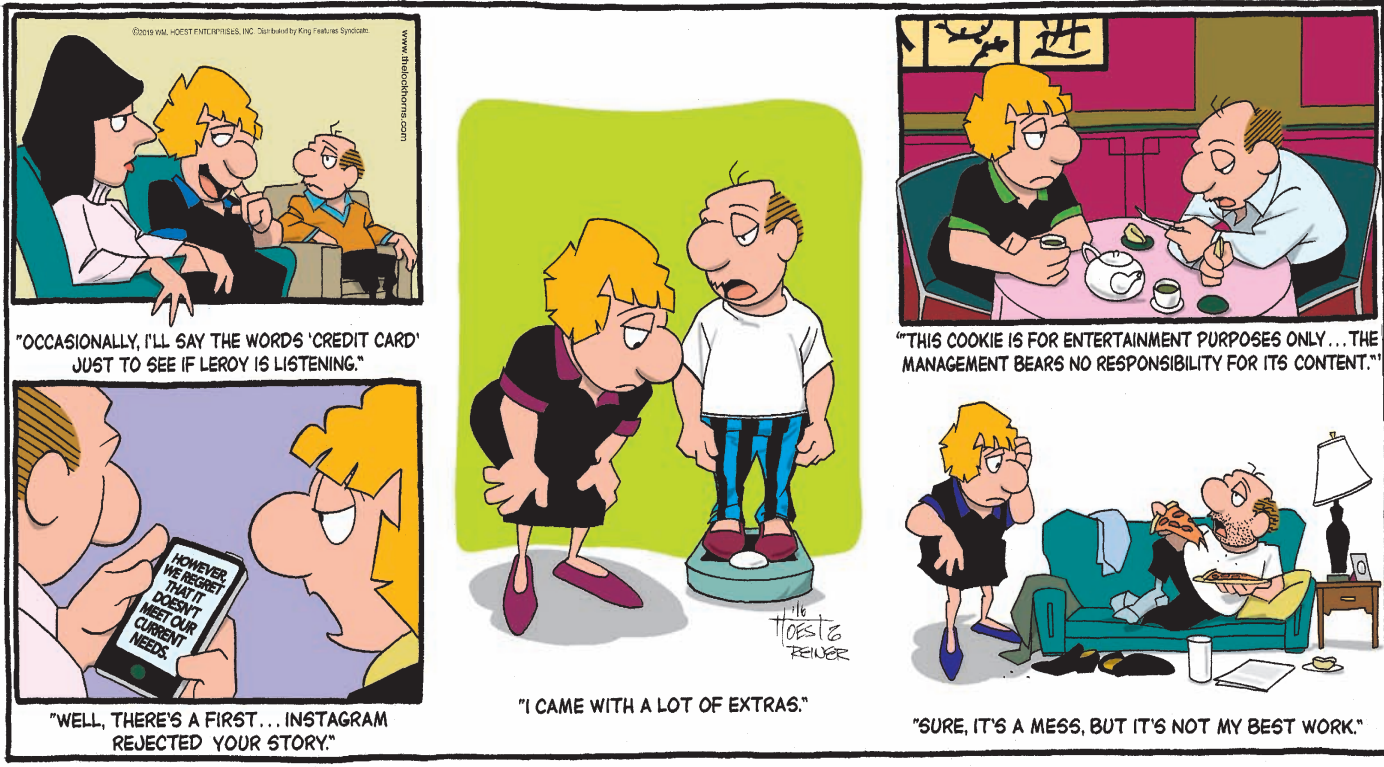
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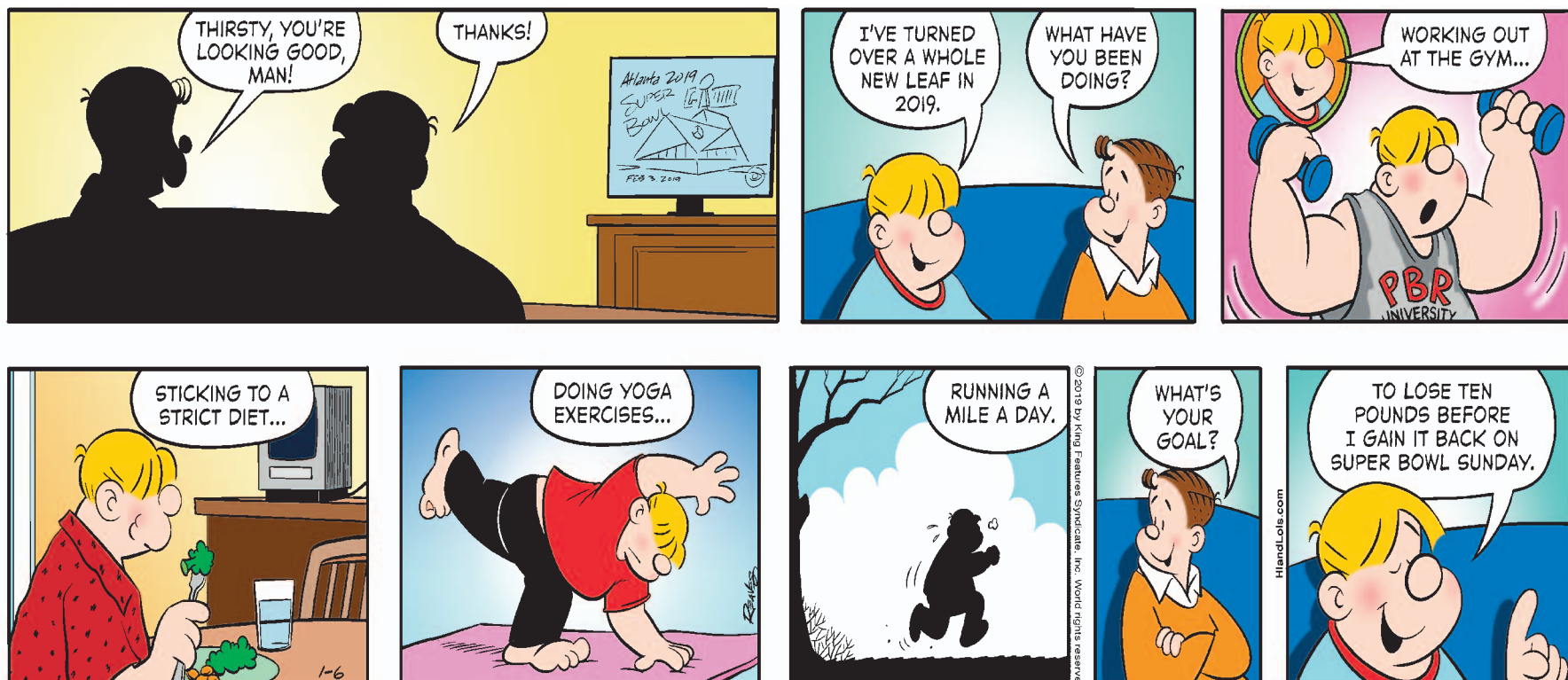
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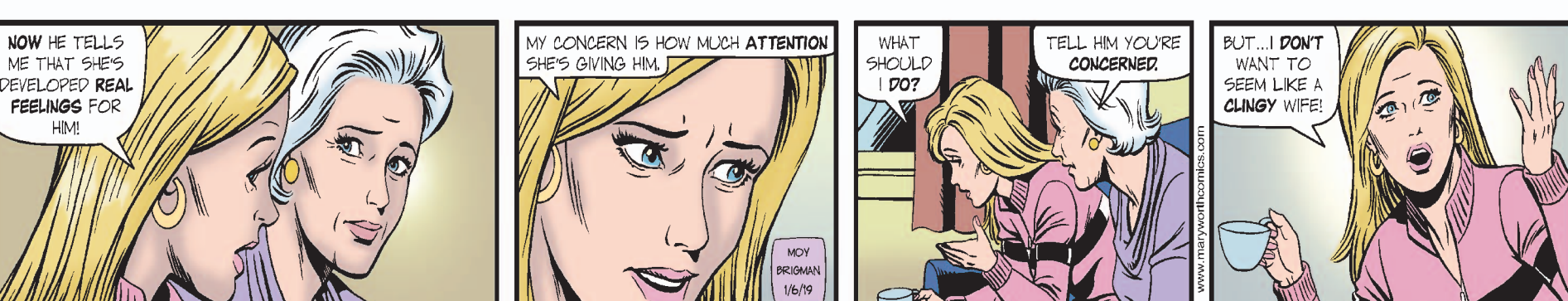
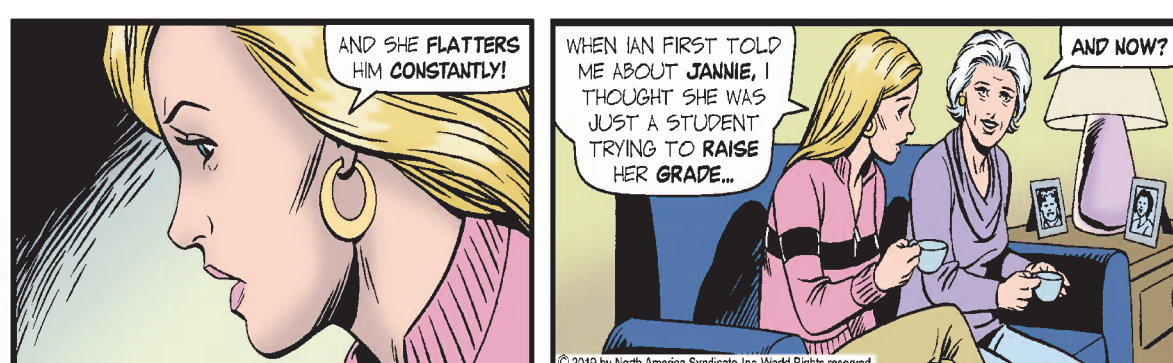
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Mort Walker's
beetle bailey

IS THE GENERAL TURNING OVER A NEW LEAF?

HE MADE A COPY OF HIS OWN LETTER...

HE FIXED A POT OF COFFEE...

HE EVEN TOOK OUT THE TRASH!

HE'S JUST TRYING TO PROVE HE'S JUST LIKE THE REST OF US

THAT'LL DO IT FOR THIS YEAR

1-6
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WWW.MORTWALKER.COM
CREG + MORT WALKER

HAGAR
the horrible
by **DIK BROWNE**

LUCKY EDDIE, WE NEED A WINTER VACATION!

I KNOW! LET'S GO SOME-PLACE WARM AND SACK A CITY!

HAGAR, DO YOU THINK THIS TROJAN HORSE IDEA WILL GET US INSIDE?

WHAT COULD GO WRONG?

IT WORKED FOR THE GREEKS AT TROY!

MAYBE THAT WAS BEFORE PIÑATAS WERE INVENTED!

WHACK POW SMACK WHEE!

1-6
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BLONDIE
By **SEAN KENNEY & JOHN MARSHALL**

BANG! CLUNK!

ANY LUCK WITH THAT PIPE YET?

NOPE! THIS BABY'S REALLY STUCK!

MAYBE YOU'RE BANGING IT TOO HARD

LISTEN, BRO, I COULD REALLY HAMMER IT IF I WANTED TO!

CLUNK! BANG! BAM!

HOW ABOUT TRYING A WRENCH FIRST?

GEEZ...IT'S TIMES LIKE THESE I WISH I'D NEVER QUIT MY FIRST JOB!

BAM! BANG!

REALLY? WHAT WAS YOUR OLD JOB?

I WAS A BOUNCER IN A BIKER BAR

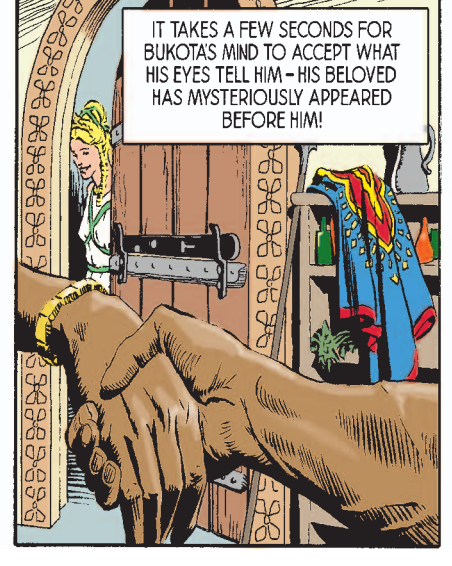
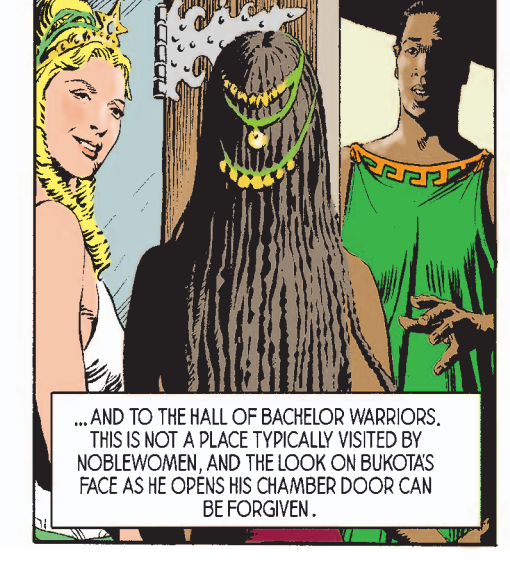
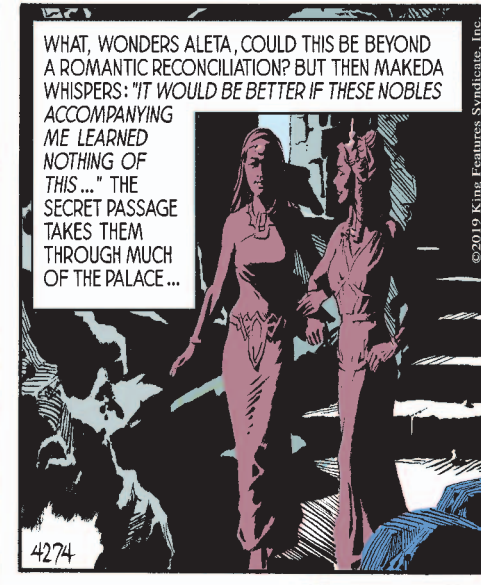
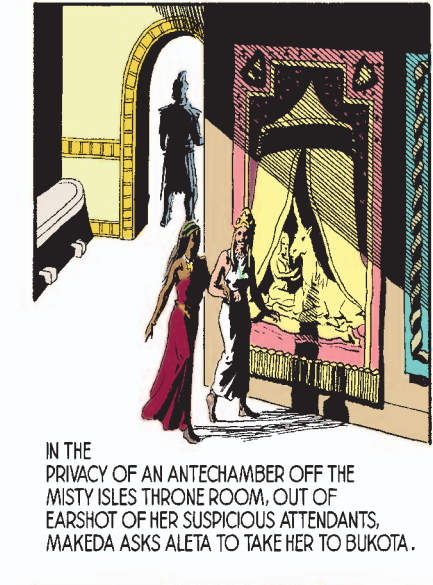
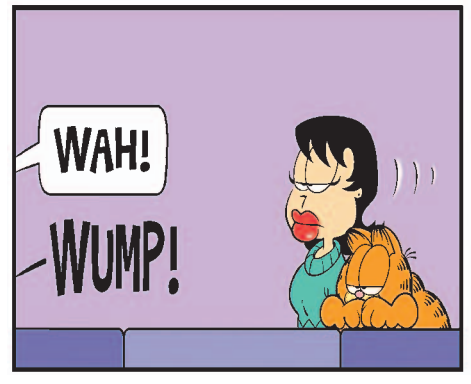
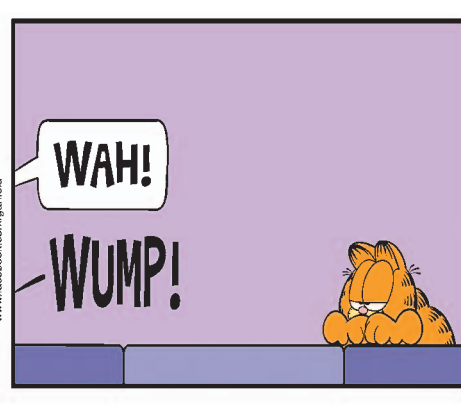
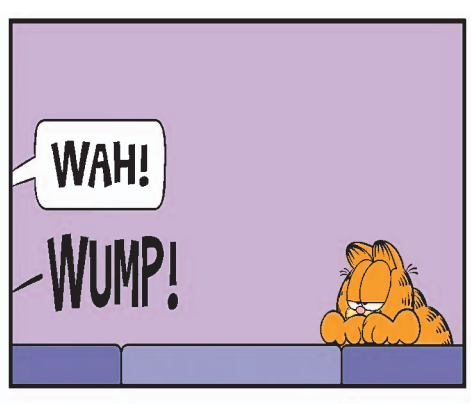
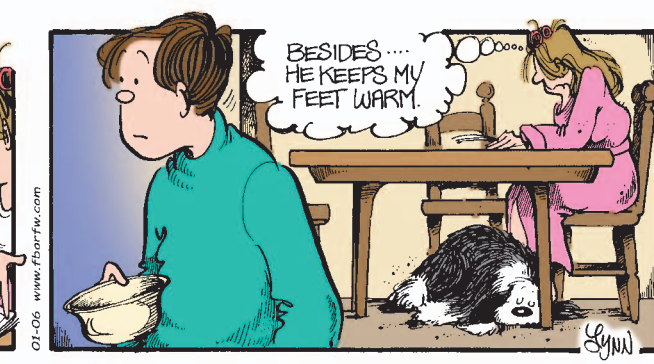
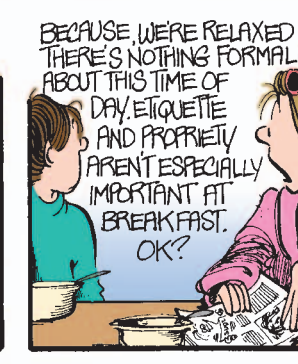
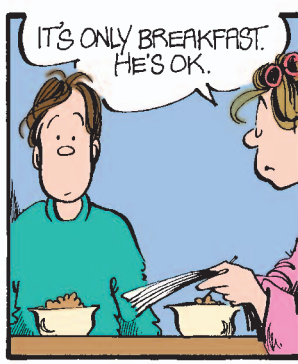
BAM! BANG! CLUNK!

MAYBE YOU SHOULD SEE IF THE PLUMBER NEEDS ANY HELP

BANG! BANG! BAM!

NO, HE'S GOOD

1-6
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www.blondie.com
YOUNG & THORNE



SLYLOCK FOX and COMICS FOR KIDS

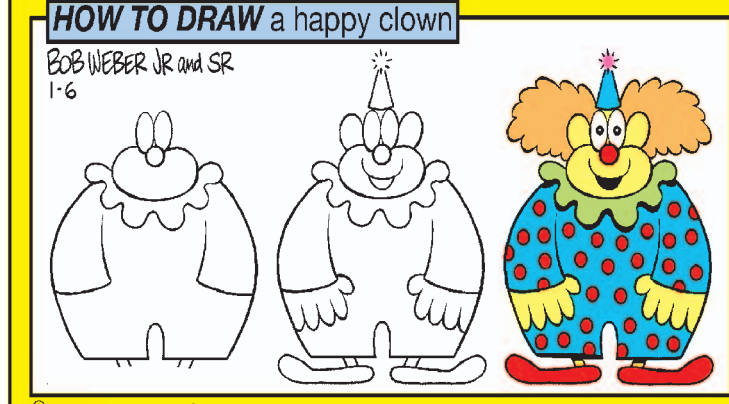
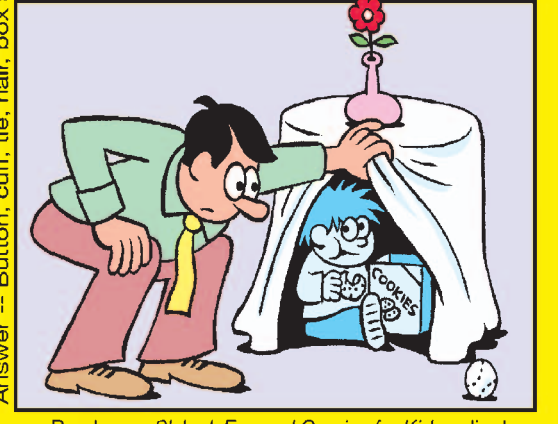
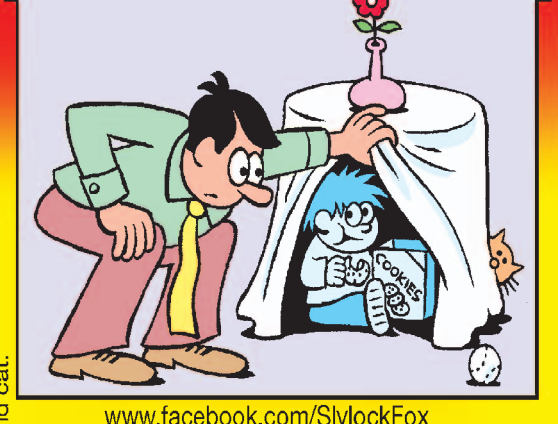
BY BOB WEBER JR.

Harry Ape stole 35 diamond rings from a jewelry store today. Max Mouse searched the ape's campsite but didn't find them. Slylock Fox observed a clue that suggests where the stolen rings are hidden. What did Slylock observe, and where did he instruct Max to look?

Solution -- Slylock observed a button on the flash-light removed from the flash-batteries that were served inside the empty tent.



Spot six differences between these panels.



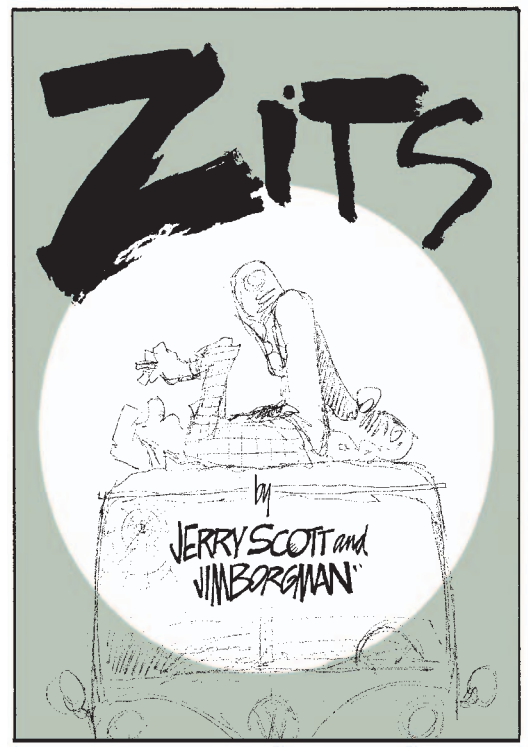
Crocodiles can hold their breath underwater for more than ...

- thirty minutes
- one hour
- three hours
- five hours

Answer -- b)

Answer -- Button, cuff, tie, hair, box and cat.

Read more Slylock Fox and Comics for Kids online!
On Instagram @slylockfoxcomic
On Instagram @spotsixdifferences
www.facebook.com/SlylockFox



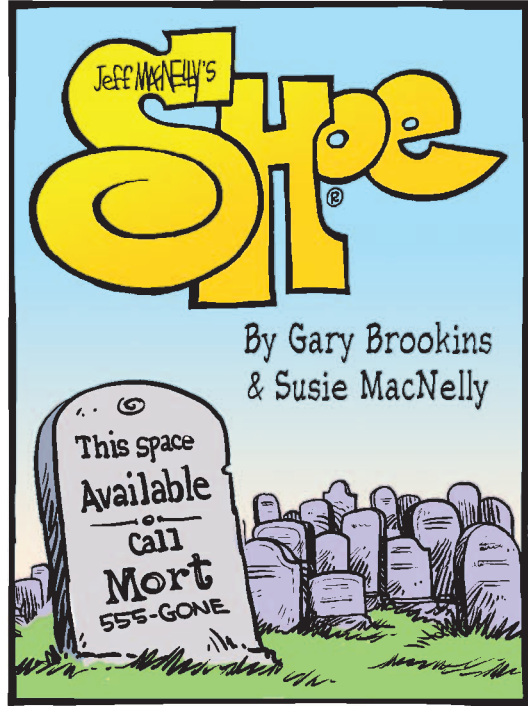
TODAY IS TRASH DAY, JEREMY. DON'T FORGET. I WON'T.

THE CANS HAVE TO BE AT THE CURB BY SEVEN. I KNOW.

IT'S A QUARTER TO SEVEN NOW. ON MY WAY.

BZZ BZZ

DO YOU EVER FEEL LIKE YOU FORGOT SOMETHING, BUT YOU CAN'T PUT YOUR FINGER ON IT?



OLD MAN MURPHY PAID EXTRA FOR THAT. JUST BURIED! MORTS



WHERE ARE YOU GOING? BATHROOM.

GOODBYE!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN "GOODBYE"? I'M JUST GOING TO THE CAN.

WITH THE SUNDAY PAPER CROSSWORD PUZZLE AND A PENCIL. SO?

SO... FAREWELL UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN.

HE'LL BE BACK. THERE'S NO TOILET PAPER.



ARE YOU WORKING ON SOMETHING FOR THE COMPANY ON THE WEEKEND? TAPPITY TAP

THIS IS A YEAR-END REPORT ON OUR NEW PRODUCT LINE.

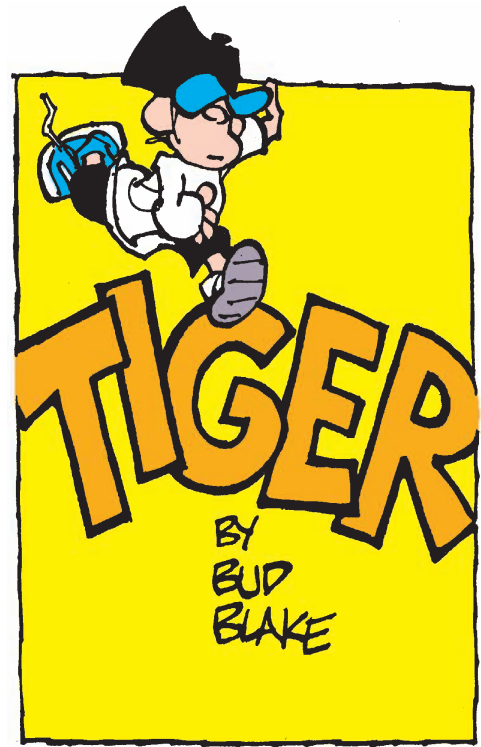
DIDN'T YOU ALREADY DO THAT, LAST WEEK, BRUTUS?

YES, BUT THE CHIEF WASN'T HAPPY WITH IT.

HE SAID THERE WERE SO MANY SPELLING ERRORS, I NEEDED TO REDO IT!

WELL, THAT'S EASY ENOUGH TO FIX! DIDN'T YOU KNOW THE COMPUTER HAS SPELL CHECK TO CORRECT MIS-SPELLED WORDS?

I KNOW, BUT EVIDENTLY MY SPELLING WAS SO BAD, SPELL CHECK COULDN'T FIGURE OUT WHAT I WAS TRYING TO SPELL!



QUIT THAT BARKING, STRIPE!

WHY DO YOU ALWAYS PROTECT ME FROM EVERYTHING

BARKING AND GROWLING IF ANYONE COMES NEAR ME...

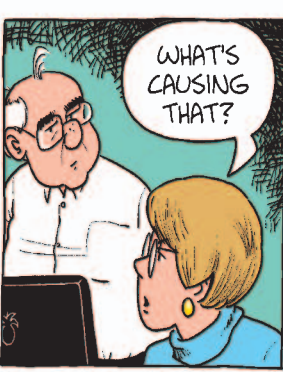
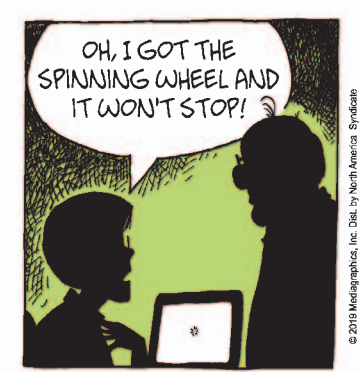
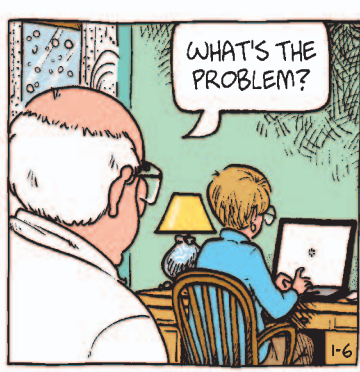
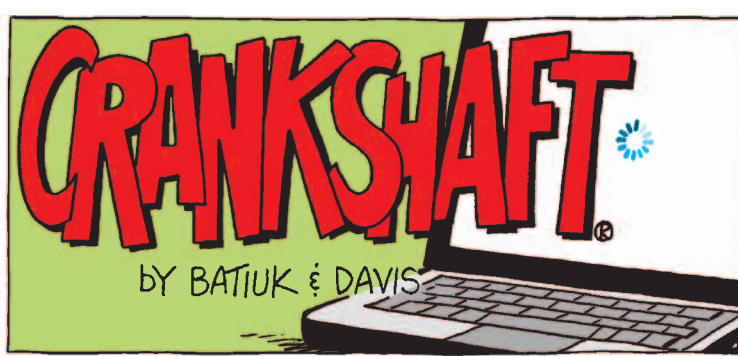
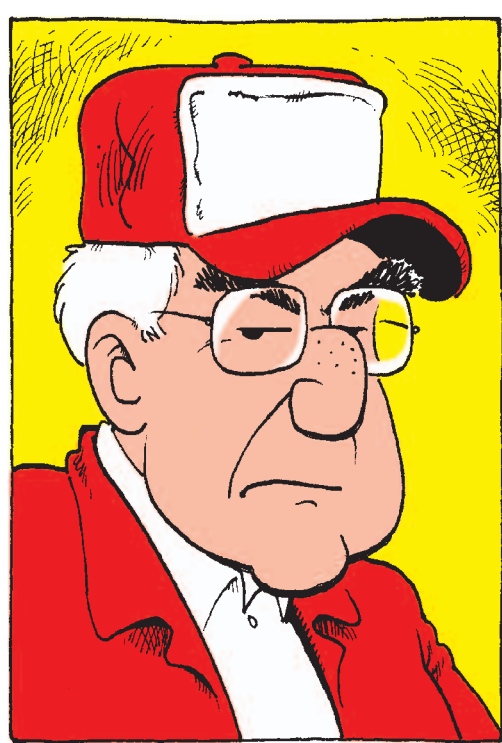
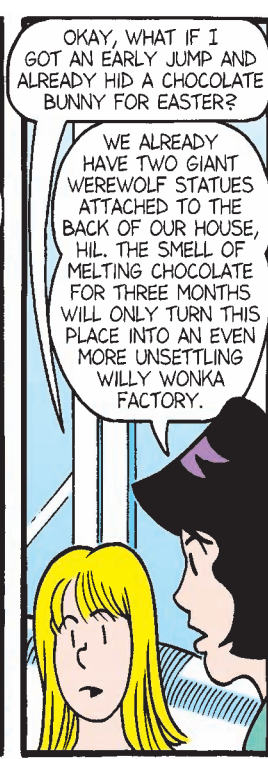
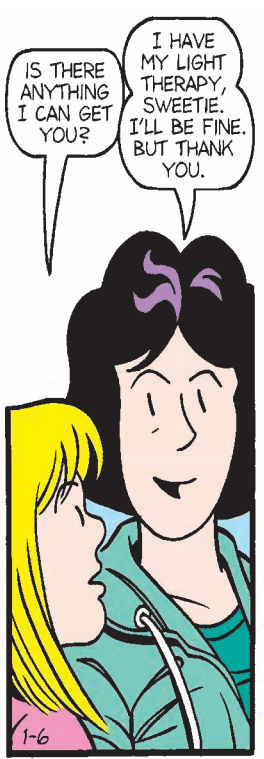
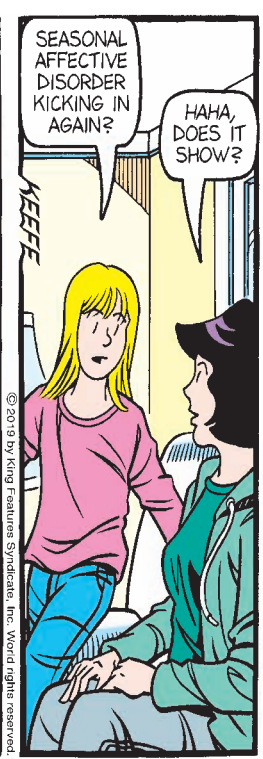
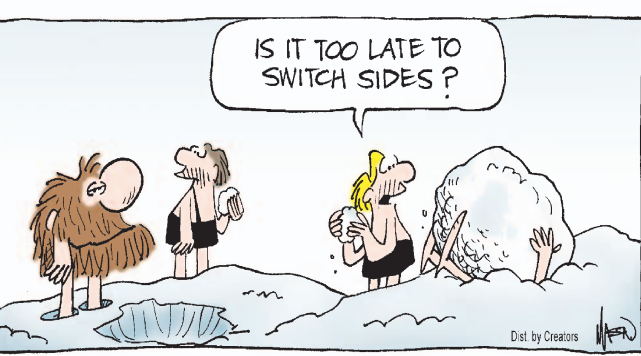
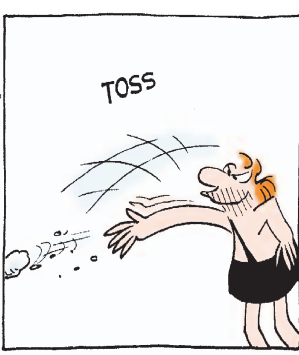
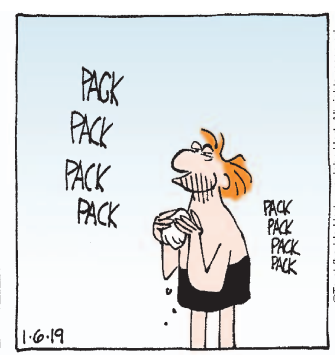
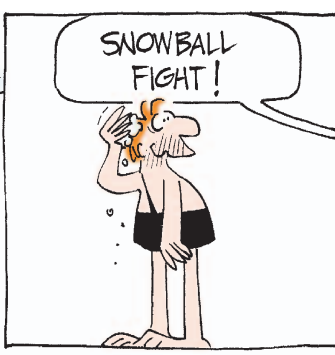
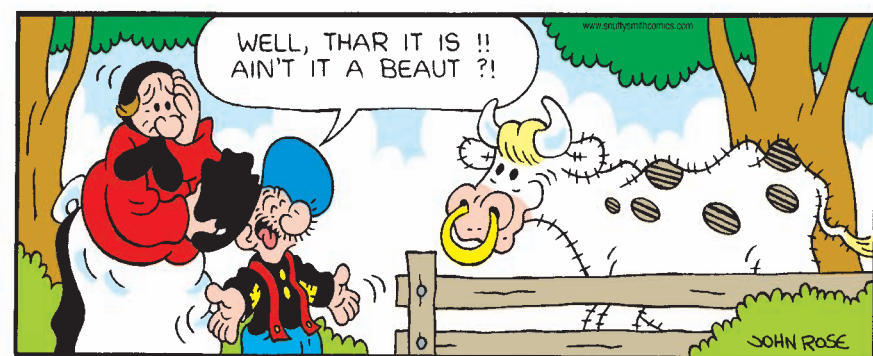
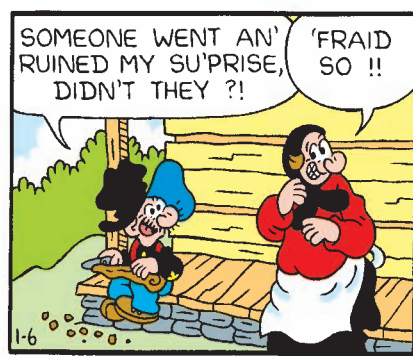
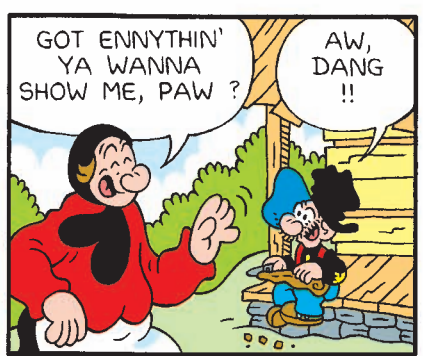
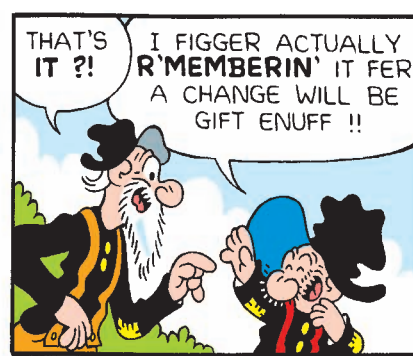
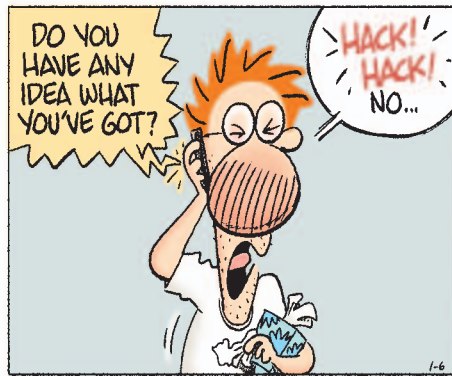
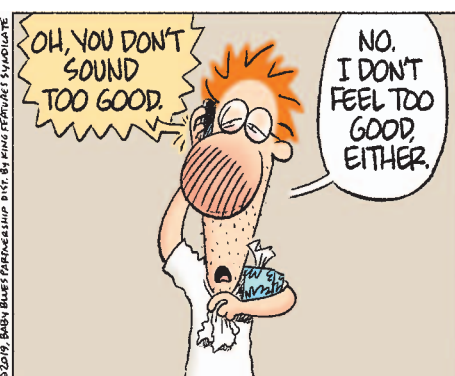
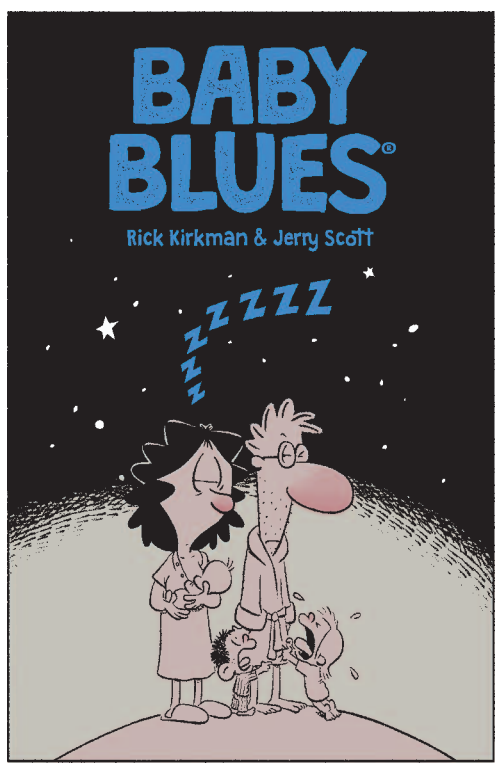
YOU ACT LIKE I'M YOUR HELPLESS BABY...

WHO CAN'T DO ANYTHING BY HIMSELF

AND YOU NEED TO TAKE CARE OF ME!

KISS

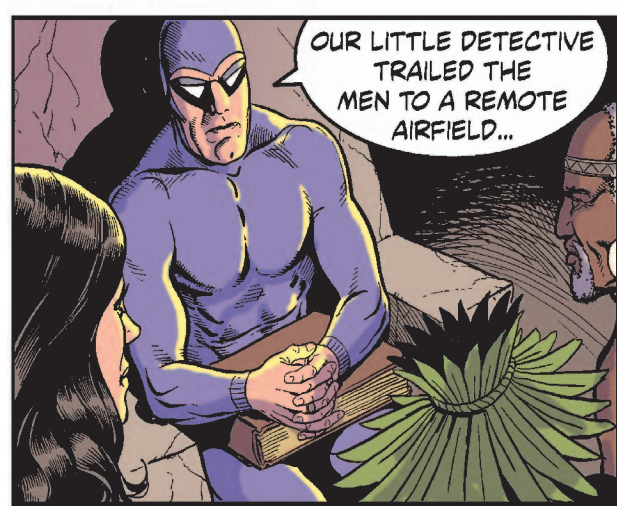
KISS





THE PHANTOM

BY LEE FALK



NON SEQUITUR BY WILEY



DENNIS THE MENACE

BY HANK KETCHAM

