



KIM LEATHERMAN/STAFF

Rachel Kuh and Eva Cooper-Hapeman take a break from unpacking to pose for a photo.

Almost moving day at new LP Town Hall

By KIM LEATHERMAN
STAFF WRITER

LAKE PLACID — The tentative move in date for the new Town Hall located at 1069 U.S. 27 was Feb. 25. Town Administrator Phil Williams was doubtful of that goal on Friday. Instead, the new date the town is aiming for is around March 4.

Construction contractors were behind schedule, causing the delays. Williams feels they have those delays under control now. Contractors are putting the final touches on items such as texturing dry walls, sanding and painting.

A concrete slab was poured on Thursday to raise the sidewalk to be flush with the entrance to provide easy access for handicap people. On Friday, crews were putting up the new sign near the highway.

"The main things we are waiting on are the phones, which are supposed to be installed today, the internet and the security glass for the customer service section," Williams said.

Although some aspects of their jobs cannot be done without phones and internet, Rachel Kuh and Eva Cooper-Hapeman were moving into their new digs.

"We will have more room for records," Cooper-Hapeman, town clerk said.

She said moving had its challenges but is looking forward to all the space they will have when it is done.

The regular town council meeting will be held 5:30 p.m. on March 11 at the new Town Hall in the banquet area.

The former worship center is being transformed into council chambers and is taking the longest to finish. There were a few changes to the plans due to conduit and wiring the town officials underneath the stage/dais.

"When we bought the church, it did not come with diagrams," Williams said.

The work crews ended up with a few surprises like having to find the wires from the audio and video booth that leads to the dais.

After the SunTrust Bank shooting in Sebring, Town Council decided to tighten the security plans they already had in place.

Mayor John Holbrook was checking out the Town Hall progress on Friday afternoon.

"I am very pleased with the way things are turning out," he said. "This is a big asset for the town and the community. It is a great work environment for the employees, It's a new chapter for Lake Placid."

MOVING | 5A

Old growth on Arbuckle Creek

Arborist: Arbuckle Creek hosts largest old-growth bald cypress forest in Southeast



"I think the state of Florida needs to know what it has here."

Matthew 'Twig' Largess
Certified Arborist

By PHIL ATTINGER
STAFF WRITER

AVON PARK — Trolling along Arbuckle Creek in a V-hull fishing boat, dipping his head to avoid hanging vines and low branches, Matthew 'Twig' Largess asks the captain to stop.

"Captain Harry" Arnold reverses the battery-operated motor and drifts back with the current so Largess can spy a possible woodpecker's nest hole a dozen yards up in an old-growth bald cypress, which pokes above the surrounding canopy.

Largess, certified arborist under the International Society of Arboriculture and owner of Largess Forestry in Rhode Island, seeks the ivory-billed woodpecker. For 60 years it was thought extinct until it was rediscovered in a remote part of Arkansas in 2005.

The federal government immediately announced a plan to save the bird, according to news reports at that time. Since it favors old-growth cypress, Largess is looking for it along Arbuckle



PHIL ATTINGER/STAFF

Matthew 'Twig' Largess, an International Society of Arboriculture certified arborist and owner of Largess Forestry in Rhode Island, leans against 'Big John,' a bald cypress tree along Arbuckle Creek on the opposite bank from Avon Park Air Force Range.

Creek and Lake Arbuckle, where he said the 3,300-3,600 acres of bald cypress bottomland forest might be largest such old-growth cypress forest in the Southeast — perhaps anywhere.

Largess hopes to find the bird there by playing a recording of the bird's call to attract any birds that may be there.

At least once on a sojourn Thursday down the creek, he spied the nest-sized

hole and broadcast the call.

No birds answered, but he hasn't given up.

Meanwhile, he believes Avon Park Air Force Range may already have a huge ecological treasure straddling its western border in the trees, alone.

Largess flew in to Florida last week for four days to explore the area and catalog as many bald cypress as possible. He said some of the trees measure 26 feet in circumference.

Families that owned the land just inside and outside the base never cut the cypress forest, Largess said, and he suspects the grove, just 90 miles south of Walt Disney World, rates as the largest untouched Old Growth Bald Cypress Tupelo Forest system.

"I think the state of Florida needs to know what it has here," Largess said.

Largess said he's studied two old growth bald cypress forest sites — Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary in Collier County and Francis Beidler Forest in South Carolina. Both forests are preserved and world-renowned eco-tourist destinations claiming to be the oldest such forests left in the world with 1,000-year-old trees.

Arbuckle Creek, however, is bigger than both put together, Largess said, "making this discovery even more astounding."

He would rank it fourth after the North Carolina Black River Preserve, Beidler Forest and Corkscrew Swamp.

Largess suspects some Arbuckle trees

GROWTH | 5A



Matthew 'Twig' Largess, an International Society of Arboriculture certified arborist and owner of Largess Forestry in Rhode Island, points across Lake Arbuckle to old-growth bald cypress bottomland forest. He thinks it might be the largest such forest in the Southeast or anywhere.

Meeting videos no longer available online

Rybinski: Public can request copies, up to 2 years

By PHIL ATTINGER
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — Actually being there or tuning in at the time remains the best way to find out what happens at a Highlands County public meeting.

Those who miss the action might still be able to view the video, but they will need to request it

from county government staff. Old digital videos of the Board of County Commission meetings, as well as other recorded county meetings, do not appear on the county website, and officials say they may not.

Online video of county meetings had been suspended early in the month pending what

County Administrator Randy Vosburg and County Attorney Joy Carmichael could find out about ADA requirements.

At the start of Tuesday's Board of County Commission meeting, Vosburg told board members that they had hired a person to type in captions for that meeting

as it was broadcast, using a slight time delay.

It was hoped that would serve as enough to satisfy complaints under the the Americans with Disabilities Act [of 1990].

Several people were monitoring the video, off-site, Vosburg said, and he expected to hear how

MEETING | 5A



PHIL ATTINGER/STAFF

At last Tuesday's county commission meeting, Highlands County Administrator Randy Vosburg, tells County Commissioners that they would need to enunciate and make sure their microphones are on so a person hired to type in closed captions for their live meetings would be able to hear them.



Classifieds.....B3-7
Comics.....NEWS WIRE
Highlands Health.....B1

Local Sports.....A7-8
Lottery.....SPORTS WIRE

Viewpoints.....A4
Weather.....SPORTS WIRE

Good morning To
Gary Hurtubise
Thanks for reading!



LP man arrested on aggravated stalking charges

By KIM LEATHERMAN
STAFF WRITER

LAKE PLACID — Larry Ellis, 37 of Lake Placid, was arrested by the Highlands County Sheriff's deputies on Tuesday afternoon. His arrest report lists a street name of "12 Gauge." He is facing a felony count of aggravated stalking, follow or harass, cyber-stalking credible threat to person; a misdemeanor charge for property damage of \$200 or under and a felony county or burglary with assault or battery.

On Feb 20, additional charges were added including driving on a suspended license three times and failing to register a vehicle. Due to the domestic nature of the crime, the victim will not be identified.

Deputies met with Ellis' victim on Feb. 16 to talk

about Ellis' continual threats of physical violence and harassing her. When deputies arrived, the victim told them Ellis was in her yard on his motorcycle about 6 a.m. She told them he began to beat the siding of her trailer where he knew she would be sleeping.

The victim made contact "through the door" and she advised Ellis to leave. According to the arrest report, she asked him to leave multiple times. The victim said she verbally fought with Ellis but he would not leave and called her derogatory names.

Ellis tried to enter a pair of sliding glass doors but was stopped because the victim put a shower



ELLIS

rod in the track to stop anyone from forcing it open. Ellis screamed he was going to "beat her like a man," the report said.

The victim grabbed the phone and told Ellis that she was calling 911 and she went into her bedroom to call. Ellis left.

Deputies learned that the victim had been harassed and threatened by Ellis prior to the altercation on Feb. 16. The victim told deputies that she has told Ellis numerous times that he is not allowed on her property but he continued to do it. She said he called her derogatory names and chased after her when she was outside.

Ellis is being held without bail in the Highlands County Jail. Ellis has several cases over the years listed in the Clerk of County Court records.

Selling crack near church nets felony charges

By KIM LEATHERMAN
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — Corey Dion Strong 42, of Sebring was arrested Thursday afternoon on several charges related to drugs. Highlands County Sheriff's afternoon, deputies arrested and charged Strong with possession of cocaine within 1,000 feet of a church, possession of marijuana over 20 grams, and possession of drug equipment to manufacture/deliver. All charges are felonies.

On Thursday afternoon, deputies performed a traffic stop on a white Dodge Journey near the Grand Avenue and Martin Luther King Jr. intersection. According to the arrest record the deputies were familiar with Strong from previous police interactions with him.

Deputies saw the Dodge leaving the area of Lemon Avenue and MLK Jr. when the deputy recognized Strong as the driver and noted him turning onto Grand Avenue.

The deputy watched Strong get out of the car and make eye contact with the deputy. Deputies watched Strong throw a cannabis

cigarette onto the ground near the passenger side of his vehicle after they activated their lights.



STRONG

Deputies exited their vehicles and walked to Strong. They smelled cannabis coming from the car and from the suspect. They found the burning cigarette near the car. The report states it was filled with a green leafy substance that would prove to be marijuana.

Handcuffs were placed on Strong and he was searched and \$185 cash was found on him. Dispatch also informed the deputies that his license was suspended and they searched his vehicle.

According to the report, deputies found a baggie containing a leafy green substance which field tested positive for marijuana and weighed 33.5 grams without the baggie.

The back seat revealed a styrofoam "takeout" container that had a "white, hard-like substance in it." The substance was in a circle "which had the appearance of manufactured

cocaine which was cooked into crack cocaine, also known as a "plate," the report says.

The report also says that the narcotic dealers cook cocaine into crack cocaine to "maximize profits and utilize razor blades to cut one piece into multiple pieces" for drug dealers to sell. Deputies also found a box cutter with residue that tested positive for cocaine.

Deputies measured the distance to the nearby church and determined it was within 1,000 feet of it.

After reading Strong his Miranda rights, he made a statement to the deputies but it was redacted from the report.

Strong is being held in the county jail on \$12,000 bond. Strong has extensive records in the Highlands County Clerk of Court's website dating back to 1994.

POLICE BLOTTER

The following people were arrested on felony charges and booked into the Highlands County jail on Feb. 15:

Joann Lee Brown, 37, Lake Placid, on charges of drug possession, larceny and drug equipment possession.

Kristy Lee Daniels, 43, Sebring, charged with aggravated battery.

Mickeal Wayne Flores, 29, Sebring, charged with battery.

Weldys Machado Leyva, 49, Sebring, on charges of driving on suspended license, drug equipment possession and marijuana possession.

Clarence Anthony Strickland, 29, Sebring, charged with probation violation.

Samuel Joseph Tucker, 23, Sebring, on

charges of DUI and DUI manslaughter.

The following people were arrested on felony charges and booked into the Highlands County jail on Feb. 16:

William Clifford McClelland, 37, Sebring, charged with aggravated battery.

Willencia Shupree Perry, 26, Avon Park, on charges of dealing in stolen property, scheme to defraud, fraudulent use of credit cards and two charges of larceny.

The following people were arrested on felony charges and booked into the Highlands County jail on Feb. 17:

Leroy Quinn English, 36, Avon Park, on charges of drug possession and drug equipment possession.

Shawn Richard Provencher, 33, Sebring, on

charges of drug equipment possession, selling marijuana, drug possession, marijuana distribution and amphetamine trafficking.

Shianne Crystal Tudor, 31, Sebring, on charges of drug equipment possession, drug possession and marijuana possession.

Daniel James Welkes, 28, Lake Placid, on charges of marijuana possession and drug possession.

The following people were arrested on felony charges and booked into the Highlands County jail on Feb. 18:

Andrew Scott Barton, 29, Milton, WV, on charges of resisting an officer, smuggling contraband, drug possession and battery.

Paul Roy Peters, 32, Sebring, charged with failure to comply with sex offender registration laws.

5 THINGS That Will Make You SMARTER



1. The "Baby Shark" video currently stands at nearly 2.2 billion views, making it one of the top 25 most-viewed videos in YouTube history.

2. "Baby Shark" became one of the few children's songs to break into Billboard's Hot 100 list, accomplishing the feat last month despite not being a new song and had the highest debut of any song that week at No. 32.

3. Mississippi State University's marching band played "Baby Shark" towards the end of their blowout win over rival Mississippi on Nov. 23, 2018. The University of Mississippi had just unveiled "Landyshark Tony" as its new on-field mascot at the beginning of the 2018 season, so a not-so-subtle jab by the Bulldog band.

4. The first known internet video of "Baby Shark" appears to be in January,

2007.

5. Pinkfong's version of "Baby Shark" was uploaded to YouTube on June 17,

2016, and has an average of 2.24 million views per day.

Source: vox.com

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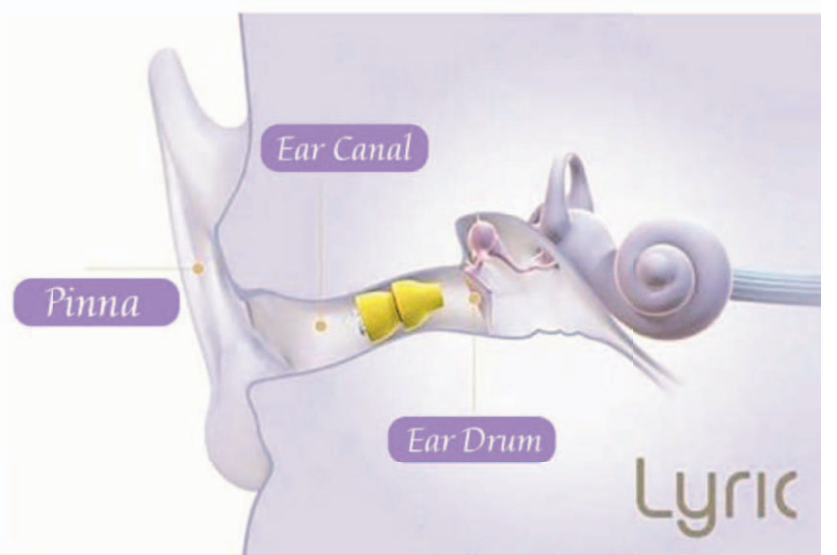
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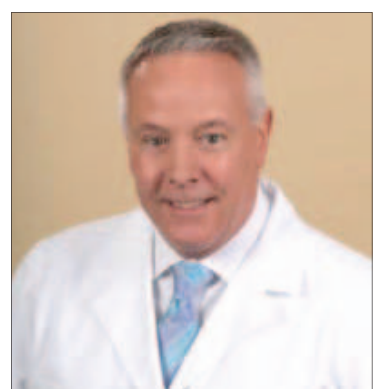
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SUN

ANOTHER VIEW

Intrusion is unwarranted

While facing sharp criticism nationwide, including lawsuits from 16 states, for declaring a national emergency over money to build a border wall, President Trump, of course, spent Presidents Day in friendly territory:

He came to Miami-Dade and a packed Florida International University arena to show support for Venezuelans, but also Cubans and Nicaraguans who support his administration's efforts to apply more political pressure to end the illegitimate regime of Nicolás Maduro and throw support to Juan Guaidó as the South American country's interim leader.

Trump found a warm reception in the city of refugees from dictatorships and political unrest — and rightly so. Trump deserves credit for being the only president since Ronald Reagan to take a hard stand against dictators in Latin America, a region often forgotten by administrations.

But more important, Trump may have given the thousands gathered a preview of his 2020 re-election campaign battle cry. Going after undocumented immigrants, as he touted as a 2016 campaign promise, is a perennial rant for the the president. So he's now targeting old-school socialism and communism.

"America will never be a socialist country," Trump preached to the choir highlighting the troubles that have plagued Venezuela since it went down that road under late leader Hugo Chávez.

Such statements hark back to America's past glories, much like Trump's State of the Union address where he made numerous mentions of World War II. But Monday, in the context of Venezuela, Trump spoke directly to Maduro and his military.

The Trump administration is hoping to step up international pressure on the dictator, who's blocking at the Colombia border millions of dollars in humanitarian aid from entering his country. Sen Marco Rubio, who has taken a leadership role in the Venezuelan effort, and U.S. Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart flew to the Colombia-Venezuela border over the weekend to attract international attention to the blockaded food and medicine. Maduro is being given until Saturday to allow the goods in. The unspoken plan is that if the aid gets in, the Venezuelan people, who are experiencing tremendous shortages, may welcome it enough to turn on Maduro.

The Venezuelan military must now turn its back on Maduro and allow aid to enter Venezuela, the president, senator and Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis all said.

"You must not block this humanitarian aid," Trump said. "We seek a peaceful transition of power. But all options are open. If you choose this path, you will find no safe harbor, no easy exit and no way out. You'll lose everything."

Such talk attracted opposing demonstrators to FIU who demanded that the United States keep out of Venezuela and opposed any U.S. military action there.

And the [Miami Herald] Editorial Board is in agreement with them. U.S. military action is just the wrong, and deadly, action to take when Venezuelans themselves already are taking matters into their own hands — Guaidó's takeover being the biggest first step. The U.S.' unending thirst for oil must not supersede Venezuelans' desire to do for themselves. Trump, so far, has deftly navigated our involvement in Venezuela. He can continue to do so without the threat, or folly, of military intrusion. An editorial from the Miami Herald.

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.

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The MAGA curse

WASHINGTON — Humans do the strangest things.

In two recent why-dun-its, the curious have wondered why: (1) a successful TV star would allegedly orchestrate a fake, hate-inspired attack on himself, and (2) a Coast Guard officer would allegedly plot a mass-murder attack on American Democrats and journalists.

In the first instance, prosecutors say that actor Jussie Smollett last month paid two men \$3,500 to stage an attack, tie a noose around his neck, douse him with bleach, and shout, "This is MAGA country!"

The actor, who is gay, and his alleged pretend-assailants, are all black. But when Smollett talked to police on Jan. 29, he said he'd been attacked by two white men wearing masks. After 100 interviews and countless hours of investigation, police identified the two men, who told of being hired — by Smollett.

If Smollett hoped to draw attention to himself, as Chicago Police Superintendent Eddie Johnson characterized the ruse, then Smollett accomplished his mission. Relatively not-famous before, he is now the infamous member of the "Empire" cast who is being written out of the show. He has been charged for disorderly conduct, which seems a

WASHINGTON POST
Kathleen Parker

mild offense in light of the resources and lost man-hours devoted to his case.

Meanwhile: MAGA. "Make America Great Again," a Ronald Reagan phrase that was commandeered by Donald Trump, is increasingly perceived as a statement either of patriotic pride or racist malice, as nearly emotionally evocative as the Confederate battle flag is in some places. Thus, when Smollett allegedly used MAGA to fortify his tale of an attack, he was initially believed — at least by many in the pitchfork media — because it wasn't totally unbelievable.

Yet, a more jaundiced eye might have been skeptical of a scenario in which two men would attack another man at 2 a.m. in subfreezing Chicago because he was black and gay — and in the name of Donald Trump. Then again, people have been acting strangely these days.

A woman recently attacked a man in Cape Cod, Massachusetts, for wearing a MAGA hat in a Mexican restaurant. Last month, teen boys from Covington Catholic High School, who had come to Washington for the March for Life, were immediately condemned for what was initially

reported as harassment of a Native American activist, but they were cleared of any wrongdoing by a third-party investigation. And, last week, a California high-school student was banned from wearing her MAGA cap to school.

On a far-more serious note, the Coast Guard lieutenant and would-be terrorist arrested last week allegedly was mapping a plan to kill Democratic leaders and journalists. According to a court filing, Christopher Paul Hasson, 49, had been planning a killing campaign for at least two years, amassing an arsenal of weapons, including 15 firearms and 1,000 rounds of ammunition, and contemplating a biological attack. He had studied other mass murderers, read their manifestos and compiled a list of "traitors" he allegedly intended to kill. Authorities say his motive was to "establish a white homeland" through "focused violence."

Because Hasson, a former skinhead, envisions a world of only white people — and given Trump's attacks on people based on their race, ethnicity and religion — it doesn't take much to imagine that he would vote for Trump over the Democrats he hoped to kill. What, if anything, would that mean? Not one thing, yet the president surely

deserves some blame for contributing to the racist animus that percolates just beneath the surface in some pockets of civilized society.

Both Hasson and Smollett are 100 percent responsible for their own actions, full stop. But there's a reason Smollett tossed a MAGA hat into his ring of conspiracy. There's a reason Hasson, who reportedly never spoke of politics at work and seemed a dedicated three-decade military servicemember, is presumed by some to be a Trump supporter.

During the two years of the Trump presidency, MAGA has morphed in the public mind from a rah-rah rally chant to a nearly KKK-grade threat of white supremacy. This is obviously unfair to the millions who support, say, a conservative Supreme Court yet never racism or nativism, but this is where we are.

The value of MAGA as a positive slogan is spent, except among a relatively small cadre of Trump loyalists who might as well be exchanging a secret handshake.

As a symbol of rebellion, on the other hand, you might want to invest. It should come as no surprise that some kids love the hat because grownups are so upset about it.

Kathleen Parker's email address is kathleenparker@washpost.com.

YOUR VIEW

Kudos for Mike Mezie Concrete

I recently received a 16-foot flagpole and decided to put it in the center of our 2 1/2-car-wide driveway.

Needing a hole cut in said driveway, I contacted Mike Mezie Concrete and Masonry. On a morning before going to the job he was working on, Mike rang our doorbell. After I showed him where I wanted it cut, he went to work. In no time I had a perfect 36-by-18-inch cut.

I asked Mike what I owed him (\$25? \$50? more?) and he asked me what I intended to do on that pole. When I told him the good ol' USA Stars and Stripes, he said to me, "in that case ... there's no charge."

Everyday we hear the catch-phrase "Make

America Great Again." When ya' deal with someone like Mike Mezie, I'd say we're doin' pretty darn good right now.

Howard B. Edick
Sebring

Theft by states and contractors

The theft by states of these United States, stealing assets of people with Alzheimer's and mental capabilities amounts to trillions of dollars. The means by which they steal is called "unclaimed funds."

By law all they have to do is put the claim up in a courthouse for a few weeks. If these relatives don't see the claim and file, the state can take the funds, which could be in the millions. Taking all the assets of the afflicted

person, this nationwide has to be in the trillions of dollars.

The Attorney General of each state should address this injustice against the people of each state.

Contract law: using a verbal contract not a signed contract the courts allow a contract to file a mechanic lien against your property even if he changes the original bid triple or more than the original bid.

It doesn't matter how small the job, always get a written contract. Do not accept a verbal contract if you do not want a property lien against your property.

I am going to ask our state attorney to address these issues of our citizens and hope they are corrected.

Billie Jewett
Sebring

Dogs shouldn't roam free in stores

Regarding service animals: I was recently in a store that allows pets as long as they are leashed or otherwise controlled or contained. I was carrying my leashed dog. Ahead of me at the checkout was a man whose dog was wandering freely around the area. The man stated "She is a service dog, she just doesn't have her stuff."

A true service dog would never be without its "stuff" and would never be roaming unleashed.

Also the store's pet policy was being violated. This is why people complain about pets in public areas.

Margaret Hamilton
Sebring

GROWTH

FROM PAGE 1A

have lived for 1,000 years, but won't know unless he can get permission from the air base to measure trees on their bank, and follow-up with a core sample study of all trees along the creek and lake.

Encyclopedia Britannica states that bald cypress, also called "swamp cypress," are native to swampy areas of southern North America, and were often harvested for their water-resistant wood.

The trees live long lives and grow slowly, Britannica states. Older trees are usually hollow, making them ideal nesting spots for a variety of animals.

A young bald cypress is symmetrical and pyramidal, but as it matures, it develops a coarse wide-spreading head, Britannica states.

Its tapering trunk is usually 30 meters (about 100 feet) tall and 1 meter (3.3 feet) in diameter.

Reddish brown bark weathers to an ashy gray. The closer it grows to the water or wetlands, the



PHIL ATTINGER/STAFF

Matthew 'Twig' Largess, arborist, rides down Arbuckle Creek from Camp Arbuckle on Lake Arbuckle. Both the creek and lake are surrounded by old-growth bald cypress forest, Largess says, and he hopes to prove it is the largest such forest in existence, both for scientific reasons and potential tourism for Highlands and Polk Counties.

more buttressed it gets about the base, horizontal roots often sending conical woody projections called "knees" above the waterline.

The function of knees is poorly understood, Britannica states. They may help oxygenate the roots or provide support in the soft muddy soil, both of which concur with Largess' opinions.

The trees have flat needle-like leaves arranged alternately in two ranks along small twigs. The trees are deciduous.

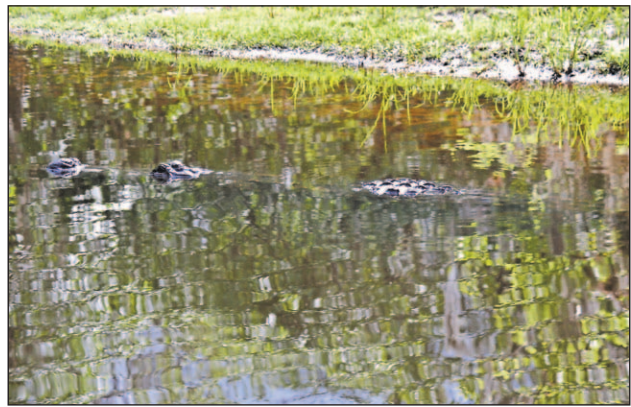
Though the leaves can persist year-round in warm climates, the trees often drop them in colder times of the year.

In addition to conservation, Largess sees value in eco-tourism for Arbuckle Creek, which could result in more regular hiking and boating tours from Camp Arbuckle and other launch sites.

Those efforts would have to coincide with education. The west bank already indicates plenty of human activity, with plastic food containers and the occasional beer bottle or soft drink can littering the shore.

"See that Walmart chair sprouting out there," Arnold said, indicating a dark green plastic stackable patio chair that had sunk into the soft ground and foliage just a few feet from the water. "In a few years, it'll be full grown."

Litter is less common on the east bank, where signs posted on trees regularly warn boaters that beyond that point is a U.S. military installation, and that trespassing is prohibited.



An alligator floats lazily last Thursday on Arbuckle Creek, less than a half mile south of Lake Arbuckle. Wildlife along the creek owes a great deal to the Avon Park Air Force Range Conservation efforts of old-growth bald cypress forest, said arborist Matthew Largess of Rhode Island, who is studying the forest.

MOVING

FROM PAGE 1A

Williams pointed out that the \$200,000 for renovations that was brought up in a public meeting was an estimated cost and not a budget. He said he thought they had spent about \$180,000 so far on the renovations including the increased security measures.

Holbrook pointed out that all the major items have been taken care of and there is only minor and cosmetic items left.

Williams said the town is not pinching pennies but not going overboard on the items they are putting in. He was advised by town council to make the hall attractive to visiting dignitaries or others who may want to rent out an office.



KIM LEATHERMAN/STAFF

A security door was placed in the hall to separate the staff and public.

MEETING

FROM PAGE 1A

well it worked.

Vosburg said the county had also potentially saved a \$40,000-\$60,000 capital purchase for closed captioning software since the county had the capability already.

"We were able to activate a module in the existing system," Vosburg said.

Estimated hourly cost for Tuesday's live-stream closed captions was \$435. At an average of 26 meetings per year, plus budget meetings, Vosburg estimates the annual cost could be \$12,000.

"That is significantly less," Vosburg said. "I believe it brings us into compliance."

However, since Tuesday afternoon, old video and audio files had not yet been reposted to the county website, with or without captions.

The new meeting had not been posted, either, and as of Saturday, it had still not appeared.

Gloria Rybinski, the Board's public information officer, said there were no discussions among administration about making videos available online again.

However, she said people who wish to obtain a video copy of any meeting can still do so by making a records request to have it placed on a DVD.

Rybinski also said that Florida's Sunshine Law on open records only requires local governments to archive video and audio recordings of meetings for two years. After that, written minutes of a meeting become the official records, she said.

Minutes of previous meetings get reviewed and often approved without amendments at the beginning of each board meeting under the Consent Agenda, which is a list of presumably non-controversial issues, logistic or financial adjustments or low-cost purchases to which commissioners would

most often not object.

Rarely do they pull out the record of meeting minutes to make changes in that record.

Such minutes often include a general overview of issue discussions, but not specific detail of the conversations or back-and-forth debate involving either board members or the members of the public.

The concerns about captions on videos stemmed from form-style complaint letters Vosburg received in January about a lack of captions, descriptive audio or printed transcripts, similar other local governments throughout Florida and the nation.

Vosburg said the county also streams meetings live for the Tourist Development Council.

To make audio recordings accessible to the hard of hearing or deaf, board personnel or the Clerk of the Courts Office would have to transcribe all audio for all ADA requests, he said.

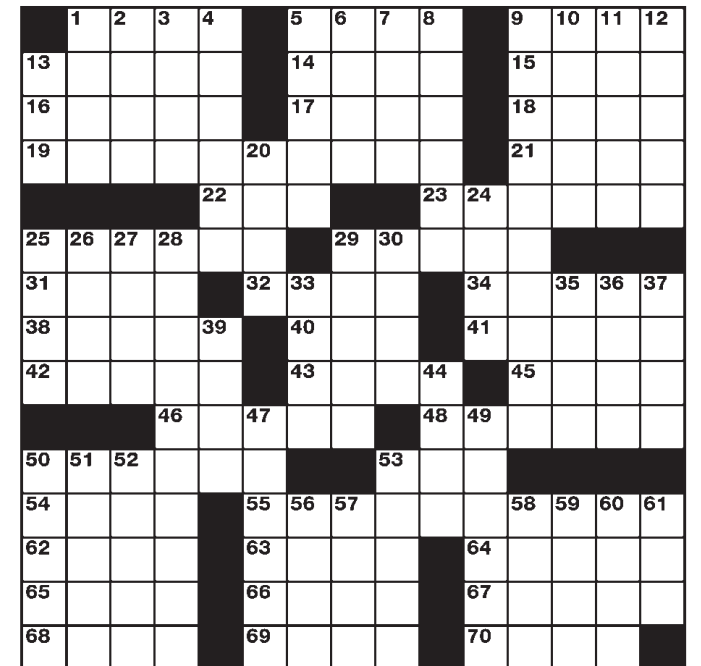
Newsday Crossword

DUSTY DEVICES by Brad Wilber
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- 1 Numbers posted at racetracks
- 5 Swiss mountains
- 9 Without air, as a tire
- 13 Winfrey of TV
- 14 Have a good cry
- 15 Tardy
- 16 "Coming soon" ad, for short
- 17 Prefix meaning "against"
- 18 Woodwind instrument
- 19 Once-popular keyboard device
- 21 State west of NJ
- 22 Encountered
- 23 Cider fruits
- 25 Sculpted or molded
- 29 Bronze or brass
- 31 Desire granted by a genie
- 32 Mediocre
- 34 Narrowly defeated
- 38 Spanish goodbye
- 40 Country n. of Mexico
- 41 Woman's small crown
- 42 Intended
- 43 Fifth of a nickel
- 45 ___ down (lose weight)
- 46 Courtroom pledges
- 48 Maintenance cost
- 50 Perform a lullaby for
- 53 Hour after noon
- 54 Aroma
- 55 Once-popular enclosure for making calls
- 62 Grandma

- 7 Sampras of tennis
- 8 Twisting staircase shape
- 9 Once-popular data storage device
- 10 Tag inside a shirt
- 11 Make amends
- 12 Adolescents
- 13 Choose, with "for"
- 20 Crimson and scarlet
- 24 Person creating verses
- 25 Did laps in a pool
- 26 Conceal
- 27 Japan's continent
- 28 Once-popular record player
- 29 Donkeys
- 30 Cash advance
- 33 "That hurts!"
- 35 Heavy wind
- 36 One of the Great Lakes
- 37 A bit wet
- 39 Numerical datum
- 44 Adjust, as a piano
- 47 Fill fully, as a gas tank
- 49 Little stone
- 50 ___-law (daughter's husband)
- 51 State known for potatoes
- 52 Forbidden things
- 53 Early stage
- 56 Luau dance
- 57 Metallic rocks
- 58 Word-of-mouth
- 59 Swine's sound
- 60 Golf pegs
- 61 Day fractions: Abbr.



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2019 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 2/25/19

Answer to previous puzzle

WHAT IS THIS CAIN
I AM AMERICA ALSO
TRANSLATED NILE
HENS FIAT STEEL
FINN FEINTS
BAFFLE ABUELA
ALLAY PLUMMETED
LOIN FALSE VILE
MENTALITY DENSE
TAMARI PURGED
SUSSEX MPEG
OPTIN PERT ABEL
ATOZ COLORATURA
PONE APOLOGISTS
SPED TOWELETTS

2/25/19

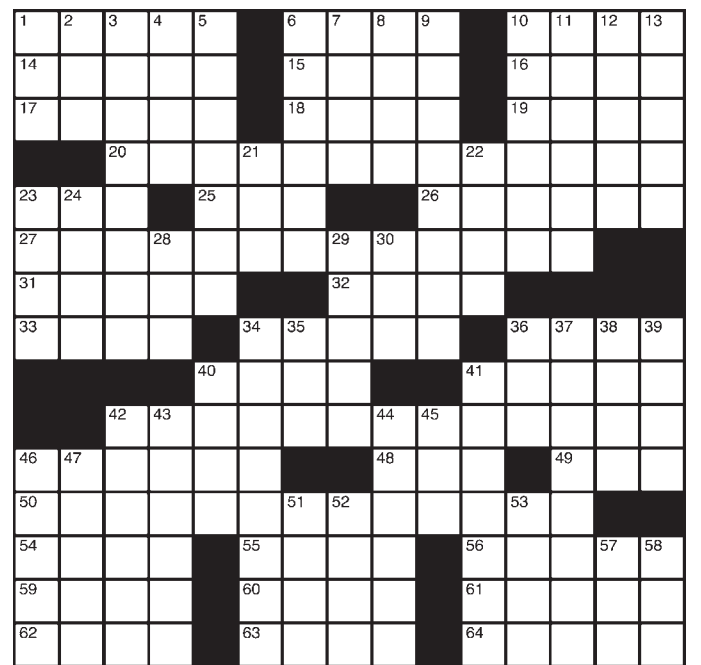
FOR RELEASE FEBRUARY 25, 2019

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 Sources of nuclear energy
- 6 Wolf call
- 10 Banned pollutants, briefly
- 14 Exodus mount
- 15 Author Wiesel
- 16 "I smell trouble"
- 17 Tavern mug
- 18 Get off the lawn, as leaves
- 19 Noncurrent currency of Italy
- 20 Tricolor flier in Dublin
- 23 Longtime forensic drama
- 25 The first "T" in TNT
- 26 Bitcoin, notably
- 27 Quality sound reproduction
- 31 Prefix with violet
- 32 Shipshape
- 33 Mineral hardness scale
- 34 "The game is ___": Sherlock Holmes
- 36 "Alas!"
- 40 Waves to ride on
- 41 Hit that barely gets over the infield
- 42 "And suppose my answer is no?"
- 46 Panini cheese
- 48 "Alice" diner owner
- 49 "That's all ___ wrote"
- 50 "What's your hurry?" ... and a literal hint to what's hiding in 20-, 27- and 42-Across
- 54 Stereo preceder
- 55 Length times width
- 56 Erode
- 59 Blue dye
- 60 Storm-producing weather systems
- 61 Wharton's Ethan
- 62 Must have
- 63 Crafter's website
- 64 Brown-toned photo



By Ed Sessa 2/25/19

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

ALL ACCESS IMAN
VISUAL CUE CRAZE
INAGROOVE OSKAR
SETUPS STEMEELD
ROUT OSMOSES
WWI ORAN PEPPA
NON LEVIS NIETO
BREAKS INTO TEARS
AKELA SERFS CEL
ADORE RIFE EEO
CHAPALA ARCH
OOH OKED ATASTE
BLANK SAYMISTER
RINSE ONEPOTATO
ACDC PASSESNOTES

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DOWN

- 1 Stubborn animal
- 2 Chickadee relative

- 3 20% expressed as a fraction
- 4 Snail or junk follower
- 5 "New York, New York" crooner
- 6 Valiant
- 7 Disney snowman
- 8 User-edited site
- 9 Eyed wolfishly
- 10 Don, as boots
- 11 China's ___ Kai-shek
- 12 Carried
- 13 Shielded from the sun
- 21 College sr.'s exam
- 22 Send out
- 23 Buddy
- 24 Grain storage area
- 28 Tax-collecting agcy.
- 29 Like most light switches
- 30 Classic roadster
- 34 Used car lot event
- 35 The "F" in TGIF: Abbr.
- 36 Furry sitcom ET
- 37 Landing site for Santa's sleigh
- 38 Dance in a pit
- 39 Olympic fencing event
- 40 Wise one
- 41 Opinions
- 42 Dog at a cookout
- 43 Ramis of "Ghostbusters"
- 44 "Doesn't bother me at all"
- 45 NFL official
- 46 "Oh, no, bro!"
- 47 Dazzled
- 51 Relaxed running pace
- 52 Fells with an ax
- 53 Steak order
- 57 Mate, across the Channel
- 58 Tazo product

Large pot bust on Thursday

By **MELISSA MAIN**
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — A deputy allegedly found almost 200 grams of marijuana during a traffic stop on Thursday.

Shelly Marie Moseng, 47, address unknown, was arrested by a deputy from the Highlands County Sheriff's Office on Thursday. Moseng was charged with possession of over 20 grams of marijuana, possession of a controlled substance without a prescription,

possession of drug equipment and smuggling contraband into a detention facility.

A deputy conducted a traffic stop on Moseng's silver Dodge for an inoperable tag light. After talking with Moseng, the deputy requested that a K-9 unit come to the scene, and the K-9 gave a positive alert on the



MOSENG

vehicle.

A total of 185.3 grams of cannabis was reportedly collected from her vehicle. The deputy allegedly found a green leafy substance that field tested positive for cannabis in the following places: in a glass jar, in a cigarette package and in a large Ziploc bag.

He reportedly found a glass pipe with a residue that field tested positive for methamphetamine and a yellow bag that had a crystal-like substance

that field tested positive for methamphetamine for a total of 0.5 grams of methamphetamine.

The suspect was asked if she had any more illegal items in her possession and she allegedly told the deputy that she did not. However, detention deputies reportedly found a small blue container attached to Moseng's belt that contained a green leafy substance that field tested positive for cannabis.

Scenic Highway road closure for construction



COURTESY PHOTO/HIGHLANDS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSION

Scenic Highway (at the intersection of Manatee Drive) will close starting at 7:30 a.m. Monday, March 4 through 5 p.m. Friday, March 15 for a construction project.

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

SEBRING — The Highlands County Road and Bridge Department and the Highlands County Engineering Department will be closing the north 350 feet of Scenic Highway (at the intersection of Manatee Drive) starting at 7:30 a.m. Monday, March 4 through 5 p.m. Friday, March 15.

The road closure is

necessary to construct a portion of the Sebring Parkway Phase 3 project in this area. The road will be closed to through traffic at the intersection of Lake Sebring Boulevard north to Manatee Drive. All traffic from Scenic Highway south of this closure will need to utilize Sebring Parkway for access during this time.

For more information, call the Highlands County Engineering Department at 863-402-6877.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MONDAY

American Legion Post 25 in Lake Placid — Chips ahoj 2 p.m. Horse racing 4 p.m. Music 5-8 p.m. Cafe 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Call 863-465-0975.

American Legion Post 69 in Avon Park — Ship, capt, crew 5-7 p.m. Call 863-453-4553.

American Legion post 74 in Sebring — Bar poker 4:30-6:30 p.m. Call 863-471-1448.

AMVETS Post 21 in Sebring — Dart league 7:30 p.m. Call 863-385-0234.

VFW Post 4300 in Sebring — Happy hour 5-8 p.m. Dart league 7 p.m. Call 863-385-8902.

VFW Post 3880 in Lake Placid — Poker 1:30 p.m. Ship, capt, crew 4:30 p.m. Call 863-699-5444.

VFW Post 9853 in

Avon Park — Call 863-452-9853.

Elks Lodge 2661 in Lake Placid — Euchre 1 p.m. Darts 7:30 p.m. Queen of hearts. Call 863-465-2661.

Elks Lodge 1529 in Sebring — Member bingo 2-4 p.m. Charity bingo 6 p.m. Call 863-471-3557.

Moose Lodge 2494 in Avon Park — Pizza and pitcher \$11. Happy hour 3-6 p.m. Call 863-452-0579.

Moose Lodge 2374 in Lake Placid — Call 863-465-0131.

Moose Lodge 2259 in Sebring — Call 863-655-3920.

Buttonwood Squares — Round dance lessons every Monday in Rec Hall from 3-4:30 p.m.

Sebring Recreation Club — Pinochle 1 p.m. Mini shuffleboard tournament 1:15 p.m. Call 863-385-2966.

Eagles 4240 in Sebring — Call 863-655-4007.

Sebring Bridge Club — Duplicate Bridge is played every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at noon at 347 Fernleaf Ave. in Sebring. There is no cost and public welcome. Call 863-385-8118.

TUESDAY

American Legion Post 25 in Lake Placid — Chips ahoj 4 p.m. Euchre 1 p.m. Bingo 6:30 p.m. Meatloaf 4 p.m. Taxes. Cafe 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Call 863-465-0975.

American Legion Post 69 in Avon Park — Bingo 1 p.m. Bar poker 5 p.m. Call

863-453-4553.

American Legion post 74 in Sebring — Call 863-471-1448.

AMVETS Post 21 in Sebring — Softball 10 a.m. Food 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Euchre 1 p.m. Bar poker 5 p.m. Call 863-385-0234.

VFW Post 4300 in Sebring — Queen of heart 6 p.m. Fish and shrimp 5-6:30 p.m. He Said She Said 5-8 p.m. Call 863-385-8902.

VFW Post 3880 in Lake Placid — Tailgate food 5:30-6:30 p.m. Darts 6:30 p.m. Call 863-699-5444.

VFW Post 9853 in Avon Park — Show me the money 4-6 p.m. Call 863-452-9853.

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Lake Placid Florida
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All sales final. Additional taxes & fees may apply. Please call for any special needs seating requirements.

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SPORTS

• LOCAL • STATE • NATIONAL

Monday, February 25, 2019

SECTION A

LOCAL SPORTS

■ TODAY

LaBelle softball at Lake Placid, 7 p.m.

■ TUESDAY

Okeechobee baseball at Avon Park, 7:30 p.m.

Riverdale softball at Lake Placid, 7 p.m.

Hardee girls tennis at Lake Placid, 4:30 p.m.

Avon Park hosts track meet, 5 p.m.

■ THURSDAY

ASA College softball at South Florida, 4 p.m.

Fort Meade softball at Avon Park, 6 p.m.

Glades Day softball at Lake Placid, 6 p.m.

Sebring hosts track meet, 5 p.m.

Avon Park hosts boys weightlifting, 5 p.m.

Sebring boys tennis at Hardee, 4 p.m.

Hardee girls tennis at Sebring, 4 p.m.

■ FRIDAY

Lake Region baseball at Avon Park, 7:30 p.m.

Lake Wales baseball at Sebring, 7 p.m.

■ SATURDAY:

Kalamazoo baseball at South Florida, 1 p.m.

Lincoln Land softball at South Florida, 1 p.m.

■ SUNDAY:

Lincoln Land baseball at South Florida, 1 p.m.

Tanglewood hosts Winter Classic

Annual pickleball tournament has great turnout



PHOTO BY NEIL SIMPSON

From left, the 3.5 skill level age 50-59 Silver – Susan Yuan, Tanglewood and Lynn Gambrel, Okeechobee, Gold – Susan Price, Highlands Ridge and Mary Smit, Sebring, Bronze – Michelle Murray and Angie Mongelli, Sun n Lake.

By NEIL SIMPSON
SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS
NEWS-SUN

On Friday, the seventh annual Tanglewood Winter Classic got underway with men's and women's 3.0 and 3.5 doubles competition. In pickleball, players are rated from 2.5 — beginner, to 5.0 — expert. Most players are at the 3.0, 3.5 or 4.0 levels.

Although called the “Winter” Classic the players would beg to argue that it felt nothing like winter as the record high temperatures made playing a

challenge with many time outs needed to re-hydrate and to get out of the blazing sun, if only for a minute.

On opening day, players ranged from 26 year old Ben Hawkins, visiting from Fortville, Indiana to 79 year old Darwin Liverance of Tanglewood. Hawkins partnered with Tom Stadler, a 73 year old Tanglewood snowbird, also from Fortville. In doubles play, partners must always compete in the age group of the

PICKLE | 8A

Blue Streaks blank Wildcats



PHOTO BY JIM TAYLOR/CORRESPONDENT

Sebring's Angie Oliveros slides in safely at home plate during Friday night's game against McKeel Academy. The Blue Streaks stayed unbeaten with a 5-0 win over the Wildcats.

Sebring beats McKeel Academy to stay unbeaten



Sebring's Johneisha Rowe steals second base during Friday night's win over McKeel Academy.

By JIM TAYLOR
CORRESPONDENT

SEBRING – A late start did not hamper the Sebring Blue Streaks softball team as they remained perfect on the season by beating the McKeel Wildcats 5-0 on Friday night. The win improved the Blue Streaks to 4-0 on the season.

After a scoreless first inning, Sebring manufactured a run in the bottom of the second to take the lead.

Alyssa Perez led off the inning reaching base after being glanced around the waist by pitch. Perez stole second and advanced to third on a single by Layla Taylor into left field.

Perez scored a few pitches later on a passed ball to put the Blue Streaks up 1-0 after

two innings.

McKeel threatened in the top of the third when Ashlyn Wilkes hammered a triple into deep right field to lead off the inning.

Sebring starting pitcher, Maci Barnhart worked out of the jam when she got the next batter to line out to first base, keeping Wilkes on third. She struck out two of the next three batters to leave Wilkes stranded at third and Sebring still holding a 1-0 lead.

The Blue Streaks broke the game open in the bottom of the frame, scoring four runs on four hits and an error by McKeel.

Angie Oliveros led off the inning with a single into left field and reached second on

STREAKS | 8A

Correction

Lake Placid senior swimmer Kevin Pollard was mistakenly left off the Highlands News-Sun 2018 All-Highlands Boys Swim Team that ran in Sunday's paper.

Pollard was a team captain and helped the Green Dragons win the district championship. “Kevin was a four-year swimmer for us and is a dynamic young man who worked hard for the team and represented our team with strong character and leadership,” said Lake Placid swim coach Tom Creel. “He specialized in backstroke and always gave us his best in whatever he was asked.”

Sonic rules 50s senior softball

By JAMES GUILD

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

Last week at the beautiful Highlands County Sports Complex, Team Sonic/New & Good Used Tires (11-3) won both games to stretch their league lead to 3 games over second place Big Star Dogs (8-6).

On Tuesday, Sonic/N&GUT easily handled AlanJay/Lowes by the score of 18-10. Winning pitcher Francisco Hernandez was outstanding on the mound while aiding his cause with a 4-hit day. Glens Falls, N.Y. newcomer Stan Brownell also smashed 4 hits including a double. Outstanding all around player J. R. Reed hit an inside-the-park home run to go with his 3 hits. Manager Gil Meyers (triple) and Jim Kahn also laced 3 hits each.

Alan Jay was led by shortstop Dan Slot (3 hits, double, triple) and outfielder Carlos Echegoyen (3 hits and outstanding defense).

In the other game, Big Star Dogs lost to New Beginnings Church 13-6. NBC's lineup featured 6 players with 3 hits each, including winning pitcher Dick Mooney, Paul Marcellus (3 runs), Tom McNally (double), Mike Schurer, Bill Scrase, and rookie Matt Decker. Dick Cook had 2 hits and scored 2 runs.

The Dogs offense never got going, as manager Charlie Giordano (3 hits) and Jeff Morra (single, double) were the only bright spots.

On Thursday, Sonic/N&GUT halted New Beginnings Church (6-8) 5-game winning streak with a 14-7 win.

Jim Kahn was tough on the mound, and hit a key 2-run triple and 2 singles. Francisco Hernandez had his second 4-hit game of the week, while J. R. Reed, Stan Brownell, Roger Gasperlin, and Steve Smutnick went 3-4.

NBC's second baseman Dick Cook made 2 outstanding over the shoulder catches, scored 2 runs, and drilled 4 hits. Leadoff hitter Paul Marcellus and cleanup man Mike Schurer had 3 hits each. Chet Johnson (triple), John McCallum, Bill Scrase, Dick Mooney, Matt Decker, and Terry Scott had 2 hits each.

In the other game, Alan Jay/Lowes (3-11) upset Big Star Dogs 15-13. It wasn't Buster Douglas knocking out Mike Tyson, but it was close. The Jays Matt Skjonsby led the way by hitting for the cycle (single, double, triple, home run). Dan Slot also homered and went 3-4, while Carlos Echegoyen (double), Wayne McNett (triple), Dave Smutnick, Frank Lantz, and Earl Register slashed 3 hits each.

The Dogs offense was also effective, but came up a bit short at the end. Dan McPhail (double, triple), Elston Hedges (double), Jeff Morra (double), Mitch Dallen, and Bob Yacubir had 4 hits apiece. Dave Edwards was 3-4.

A new look at our lakes

Bassmaster Elite Series at familiar sites

By KEITH COMBS

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS
NEWS-SUN

The 2019 Bassmaster Elite Series schedule includes several fisheries that we've visited previously. Some of them, like the St. Johns River and the St. Lawrence River, have hosted multiple great events, but even if the conditions of yesteryear repeat themselves that doesn't necessarily mean that they'll fish like they did before.

A big part of fishing professional tournaments is anticipating which areas and

which patterns will receive pressure. You might find the winning school of fish, but if you're sharing them with other anglers they might not even get you a check. During past Elite Series events, there were certain areas where you could expect boats to pile up. Those fish might get you through the first day, but they'd often be weaker on Day 2, and if you depended on them after that they'd usually disappear.

It was amazing to see how often I'd find certain



PHOTO BY B.A.S.S.

Veteran Bassmaster Elite Series angler Keith Combs thinks the 2019 season will offer some exciting action on familiar lakes.

LAKES | 8A

PICKLE

FROM PAGE 7A

younger partner, forcing Stadler to play in the 14 to 49 year old grouping. Hawkins demonstrated the future of pickleball. As the game has grown exponentially in the past decade, it has been seniors who have embraced the sport and become addicted to it. As younger athletes discover the game, with its fast-paced action, they are sure to take to it just as Hawkins has. His athleticism showed as he covered the court at lightning speed, jumping high to make some great shots and darting to the front of the court to make what seemed like impossible returns. The Tanglewood Winter Classic is a source of pride for the Tanglewood Pickleball Club members. Not only did many of them compete in the



PHOTO BY NEIL SIMPSON

Ben Hawkins leaps to make a shot as partner Tom Stadler watches during the Tanglewood Winter Classic.

tournament, no less than 37 volunteered to make the tourney a huge success. Players from Sebring and Avon Park were in the majority but others made the trip from places such as Ocala, Melbourne, Kissimmee, Orlando, Sarasota, Lake Wales and Frostproof. Local men mounting the podium to accept medals at the 3.5 skill level in the age group

listed: 14-49 Silver — Tom Stadler, Tanglewood. 50-59 Gold – Dennis Aldridge and Randy Crawfis, Tanglewood. 60-69 Silver – Joe Doyle, Tanglewood. 70-79 Gold – Bob Kollmeyer, Sun n Lake and Ross Myles, Willow Gate. Bronze – Dan Pillitteri, Tanglewood and Jim Jones, Sun n Lake. Male medal winners in the 3.0 skill level: 60-69 Gold – Dave Smith, Sebring and Tom Mudge, Crystal Lake Club. 70-79 Silver – Bill Lewis & Jerry Griffin. Bronze – Bill Murray, Sun n lake and Dave Linderman, Harder Hall.

Women who won medals in the 3.5 competition on opening day: 50-59 Gold – Susan Price, Highlands Ridge and Mary Smit, Lake Placid. Silver — Susan Yuan, Tanglewood. Bronze – Michelle Murray and Angie Mongelli, Sun n Lake. 60-69 Silver – Tracy Vernest and Sandie March, Tanglewood. Bronze – Kathy Sponholtz and Mary Kloster, Tanglewood. 70-79 Silver – McCullough & Schleis, Tanglewood. Female medal winners at the 3.0 level: 60-69 Silver Barb Smith and Cherie Schroeder, Tanglewood.



PHOTO BY NEIL SIMPSON

Tanglewood's Joyce Boivin goes high as her partner Sophie Stoneman looks on during the Winter Classic.

STREAKS

FROM PAGE 7A

a bunt single by Johnheisha Rowe. The Wildcats committed a throwing error on a bunt attempt by Jacee Turner that allowed Oliveros to round third and score Sebring's second run of the game and Rowe advanced to third. Rowe later scored to give Sebring a 3-0 lead on a single by Jade Sinness into centerfield with Turner reaching third. A ground ball to second base by Perez brought in Turner to make the score



PHOTO BY JIM TAYLOR/CORRESPONDENT

Sebring's Layla Turner gets caught in a rundown during Friday's game against McKeel Academy.

4-0. Sinness capped off the scoring as she crossed the plate on a single by Taylor into right field as the Blue Streaks finished the third inning possessing a 5-0 lead. McKeel pitcher Kaycee Turner settled down after the third inning, holding the Blue Streaks scoreless the next three innings. The only problem was the Wildcats never threatened the Blue Streaks after the third inning as

Barnhart held McKeel to just four hits for the entire game while she struck out 12, earning the 5-0 win for Sebring. Rowe and Taylor led the Blue Streaks with two hits each. Sebring is on the road Tuesday night to play the Okeechobee Brahms. The Blue Streaks will be back at home on Friday night in a Class 6A-District 10 matchup against the Lake Wales Highlanders.

LAKES

FROM PAGE 7A

anglers on the same spots I'd found. There were the offshore guys, and the ones who'd grown up fishing Texas trails – we'd often gravitate to the same stuff while there were others who I never saw after takeoff. It was a factor that I had to account for during practice and then during the tournaments themselves. There's also another kind of history – spots that particular anglers had "claimed" as their own. Maybe they'd won a tournament there or had a high finish, and then they thought that they had the right to keep others out. Or maybe they were the only one who made a long run one year, then got that tactic exposed on television, and the next year they found a lot of boats crowding that area. Are those places "fair game," or do you have a right of first refusal to fish them again? It's a sensitive subject, and the answers aren't always black and white.

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Mental illness

By Dr. SUSAN CRUM, PhD



Dr. Susan Crum, PhD

Highlands County has recently been torn asunder by five murders of innocent citizens and the suicide of a local sheriff. Both events appeared to be senseless. Both, have one significant issue in common: those

who needed mental health services were not identified and treated.

Mental illness and mass shootings

In a study of 185 public mass shootings (defined as an incident in which four or more people are killed at a public location) from 1900 through 2017 criminologist Grant Duwe found that 59 percent were committed by people who had been diagnosed as mentally ill or who showed signs of having a serious mental disorder before the attack.

Mental illness and law enforcement

As for law enforcement, we know that PTSD, alcohol abuse, depression and domestic violence are common among law enforcement officers. We also know that a substantial portion of officers with mental health conditions do not seek mental health services due to concerns about confidentiality of department subsidized mental health services or fear that if they seek services privately they will be stigmatized. Yet, research has clearly shown that mental health treatment for officers improves both their mental health and productivity.

Despite poor utilization of mental-health services, the majority of officers have a primary health-care provider whom they see for a routine health evaluation. Because this contact occurs outside the department, under confidentiality of the patient-provider relationship, and with an established provider, it may provide an ideal opportunity for doctors to refer for mental health services.

At the same time, we may want to consider that just as certain physical standards must be met to join the force, it may be important for offices to have both pre-employment mental health evaluations and regular annual post-employment mental health assessments so that problems can be identified before the escalate to the point of suicide.

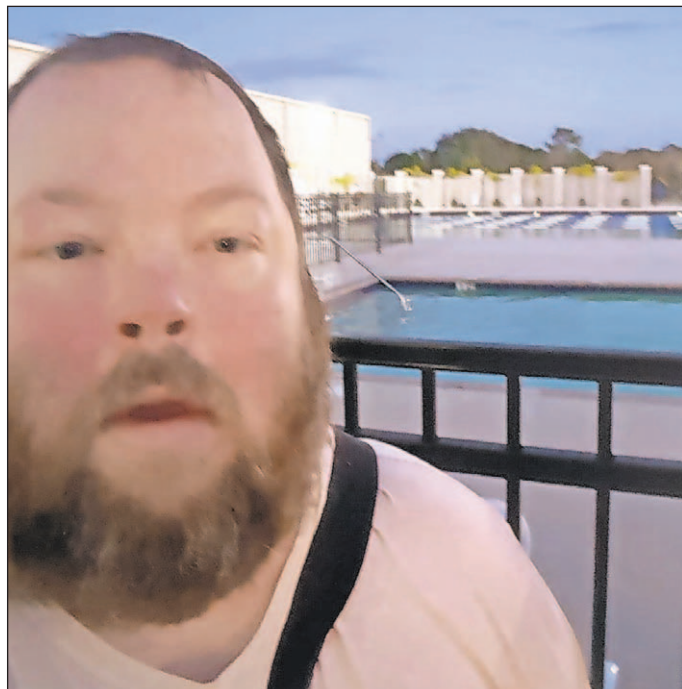
How can we help?

The looming question now is what we can do to prevent or minimize the occurrence of such events. One thing we can do is enforce the I.D.E.A. which is a federal act insuring services to disabled students.

Under the I.D.E.A federal regulation, States must ensure that children with disabilities are eligible for special education services by age three. The Child Find portion of this regulation mandate requires each state to devise a practical method to determine which children need special education services, and to insure that they receive them.

Section 1401 (26) (A) states that children with special needs are entitled to related services: The term "related services" means transportation and such developmental, corrective and other supportive services (including speech-language pathology and audiology services, interpreting services, psychological services, physical and occupational therapy, recreation, including therapeutic

MENTAL | 2B



COURTESY PHOTO

Robert Miller by the pool.

Grateful for the encouragement

By ROBERT MILLER
NEWS CLERK

This week starts week six of the Biggest Loser program through the Highlands County Family YMCA. There have been five weeks of struggles, five weeks of pain and five weeks of stress. But, in between the workouts at the 'Y,' the constant pain and the figuring out what to eat, there have been the wonderful people I've met along the way.

Every time I go to the gym I'm approached by a new

person who recognizes me from this column and wants to share their thoughts with me. Some talk about their own struggles with losing weight, some tell me how this column inspires them and they all give words of encouragement and tell me that they are rooting for me.

As a writer, you want your work to affect people in some way. You want the words to inspire action or to encourage a specific emotion from the reader. The best thing a writer

MILLER | 5B

Home remedy treatments for back pain



MAYO CLINIC PHOTO

A massage can help tense or overworked muscles.



Most acute back pain will get better with a few weeks of home treatment

MAYO CLINIC

Most acute back pain gets better with a few weeks of home treatment. However, everyone is different, and back pain is a complex condition. For many, the pain doesn't go away for a long period, but only a few have persistent, severe pain.

For acute back pain, over-the-counter pain relievers and the periodic use of heat might be all you need. But bed rest is not recommended. Keep moving. Continue your activities as much as you can tolerate. Certainly stop activity that increases pain, but don't avoid activity out of fear of pain. If home treatments aren't working after several weeks, your health care provider might suggest stronger medications or other treatments and therapies.

Medications

Depending on the type of back pain you have, your health care provider might recommend the following:

- Over-the-counter (OTC) pain relievers
- Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), such

as ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin IB, others) or naproxen sodium (Aleve), might relieve acute back pain. Take these medications only as directed by your health care provider. Overuse can cause serious side effects. If OTC pain relievers don't relieve your pain, your health care provider might suggest prescription NSAIDs.

• Muscle relaxants

If mild to moderate back pain doesn't improve with OTC pain relievers, your health care provider might also prescribe a muscle relaxant. Muscle relaxants can make you dizzy and sleepy.

• Topical pain relievers

These are creams, salves or ointments you rub into your skin at the site of your pain.

• Narcotics

Drugs containing opioids, such as oxycodone or hydrocodone, may be used for a short time with close supervision by your health care provider. Opioids don't work well for chronic pain, so your prescription will usually provide less than a week's worth of pills.

PAIN | 5B

Diet drinks may increase strokes

We are so attached to our food and drink that it pains me when I have to take something away from you. But this is an old story for me. I have never ever recommended artificially sweetened sodas or "diet" anything! To me, that whole industry is a multi-billion dollar campaign effort to get you to drink and eat things that aren't, by definition, food anymore. The entire industry depends on the illusion of you thinking



DEAR PHARMACIST
Suzy Cohen

that diet drinks are healthy.

The latest research is frightening. It's based upon data collected over 12 years and suggests that consuming just five diet drinks (sodas, juices,

other) correlates to a much higher risk of stroke and heart disease, and in fact a dramatically higher risk of dying early from any cause. This data was extrapolated from a study on people over the age of 50, who did not have other major health problems. They were essentially well, but after drinking artificially sweetened drinks for 12 years, a lot of them had a stroke!

What's wrong with water? Water does not

come with the risk that one day someone will have to change your adult diapers. Water makes sense, yet some health practitioners recommend "diet" beverages as a way to cut calories, support weight loss or improve health status. Very sad.

The study that I've been referring to is entitled: Artificially Sweetened Beverages and Stroke, Coronary Heart Disease, and All-Cause Mortality in the Women's Health

Initiative.

The study finds your risk for a hemorrhagic stroke is dramatically higher if you drink a lot of diet sodas. No particular brand is the problem, it's the artificial chemicals inside of these drinks. It's egregious that these things are not only allowed to be sold, no less pitched to you as some healthy alternative. So it's really up to you to know better.

The newest research was published in a journal

called Stroke. Over 80,000 women were studied, most between the ages of 55 and 79. Drinking a couple of diet drinks each day (335ml which is the amount in a typical can of soda) increases your risk for stroke by 23 percent compared to women who drink less than one per week.

Every 40 seconds, someone in the US has a stroke. If survived, a stroke

DIET | 5B

MENTAL

FROM PAGE 1B

recreation, social work services, school nurse services designed to enable a child with a disability to receive a free appropriate public education as described in the individualized education program of the child, counseling services, including rehabilitation counseling, orientation and mobility services, and medical services, except that such medical services shall be for diagnostic and evaluation purposes only) as may be required to assist a child with a disability to benefit from special education, and includes the early identification and assessment of disabling conditions in children. The law also entitles parents to parenting training and counseling.

These services are supposed to be provided at school district expense. Because of this, many districts don't fully advise parents of these rights. Other times, they limit access to these services. Often parents end up having to pursue Due Process to obtain services their children need; and unfortunately, as the process may be complicated and intimidating many parents are not equipped to do so.

The end result is that children with mental health needs often do not receive help through the school; which is a first line of defense as many parents can not afford to provide necessary services or may not recognize the need. These children may then grow up untreated and end up committing aggressive acts. One important step we can take is to begin providing our schools to follow IDEA. This may mean financial penalties for districts that do not comply. It may also mean citizens voting for State budgets that provide schools with necessary funds to implement I.D.E.A.

This would enable them to conduct child find activities with all children ages three to eighteen; and to provide counseling, psychological services, parent training and counseling so that problems can be addressed when a child is young and the child and his/her parents can learn effective skills to help their child manage their mental illness. Beyond these measures, which will clearly require policy change and time, parents would be well advised to take their children for annual mental health screenings, just like they take them for annual physicals. Then, they can identify the need for intervention and pursue it as early as possible.

Prevalence of mental illness and the conse-

quences of a lack of treatment early enough

If you think annual mental health screenings are unnecessary, you need to understand the prevalence and consequences of untreated mental illness. According to NAMI Approximately 1 in 5 youth aged 13-18 (21.4 percent) experiences a severe mental disorder at some point during their life. For children aged 8-15, the estimate is 13.3 percent.

Lack of treatment costs America \$193.2 billion in lost earnings each year. Mood disorders such as depression and bipolar disorder are the third most common cause of hospitalization in the US for youth and adults. Over one third of the students with mental illness between he ages of 14 and 21 drop out of school.

Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the US and the second leading cause of deal for people ages 10-34. More than nine percent of those who die by suicide such showed symptoms of a mental illness before committing suicide.

There are many factors that make life in a modern industrialized society stressful; and we have lost many of the social supports that use to help us remain resilient to mental illness. For instance, with both parents working, there is less free time to recharge on weekends as people scramble to clean the house, do laundry, purchase groceries, help with school projects, services their vehicles, mow their lawns and more.

Secondly, with both parents are working, stressed at juggling multiple tasks and over tired, they often find they can't share their issues with their partner for fear of receiving a negative reaction or concern about putting more burden on their partner. In many cases, due to divorce these parents are effectively both single parents; which increases the stress for all concerned.

Moreover, we no longer have those large supportive families with grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins around the neighborhood that we could confide in. Many American's no longer practice a faith, and therefore, do not have access to the mental health benefits of being part of a faith community. As a result, they have fewer social connections, less sense of belonging and confidence in having trustworthy people to turn to.

They also lack the structure, regularity and predictability of rituals and ceremonies that help people cope with difficult situations. Moreover, they may not be exposed to teaching which provide guidelines to live by and encourage compassion,

forgiveness and gratitude; all essential for mental resiliency. Given all these factors, mental health services need to play an progressively important role in helping individuals cope with life and it is increasingly important for us to encourage each other to access such services and to help each other afford mental health care.

Obstacles to mental health care

Unfortunately, while the mental health parity act of 2008 required insurers to offer mental health services, many HMO's and PPO's greatly limit the number and types of services their insured can access. Moreover, some make it harder for those in need to obtain services by requiring that they first see a physician for a referral.

Others, limit access to services through high deductible's and higher mental health copays than medical copays. Still others require so much extra paperwork and offer such low rates of reimbursement to mental health providers, that providers wouldn't accept them. Not surprisingly we have an escalating shortage of mental health providers at the same time that mental health needs are increasing.

There are now a broad range of mental health issues, including the increasing rates of depression, suicide, opiod addictions and dementia, which require long term management; and therefore are not profitable and thus not a desirable service line for many facilities. Private practitioners, meanwhile, struggle for survival in the face of reimbursement rate cuts, restrictive regulations and increasing documentation requirements.

The fact is that almost every American will face a mental health challenge

at some point in their life. According to the CDC 43.1 million adults in the US suffered from a behavioral health issue in 2015. Meanwhile, according to a study in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine the majority of non metropolitan counties almost half do not have a single psychologist. This limited access means that care is a last resort.

This causes a dangerous cycle of mental health problems that disproportionately affect rural communities in America such as Highlands County. This may be why the CDC reports that rural areas have a higher rate of suicide than metropolitan areas and that disparity

has been increasing since 2001.

Let's work together

Given the recent murders in Sebring and the recent suicide of a law enforcement official, our community needs to recognize the importance of mental health services and actively work to make these more accessible.

This means decreasing paper work required by providers so they have more time to provide direct care, pushing insurers to lower deductible and co-payments so patients can afford services, forgiving a portion of the college loans of mental health providers for each year they work in a rural community, advocating for

mental health providers to receive high reimbursements so that more people will enter this field; and finally consistently implementing Child Find, IDEA and implementing annual mental health screenings

I would like to share that I am sorry for the recent loss of life and that I hold the affected families and friends in prayer. If you have been affected by these recent incidents or struggle with mental illness, don't wait, contact a local mental health providers for support. You may reach my office at 863-402-2222.

Susan Crum, Ph.D., QEEG-D, Licensed Psychologist

AdventHealth Medical Group welcomes new surgeon

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

SEBRING — AdventHealth Medical Group Breast Surgery, Ear, Nose and Throat and General Surgery, a hospital department of AdventHealth Sebring, welcomes general surgeon Priya Sharma, MD to its practice. Dr. Sharma specializes in minimally-invasive surgical treatment of diseases of the colon, stomach, bile ducts, pancreas, and bowel. Minimally-invasive surgery is performed with small incisions instead of one large opening, reducing hospital stay duration, recovery time, and patient trauma. She also specializes in laparoscopic hernia repair and endocrine surgery, including thyroid, parathyroid and adrenal



AdventHealth Medical Group Breast Surgery, Ear, Nose and Throat and General Surgery, a hospital department of AdventHealth Sebring, welcomes general surgeon Priya Sharma, MD to our practice.

completed her general surgery residency at the University of Florida in Jacksonville. She completed a fellowship in minimally-invasive and advanced GI surgery at the University of Missouri in Columbia.

She has published articles in academic health journals and presented at National Conferences. Dr. Sharma has also been a physician educator and trainer in a broad range of surgical areas.

Dr. Sharma is welcoming new patients and appointments are available by calling 863-402-3161.

AdventHealth Medical Group Breast Surgery, Ear, Nose and Throat and General Surgery is located at 4301 Sun 'N Lake Boulevard, Suite 102, in Sebring.

procedures. Dr. Sharma is board-certified by the American Board of Surgery and a fellowship-trained general surgeon. She earned her medical degree from The University of The West Indies in Trinidad and

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COURTESY PHOTO

Audrey, Christina, Denise, Linda, Suzanne and Colleen demonstrate unfolding into 'Split Leg Pose.'

Unfolding the body, releasing the mind

By **NANCY DALE**
YOGA FOR LIFE

Yoga is a journey of self-discovery and analysis to perceive what is happening in our body. With eyes closed, go "within" and find tight spots, tension and self-imposed deformities. Yoga begins with "visualization" to discover places of tension in the mind, body and emotions. As we close the eyes, close out the world and descend deep within the mind/body.

"Visualization" awakens self-awareness. Begin deep inhales and exhales. If you feel a tight muscle, ask yourself, "Why is it tight?" Did you pull or overstretch a muscle doing a chore? Did you strain or over extend your capacity doing physical or manual labor? Let's analyze movement and posture.

This visualization is a simple place to start: "Tadasasana" or "Mountain Pose." Keeping the eyes closed, evenly balance your weight through the hips and legs, grounded into the Earth, then visualize how you perform a specific physical task. Are you distributing weight in the body evenly, tightening the core so limbs can flow and twist?

We have to concentrate on our movements when we do physical tasks and also to safely initiate a lengthening Yoga posture such as "Split Leg Pose"

Let's practice: "Unfolding into Split Leg Pose" Calm the mind, calm the body before moving into the posture. Sit with legs wide apart, centered on the "sitting bones" not the spine. (Use a blanket underneath your buttocks to lift it for a deeper forward bend). Slowly extend the arms over each leg and grab an ankle or the toes. Use the grip to pull

forward, keeping the back level and head up.

Gradually, come back to a sitting posture and raise both arms, palms facing each other. Twist to the left and slowly descend the left arm over the left leg ankle or toes and lengthen the right arm on top of the left; rest and hold the pose. Focus on unfolding the spine and relaxing into the posture whether holding an ankle or toes.

Breathe. Next, unfold the body and lift both straight arms back to center, palms facing each other. Twist to the other side, lengthening and unfolding the body down on the right leg.

Hold the pose. This is a simple movement to do gradually, bending forward with legs wide. Let go of the pose by rounding the back and coming back to a sitting position with straight legs drawn together. This movement releases the spine. Visualize the posture as you slowly move into it and release any strain.

Finish by bending the knees and pulling the knees to the chest. Unfold the upper body with arms wrapped around the knees. Hold the posture and breathe.

When you return to a standing posture lift both arms tall facing each other, legs shoulder width apart, then slowly curl or roll the back downward into "Extended Mountain," as the arms and head also curve back in alignment with the spine. Do not let the head hang. Slowly return to a standing position or "Tadasana."

As you move gently and slowly through this posture, do only what your body will allow, at the present time. Movements will gradually flow and open like a beautiful flower. Smile and enjoy the total body release.

The unintended consequences of cotton swabs

By **DR. ANDREA LIVINGSTON**

Have you ever taken the time to read the instructions on a box of cotton swabs? The packaging typically features images of women removing eye make-up, people cleaning hard to reach areas, and kids completing household craft projects. There's even a little warning sign on the packaging: not intended for insertion into the ear canal.

But let's be honest. The most common use for cotton swabs is to remove excess wax in the ear canal. You have probably heard by now that this isn't good for your ears, but do you know why?

Most earwax is actually beneficial to ear functionality. It is a normal, natural protective coating for the sensitive skin of the ear canal. A canal coated with earwax will repel water and help prevent external ear

infections. When the earwax is removed with a cotton swab it leaves the ear vulnerable.

In addition, regularly using cotton swabs to clear earwax will push the wax further back into your ear than it is supposed to go. Not only can this earwax buildup temporarily inhibit your hearing, but the cotton swab itself can damage your ear drum and increase your risk of tinnitus.

To make your ears feel clean and fresh without risking damage, purchase ear drops at your local pharmacy to rinse out internal buildup. For external buildup, a warm washcloth or a tissue can be effective tools. If these measures still seem insufficient, consider scheduling an appointment with an audiologist to discuss long-term strategies for keeping you, and your ears, healthy.

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Your hearing and your relationship

Hearing loss can be hard on a individual. It can put a strain on your relationships with those who you are closest. Hearing aids can help to improve your relationships and thus, your life. In the USA there are over 20 million Americans whose life would be improved with hearing aids. Only about 16 percent of those people will actually use them. Having a hearing loss can really put a strain on you and your significant other.

The good news is, when you treat the hearing loss, your relationship can improve. Over 4,000 people with hearing loss participated in a survey put out by the Hear-The-World Foundation in 2018 and found that 81 percent reported that they were happy that their partner had took



HEARING MATTERS
Roseann Kiefer

the steps to correct their hearing loss. Over 70 percent reported that hearing aids had a positive impact on their relationships.

Over a third of all participants believed that the relationship that took the hardest "hit" was the one with their spouse or significant other. This extra strain is something that can be remedied. According to a British study, 69 percent of participants revealed that their hearing loss stopped

them from enjoying normal, everyday conversations with family and friends. Almost 40 percent admitted to losing touch with friends and family due to the inability to converse or use the phone without stress. It was easier to "let them go ...". A whopping 44 percent said that their closest relationships with their spouse, significant other, family or friends suffered simply due to the fact that they can not hear properly. So, what can you do? What can hearing aids do to improve your relationship with those most important people in your life?

Simply put, hearing aids improve your ability to hear and understand. When you wear hearing aids, your communication with others improve. Being able

to discuss ideas and needs are important. Enjoying the present and at the same time being able to plan the future with intimate details, build, sustain, and continue to grow the bond between two people. Hearing loss slowly eats away at this bond.

Hearing aids can provide increased independence for both parties. When someone has a hearing loss then they depend on their partner more and more. Relationships should be about sharing and supporting each other, but we all have the need for a little independence. So an untreated hearing loss reduces both parties independence level. The hearing loss can cause self doubt and withdrawal from social situations. Often this

"withdrawal" will cause both in the relationship to avoid places, which in turn may cause hidden resentment from the person with good hearing.

Wearing hearing aids can also reduce the amount of arguments that you are having. How many times have you gotten into an argument because you answered something "totally" wrong? Maybe those in your life are just sick and tired of the TV being too loud. Too many arguments can eat away at even the best relationships. Hearing loss is a medical condition that both people in the relationship must deal with.

Hearing aids will help your relationship further by allowing you to enjoy more shared activities. Hearing aids today are computers

that analyze your daily activities and instantaneously make corrections to help you hear and understand in noisy environments. They will help you enjoy your life and your relationship more.

When a couple is more socially and physically active then a hidden benefit is increased intimacy. The better that a couple can communicate and connect the better for their relationship. Being able to hear that "whisper" in your ear should be important to you, because it is to the one whispering to you.

Help yourself to an easier, more fulfilling life for you and your relationship. If you are over the age of 50 then it is time for a complete hearing evaluation. Call and schedule yours today. To Hear Better Is To Live Better!



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HEALTHY LIFESTYLE



Oscars may be 'hostless' but it isn't short on entertainment

See page 3



Push for Venezuela military to defect continues

Activists failed to deliver aid after violent clashes left two people dead and some 300 injured

By **JOSHUA GOODMAN** and **CHRISTINE ARMARIO**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CUCUTA, Colombia — Opposition leader Juan Guaido has called on the international community to consider “all options” to resolve Venezuela’s crisis, a dramatic escalation in rhetoric that echoes comments from the Trump administration hinting at potential

U.S. military involvement. Guaido’s comments late Saturday came after a tumultuous day that saw President Nicolas Maduro’s forces fire tear gas and buckshot on activists trying to deliver humanitarian aid in violent clashes that left two people dead and some 300 injured.

For weeks, the U.S. and regional allies had been amassing emergency food and medical

kits on Venezuela’s borders in anticipation of carrying out a “humanitarian avalanche” by land and sea to undermine Maduro’s rule.

With activists failing to penetrate government blockades and deliver the aid, Guaido announced late Saturday that he would escalate his appeal to the international community — beginning with a meeting Monday in Colombia’s capital

with U.S. Vice President Mike Pence on the sidelines of an emergency summit of leaders of the so-called Lima Group to discuss Venezuela’s crisis.

He said he would urge the international community to keep “all options open” in the fight to restore Venezuela’s democracy, using identical language to that of President Donald Trump, who in his public statements has repeatedly refused to rule out force and reportedly even secretly pressed aides as early as 2017 about the possibility of a military incursion.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo has also stepped up the

belligerent rhetoric, saying on CNN’s “State of the Union” on Sunday that Maduro’s “days are numbered.”

A close Guaido ally, Julio Borges, the exiled leader of congress who is Guaido’s ambassador to the Lima Group, was even more explicit in urging a military option. “We are going to demand an escalation of diplomatic pressure ... and the use of force against Nicolas Maduro’s dictatorship,” he said Sunday.

It’s a prospect that analysts warn risks fracturing a

VENEZUELA | 4

Could women be drafted?



After men-only military draft ruled unconstitutional, change could be coming

By **PAULINE REPARD**
THE SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE

A federal judge has ruled that a men-only military draft is unconstitutional, but he stopped short of ordering the Selective Service System to register women.

The Houston judge sided with a San Diego men’s advocacy group that challenged the government’s practice of having only men sign up for the draft,

citing sex discrimination in violation of the Fifth Amendment’s equal protection clause.

“This case balances on the tension between the constitutionally enshrined power of Congress to raise armies and the constitutional mandate that no person be denied the equal protection of the law,” wrote U.S. District Judge Gray Miller of the Southern District of Texas.

The lawsuit was filed in 2013 against the Selective Service System by Texas resident James Lesmeister, who later added San Diego resident Anthony Davis and the San Diego-based National Coalition for Men as additional plaintiffs.

The two men had standing to sue the government because they were within the age range of 18 to 26 in which men in the United States are required



SHUTTERSTOCK PHOTOS

to register with Selective Service.

“Forcing only males to register is an aspect of socially institutionalized male disposability and helps reinforce the stereotypes that support discrimination against men in other areas” such as divorce, child custody and domestic violence

DRAFT | 4

Dem. Schiff says he’ll subpoena Mueller report if administration won’t release it

By **LAURA KING**
LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON — Congressional Democrats will “obviously” take whatever steps are necessary to make public the findings of special counsel Robert Mueller, including subpoenaing his final report, calling him to testify and taking the Trump administration to court, Rep. Adam Schiff said Sunday.

Schiff, the California Democrat who is chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, said on ABC’s “This Week” that “we are going to get to the bottom of this.” He was referring to Mueller’s nearly two-year investigation of Russia’s 2016 election interference and links to President Donald Trump’s campaign and administration — and whether the president obstructed justice in the investigation.

Schiff’s comments reflected many Democrats’ concerns that Trump’s new attorney general, William Barr, will keep Mueller’s findings mostly private.

Other developments are casting a cloud over Trump’s planned summit this week in Hanoi with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un. Trump’s former legal fixer, Michael Cohen, is to testify before three congressional committees, and a Mueller sentencing memo late Friday excoriated the president’s former campaign chairman Paul Manafort for “brazen” criminality.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said Cohen’s testimony would not be a distraction to Trump during the meeting with Kim, the two leaders’ second summit.

“Congress has its own authority,” Pompeo said on “Fox News Sunday.”

MUELLER | 4

Pope vows to end abuse cover-ups but victims disappointed

Summit ends with no clear plan for how to stop abuse

By **NICOLE WINFIELD**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

VATICAN CITY — Pope Francis closed out his extraordinary summit on preventing clergy sex abuse by vowing Sunday to confront abusers with “the wrath of God” felt by the faithful, end the cover-ups by their superiors and prioritize the victims of this “brazen, aggressive and destructive evil.”

But his failure to offer a concrete action plan to

hold bishops accountable when they failed to protect their flocks from predators disappointed survivors, who had expected more from the first-ever global Catholic summit of its kind.

Francis delivered his remarks at the end of Mass before 190 Catholic bishops and religious superiors who were summoned to Rome after more abuse scandals sparked a credibility crisis in the Catholic hierarchy and in Francis’ own leadership.

“Brothers and sisters, today we find ourselves before a manifestation of brazen, aggressive and destructive evil,” the pope said.

In a sign of new measures being taken, the Vatican announced that it would soon issue a new law creating a child protection policy for Vatican City State that covers the Holy See bureaucracy.

The Associated Press reported last year that the



AP PHOTO

ABUSE | 4 Sex abuse survivors and members of ECA (Ending Clergy Abuse), show banners in front of St. Peter’s Square at the Vatican as they meet reporters, Sunday.

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Congress mulls cap on cost of Medicare drugs

High-cost medication may shift to insurers

By RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — With health care a top issue for American voters, Congress may actually be moving toward doing something this year to address the high cost of prescription drugs. President Donald Trump, Democrats trying to retire him in 2020, and congressional incumbents of both parties all say they want action. Democrats and Republicans are far apart on whether to empower Medicare to negotiate prices, but there's enough overlap to allow for agreement in other areas.

High on the list is capping out-of-pocket costs for participants in Medicare's popular Part D prescription drug program , which has a loophole that's left some beneficiaries with bills rivaling a mortgage payment.

The effort to cap out-of-pocket costs in Medicare's prescription plan is being considered as part of broader legislation to restrain drug prices.

Limits on high medical and drug bills are already part of most employer-based and private insurance. They're called "out-of-pocket maximums" and are required under the Obama-era health law for in-network services. But Medicare has remained an outlier even as prices have soared for potent new brand-name drugs, as well as older mainstays such as insulin.

"The issue has my attention,"

said Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, which oversees Medicare. "Out-of-pocket costs are a concern of ours, particularly at the catastrophic level." His committee has summoned CEOs from seven pharmaceutical companies to a hearing Tuesday.

While Grassley said he hasn't settled on a specific approach, the committee's top Democrat, Oregon Sen. Ron Wyden, recently introduced legislation that would cap out-of-pocket costs at about \$2,650 for Medicare beneficiaries taking brand-name drugs. One co-sponsor is Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar, a Democratic presidential candidate.

In Des Moines, Iowa, retired special education teacher Gail Orcutt is battling advanced lung cancer due to radon exposure. Although she has Medicare prescription coverage, she paid \$2,600 in January for her cancer medication and will pay about \$750 monthly for the rest of the year. She said it cost more last year for a different drug — \$3,200 initially and then about \$820 monthly.

Someday her current drug may stop working, said Orcutt, and then she'd have to go on a different medication. "What if that is two or three times what I'm paying now?" she said. "It's not sustainable. The country needs more problem-solving for the common good and not the corporate bottom line."

At a recent House Ways and

Means Committee hearing, three expert witnesses with varied policy views concurred on limiting drug costs for Medicare beneficiaries. "This is still the only program that does not provide that protection to its beneficiaries," testified economist Joe Antos of the business-oriented American Enterprise Institute. The House committee also oversees Medicare.

Before the hearing, the committee's chairman and top Republican released a joint statement unusual in polarized times: "We agree that the time is now to take meaningful action to lower the cost of prescription drugs in the U.S. health care system," said Reps. Richard Neal, D-Mass., and Kevin Brady, R-Texas.

John Rother of the National Coalition on Health Care is a longtime participant in national health care debates, and his organization represents a cross-section of interest groups. "There is a common recognition of a problem, and also a sense that they want to move something this year," he said.

At issue is the Medicare prescription benefit's "catastrophic" protection. Experts say it was intended as a safeguard but isn't working that way, either for beneficiaries or taxpayers.

Catastrophic protection was enacted before the advent of drugs costing \$1,000 a pill. It kicks in after beneficiaries have spent about \$5,100 on medications, under a complex formula.



AP PHOTO

Retired public school teacher Gail Orcutt, pays \$2,600 the first month of the year, and then \$750 every other month for a lung cancer medication.

After that, the beneficiary is only responsible for 5 percent of the cost of the medication, and taxpayers' share rises to 80 percent. The patient's insurer covers the remaining 15 percent.

The problem for beneficiaries is that there's no dollar limit to what they must pay. For example, 5 percent of a drug that costs \$200,000 a year works out to \$10,000.

Numerous experts also say there's a problem for taxpayers.

Generally, the Medicare prescription benefit is financed with a mix of government subsidies and beneficiary premiums. But in the catastrophic portion, most of the bill is passed directly to taxpayers. That neutralizes the incentive for insurers to negotiate lower prices with

drugmakers. Catastrophic is the fastest growing cost for Medicare's Part D.

The administration has supported an approach recommended by experts that would shift most of the responsibility for high-cost medications onto insurers, while capping what beneficiaries must pay. That would force insurers to seek lower prices. But it may well raise premiums.

About 3.6 million Medicare beneficiaries with Part D coverage — or 9 percent — had "catastrophic" costs in 2015, according to the nonpartisan Kaiser Family Foundation. Of those, about 1 million had to pay their share in full because they didn't qualify for financial assistance provided to low-income beneficiaries.

Hijacking foiled on Bangladesh-Dubai flight

Suspect killed in a shootout after emergency landing

By JULHAS ALAM
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DHAKA, Bangladesh — A flight bound for Dubai from Bangladesh's capital, Dhaka, made an emergency landing Sunday in Chittagong, Bangladesh, after a man attempted to hijack the plane, officials said.

The Bangladeshi suspect asked to speak to the

country's prime minister before dying from injuries in an exchange of gunfire with military commandos, officials said.

The flight, operated by state-run Biman Bangladesh Airlines, took off from Dhaka at 4:35 p.m. for the trip to Dubai via Chittagong.

The pilot made the emergency landing in Chittagong about 40

minutes later, after a crew member reported "suspicious behavior" by the man, said Rezaul Karim, an official with the Bangladeshi military's inter-service public affairs office.

All 143 passengers and seven crew members aboard the Boeing 737-800 were safely evacuated, Air Vice Marshal Mofidur Rahman said at a

news conference broadcast live on Somoy TV.

The commandos fired at the suspect after he shot at them when they asked him to surrender, army Maj. Gen. Motiur Rahman told reporters, according to ATN TV news. He said that the suspect was carrying a pistol, but did not say where the shooting took place.

The army official said the suspect, whose name has not been released, asked to speak to his wife and to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The suspect died before reaching the hospital, he said.

The suspect appeared to be "mentally imbalanced," said Air Vice Marshal M. Naim Hassan, chairman of the Civil Aviation Authority. "I am saying this because of his behavior. He wanted

to talk to the prime minister."

Before the suspect was pronounced dead, Rahman, had described him as a "terrorist" and said that he had been arrested and was being questioned.

Bangladeshi soldiers could be seen during the live TV broadcast taking positions inside Shah Amanat International Airport in Chittagong, 156 miles southeast of Dhaka.

Kudlow working to end tariffs as Canada balks on trade deal

By GREG QUINN
BLOOMBERG NEWS

OTTAWA, Ontario — White House economic adviser Larry Kudlow said he's working to remove U.S. tariffs on steel and aluminum imports from Canada and Mexico after a Canadian minister signaled that his government may not ratify a new North American trade agreement if the duties remain.

Kudlow made the comments on a panel at the National Governors Association's winter meeting in Washington Sunday. He spoke after Marc Garneau, Canada's

transport minister, said "I don't know if we are going to get there" in approving the deal if the tariffs aren't removed.

The duties are no longer needed now that the two countries and Mexico have agreed on the new U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement, Garneau said. Kudlow also suggested that U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer was working toward having the tariffs removed.

"Ambassador Lighthizer and his group, we are working on that, we are hard at work on that, to solve that issue," Kudlow said of the metals tariffs

after Garneau spoke. Earlier in the panel discussion, Kudlow said the new three-nation agreement was "very strong" and that Trump taught him that tariffs can be a good negotiating tactic to break down trade barriers.

Canada retaliated dollar-for-dollar against U.S. tariffs last year, and Garneau's comments Sunday were some of the sharpest about the dispute as Prime Minister Justin Trudeau leads his government toward an October election. Garneau said that while political energy may shift to other issues in coming months, the tariffs alone are a

major stumbling block to ratification.

"Those tariffs are an unnecessary tax which is weighing down on both countries," Garneau said. He also said the original U.S. reason for tariffs on national security grounds was never justified.

"This will present us with real challenges as we begin the process of ratification in Canada — I don't know if we are going to get there," Garneau said.

Canada would quickly drop its metals tariffs and ratify the agreement in response to a U.S. move, Garneau said. "We want to go ahead and do it because this is very good

for both of our countries," Garneau said of ratifying the trade agreement.

Garneau appealed to the governors in the audience to push the Trump administration to drop the tariffs, noting that Canada is the top export market for many U.S. states. The U.S. also has a \$2 billion surplus in steel trade with Canada, and the bilateral deficit on aluminum is because America needs more of that metal than it can produce, Garneau said.

Mexican officials have also called for the metal tariffs to be removed, and a coalition of business, agricultural and trade

groups, including the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, wrote a letter in January asking the same of Lighthizer and Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross.

Kudlow said the new trade agreement was a "template" for other deals and would bring \$62 billion in auto investment to the U.S. Such agreements are better than broad, multilateral trade pacts that sink to the "lowest common denominator," Kudlow said.

Passing the trade deal would also be helpful as a "show of unity" by North America against other trade competitors like China, he said.

HEADLINES AROUND THE STATE

Lawsuits likely when Keys stop issuing new building permits

MIAMI (AP) — The Florida Keys will likely face a deluge of lawsuits when it stops issuing new building permits in 2023.

The decades-old mandate was aimed at controlling development in the environmentally sensitive island chain and to ensure that tourists and residents could quickly evacuate during a hurricane.

But Monroe County has 6,000 and 10,000 undeveloped lots. The Miami Herald reports that property owners are likely to sue the state when they either can't build what they want or don't receive what they consider fair compensation from the state.

A bill was filed in the

Legislature this week that would make counties and municipalities equally as liable as the state if the property owners win.

Suspect hops on elderly driver's lap, tries to steal car

DAYTONA BEACH (AP) — Authorities say a Florida woman trying to steal a car jumped onto the lap of a 70-year-old woman and tried to drive away.

Daytona Beach Police say the victim was pulling out of a grocery store parking lot Friday when the unidentified suspect opened the driver's side door and hopped in. According to the arrest report, the suspect struck the victim several times as she tried to gain control of the vehicle, but the driver fought back.

The elderly driver crashed into another vehicle in the parking lot during the struggle.

The Daytona Beach News-Journal reports the suspect was captured a few blocks away. She was charged with carjacking.

Man charged in hit and run that killed unborn baby

HAINES CITY (AP) — A man has been charged in a hit and run crash in Florida that led to the death of an unborn baby.

Polk County Sheriff's officials say 48-year-old Bionel Cervin-Gomez fled from a three-vehicle crash he caused in Davenport. An eight-month pregnant woman's unborn son was killed in the crash.

A tipster helped authorities track him down at his hiding

spot in Haines City. He was arrested Saturday and charged with for leaving the scene of a crash with great bodily injury or death and driving without a license causing death or great bodily injury. He is being held without bond.

The Lakeland Ledger reports Cervin-Gomez is in the U.S. illegally and was previously deported to Mexico in 2000.

Man charged after grandma dies; bed filled with maggots

MELBOURNE (AP) — A Florida man has been charged after his 87-year-old grandmother died and authorities say her bed was filled with live maggots.

Brevard County Sheriff's deputies say Allen Arias brought

an unresponsive Anita Arias to the hospital last month. The woman was covered in bed sores and some were infested with maggots.

A search warrant of the home revealed frozen dinners and dirty diapers stacked up and blood and feces stains on the bed and walls. Authorities said they also found full prescription bottles for Anita Arias who suffered from dementia. Authorities said she was in fair health when Allen Arias brought her home from a rehabilitation center in December.

An autopsy showed she died of dehydration and emaciation and that her blood sugar was as high as could be measured.

Florida Today reports Arias was charged Thursday with aggravated manslaughter of an elderly person.

'Black Panther' takes 2 awards, King wins

By **JAKE COYLE**
AP FILM WRITER

LOS ANGELES — “Black Panther,” which is aiming to become the first superhero film to win best picture, won two awards early at 91st Academy Awards for the lush, big-budget craft of Ryan Coogler’s Marvel epic.

“Black Panther” won for Ruth Carter’s costume design and Hannah Beachler’s production design at Sunday’s Oscars at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles. Beachler had been the first African-American to ever be nominated in the category. In a teary acceptance speech, she thanked Coogler for his faith and support.

Carter, a veteran costume designer, also won her first Academy Award following two previous nominations.

“Wow. Wow,” Carter said. “I got this. This has been a longtime coming.”

Queen launched Sunday’s Oscars with a medley of hits that gave the hostless awards a distinctly Grammy-like flavor as Hollywood’s most prestigious ceremony sought to prove that it’s still “champion of the world” after last year’s record-low ratings.

Singer Adam Lambert, who has been touring with the band, replaced the late Freddie Mercury, the subject

of the best-picture nominee “Bohemian Rhapsody.” Though the opening number was known, the feel of an Oscars without a host for only the second time in decades had been a mystery.

Following Queen, the motion picture academy ran of montage of the year’s movies before Tina Fey — alongside Amy Poehler and Maya Rudolph — welcomed the Dolby Theatre audience to “the one-millionth Academy Awards.” The trio ran through the kind of jokes, they said, they would have said if they were, in fact, hosting.

Rudolph summarized the situation: “There is no host, there won’t be a popular movie category and Mexico is not paying for the wall.”

They then presented best supporting actress to Regina King for her pained matriarch in Barry Jenkins’ James Baldwin adaptation “If Beale Street Could Talk.” The crowd gave King a standing ovation for her first Oscar.

“To be standing here representing one of the greatest artist of our time, James Baldwin, is a little surreal,” said King. “James Baldwin birthed this baby.”

The night’s co-lead nominee, “Roma,” won best cinematography for Alfonso Cuaron, who also wrote and directed his personal black-and-white epic based on his Mexican



PHOTOS BY INVISION/AP

Regina King accepts the award for best performance by an actress in a supporting role for “If Beale Street Could Talk” at the Oscars on Sunday.

childhood. Cuaron became the first director to ever win for serving as his own director of photography. He thanked his regular cinematographer, the much-honored Emmanuel “Chivo” Lubezki.

Best documentary went to Elizabeth Chai Vasarhelyi and Jimmy Chin’s “Free Solo,” which chronicles rock climber Alex Honnold’s famed, free solo ascent of Yosemite’s El Capitan, a 3,000-foot wall of sheer granite, without ropes or climbing equipment. “Free Solo” was among a handful of hugely successful documentaries last year including the nominated Ruth Bader Ginsberg documentary “RBG” and the snubbed Fred Rogers doc “Won’t You Be My Neighbor.”

Adam McKay’s Dick Cheney biopic “Vice” won makeup and hairstyling for its extensive physical transformations. The category was one of the four that the academy initially planned to present during a commercial break and as its winners — Greg Cannom, Kate Biscoe and Patricia Dehaney — dragged on in a litany of thank-yous, they were the first to have their microphone cut off.

The run-up to this year’s Academy Awards was a series of missteps and backtracks by the Academy of Motion Picture

Arts and Sciences. A new best “popular film” category was in, and then it was out. Kevin Hart was host and then he wasn’t. Some categories were removed from the live broadcast, and then they were back.

But if the script this Oscar season has been constantly rewritten, the film academy is hoping for a Hollywood ending (and much better ratings than the all-time low viewership last year.)

After some unlikely Los Angeles weather — it snowed in parts of the city on Thursday — sunny skies greeted red carpet arrivals. “BlackKkKlansman” director Spike Lee arrived to some of the biggest applause of the afternoon.

Glenn Close, wearing a gold-draped dress that she said weighed more than 40 pounds, said she was worried all day that she won’t be able to stop crying.

In the academy’s favor is a popular crop of nominees: “Bohemian Rhapsody,” “A Star Is Born” and, most of all, “Black Panther” have all amassed huge sums in ticket sales.

But just how many people have seen one of the top nominees and the film favored to win best picture — Alfonso Cuaron’s “Roma” — remains unknown. Netflix has declined to give box-office results or steaming

viewership. It remains a nominee unlike any other. Should “Roma” — a black-and-white, Spanish and Mixtec language film about a domestic worker in a Mexican family — win, it will be both the first Netflix movie to win best picture and the first foreign language film to do so.

Yet this year’s race has been maddeningly unpredictable, with the usual predictive awards being spread across contenders such as Peter Farrelly’s “Green Book,” a divisive period dramedy about a black pianist (Mahershala Ali) and his white chauffeur (Viggo Mortensen); the royal romp “The Favourite”; and “Black Panther,” which could become the first superhero film ever to win Hollywood’s top award.

Other milestones are possible, too. Though Cuaron is favored for best director, a win for Lee (“BlackKkKlansman”) would make him the first black filmmaker to ever win the award. Lee and his fellow screenwriters are also up for best screenplay, which would give the 61-year-old Lee his first competitive Oscar.

Many also expect Close to finally win one. She’s the front-runner for best actress for her performance in “The Wife,” a film about the overlooked and under-honored spouse of an acclaimed novelist.



Adam Lambert, right, and Brian May of Queen acknowledge the audience after a performance at the Oscars on Sunday.



Could This Get Rid of *Knee Pain Once And For All...* Without Drugs, Shots, or Surgery?

**Call TODAY for Special Offer,
First 25 callers! 941-629-6700**

Now, in Port Charlotte, FL, one doctor is helping local residents with knee pain live more active, pain-free lives.

Do You Have Any of the Following Conditions?

- Arthritis
- Knee pain
- Cartilage damage
- Bone-on-bone
- Tendonitis
- Bursitis
- Crunching & popping sounds

Living with knee pain can feel like a crippling experience. Let’s face it, your knees aren’t as young as they used to be. Playing with the kids or grandkids isn’t any easier, either. Maybe your knee pain keeps you from walking short distances or playing golf like you used to.

Nothing’s worse than feeling great mentally, but physically feeling held back from life because your knee hurts and the pain just won’t go away!

My name is Dr. Laura Korman, owner of Korman Relief & Wellness Center. Since we opened, we’ve seen hundreds of people with knee problems leave the office pain-free.

If you’re suffering from these conditions, a new breakthrough in medical technology may completely eliminate your pain and help restore normal function to your knees.

Finally, An Option Other Than Drugs or Surgery

Deep Tissue Laser Therapy is an outpatient, non-surgical procedure, often used in physical therapy and sports medicine to accelerate the healing process. It offers non-invasive treatment to promote healing for those who suffer from pain in muscles, nerves, and joints, like that associated with chronic knee pain. This same laser is used by professional sports teams including the New York Yankees and Cincinnati Bengals.

It Promotes Rapid Healing Of The Injured Tissues

This pain-free, non-surgical approach works by stimulating the body’s natural healing processes, pro-



Normal Knee Joint

Damaged Knee Joints

Remember what it was like before you had knee problems; when you were pain-free and could enjoy everything life had to offer? It can be that way again. Don’t neglect your problem any longer – don’t wait until it’s too late.

Here’s what to do now:

Due to the expected demand for this special offer, I urge you to call our office at once. The phone number is 941-629-6700.

Call today and we can get started with your consultation and exam as soon as there’s an opening in the schedule. Tell the receptionist you’d like to come in for the Knee Evaluation.

Our office is called Korman Relief & Wellness Center and we are located at 16954 Toledo Blade Blvd. in Port Charlotte, FL.

**Yours in Good Health,
Dr. Laura Korman D.C., D.A.C.B.N.**

P.S. Now you might be wondering...

“Is this safe? Are there any side effects or dangers to this?”

The FDA cleared the first Laser Therapy in 2002. This was after their study found 76% improvement in patients with pain. Their only warning – don’t shine it in your eyes. Of course at our office, the laser is never anywhere near your eyes and we’ll give you a comfortable pair of goggles for safety. Don’t wait and let your knee problems get worse, disabling you for life. Take me up on my offer and call today, 941-629-6700.

**\$47 CONSULT, EXAM,
NECESSARY X-RAYS
AND ONE DEEP TISSUE LASER TREATMENT
(\$390 VALUE)**

Korman Relief & Wellness Center / 16954 Toledo Blade Blvd., Port Charlotte, FL

Call 941-629-6700 AVAILABLE TO THE FIRST 25 CALLERS

THE PATIENT AND ANY OTHER PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYMENT HAS A RIGHT TO REFUSE TO PAY, CANCEL PAYMENT, OR BE REIMBURSED FOR PAYMENT FOR OTHER SERVICE, EXAMINATION, OR TREATMENT THAT IS PERFORMED AS A RESULT OF AND WITHIN 72 HOURS OF RESPONDING TO ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE FREE, DISCOUNTED FEE, REDUCED FEE SERVICE, EXAMINATION OR TREATMENT.

1 death as violent storms smack the South

COLUMBUS, Miss. (AP) — Weekend storms raked parts of the Southeast, leaving deaths and injuries in their wake as a tornado smashed into a commercial district in a small Mississippi city and drenching rains fed a rising flood threat.

A woman was killed when a tornado hit Columbus, Mississippi, and a man died when he drove into floodwaters in Tennessee, officials said.

Columbus Mayor Robert Smith Sr. said 41-year-old Ashley Glynell Pounds of Tupelo and her husband were renovating a house Saturday evening, and when the husband went to get them something to eat, the building collapsed in the storm and killed her.

Smith said 12 other people were injured, but the injuries did not appear to be major. City spokesman Joe Dillon said the tornado also seriously damaged a school and two community center buildings.

In Knox County,

Tennessee, officials said a man died after his vehicle became submerged in high water.

Saturday afternoon's tornado in Columbus was confirmed on radar, said meteorologist Anna Wolverton with the National Weather Service in Jackson. She told The Associated Press that experts were dispatched Sunday to the east Mississippi city of about 23,000 people to gauge the tornado's intensity. Officials said a second, smaller twister damaged a mobile home and a shed and snapped trees in a small community in the region that same afternoon as severe storms rolled through.

Residents of one street on the east side of Columbus were out early Sunday morning with chain saws, clearing away branches of the many trees that had snapped or were uprooted in the storm. Metal siding and roofing materials were scattered throughout the neighborhood of older



AP PHOTO

A child plays around the podium that was virtually undamaged or moved in the tornado that destroyed First Pentecostal Church in Columbus, Miss., Sunday morning.

homes. While the houses generally remained standing, sheds and outbuildings were mostly demolished.

Elsewhere around the South, homes, highways, parks and bridges were flooded or put out of commission amid the heavy rains and severe storms.

News outlets report that water rescues have

been performed in some Middle Tennessee counties.

Interstate 40 near the Tennessee line with North Carolina was closed by a rockslide, one of the dozens of roads and highways shut down throughout the region, transportation officials said.

In West Virginia, authorities have evacuated

11 families in the southern part of the state after low-lying areas flooded from heavy rains.

In Bruce, Mississippi, rivers broke flood stage and flash floods poured into homes and businesses. News outlets report that officials in Grenada, Mississippi, declared a local state of emergency after dozens of streets and homes flooded.

VENEZUELA

FROM PAGE 1

hard-won coalition of Latin American nations who've come together to pressure Maduro's socialist government. Most Latin American governments, even conservative ones like those in neighboring Colombia and Brazil, are on the record opposing a military solution and would face huge dissent should they back any military action led by the U.S., whose interventions in the region during the Cold War remain an open wound.

"These governments know they would face a huge tide of internal opinion greatly offended by a US-led invasion

for historical and political reasons," said Ivan Briscoe, the Latin America director for the Crisis Group, a Belgium-based think tank.

At the same time, though polls show Venezuelans overwhelmingly want Maduro to resign, almost an equal number reject the possibility of a foreign invasion to resolve the political impasse.

Resting at the foot of the Simon Bolivar bridge as work crews in Colombia began removing debris left by the unrest, Claudia Aguilar said she would support a military invasion but worries it would lead to more bloodshed.

The 29-year-old pregnant mother of three said she crossed illegally into

Colombia on Sunday to buy a bag of rice and pasta for her family after Maduro ordered a partial closure of the border two days earlier.

"We're with fear, dear God, of what will happen," she said standing near the dirt trail she took to sneak across the border. "More blood, more deaths. The president of Venezuela does whatever he wants."

In addition to weakening multilateral pressure against Maduro, analysts say the opposition saber rattling also risks undermining Guaido's goal of peeling off support from the military, the country's crucial powerbroker.

The 35-year-old Guaido has won the backing of more than 50 governments around the world

since declaring himself interim president at a rally in January, arguing that Maduro's re-election last year was illegitimate because some popular opposition candidates were barred from running.

But he's so far been unable to cause a major rift inside the military, despite repeated appeals and the offer of amnesty to those joining the opposition's fight for power.

"How many of you national guardsmen have a sick mother? How many have kids in school without food," he implored Saturday night, standing next to a warehouse where 600 tons of food and medicine have been stockpiled on the Colombian border.

Maduro has deftly

courted support from the military since becoming president in 2013, offering top commanders key posts in his cabinet, including the presidency of state-run oil giant PDVSA, the source of virtually all of Venezuela's dollar earnings.

More than 100 members of the security forces, most of them lower-rank soldiers, deserted and took refuge inside Colombia during Saturday's unrest, according to migration officials. But none of them was higher ranked than a National Guard major, and there's been little suggestion any battalion or division commanders are willing to defect despite almost daily calls by Guaido and the U.S.

MUELLER

FROM PAGE 1

"They can move how they choose to proceed. I know what we'll be focused on. I am very confident that the president and our team will be focused on the singular objective that we're headed to Hanoi for."

With the Democrats now controlling the House of Representatives, Schiff has emerged as a key figure in investigating Trump. He has also promised a wide-ranging investigation

of the president's finances.

While Schiff has pledged for weeks to seek maximum transparency on Mueller's findings, his comments on Sunday added to pressure on Barr, in the attorney general's second week on the job, to make public more than the legally required summary of the special counsel's evidence and conclusions.

"We will obviously subpoena the report," Schiff said on ABC. "We will bring Bob Mueller in to testify before Congress.

We will take it to court if necessary."

Referring to the Justice Department, he said, "In the end, I think the department understands they're going to have to make this public." He said Barr's legacy would be "tarnished" by any attempt to keep key findings secret.

Much of this is uncharted legal territory, however, and some Republican lawmakers and legal experts have questioned whether House Democrats could enforce a subpoena.

"I don't know that you

can," Sen. Roy Blunt, R-Mo., said on CBS' "Face the Nation." Blunt, who is a member of the Senate Intelligence Committee, said he believes that the scope of investigations against Trump has become too broad.

Some forecast a growing partisan divide. Arkansas' Republican Gov. Asa Hutchinson said if the Mueller report did not ultimately "outline any offenses against the president," it could trigger competing investigations in the Democratic-controlled

House and Republican-controlled Senate that broke down along party lines.

"It's going to be partisan," he said on NBC's "Meet the Press."

Rep. Jim Himes, D-Conn., who is also on the House Intelligence Committee, agreed that the report should be made public whether or not it alleged crimes by Trump.

"Everything about this has become political," he said on NBC. "The way to end that, of course, is for the truth to be out there."

DRAFT

FROM PAGE 1

services, Coalition attorney Marc Angelucci said. "Women are now allowed in combat, so this decision is long overdue. After decades of sex discrimination against men in the Selective Service, the courts have finally found it unconstitutional to force only

men to register."

The government asked the judge to dismiss the suit or stay a decision until a national commission studying the issue of women's draft registration reaches a recommendation.

The judge noted that could take years, and even then Congress isn't required to follow the commission's findings. "Congress has been

debating the male-only registration requirement since at least 1980," Miller wrote.

The government referred to a 1981 U.S. Supreme Court decision that the Military Selective Service Act was constitutional as written, to exclude women, because women restricted from combat were not offered similar opportunities that men had.

Miller found that reasoning no longer applicable, since the Department of Defense lifted all gender-based restrictions on military service — including combat roles — in 2015.

The judge likewise disagreed with the government's position that drafting women would be an administrative burden and that far more women than men will be found

physically unfit for service after being drafted.

Congress has expressed few concerns about female physical ability, but did focus more on societal consequences of drafting young mothers to go off to war, Miller said.

"If there was ever a time to discuss 'the place of women in the Armed Services,' that time has passed," Miller wrote.

ABUSE

FROM PAGE 1

headquarters of the Catholic Church had no such policy, even though it insisted in 2011 that local churches have one and told the United Nations five years ago that a policy for Vatican City was in the works.

"It's not like there is an enormous diffusion of these crimes inside Vatican City State or the Curia," summit moderator the Rev. Federico Lombardi said. "But since we insist that we need laws and rigorous procedure (elsewhere), they should also exist

where we are and in our institutions, starting with the Vatican City State."

In his final remarks to the summit, Francis noted that the vast majority of sexual abuse happens in the family. And he offered a global review of the broader societal problem of sexual tourism and online pornography, in a bid to contextualize what he said was once a taboo subject.

But he said the sexual abuse of children becomes even more scandalous when it occurs in the Catholic Church.

Francis summoned the bishops from around the world to the four-day meeting to impress

upon them that clergy sex abuse and cover-ups aren't just a problem in some countries but a global problem that threatens the very mission of the Catholic Church.

He offered an eight-point pledge of priorities going forward, calling for a change in the church's defensive mentality and a vow to never again cover-up cases. Victims, he said, must take center stage while priests must undergo a continuing path of purity with the "holy fear of God" guiding the examination of their own failures.

"If in the Church there should emerge even a

single case of abuse — which already in itself represents an atrocity — that case will be faced with the utmost seriousness," he said. "Indeed, in people's justified anger, the church sees the reflection of the wrath of God, betrayed and insulted by these deceitful consecrated persons."

But survivors who came to Rome expecting solid, concrete action were disappointed.

U.S. survivor Peter Isely, of the victim advocacy group Ending Clergy Abuse, said the pope didn't go far enough.

"There is nothing in his remarks about releasing documents that

demonstrate the truth of how they are and have been covering up child sex crimes," he said.

Francis did propose one concrete step going forward, saying he wants to change church law governing child pornography. Currently the church only considers it a "grave delict" — or a crime handled by the Vatican office that processes sex abuse cases — if the child in question is under age 14. Francis wants to raise the age to 18 to cover all minors.

It wasn't clear if the change was inspired by a recent case involving an Argentine bishop close to Francis.

ALMANAC

Today is **Monday, Feb. 25**, the 56th day of 2019. There are 309 days left in the year.

Today in history

On **Feb. 25, 1986**, President Ferdinand Marcos fled the Philippines after 20 years of rule in the wake of a tainted election; Corazon Aquino assumed the presidency.

On this date

In **1836**, inventor Samuel Colt patented his revolver.

In **1862**, Nashville, Tenn., became the first Confederate state capital to be occupied by the North during the Civil War.

In **1913**, the 16th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, giving Congress the power to levy and collect income taxes, was declared in effect by Secretary of State Philander Chase Knox.

In **1919**, Oregon became the first state to tax gasoline, at one cent per gallon.

In **1994**, At the Winter Olympics in Norway, Oksana Baiul of Ukraine won the gold medal in ladies' figure skating while Nancy Kerrigan won the silver and Chen Lu of China the bronze; Tonya Harding came in eighth.

Today's birthdays

Actress Ann McCrea is 88. Actor Tom Courtenay is 82. Former CBS newsman Bob Schieffer is 82. Actress Diane Baker is 81. Actress Karen Grassle is 77. Former talk show host Sally Jessy Raphael is 77. Former professional wrestler Ric Flair is 70. Humorist Jack Handey is 70. Movie director Neil Jordan is 69. Rock singer-musician/actor John Doe (X) is 66. Rock musician Dennis Diken (The Smithereens) is 62. Rock singer-musician Mike Peters (The Alarm; Big Country) is 60. Actress Veronica Webb is 54. Actor Alexis Denisof is 53. Actress Tea Leoni is 53. Comedian Carrot Top is 52. Actress Lesley Boone is 51. Actor Sean Astin is 48. Singer Daniel Powter is 48. Latin singer Julio Iglesias Jr. is 46. Rhythm-and-blues singer Justin Jeffrey is 46. Rock musician Richard Liles is 46. Actor Anson Mount is 46. Comedian-actress Chelsea Handler is 44. Actress Rashida Jones is 43. Country singer Shawnna Thompson is 41. Actor Justin Berfield is 33. Actors James and Oliver Phelps are 33. Actress Jameela Jamil is 33. Rock musician Erik Haager is 32.

Bible verse

"... sleep on now and take your rest ..." — **Matthew 26:45.**

God calls us now to activity, but what a terrible day it will be, when all the work in the world will be to no avail. "Work while it is day, the night cometh when no man can work." — *Too much rest leads to rust.*

ODD NEWS

Man in gorilla suit breaks in home, hides under bed

SULPHUR, La. (AP) — Police say a man wearing a gorilla suit broke into a Louisiana home and hid under a mattress before officers arrested him.

News outlets quote Sulphur Police Department spokesman Mel Estes in Thursday reports as saying that officers saw Jeremie Moran walking through yards in the costume. They had received calls about a suspicious person looking into homes.

Estes says Moran ran into a home as officers approached but was discovered hiding. He was jailed on charges including resisting an officer, unauthorized entry, meth possession and wearing a mask.

In Louisiana, a person convicted of wearing a mask in public can be sentenced to three years in prison at most. Exceptions are allowed for religious purposes or on holidays like Halloween and Mardi Gras.

The curious case of a disappearing abdominal aneurysm

DEAR DR. ROACH: In January, I received a diagnosis of an abdominal aortic aneurysm measuring 2.9 centimeters. In April, another ultrasound showed that the AAA measured 3 cm. This past October, I had another ultrasound and was told there was no AAA! The doctor said it must have disappeared, or maybe it was just a "dilatation that was misdiagnosed because the report shows nothing."



Dr. Roach

Now, it would be great if I don't have an AAA, but two ultrasounds by two different entities came up with the same diagnosis five months apart, and everything I've read says AAAs don't diminish in size or disappear completely. What is your take on this latest development? Should I request another ultrasound for confirmation, or can I be confident (and thrilled) that the latest results showing no AAA were correct? — K.M.

ventricle in the heart and providing arterial blood to the entire body. It can dilate, either in the chest or in the abdomen, and when it does, the risk of rupture increases as it gets larger.

It must measure greater than 3.0 cm to be considered aneurysmal, so yours may not even have made the cutoff.

It's also important to consider the context. AAAs are more common in men, especially those who have smoked, but having high cholesterol and high blood pressure

are additional risk factors. You having more risk factors would make me much more concerned than if you had few or none of these.

Ultrasound is very seldom wrong in making the diagnosis. As a general rule, however, when a laboratory or imaging study shows conflicting results, another should be ordered to resolve the issue. A CT scan is an alternative to ultrasound.

DEAR DR. ROACH: What are some ways I can ease hard bowel movements with a lower-carb diet? I am trying to lose weight to lower my A1C. — J.S.

ANSWER: First off, a little information about carbs. There are multiple types of carbohydrates. Simple sugars, like table sugar and honey, will raise your A1C (a measure of overall blood sugar) if taken in excess.

Virtually all authorities recommend very limited amounts of these. Starches — such as most white breads, pasta and rice — are

long strings of sugar molecules that are broken down quickly in the body.

These also are generally poor, when taken in excess, for both weight and blood sugar control.

Fiber is an indigestible carbohydrate that generally helps people feel fuller, may reduce A1C and eases hard bowel movements. Fiber is my recommendation for you, and it can be found in food, especially vegetables and some fruits. It also can be found in whole grains (processing the grains to make white flour removes most of the fiber).

While fiber can be taken as a supplement, a diet high in whole grains, vegetables and fruits is considered by most experts to be a healthy diet, even though all of these are mostly carbohydrates. A diet that is almost exclusively protein and fat can help with weight loss but is not the optimal diet for most people for overall health, in my opinion.

7 LITTLE WORDS

Find the 7 words to match the 7 clues. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in each solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

CLUES	SOLUTIONS
1 firm with a spokes-gecko (5)	_____
2 fan in the stands (8)	_____
3 major speech (7)	_____
4 roofer's milieu (8)	_____
5 forced into financial ruin (10)	_____
6 Lee or Wrangler products (5)	_____
7 making no progress (10)	_____

ICO	GE	SER	TE	KE
VER	HOU	ED	NS	BA
NAT	STAG	OB	SET	NKR
ING	UPT	JEA	OP	YNO

Saturday's Answers: 1. ISABELLE 2. PREGNABLE 3. ELECTED 4. CARHOP 5. REPLIES 6. BELLS 7. FEMURS

Woman admired for looks wants men to look deeper

DEAR ABBY: I have been reading your advice and your mother's for decades. I am an attractive 65-year-old woman. I have no problem meeting men. I have been told numerous times I look 20 years younger than my age.



Dear Abby

The problem is, if I hear another man tell me how beautiful I am, I may go ballistic. I want a man to appreciate me for my intellect and my personality.

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I are having a debate: A married woman is out of town by herself and meets a man two nights in a row for drinks. Over the next few months she talks to him several times on the phone, and then one night he calls her at 9:30, after she is already in bed, and tells her he's in town. So she gets up, gets dressed, takes off and meets him. She sits in his truck for an hour, kissing and hugging, no sex or intimate touching. All of this is without her husband's knowledge. Did this woman have an affair? — Just Curious In Georgia

I thought when I was past 50 I would no longer have to hear about my looks. I want a man to appreciate the person I am inside, not outside. I don't wear makeup, and I don't dress up. What does an old lady do to get a man to appreciate her for her brain and not her looks?

DEAR JUST CURIOUS: YEP! And it may have started when she met him when she was out of town. Even if there was no sex act, plenty of intimate physical contact WAS happening — and that's what I'd classify as infidelity.

— Annoyed In Florida

DEAR ANNOYED: Please cut these poor would-be suitors some slack. Until they get to know the person you are inside, what else would you expect them to say to ingratiate themselves? You have been blessed with good looks, an asset most women would welcome. Stop complaining and appreciate what you have. If you do, you will be an even more beautiful woman inside.

Getting taxed out at home

Dear Readers: Today's SOUND OFF is about escalating property taxes:



Hints from Heloise

"Dear Heloise: All over this country property taxes are rising. I understand the need to pay for schools, fire stations and the police, roads, etc., but many cities are pricing people out of the housing market. This is true for seniors who live on a limited income and young married couples just starting out in life. Yes, we can fight the increase in taxes on our property, but I get a notice that my property taxes are going up a couple of days before there's a hearing.

the estimated value of their home or the taxes the city feels I should be paying. I had hoped to stay in my home until I died, but taxes may make that impossible." — Grace R. in Texas

Readers, got an issue with the way or amount you're taxed? Let us know. — Heloise

"Surely I can't be the only one who objects to

WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



SOLUTION: Cleanliness is next to godliness

JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

NALUN

USENE

TRIGYT

RUVEDO

HIS

Answers tomorrow

Saturday's Jumbles: IRONY PIANO GLADLY TUMBLE Answer: When the track coach's stopwatch wouldn't work, it was — BAD TIMING

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answers tomorrow

Saturday's Jumbles: IRONY PIANO GLADLY TUMBLE Answer: When the track coach's stopwatch wouldn't work, it was — BAD TIMING

KENKEN

THE LOGIC PUZZLE THAT MAKES YOU SMARTER.

EASY

24X		2÷	
	3	1-	8+
2÷			
4	3+		

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CHALLENGING

60X	7+	5-	
3÷	13+	1-	
	3	3-	
2÷	6+	3	3÷
120X	3	4-	
	2÷	6	7+

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RULES

- Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 through 4 (easy) or 1 through 6 (challenging) without repeating.
- The numbers within the heavily outlined boxes, called cages, must combine using the given operation (in any order) to produce the target numbers in the top-left corners.
- Freebies: Fill in single-box cages with the number in the top-left corner.

PREVIOUS ANSWERS

3	3-	4	3+
3	1	4	2
3-	2	18X	1
4	2	3	1
1	3	2	4
1-			
2	4	1	3

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MARMADUKE By Brad Anderson



"Living the dream."

Cryptoquip

2-25

XNOJ RZSNJ AWQ MZIDMORK
JNK FROEEKFJ XWGDKG OJ O
FJKKERODZMS UOIZEZJA?
"GQMJ WU JNK RZEE."
Saturday's Cryptoquip: DOWNLOADABLE INTERNET SERIES IN WHICH THE PRIMARY TOPIC IS THE MR. AMERICA CONTEST: A BROADCAST.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: R equals M

WORD SLEUTH • **DEFENDERS OF THE ALAMO**

Z M J L F B Y S U R O N K H D
A X U I Q N K H S E N D B B Y
N A G G E N V S S I V A R T P
M J H H O W E L L E L V B Y V
T Q O T G O L I G L D Y B Y W
T R L F F U D R A E D P A M K
I E F O D B A R Y W N U S B E
M Q O M K D B I I F R D B I
Z X W T U S Q O N C L R U J W
H F D C A Y W S Y A H E V O O
T S Q P N L K I H F E K C B B

Saturday's unlisted clue: ROSE
Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.
Monday's unlisted clue hint: — CROCKETT

Ballard	Bowie	Howell	Melton
Baugh	Dearduff	Kerr	Neggan
Bayliss	Goodrich	Lightfoot	Travis
Bourne	Hays	Linn	

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HOROSCOPE

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You've had a series of days in which you couldn't readily feel the adventurous aspects of life. Now for a welcome change of pace, life sprawls out under your feet, tunneling down, springing up, stretching grandly before you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). These many items you're thinking about — things that have you overwhelmed, in fact — yes, they are necessary. But are they also urgent? No. Set them further down the calendar. Take a breath. Calm yourself.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). It will help you to see this endeavor that's got so much of your attention as a kind of game. Your odds of winning increase as you learn the rules better and take more turns.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You possess a general friendliness that's very attractive, especially because it spans all ages, colors, shapes and sizes. Inclusiveness and curiosity are your two most intriguing and magnetic qualities now.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Highly original people such as you sometimes have a

hard time seeing that as an exceptional and useful quality. Give yourself a little shake. Wake up to your uniqueness. Don't take it for granted, because you have something singular to give.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Narrow it down to the one aim, and keep working on it. It's time to put that relentlessness and stamina you possess to the good of all. Two weeks from now, you will have it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Helping a friend through heartbreak is easier for you because you've been there, too. Whereas others might try to offer advice, you know better. A warm heart and a listening ear are all that's needed.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). If you stay home, nothing will happen. If you go out, it will still feel as if nothing is happening, but wrongly so. You'll be subtly influenced by the scenery and by humanity, and down the line this spark will burn on in interesting ways.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You're ready for love, and the feeling moves from a theory to an actuality when you get out and meet people. That said, there's no rush. Get to know as many new faces as possible.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Don't get to feel truly capable before we've handled things. First we handle things; then we get to feel like a boss. And that's the way it unfolds today for you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your domestic life will come into crystal-clear view, and you'll suddenly know what has to happen to make things run more smoothly. Take on the project and, upon finishing, you'll quickly reap the reward.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You believe in yourself enough to entertain the thought that you may be wrong. This is the ultimate confidence. People who need to be right all the time usually are insecure or have limited intellectual curiosity.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Feb. 25). You learn to believe more strongly in your creative projects and talents, and as you model this, you teach others how to believe in you, as well. A change in your work strategy will start a chain of events that has your career sector rocketing in May. Choose the fun option in June; it's luckier than the practical one. Virgo and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 6, 20, 14 and 11.

Monday, February 25, 2019

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH BOB JONES
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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ ANSWERS

Q 1 - Neither vulnerable, as South, you hold:
♠ A 7 4 ♥ K Q 8 5 3 ♦ K Q J ♣ 10 6

Q 4 - Both vulnerable, as South, you hold:
♠ Void ♥ K 8 7 5 4 ♦ Q 10 8 7 5 4 ♣ 8 6

Partner opens 1D and right-hand opponent overcalls 1H. What call would you make?

A - It's tempting to pass, but going for penalties at a low level when you are probably cold for a game is usually a poor idea. Bid 3NT.

Q 2 - North-South vulnerable, as South, you hold:
♠ A 4 3 ♥ K J 10 9 6 ♦ 9 8 6 ♣ Q 4

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
1♦ 1NT Pass ?
What call would you make?

A - Three low diamonds is a worry, as diamond ruffs are possible against a heart contract. We like the idea of bidding 2C. Stayman, and only playing in hearts if partner has four of them and playing in 3NT if he doesn't.

Q 3 - East-West vulnerable, as South, you hold:
♠ A 10 6 5 ♥ Q J 2 ♦ 8 7 ♣ K Q J 5

Partner opens 1H and right-hand opponent passes. What call would you make?

A - We can't be sure exactly who can make what, but we're bidding one more "for the road." Bid 4S.

Q 6 - East-West vulnerable, as South, you hold:
♠ K Q 9 6 4 ♥ 9 8 ♦ 10 8 3 ♣ J 9 7

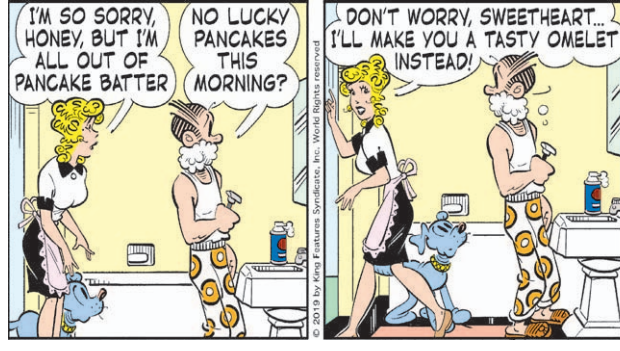
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST
1♣ 1♥ Db1* Pass
1NT 2♥ ?
*Negative
What call would you make?

A - You can't sell out at the two level. Bid 3C.

BORN LOSER By Art and Chip Sansom



BLONDIE By Dean Young and John Marshall



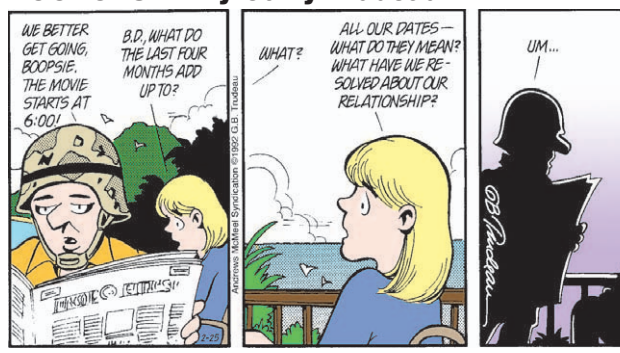
MUTTS By Patrick McDonnell



BABY BLUES By Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott



DOONSBURY By Garry Trudeau



TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- ACROSS**
- 1 Quote
 - 5 Military rank
 - 10 "I did it!" (hyph.)
 - 14 Actor — Sandler
 - 15 Photo
 - 16 Idle or Clapton
 - 17 After-bath wear
 - 18 Pricey fur
 - 19 Quit talking
 - 20 Noun form
 - 22 Order
 - 24 Ancient harps
 - 26 Criterion
 - 27 Molecular biology topic
 - 29 Absorbs (2 wds.)
 - 31 Ernesto Guevara
 - 34 Scoreboard data
 - 36 Use a spade
 - 37 In twos
 - 39 Pilot
 - 41 Tijuana "Mrs."
 - 43 Overcharged
 - 44 Moved like lava
 - 46 Ecol. watchdog
 - 48 Writer — Rice
 - 49 Job application info
 - 50 Tidies up
 - 53 Bounder
 - 54 Vein of ore
 - 55 Secret supply
- DOWN**
- 1 Goldfish
 - 2 Statue of a god
 - 3 Arranged data
 - 4 Manicurist's board
 - 5 Play false
 - 6 Org. for doctors
 - 7 Nudges
 - 8 Gawkers
 - 9 Supply new gear
 - 10 Snicker (hyph.)
 - 11 Make — for it
 - 12 Part of CD
 - 13 Muscle complaint
 - 21 Painter's work
 - 23 Radius
 - 25 Goes downhill
 - 27 Tips one's hat

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED



- 2-25-19 © 2019 UFS, Dist. by Andrews McMeel for UFS
- 28 Makes void
 - 30 Long-plumed bird
 - 31 Most brittle
 - 32 Reddish tint
 - 33 Made a border
 - 35 Join by stitches
 - 38 Give — go
 - 40 Ms. Zellweger
 - 42 Copies
 - 45 Soundproofs
 - 47 Diamond port
 - 51 Magic charm
 - 52 — Tome
 - 54 Get some shuteye
 - 56 Couches
 - 57 Sorority member
 - 58 Culture dish goo
 - 59 Jacob's son
 - 60 Improve the road
 - 62 Alliance acronym
 - 63 Knife handle
 - 66 Caddie's offering

JANRIC CLASSIC SUDOKU

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

Rating: BRONZE

Solution to 2/23/19

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

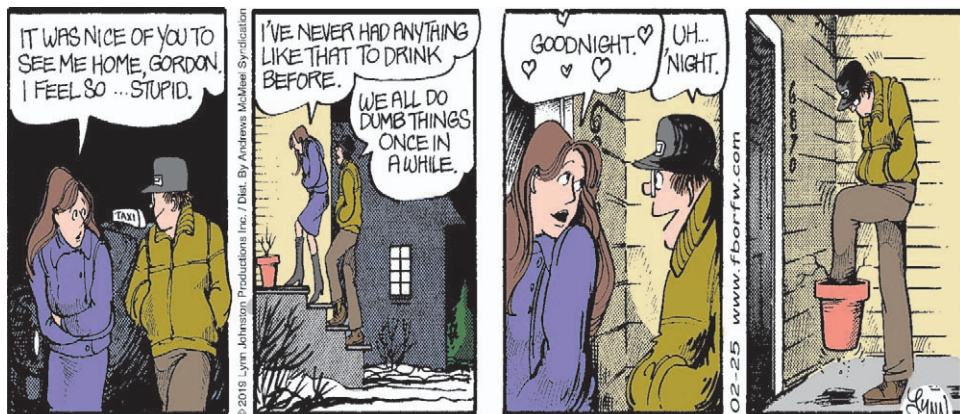
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WORDY GURDY®

- BY TRICKY RICKY KANE
- Every answer is a rhyming pair of words (like FAT CAT and DOUBLE TROUBLE), and they will fit in the letter squares. The number after the definition tells you how many syllables in each word.
- Views 88 black & white piano units (1)
 - Frost black-&white craps cubes (1)
 - Damage a black-&white ref's top (1)
 - Little black-&white soccer orb (1)
 - Duo's black-&white crossword blocks (1)
 - Post-Virgo's black-&white zoo equines (2)
 - Black-&white "Peanuts" dog's uber-fans (2)
- © 2019 UFS, Dist. by Andrews McMeel for UFS
- ANSWERS
1. SEES KEYS 2. ICE DICE 3. HURT SHIRT 4. SMALL BALL
5. PAIRS SQUARES 6. LIBRAS ZEBRAS 7. SNOOPY'S GROUPIES

Want more puzzles?
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at QuillDriverBooks.com

FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE By Lynn Johnston



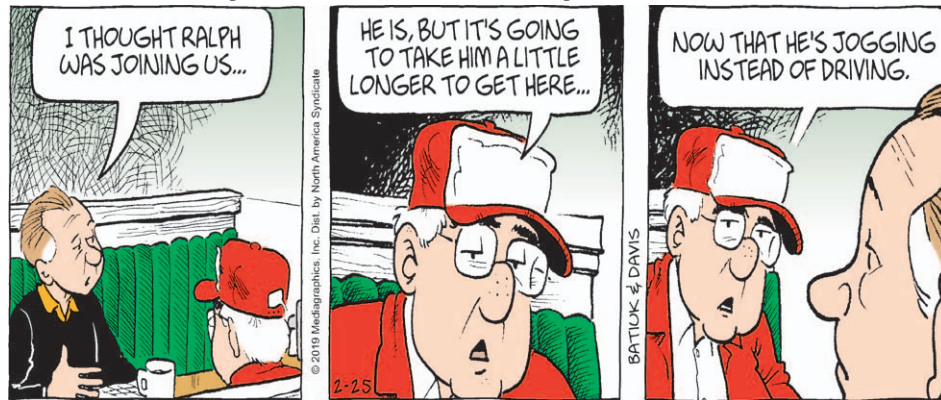
PEANUTS By Charles Schulz



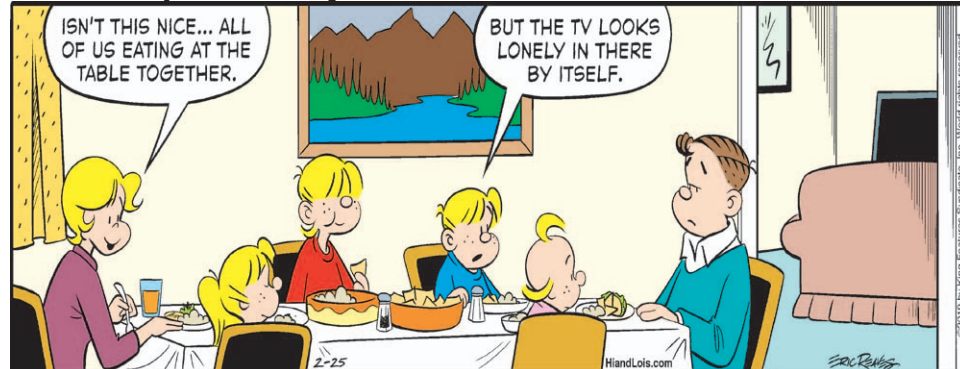
MALLARD FILLMORE By Bruce Tinsley



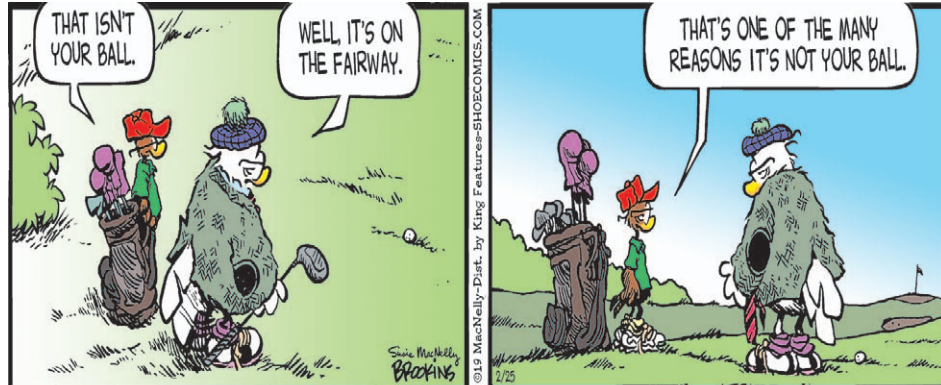
CRANKSHAFT By Tom Batiuk & Chuck Ayers



HI AND LOIS By Brian and Greg Walker



SHOE By Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly



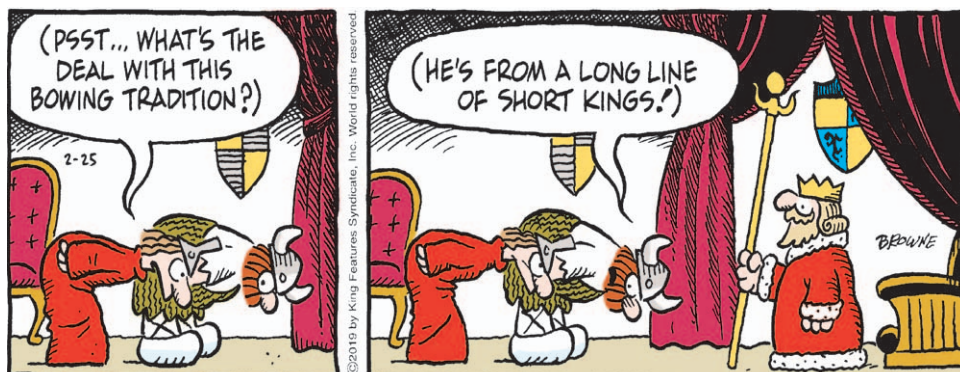
BEEBLE BAILEY By Mort Walker



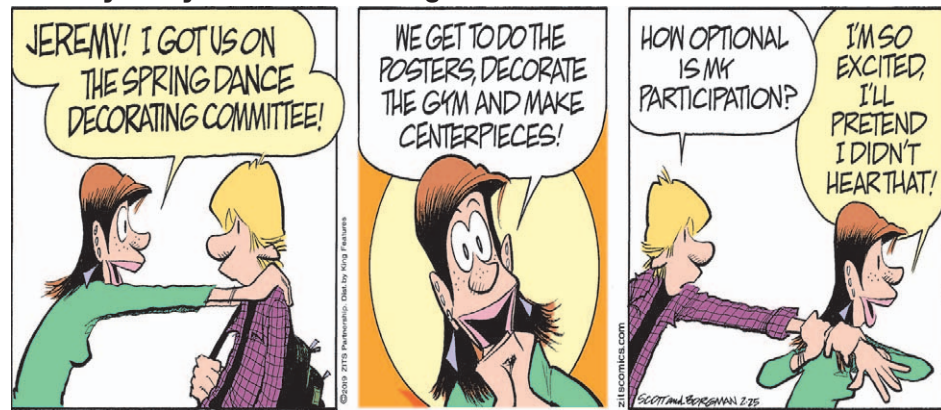
REX MORGAN By Terry Beatty



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE By Chris Browne



ZITS By Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman



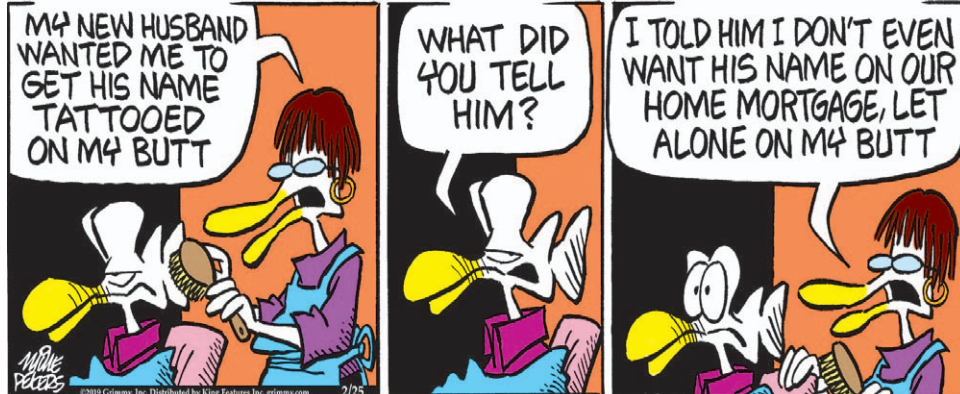
THE WIZARD OF ID By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



GARFIELD By Jim Davis



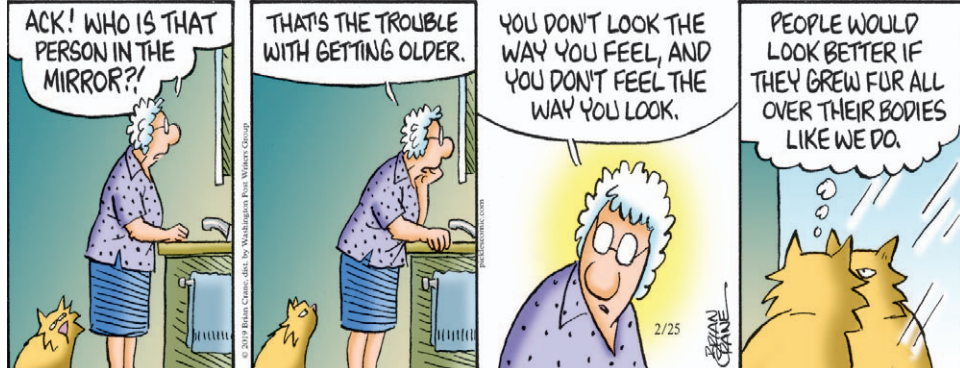
MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM By Mike Peters



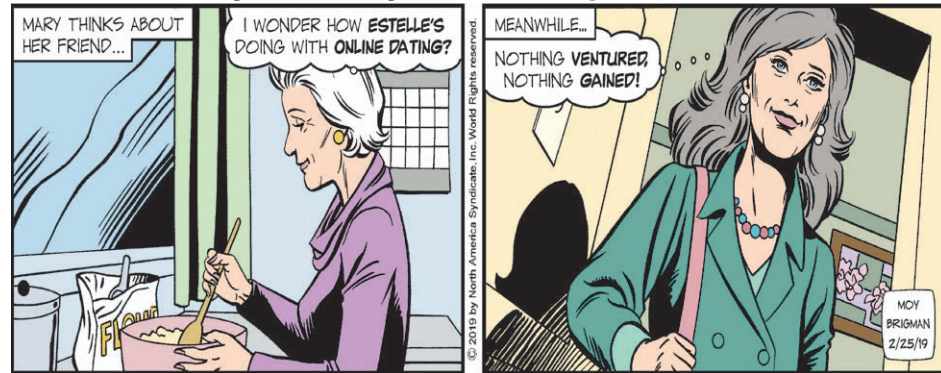
PEARLS BEFORE SWINE By Stephan Pastis



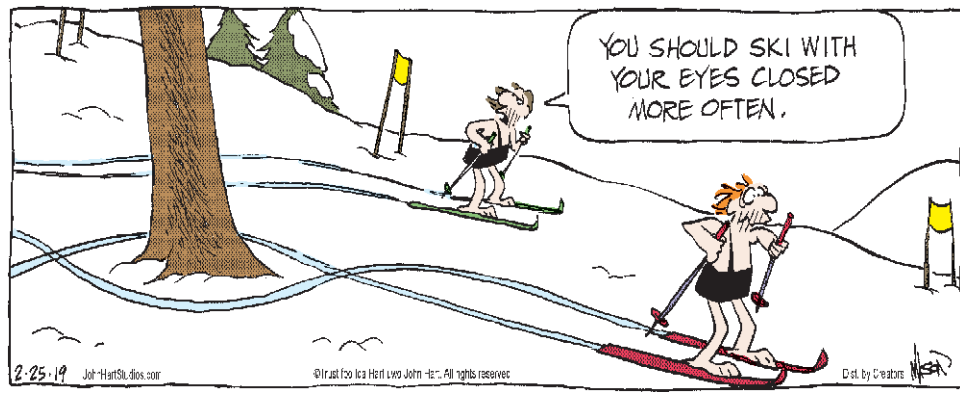
PICKLES By Brian Crane



MARY WORTH By Karen Moy and June Brigman



B.C. By Mastroianni & Hart



DILBERT By Scott Adams





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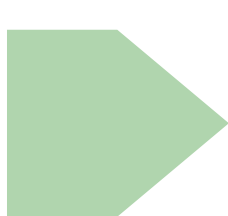
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Spring in the air for aces

Three-time World Series champion Madison Bumgarner was among the aces making their spring debuts Sunday. See the spring training recaps on page 8.

Monday, February 25, 2019

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■ RAYS

Making his pitch, Snyder develops arms into winners

Former MLB pitcher and Sarasota product enters second season as Tampa Bay pitching coach

By **BEN BAUGH**
STAFF WRITER

Baseball's always been a part of Tampa Bay Rays pitching coach's Kyle Snyder's life.

He grew up in southwest Florida, where baseball is part of the area's culture. A product of Riverview High School, Snyder excelled as a pitcher, who would go onto play baseball collegiately at the University of North Carolina.

Snyder's experiences at the collegiate level, played a significant role in his transformation, helping with his evolution as an athlete and

individual preparing him for what was to come.

"I think there was a lot of growth, a lot of maturation, physically, emotionally and psychologically, we all go through that during our college years," said Snyder.

It was while in college and pitching in the Cape Cod Summer league that Snyder continued to attract attention; and in 1999 the right-hander would be selected in the first round of the Major League Baseball draft, with the seventh overall pick by the Kansas City Royals. Snyder joined other Sarasota area products who were

selected in the first round, including Derek Lilliquist, Doug Million and Matt Drews, all Sarasota High School graduates.

"I was able to physically develop and had the opportunity to play professional baseball beyond my collegiate playing days," said Snyder. "I was fortunate enough to be able to do that. A lot of long term goals were fulfilled I think at that point. It's a little bit difficult to describe and put into words. There's no question about it. But ultimately...being selected in the first round is certainly something very special."

Snyder had to battle

through a series of injuries during his professional career, demonstrating his character by going through the long arduous physical rehabilitation process, but it's those life lessons, having the intrepid spirit and courage to overcome adversity that he's able to share with young pitchers who are making their way through the organization.

"Ease is probably a greater threat to progress than hardship," said Snyder. "These guys understand that I've gone through a lot of the same things that they've

SNYDER | 3



SUN PHOTO BY TOM O'NEILL

Tampa Bay Rays pitching coach Kyle Snyder signals from the dugout against the Philadelphia Phillies on Friday at Charlotte Sports Park. Snyder enters his second season as pitching coach.

■ SPRING TRAINING: Yankees 8, Rays 5

Glasnow experiments with delivery in defeat

After four innings without scoring a run, Tampa Bay hitters belt three homers in fifth



SUN PHOTO BY TOM O'NEILL

Tampa Bay Rays pitcher Tyler Glasnow gave up two earned runs on three hits in 1 2/3 innings, while notching four strikeouts against the New York Yankees Sunday at Charlotte Sports Park. Glasnow used his spring debut to tinker with his delivery.

By **JACOB HOAG**
SPORTS WRITER

As Yankees jerseys helped fill Charlotte Sports Park to the brim Sunday afternoon, it was more of an experimental outing for Rays starting pitcher Tyler Glasnow.

Still working a few kinks out of his new windup, Glasnow used Sunday's start to switch things up and test them out against players outside his own.

"That's what I was looking forward to, facing hitters," Glasnow said. "As far as the decision to do it was just a comfort thing for me. I got what I got out of it today and I look forward to seeing how the hitters react to it as the season goes on."

Glasnow pitched 1 2/3 giving up two earned on three hits with four strikeouts in the Rays' 8-5 loss to New York.

He showed off his new slight hesitation in his delivery and used it intermittently with a quick step to throw off the timing of the Yankee batters.

"I felt like I had been doing it for a while and felt completely comfortable as far as delivery stuff goes," the 6-foot-8 right-hander said. "I was just messing around with different sequences and what not, but overall I'm pleased."

Glasnow gave up two runs, one off a single into left-center field by Luke Voit in the first inning and another off a wild pitch in the second allowing Estevan Florial to score from third.

Even so, Rays manager Kevin Cash was pleased with the effort of his pitching staff.

"Tyler, the ball's coming out really well," he said. "They had some good swings off him. And then (Yonny) Chirinos, same thing. The ball came out well, but probably wasn't located as well."

The Yankees piled on six runs before Tampa Bay could get anything going offensively.

Tyler Wade's RBI-double tacked on another in the

RAYS | 3

■ BUCS

As scouting combine approaches, Bucs ponder No. 5 pick

By **RICK STROUD**
TAMPA BY TIMES

TAMPA — The Bucs would just as soon forget about the last time they held the No. 5 overall pick in the NFL draft.

Jon Gruden went to California-Berkeley to work out Aaron Rodgers, surprising the quarterback that day when

the guy catching passes turned out to be Jerry Rice.

Gruden said he loved Rodgers. But when it came time to hand in the card with the Bucs' selection, the choice was Auburn running back Carnell "Cadillac" Williams.

A lot of teams got it wrong as Rodgers lasted

until the 24th pick when the Green Bay Packers pulled the trigger.

Williams, who played for Gruden's team at the Senior Bowl, rushed for 434 yards in his first three weeks, setting records as the first rookie to have three consecutive 100 yard games and for the most rushing yards in the first three weeks of a

career.

Williams' 1,178 yards and six touchdowns in his first pro season turned out to be a career-high and he was the NFL's Offensive Rookie of the Year.

But the Bucs drove Cadillac through a demolition derby. Devastating knee injuries ruined his career, although he

managed to play parts of seven seasons.

Nobody knows what happened to that Rodgers guy.

The point is, make a mistake this high in the draft and it can result in more than a change of coaches or a general manager. It alters destiny.

Fortunately for the Bucs, this year's draft is

top-heavy with defensive talent, which is what they need most.

Primarily, we're talking about defensive linemen, tackles and edge rushers, along with some pretty impressive cornerbacks and a linebacker or two.

Here's a breakdown: **Players if they stay at**

BUCS | 6

INDEX | Lottery 2 | Golf 2 | NHL 2 | Local 3 | MLB 3, 7, 8 | Colleges 4, 6 | NBA 4 | Scoreboard 5 | NFL 6 | Weather 8

TODAY
1:05 P.M.



RAYSBASEBALL.COM/SPRING



Florida Lottery

www.flalottery.com

■ PICK 2

Feb. 24N	0-0
Feb. 24D	4-7
Feb. 23N	7-7
Feb. 23D	7-4
Feb. 22N	0-3
Feb. 22D	3-7

D-Day, N-Night

■ PICK 3

Feb. 24N	2-2-1
Feb. 24D	2-1-9
Feb. 23N	4-7-9
Feb. 23D	4-4-2
Feb. 22N	2-0-3
Feb. 22D	5-1-7

D-Day, N-Night

■ PICK 4

Feb. 24N	5-6-9-0
Feb. 24D	5-5-2-1
Feb. 23N	0-3-9-0
Feb. 23D	8-0-3-0
Feb. 22N	1-2-0-8
Feb. 22D	5-5-0-8

D-Day, N-Night

■ PICK 5

Feb. 24N	1-9-0-7-9
Feb. 24D	2-8-6-3-7
Feb. 23N	7-3-4-9-6
Feb. 23D	9-8-5-5-4
Feb. 22N	3-8-2-2-9
Feb. 22D	0-3-6-8-0

D-Day, N-Night

■ FANTASY 5

Feb. 24	Late
Feb. 23	3-8-11-17-34
Feb. 22	3-25-34-35-36

PAYOFF FOR FEB. 23

2 5-digit winners	\$111,894.03
408 4-digit winners	\$88.00
11,490 3-digit winners	\$8.50

PAYOFF FOR FEB. 21

0 5-5 CB	\$1,000/Day
0 5-5	\$1,000/Week
7 4-5 CB	\$2,500
7 4-5	\$500

■ JACKPOT TRIPLE PLAY

Feb. 22	2-9-11-25-30-38
Feb. 19	7-8-18-25-43-46
Feb. 15	8-11-19-35-36-41

PAYOFF FOR FEB. 22

1 6-of-6	\$1,600,000
49 5-of-6	\$430.00
2,150 4-of-6	\$23.50
38,404 3-of-6	\$1

ESTIMATED JACKPOT

\$500,000

■ LOTTO

Feb. 23	10-12-18-27-36-51
Feb. 20	14-30-32-34-52-53
Feb. 16	2-12-16-29-43-52

PAYOFF FOR FEB. 23

16-digit winners	\$4 million
16 5-digit winners	\$6,229
1,039 4-digit winners	\$67.50

ESTIMATED JACKPOT

\$4 million

■ POWERBALL

Feb. 23	4-6-14-20-32
Powerball	13

...

Feb. 20	27-49-50-51-52
Powerball	2

PAYOFF FOR FEB. 23

0 5-5 + PB	\$304 million
0 5-5	\$1 million
1 4-5 + PB	\$50,000
56 4-5	\$100

ESTIMATED JACKPOT

\$322 million

■ MEGA MILLIONS

Feb. 22	18-24-31-34-55
Mega Ball	4

...

Feb. 19	17-24-34-56-65
Mega Ball	3

PAYOFF FOR FEB. 22

0 5 of 5 + MB	\$224 million
0 5 of 5	\$1 million
1 4 of 5 + MB	\$10,000
22 4 of 5	\$500

ESTIMATED JACKPOT

\$245 million

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■ NHL

Dallas beats Chicago 5-3; Zuccarello injured in Stars debut



AP PHOTO

The Dallas Stars celebrate after defeating the Chicago Blackhawks during an NHL hockey game Sunday, Feb. 24, 2019, in Chicago.

CHICAGO (AP) — Jason Spezza broke a tie on a 5-on-3 power play midway through the third period and the Dallas Stars rebounded to beat the Chicago Blackhawks 4-3 after blowing a three-goal lead Sunday.

Spezza took Alexander Radulov's feed across the crease and tapped the puck past goalie Cam Ward.

The victory was overshadowed by the loss of Mats Zuccarello with what was thought to be a broken right arm in his first game with Dallas. Acquired from the New York Rangers on

Saturday, Zuccarello had a goal and assist, but left after two periods and is expected to be sidelined at least four weeks.

Radulov and Radek Faksa also scored and Anton Khudobin made 44 saves for the Stars, fighting for a wild-card playoff spot in the Western Conference.

Chicago star Patrick Kane was held off the score-sheet, ending his points streak at 20 games. Chris Kunitz, Drake Caggiula and Jonathan Toews tied it for Blackhawks after they fell behind 3-0 early in the second period.

CAPITALS 6, RANGERS 5, OT

WASHINGTON — Evgeny Kuznetsov scored at 4:20 of overtime, just beating teammate Alex Ovechkin to the puck, and Washington beat New York in its return from its longest road trip this season.

Nicklas Backstrom scored his 14th and 15th goals of the season and the second-place Capitals moved within two points of the Metropolitan Division-leading New York Islanders.

Tom Wilson added his 17th goal, and Nic Dowd

and Michal Kempny also scored for Washington.

Rangers defenseman Brady Skjei scored multiple goals for the first time in his career, his second tying the game with 31 seconds remaining in regulation. Chris Kreider added his 26th, Jimmy Vesey contributed his 15th, and Vladislav Namestnikov also scored for New York.

SHARKS 5, RED WINGS 3

DETROIT — Joe Pavelski had his fifth

career hat trick, scoring twice in less than a minute late in the second period, to help San Jose beat Detroit.

Brent Burns had a goal and assist, fellow defenseman Tim Heed also scored, and Aaron Dell made 20 saves. Star defenseman Erik Karlsson sat out after aggravating a groin injury at Columbus on Saturday night.

Defenseman Mike Green had a goal and an assist, and Darren Helm and Gustav Nyquist also scored for Detroit.

SPORTS ON TV

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

7 p.m.
 ESPN — Notre Dame at Florida State

ESPN2 — South Carolina State at North Carolina Central

8 p.m.
 ESPN2 — Oklahoma at Iowa State

9 p.m.
 ESPN — Kansas State at Kansas

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

6 p.m.

ESPN2 — Notre Dame at Syracuse

6:30 p.m.
 BTN — Maryland at Purdue

7 p.m.
 FS1 — Texas at Baylor
 SEC — Texas A&M at Florida

8:30 p.m.
 BTN — Iowa at Nebraska

9 p.m.
 FS1 — Oklahoma State at Oklahoma

LUGE

11 p.m.

NBCSN — FIL World Cup: men's singles, Russia (taped)

NBA

8 p.m.

NBA — Philadelphia at New Orleans

10:30 p.m.
 NBA — Dallas at LA Clippers

NHL

7:30 p.m.

NBCSN — Los Angeles at Tampa Bay

SOCCER

2:20 p.m.

FS2 — Bundesliga: Hoffenheim vs. RB Leipzig

■ GOLF: World Golf Championship

Dustin Johnson wins Mexico Championship for 6th WGC title

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Dustin Johnson struggled early, caught a good break from behind a tree and then breezed to his sixth World Golf Championship title Sunday by closing with a 5-under 66 for a five-shot victory over Rory McIlroy in the Mexico Championship.

Johnson won for the 20th time on the PGA Tour, making him a lifetime member when he puts in 15 years on tour. In his 12th season, he is the 38th player in tour history to reach 20 wins.

McIlroy was five behind at the turn and ran off six birdies in a seven-hole stretch before closing with a meaningless bogey for a 67. Johnson was right there with him with five birdies on the back nine.

Johnson finished at 21-under 263, the lowest score by five shots in the three years at Chapultepec Golf Club. McIlroy continue his solid run. This was his fourth consecutive finish in the top 5, the longest such streak of his career.

Paul Casey (65), Ian Poulter (68) and Kiradech Aphibarnrat (68) tied for third, though they were 10 shots behind.

Tiger Woods got his first top 10 of the year, but it wasn't all that inspiring. He again struggled on the poa greens of Chapultepec. Over the last two rounds, Woods hit 31 out of 36 greens in regulation and only had scores of 70 and 69 to show for it.

Johnson goes to No. 2



AP PHOTO

Dustin Johnson won his sixth World Golf Championship title at the Chapultepec Golf Club in Mexico City on Sunday, finishing ahead of Rory McIlroy by five strokes.

in the world by a fraction of a point, and will return to No. 1 the following week based on the two-year computations because neither Johnson nor Justin Rose are playing next week.

PGA TOUR

Martin Trainer won the Puerto Rico Open for his first PGA Tour title, closing with a 5-under 67 at windy Coco Beach Golf and Country Club

for a three-stroke victory over four players.

Making his 11th PGA Tour start, Trainer birdied four of the last 10 holes to finish at 15-under 273. The 27-year-old former University of Southern California won twice last year on the Web.com Tour and finished fourth on the money list to earn a spot on the big tour.

Trainer earned \$540,000 along with a two-year exemption

on the PGA Tour and an exemption to the PGA Championship, but didn't get an invitation to the Masters in the event played opposite the World Golf Championships' Mexico Championship.

Third-round leader Aaron Baddeley shot a 72 to tie for second with Daniel Berger (66), Roger Sloan (67) and Johnson Wagner (69). At No. 72, Berger was the highest ranked player in the field.

■ HOMETOWN HEROES

Former Pirate Atherley named MVP at ACC women's indoor track and field championship

By **BARBARA BOXLEITNER**
SUN CORRESPONDENT

Michelle Atherley has been recognized for her indoor track and field performance.

The Port Charlotte High School graduate was named the women's field MVP at the Atlantic Coast Conference indoor championship.

"Conference is always kind of a big deal," the University of Miami senior said Sunday after returning late Saturday from the meet in Blacksburg, Va. "It's

always been a stepping stone to nationals."

Atherley won the pentathlon by finishing with 4,498 points, which ranks eighth in NCAA history and first in ACC history. "I don't really pay attention to most of the marks," she said about the point total. "I didn't know until the very end of the meet."

The top pentathlon total this year, it broke her previous conference championship and school marks. She won the pentathlon's 60-meter hurdles,

high and long jumps, shot put and 800 run to collect the gold medal.

Her long jump of 20 feet, 5 1/4 inches was a personal best. "That came out of nowhere," she said. "I've worked really, really hard to get things down technique-wise."

In individual events besides the pentathlon, Atherley finished third in the high jump and fourth in the 60 hurdles.

She received a trophy for the MVP, a gold medal for the pentathlon and a bronze medal

for the high jump. At a later date she will receive a ring for the team's title.

The athletes had Sunday off to rest and get treatment after the three-day conference meet. "I feel pretty good," she said. "I don't want to push my body too much."

She said the 800 run is the most taxing "because as a multi (athlete), I don't really train for the 800 per se. You kind of have to push your body to do it."

Next for Atherley is the NCAA indoor championship

March 8-9 in Birmingham, Ala. "The competition is extremely high," she said. "I'm excited to compete because I haven't seen a couple girls. I hope to stay consistent."

Atherley completes her degree in May. But because the conference outdoor championship is at the time of the spring graduation ceremony, she walked during the fall commencement ceremony.

Send updates about area athletes to Barbara Boxleitner at jdanddoc@gmail.com.

■ COLLEGE BASEBALL: Snowbird Baseball Classic

Northeastern offense overpowers South Dakota

By **JACOB HOAG**
SPORTS WRITER

In a high-scoring affair in the second week of the Snowbird Baseball Classic, Northeastern got the best of South Dakota State (SDSU) in a 13-7

win on Sunday morning.

After falling 6-0 against the defending World Series Champion Boston Red Sox on Friday, the Huskies bounced back for back-to-back victories over the Jackrabbits — Northeastern won 12-9

on Saturday as well.

It was a quiet opening two innings, but by the third inning the flood gates opened offensively.

The Jackrabbits scored first on a two-RBI single from infielder Josh Falk to make it 2-0.

But Northeastern scored the ensuing five runs to take a strong 5-2 lead in the fifth inning before Falk stopped the run with another RBI-single for SDSU.

Down 8-3 in the seventh inning, the Jackrabbits began to

surge late.

Infielder Gus Steiger singled in the eighth to score two and Luke Ira scored on a passed ball to add another.

SDSU (3-4) capped the top of the inning with an RBI-single from Braeden Brown to make

it a one-run game.

But Northeastern (4-2) shut them out from there, adding five insurance runs.

Email Jacob Hoag at jacob.hoag@yoursun.com and follow him on Twitter @ByJacobHoag.



SUN PHOTO BY TOM O'NEILL

Tampa Bay Rays shortstop Willy Adames hits a home run during the fifth inning against the New York Yankees. The homer was one of three slugged by the Rays in the inning. Muke Zunino and Austin Meadows also went deep off Yankees' righty Trevor Stephan.

RAYS

FROM PAGE 1

second and Voit hit a 3-run homer over the Tiki Bar in left-center field off Ryne Stanek in the third.

But in the second half of the game, the Rays' bats woke from their slumber and began to chisel down the deficit. In five at-bats, catcher Mike Zunino, shortstop Willy Adames and outfielder Austin Meadows each sent one over the fence to make it 6-3.

"Well it was nice to see the bats come alive a little bit," Cash said. "Obviously they may have had some wind to help, but those guys

generated some bat speed and got the ball out of the park.

Each team added a two-run homer in the sixth inning.

Yankees left fielder Matt Lipka and Rays center fielder Jason Coats each sent one to left-center.

The Rays are back at Charlotte Sports Park tomorrow to take on the Miami Marlins at 1:05 p.m.

Email Jacob Hoag at jacob.hoag@yoursun.com and follow him on Twitter @ByJacobHoag.

PREP SPORTS CALENDAR

MONDAY

- **MLB SPRING TRAINING**
Miami at Tampa Bay, 1:05 p.m.
- **PREP BASEBALL**
Port Charlotte at Charlotte, Season opener, 7 p.m.
- **TENNIS**
Charlotte Boys and Girls Tennis vs. Ida Baker, Home, 3 p.m.

■ BASKETBALL REGIONAL SEMIS

- Port Charlotte at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
- **SOFTBALL**
Venice vs. Braden River, 6:30 p.m.
- Lemon Bay at North Port, 1 p.m.
- Port Charlotte vs. Ida Baker, 7 p.m.
- Charlotte at Estero, 7 p.m.
- DeSoto vs. Avon Park, home, 6:30

TUESDAY

- **MLB SPRING TRAINING**
Rays at Orioles 1:05p.m.
- **PREP BASEBALL**
Venice at Palmetto, 7 p.m.
- Lemon Bay at North Port, 1 p.m.
- Port Charlotte vs. Booker, 7 p.m.
- DeSoto vs. Sebring, home, 7 p.m.

■ TENNIS

- Venice Boys and Girls Tennis vs. Port Charlotte, 3 p.m.
- Lemon Bay Boys and Girls tennis at North Port, 3 p.m.
- **WATER POLO**
Venice vs. East River
- **GIRLS LACROSSE**
Venice at Cardinal Mooney, 6 p.m.
- **BOYS WEIGHTLIFTING**
DeSoto vs. Lake Placid, 5 p.m.

SNYDER

FROM PAGE 1

gone through. I don't assume anything, and I hope that provides me a platform to be able to help these guys, help them become the best version of themselves as a pitcher, a man and husband. So as long as I have this job, I will always treat the person with a holistic approach. They're human beings and this is a profession, everyone else gets to balance their profession and family life, but they don't have to do it in such a public nature."

A change in locale would find

Snyder headed to Beantown in 2006, leaving behind the organization he had spent his entire career in.

However, his new surroundings would bring with it the realization that most people hope for when picking up a baseball. He was part of the 2007 World Series Champion Boston Red Sox, where one of his teammates would be someone he works closely with throughout the baseball season, Kevin Cash.

"It was another dream realized, and just the opportunity to play on such a talented club, to initially cross

paths on the same team with someone who would be my future manager, just everybody else that was there and the hall of famers that played on that club," said Snyder. "The way that I was accepted in 2006, after being claimed off of waivers, there were a lot of different things that factored into that year to make it special."

The Tampa Bay Rays culture and environment were the perfect fit for the former major league reliever when he retired. Snyder also benefited from the mentoring of several people within the organization, who would be influential in terms of

his development.

"I was fortunate enough to walk into an organization that in my mind was further ahead with pitching development than any of the 30 organizations," said Snyder.

"I was thrust right into it, and was given a tremendous amount of guidance from Dewey Robinson, Dick Bosman and Marty DeMerritt, early on in my career. They trusted me and believed in me to be able to do what was in the best interest of each player. And fortunately, I was able to develop as a pitching coach alongside of the pitchers who are currently here on our major

league staff, which makes it pretty special."

The opportunity to work with the Rays pitching depth and talent; provides Snyder with an excellent foundation in which to build.

"Last year, it was maybe talent over experience," said Snyder.

"I think that played out pretty well for us. We challenged the guys, we felt were ready, and we put them in a position to be successful with the things that we did differently than anybody else had done in the past. The talent and the group that we have certainly makes my job easier."

■ MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL: Roundup

No. 10 Michigan St knocks off rival No. 7 Michigan

By **NOAH TRISTER**
AP SPORTS WRITER

ANN ARBOR, Mich. — Cassius Winston had 27 points and eight assists, and 10th-ranked Michigan State moved into sole possession of first place in the Big Ten with a 77-70 victory over No. 7 Michigan on Sunday.

Kenny Goins had 16 points and 11 rebounds, and Xavier Tillman added 14 points for the Spartans, who snapped Michigan's 22-game winning streak at Crisler Center despite being without two of their top three scorers.

Joshua Langford is out for the season, and Nick Ward is recovering from a broken hand, but Goins and Tillman produced in Ward's absence for Michigan State.

Michigan (24-4, 13-4) led by six early in the second half, but that advantage was short-lived. Down 51-45, the Spartans (23-5, 14-3) outscored Michigan 21-7 to take control. The Wolverines shot 2 for 14 from 3-point range in the second half.

Zavier Simpson scored 19 points to lead Michigan.

**XAVIER 66,
NO. 17 VILLANOVA 54**

Naji Marshall scored 17 points and Xavier used a big surge in the second half to rally past Villanova, leaving the Wildcats with three straight losses in Big East play for the first time since the conference was reconfigured.

The Musketeers (15-13, 7-8) won their fourth straight — matching their season high — and ended their run of lopsided losses against the Wildcats. Villanova (20-8, 11-4) had won five in a row against the Musketeers.

Phil Booth had 12 points in the first half, when the Wildcats led by as many as nine points. Their 30-27 halftime lead ended a streak of three straight halves allowing at least 40 points.

Booth made only one of his eight shots in the second half.

**UCF 95,
SOUTHERN
METHODIST 48**

Tacko Fall had a season-high 23 points plus 20 rebounds as Central Florida routed SMU



AP PHOTO

Michigan State head coach Tom Izzo encourages guard Cassius Winston against Michigan in Ann Arbor, Mich.

95-48 on Sunday.

Fall made 11 of 14 shots. BJ Taylor had 14 points for Central Florida (20-6, 10-4

AAC). Terrell Allen added 11 points and eight assists.

Central Florida had 58 rebounds.

The Mustangs' 24.6 field-goal percentage was the worst mark by a Central Florida opponent this season.

■ NBA: Roundup

Magic end Raptors' winning streak at seven



AP PHOTO

Orlando Magic guard Jerian Grant drives to the net past Toronto Raptors center Serge Ibaka in Toronto on Sunday.

TORONTO (AP) — The Magic took advantage of the absence of Toronto star Kawhi Leonard on Sunday and capitalized on another solid game from the Orlando bench players to roll to a 113-98 road victory.

The Magic won for the sixth time in the past seven games and snapped a seven-game Raptors winning streak.

Terrence Ross led the bench players with a game-high 28 points as the Magic got 44 points from their reserve players to help offset a tough game shooting from starters Aaron Gordon (2 of 11) and Evan Fournier (4 of 11).

In his usual consistent role, starting center Nikola Vucevic led the way with 23 points and 12 rebounds, the 43rd double-double of the season for the NBA All-Star.

But the game belonged to the former Raptors guard Ross, who made 3-of-8 3-pointers and hit 9-of-21 floor shots overall. He also had nine rebounds.

The Magic improved to 28-33 this season and currently sit in ninth place in the NBA's Eastern Conference standings, one game behind Charlotte.

**NUGGETS 123,
CLIPPERS 96**

Nikola Jokic had 22 points and 16 rebounds, Paul Millsap had 21 points and 16 rebounds and Denver breezed past cold-shooting Los Angeles.

The Nuggets improved to 26-4 at home and, at 41-18 overall, pulled within a game of Western Conference-leading Golden State.

■ MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Boeheim trying to cope with tragic accident

By **JOHN KEKIS**
AP SPORTS WRITER

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — The part of every college basketball season that players and coaches covet looms in less than a month. For Syracuse coach Jim Boeheim, the NCAA Tournament doesn't even register as he tries to cope with a fatal accident that occurred with him at the wheel.

Boeheim struck and killed 51-year-old Jorge Jimenez on a dark highway after a big home win over Louisville last Wednesday night. Boeheim swerved in his SUV to avoid a disabled car that was perpendicular across two lanes and hit Jimenez as he was trying to get to safety.

Police called it a tragic accident, saying no criminal charges are expected, and commended the 74-year-old Boeheim for his reaction, calling 911 and using his cellphone light to warn oncoming cars of the collision.

That's little solace for the longtime head coach.

"This is something that will be with me for the rest of my life," Boeheim said in the emotional aftermath of Saturday

night's 75-65 loss to top-ranked Duke. "Tuesday it's not going to be better. It's not going to be better next week. It's not going to be better next month. It's not going to be better next year. This is something that's there forever for me."

The game was Boeheim's first public appearance since the accident, and he was greeted with a loud cheer from the record crowd of 35,642 at the Carrier Dome. Afterward, Boeheim, who said he coached the game because he felt an obligation to his players, appeared emotionally spent.

"I can't describe the feelings I've had since Wednesday night," said Boeheim, in his 43rd year as head coach at his alma mater.

"I don't think I can make anyone understand who hasn't been there. I don't.

"I've always felt in life, you get a lot of things you have to overcome. There's nothing like this when a human life is lost and you are there. I can't describe it to you."

There was a moment of silence before the



AP PHOTO

Syracuse coach Jim Boeheim and his son Buddy Boeheim, sit on the bench in the final minutes of the team's game against Duke in Syracuse, N.Y., Saturday. Duke won 75-65. The elder Boeheim, who was recently behind the wheel of a vehicle that struck and killed a pedestrian while trying to avoid a car accident at night, said "this is something that will be with me for the rest of my life."

game for Jimenez and his family — that came after an introduction in English and Spanish.

Boeheim said he's been in touch with the Jimenez family.

"I intend to try and

do that as I can in the future," he said. "This isn't about me, it doesn't matter how I feel. It's

about how they feel and what's happened to them. There's just nothing I can say about it."

■ NASCAR

Keselowski shakes stomach bug to win at Atlanta

By JENNA FRYER

AP AUTO RACING WRITER

HAMPTON, Ga. — Brad Keselowski was so sick at Atlanta Motor Speedway his team had a standby driver on call.

The help wasn't needed.

The winningest driver in Team Penske history raced to an unlikely victory Sunday by recovering from a stomach virus to win at Atlanta Motor Speedway. It was the first victory for Ford's new Mustang and a rebound for the manufacturer after Toyota swept the season-opening Daytona 500.

NASCAR debuted its new competition package Sunday that is designed to improve the on-track product and help the smaller teams contend. But the first look at the new rules was tempered because the abrasive asphalt is unlike any other surface NASCAR will race on this season.

But NASCAR successfully designed a package that slowed the cars and bunched them closer together, which made for intense racing when the field was packed on restarts.

The nature of Atlanta's challenging 1.5-mile speedway led drivers to eventually fan out into single file, which NASCAR is trying to avoid, but

the racing is expected to improve moving forward.

"I saw a fairly entertaining race," said Steve O'Donnell, NASCAR's chief racing officer. "We didn't know what to expect, either, and we thought this package would showcase itself more once we got to the West Coast. All in all, we are satisfied with the outcome and we've got a lot of work to do to go back and review it."

Keselowski, meanwhile, raced to his 60th win for Roger Penske to pass Indianapolis great Mark Donohue's mark as the team leader. He has won 27 of his 28 Cup victories for Penske.

"Oh, yeah, I forgot about that!" Keselowski said. "I think any win means a lot, but that's a big number. Now I get to wear that yellow Mark Donohue helmet. This day is, wow, I don't even know how to put it in words."

"I'm just excited for this team, first race with the new rules or whatever they're called now, and to be able to win it, that's really special."

Roughly six hours earlier, crew chief Paul Wolfe wasn't even sure Keselowski could go the full 500 miles.

"He said he's good to go, so we'll see," Wolfe said as he entered the



AP PHOTO

Brad Keselowski celebrates winning the NASCAR Cup Series race at Atlanta Motor Speedway on Sunday despite a stomach virus.

pre-race driver meeting.

Keselowski arrived shortly after, hopped off a golf cart and jogged into the meeting. Asked if he felt healthy enough to race, he said only: "I'm here, aren't I?"

Keselowski has proved his toughness before, most notably in 2011 when he won at Pocono just days after breaking his ankle in a crash while testing. This time he fell

ill late Friday night after surprising fans in the Atlanta infield with beer during their rainy night of partying.

Martin Truex Jr. finished second in a rebound from his disappointing debut with Joe Gibbs Racing. His three JGR teammates swept the podium in the Daytona 500 while Truex failed to ever contend in his Toyota. He was

unhappy after the race because he said lapped traffic slowed his shot at catching Keselowski.

"Just a little upset," Truex said. "We had the best car. We probably should have won that one."

Kurt Busch was third in a Chevrolet for Chip Ganassi Racing while celebrating his 650th career Cup start. Kyle Larson, his Ganassi

teammate, led a race-high 142 laps but was taken out of contention by a speeding penalty.

Kevin Harvick and Clint Bowyer rounded out the top-five in a pair of Fords for Stewart-Haas Racing.

Kyle Busch started last but drove through the field to finish sixth a day after he became the Truck Series' all-time wins leader with his 52nd career victory.

■ WOMEN'S BASKETBALL: Roundup

Ionescu, Boley help No. 2 Oregon end slide, beat USC

EUGENE, Ore. (AP) — Sabrina Ionescu recorded her NCAA-record 17th triple-double, Erin Boley had a career-high 32 points and No. 2 Oregon snapped a two-game losing streak by racing past Southern California 96-78 on Sunday.

Ionescu finished with 13 points, 12 rebounds and 13 assists to lead the Ducks (25-3, 14-2 Pac-12). It also was her seventh triple-double of the season, another NCAA record.

Ruthy Hebard, playing with a brace on her right leg, added 13 points and eight rebounds off the bench after missing one game with a knee injury.

Mariya Moore had 30 points to lead the Trojans (15-12, 5-11). Aliyah Mazyck added 19 and Minyon Moore scored 11.

NO. 3 UCONN 68, TULSA 49

Megan Walker scored 21 points and UConn, playing without Hall of Fame coach

Geno Auriemma, rolled past Tulsa.

With associate head coach Chris Dailey filling in for Auriemma, who is ill, UConn remained undefeated in six seasons in the American Athletic Conference.

NO. 4 LOUISVILLE 87, BOSTON COLLEGE 51

Asia Durr scored 23 points to lead Louisville past Boston College.

Durr hit 6 of 11 shots and 10 of 13 free throws in notching her 15th 20-point game of the season for the Cardinals (25-2, 12-2 Atlantic Coast Conference).

Sydney Lowrey's 12 points led the Eagles (14-14, 3-12).

NO. 6 MISSISSIPPI ST 86, VANDERBILT 70

Teaira McCowan scored 23 points, Anriel Howard and Andra Espinoza-Hunter both added 20, and Mississippi

State beat Vanderbilt.

It was the first time since 1999 that Mississippi State (25-2, 13-1 Southeastern Conference) had three players score at least 20 points.

Mariella Fasoula led the Commodores (6-20, 1-13) with 29 points on 13-of-16 shooting.

NO. 9 NC ST 74, UNC 69

Kiara Leslie scored 21 points and made the go-ahead jumper with 37.7 seconds remaining to help North Carolina State beat its rival.

Leslie's shot from the right elbow snapped a 68-68 tie as the Wolfpack (24-3, 11-3 Atlantic Coast Conference).

Kayla Jones scored 10 of her 14 points in the fourth quarter, making four free throws in the final 13.7 seconds, for N.C. State.

Paris Kea scored 32 points on 11-of-17 shooting for UNC (17-12, 8-7).

NO. 11 MARQUETTE 79, XAVIER 53

Natisha Hiedeman and Allazia Blockton had double-doubles as Marquette rolled to clinch a share of the Big East Conference title.

Hiedeman had 21 and 10 rebounds and Blockton had 16 and 10 for her first double-double of the season. Danielle King added 15 points and Amani Wilburn scored 13 for the Golden Eagles (23-5, 14-2 Big East).

A'riana Gray had 21 points and eight rebounds for the Musketeers (11-16, 2-14).

NO. 13 SOUTH CAROLINA 82, TENNESSEE 67

Bianca Cuevas-Moore scored a career-high 28 points as South Carolina never trailed.

South Carolina (20-7, 12-2 Southeastern Conference) overcame the absence of leading scorer Te'a Cooper,

who sprained her left ankle Thursday in a loss to No. 16 Kentucky.

Donyah Cliney matched a career high with 16 points and Alexis Jennings scored 13 of her 15 points in the second half for South Carolina.

Rennia Davis scored 15 points and Zaay Green had 12 for Tennessee (17-10, 6-8).

NO. 14 MIAMI 64, NO. 22 FLORIDA ST 54

Mykea Gray had eight of her 19 points in the fourth quarter, including a clutch jumper with 1½ minutes left followed by a big steal, and Miami ended a nine-game regular-season losing streak in the rivalry.

Beatrice Mompremier scored 18 points, giving her 999 in her career, and grabbed 10 rebounds for the Hurricanes. (23-6, 11-3 Atlantic Coast Conference).

Woolfolk scored 20 points, Nicki Ekhomu had 12 for the Seminoles (21-6, 9-5).

BUCS

FROM PAGE 1

No. 5.

Nick Bosa, Ohio State: The defensive end is projected to go No. 1 overall to the Cardinals, but plans change. A core muscle injury forced him to leave Ohio State. He has good bloodlines with his brother, Joey, already one of the league's top edge rushers.

Small chance he would fall as far as No. 5, but the Bucs would pounce if he did.

Quinnen Williams, Alabama: Can't go wrong with Bosa or Williams, Williams or Bosa. The defensive tackle, a big, physical interior pass rusher that could team with Vita Vea for years to come. Remember, Gerald McCoy is 31.

Josh Allen, Kentucky: A 6-foot-5, 260-pound defensive end with long arms and 17 sacks in the SEC to his credit, Allen is the edge rusher that some teams may have as the best player in the draft.

Montez Sweat, Mississippi State: Raymond James Stadium already is the Sweat box. In two seasons with the Bulldogs, the defensive end had 22.5 sacks

and 30 tackles for loss.

Greedy Williams, LSU: Who doesn't want a ball-hawking corner back named Greedy? Not the most physical corner at 6-3, 183. But he can lock down some of the NFC South's big receivers like Michael Thomas and Julio Jones. Had nine INTs in the past two seasons. Bucs passed on a Pro Bowl talent last year in Chargers safety Derwin James. Would they do it again?

Players to watch trading back

Devin White, LSU: Cut in the same bayou mold as line-backer Kwon Alexander, White brings energy and physicality to any defense. Tampa Bay needs some LBs to play the 3-4 with the uncertainty of Alexander's knee and becoming a free agent as well as Kendell Beckwith not playing last year due an ankle injury.

Rashan Gary, Michigan: The big man in the middle for the Wolverines defense, Gary has the versatility to play inside at defensive tackle or off the edge. Injuries accounted for a drop off from 11.5 to 6.5 sacks this season.

Jonah Williams, Alabama: Bucs have big needs on the offensive line and Williams could fill one of them for years.



AP PHOTO

LSU cornerback Andraez "Greedy" Williams has nine interceptions in the past two seasons.

SPRING TRAINING: Box scores

Box score for New York Yankees 8, Tampa Bay Rays 5. Includes player names, stats, and totals.

Box score for Milwaukee Brewers 10, Texas Rangers 1. Includes player names, stats, and totals.

Box score for Los Angeles Dodgers 13, Los Angeles Angels 9. Includes player names, stats, and totals.

Box score for Arizona Diamondbacks 12, Cleveland Indians 3. Includes player names, stats, and totals.

Box score for New York Yankees 10, Tampa Bay Rays 2. Includes player names, stats, and totals.

Box score for Milwaukee Brewers 1, Texas Rangers 9. Includes player names, stats, and totals.

Box score for Los Angeles Dodgers 11, Los Angeles Angels 5. Includes player names, stats, and totals.

Box score for Arizona Diamondbacks 10, Cleveland Indians 2. Includes player names, stats, and totals.

Box score for Chicago Cubs 9, San Francisco Giants 5. Includes player names, stats, and totals.

Box score for Kansas City Royals 14, Oakland Athletics 5. Includes player names, stats, and totals.

Box score for Seattle Mariners 4, Colorado Rockies 2. Includes player names, stats, and totals.

Box score for San Diego Padres 5, Chicago White Sox 4. Includes player names, stats, and totals.

Box score for Chicago Cubs 9, San Francisco Giants 5. Includes player names, stats, and totals.

Box score for Kansas City Royals 14, Oakland Athletics 5. Includes player names, stats, and totals.

Box score for Seattle Mariners 4, Colorado Rockies 2. Includes player names, stats, and totals.

Box score for San Diego Padres 5, Chicago White Sox 4. Includes player names, stats, and totals.

Box score for Washington Nationals 12, St. Louis Cardinals 2. Includes player names, stats, and totals.

Box score for Pittsburgh Pirates 10, Miami Marlins 6. Includes player names, stats, and totals.

Box score for Cincinnati Reds 14, Los Angeles Angels 2. Includes player names, stats, and totals.

Box score for Minnesota Twins 9, Boston Red Sox 8. Includes player names, stats, and totals.

Box score for Washington Nationals 12, St. Louis Cardinals 2. Includes player names, stats, and totals.

Box score for Pittsburgh Pirates 10, Miami Marlins 6. Includes player names, stats, and totals.

Box score for Cincinnati Reds 14, Los Angeles Angels 2. Includes player names, stats, and totals.

Box score for Minnesota Twins 9, Boston Red Sox 8. Includes player names, stats, and totals.

Box score for Houston Astros 5, Atlanta Braves 2. Includes player names, stats, and totals.

Box score for Baltimore Orioles 9, Toronto Blue Jays 8. Includes player names, stats, and totals.

Box score for Cincinnati Reds 14, Los Angeles Angels 2. Includes player names, stats, and totals.

Box score for Minnesota Twins 9, Boston Red Sox 8. Includes player names, stats, and totals.

Box score for Atlanta Braves 10, Houston Astros 6. Includes player names, stats, and totals.

Box score for Toronto Blue Jays 10, Baltimore Orioles 1. Includes player names, stats, and totals.

Box score for Cincinnati Reds 14, Los Angeles Angels 2. Includes player names, stats, and totals.

Box score for Minnesota Twins 9, Boston Red Sox 8. Includes player names, stats, and totals.



AP PHOTO

Former Boston Red Sox hitter Hanley Ramirez has agreed to sign a minor league contract with the Cleveland Indians.

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 Mainly cloudy; not as warm HIGH 77° LOW 63° 20% chance of rain / 25% chance of rain	 A thunderstorm in spots in the morning 78° / 65° 40% chance of rain	 Mostly cloudy with a couple of showers 80° / 64° 60% chance of rain	 Partly sunny and pleasant 82° / 65° 10% chance of rain	 Partly sunny and nice 83° / 64° 10% chance of rain	 Sunshine and patchy clouds 84° / 64° 15% chance of rain

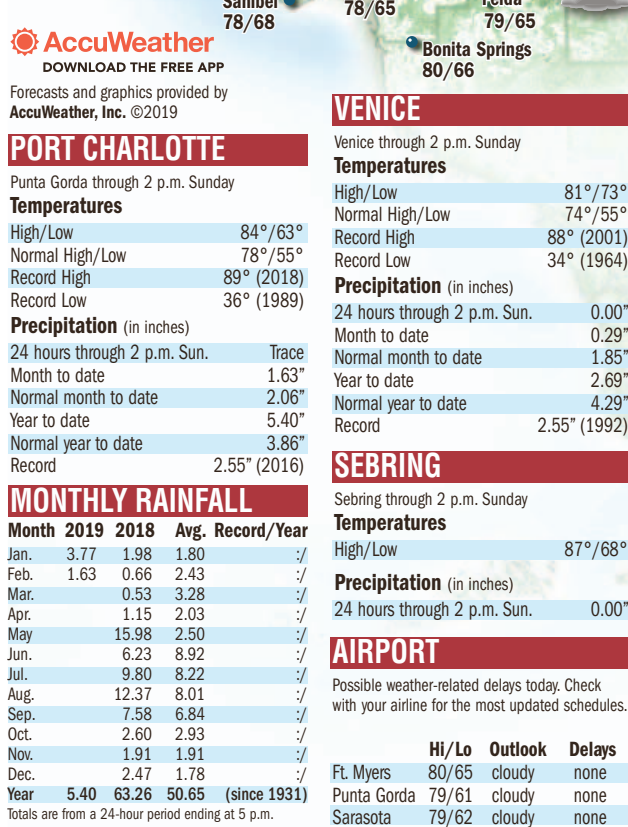
FLORIDA CITIES

City	Today			Tue.		
	Hi	Lo	pc	Hi	Lo	pc
Apalachicola	67	57	pc	67	61	c
Bradenton	77	65	c	75	65	t
Clearwater	75	65	c	72	65	t
Coral Springs	79	72	pc	78	69	t
Daytona Beach	71	57	c	74	60	pc
Fort Lauderdale	80	70	pc	79	68	t
Fort Myers	80	65	c	82	65	pc
Gainesville	73	52	pc	75	58	pc
Jacksonville	66	48	pc	73	58	pc
Key Largo	80	74	s	79	73	pc
Key West	82	72	s	83	73	pc
Lakeland	76	62	pc	74	64	c
Melbourne	75	63	c	77	63	r
Miami	82	70	pc	79	68	pc
Naples	83	66	c	82	65	t
Ocala	73	51	pc	72	57	pc
Okeechobee	74	63	c	76	66	c
Orlando	75	59	pc	74	61	sh
Panama City	69	52	pc	70	58	pc
Pensacola	67	53	pc	66	59	pc
Pompano Beach	79	72	pc	79	68	t
St. Augustine	63	54	pc	70	57	pc
St. Petersburg	77	63	c	75	63	c
Sarasota	79	62	c	78	63	t
Tallahassee	69	48	pc	72	56	pc
Tampa	77	62	c	74	64	c
Vero Beach	75	63	c	77	64	sh
West Palm Beach	78	69	pc	78	68	t

CONDITIONS TODAY

UV Index and RealFeel Temperature® Today





AccuWeather
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PORT CHARLOTTE

Punta Gorda through 2 p.m. Sunday

Temperatures
High/Low 84°/63°
Normal High/Low 78°/55°
Record High 89° (2018)
Record Low 36° (1989)

Precipitation (in inches)
24 hours through 2 p.m. Sun. Trace
Month to date 1.63"
Normal month to date 2.06"
Year to date 5.40"
Normal year to date 3.86"
Record 2.55" (2016)

VENICE

Venice through 2 p.m. Sunday

Temperatures
High/Low 81°/73°
Normal High/Low 74°/55°
Record High 88° (2001)
Record Low 34° (1964)

Precipitation (in inches)
24 hours through 2 p.m. Sun. 0.00"
Month to date 0.29"
Normal month to date 1.85"
Year to date 2.69"
Normal year to date 4.29"
Record 2.55" (1992)

SEBRING

Sebring through 2 p.m. Sunday

Temperatures
High/Low 87°/68°

Precipitation (in inches)
24 hours through 2 p.m. Sun. 0.00"

AIRPORT

Possible weather-related delays today. Check with your airline for the most updated schedules.

	Hi/Lo	Outlook	Delays
Ft. Myers	80/65	cloudy	none
Punta Gorda	79/61	cloudy	none
Sarasota	79/62	cloudy	none

SPRING TRAINING: Roundup

Marlins prospect Victor Victor Mesa strains hamstring

PIRATES 10, MARLINS 6

Top prospect Ke'Bryan Hayes hit two home runs, including a game-winning grand slam in the bottom of the ninth for Pittsburgh. Lonnie Chisenhall doubled and scored.

Miami outfield prospect Victor Victor Mesa strained his right hamstring beating out a double-play relay. The 22-year-old Mesa, who signed a \$5.25 million bonus last October, had not played in a game in nearly two years following his defection from Cuba.

scored for Houston's split squad. Framber Valdez, vying for a rotation spot, got the start for the Astros, pitching two shutout innings.

Mike Foltyniewicz started for Atlanta, allowing an unearned run in two innings. Pedro Florimon hit a solo home run.

NATIONALS 12, CARDINALS 2

Paul Goldschmidt was hitless in two at-bats in his first game for St. Louis. Brian Dozier singled and walked in his Washington debut.

Cardinals starter Michael Wacha gave up one run in two innings.

CUBS 9, GIANTS 5

San Francisco star Madison Bumgarner pitched a perfect first inning, then failed to retire any of the six batters he faced in the second. He hit David Bote in the helmet with a pitch, but the Chicago infielder was able to walk off under his own power.

Addison Russell singled and had a sacrifice fly in his first action for the Cubs since being suspended 40 games under Major League Baseball's domestic violence policy.



San Francisco Giants starting pitcher Madison Bumgarner threw a perfect first inning against the Chicago Cubs in Scottsdale, Ariz. on Sunday. In the second inning, he was unable to retire any of the six batters he faced.

AP PHOTO

ASTROS (SS) 10, METS 1

Even under the Florida sun in February, Jacob deGrom expects a lot from himself. So after giving up a leadoff double to Tony Kemp the NL Cy Young Award winner wasn't happy.

"I was a little bit frustrated today," the New York Mets ace said Sunday. "I felt like I made a pretty good pitch to Kemp there, a high fastball that he got to. That's frustrating."

DeGrom gave up an RBI single to Tyler White on a 97 mph fastball later in the first inning of a 10-1 loss to a split squad of Houston Astros.

A year after posting a 1.70 ERA, deGrom exited his exhibition debut with a 9.00 ERA.

DeGrom threw 14 of his 17 pitches for strikes. New catcher Wilson Ramos had two hits. Kemp added a two-run triple and Michael Brantley went 1 for 3 in his Houston debut.

RED SOX 8, TWINS 5

Jackie Bradley Jr. homered in his first at-bat of the spring for Boston. Red Sox prospect Michael Chavis hit a three-run homer for the second straight day.

Max Kepler hit two solo home runs for Minnesota.

MARINERS 4, ROCKIES 2

Nolan Arenado homered for Colorado and newcomer Daniel Murphy fouled out in his first plate appearance for the Rockies. Starter Jon Gray pitched two innings, allowing one run on a hit and a walk.

Ichiro Suzuki walked, stole a base and scored for Seattle. Jay Bruce went 0 for 2 in his Mariners debut.

added a two-run single for Kansas City.

Marcus Semien had two singles and an RBI for Oakland.

start.

Peter Bourjos went 1 for 3 with an RBI and two runs scored for the Angels.

ORIOLES 9, BLUE JAYS 8

Vladimir Guerrero Jr., the No. 1 prospect in baseball at age 19, had an RBI single and scored for Toronto. Cavan Biggio, son of Hall of Famer Craig Biggio, also went 1 for 3. Bo Bichette, the Blue Jays' No. 2 prospect, singled and scored.

Trey Mancini had two singles, scoring a run for Baltimore.

PHILLIES 10, TIGERS 6

Detroit star Miguel Cabrera singled and walked in his first action since tearing his biceps last Sunday.

PADRES 5, WHITE SOX 4

Hunter Renfroe had a solo home run and a single, scoring twice for San Diego. Manuel Margot added two hits and a stolen base.

James McCann had two of Chicago's 10 hits.

DIAMONDBACKS 12, INDIANS 3

Newcomer Wilmer Flores had two singles, scoring twice and driving in a run for Arizona. Robbie Ray retired four batters in a start for the Diamondbacks, allowing one hit and walking two.

Jason Kipnis had two singles for Cleveland.

REDS 14, ANGELS (SS) 2

Albert Pujols had a pair of singles and Mike Trout went 0 for 2 leading off for the Angels' split squad in their spring debuts.

David Peraza had three hits, scoring a run and driving in another, and two stolen bases for Cincinnati.

ASTROS (SS) 5, BRAVES 2

Josh Reddick doubled and

ROYALS 14, ATHLETICS 5

Chris Owings hit a solo home run and Cheslor Cuthbert

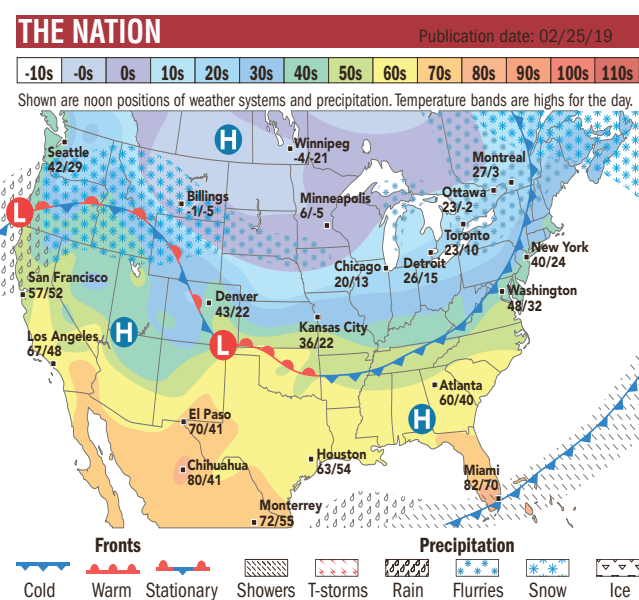
Chris Taylor had an RBI double and scored for the Dodgers. Russell Martin singled in a run in his first at-bat since returning to Los Angeles in the offseason. Hyun-Jin Ryu allowed one hit in a one-inning

DODGERS 13, ANGELS (SS) 9

Chris Taylor had an RBI double and scored for the Dodgers. Russell Martin singled in a run in his first at-bat since returning to Los Angeles in the offseason. Hyun-Jin Ryu allowed one hit in a one-inning

BREWERS 10, RANGERS 1

Hernan Perez hit a three-run homer in his first spring at-bat and added a double for Milwaukee. Newcomer Ben Gamel singled and scored two runs. Yasmani Grandal struck out three times in his debut.



U.S. Extremes (For the 48 contiguous states yesterday)

High 90° at Boca Raton, FL Low -26° at Havre, MT

City	Today			Tue.		
	Hi	Lo	pc	Hi	Lo	pc
Albuquerque	54	31	pc	58	32	s
Anchorage	25	10	s	26	15	s
Atlanta	60	40	pc	64	50	pc
Baltimore	44	28	s	46	25	pc
Billings	-1	-5	sn	3	-5	sn
Birmingham	60	40	pc	65	50	s
Boise	48	38	r	42	33	c
Boston	40	21	pc	40	13	c
Buffalo	24	14	sf	21	14	c
Burlington, VT	30	10	c	15	1	s
Charleston, WV	45	25	s	49	28	pc
Charlotte	60	33	s	65	44	pc
Chicago	20	13	pc	25	23	sn
Cincinnati	39	23	s	44	28	pc
Cleveland	29	18	c	26	22	c
Columbia, SC	64	34	pc	65	46	pc
Columbus, OH	34	22	s	35	25	pc
Concord, NH	33	12	pc	22	3	s
Dallas	62	46	pc	62	53	c
Denver	43	22	pc	53	24	pc
Des Moines	13	7	pc	20	14	c
Detroit	26	15	c	27	19	pc
Duluth	5	-12	pc	11	4	sn
Fairbanks	21	-1	pc	21	-2	s
Fargo	-2	-17	pc	6	-3	sn
Hartford	36	18	pc	30	12	s
Helena	-2	-7	sn	-1	-10	sn
Honolulu	80	64	sh	77	63	sh
Houston	63	54	pc	68	60	sh
Indianapolis	33	21	s	39	28	pc
Jackson, MS	62	41	pc	64	50	pc
Kansas City	36	22	pc	40	27	c
Knoxville	50	30	pc	59	41	pc
Las Vegas	62	44	s	69	47	pc
Los Angeles	67	48	s	66	49	pc
Louisville	45	29	s	53	34	pc
Memphis	57	38	pc	61	43	s
Milwaukee	16	10	c	22	21	sn
Minneapolis	6	-5	c	11	6	sn
Montgomery	66	43	pc	68	54	pc
Nashville	52	34	pc	63	42	pc
New Orleans	65	56	c	67	61	c
New York City	40	24	s	36	21	s
Norfolk, VA	56	36	s	53	37	s
Oklahoma City	60	41	s	56	45	c
Omaha	12	4	c	20	11	c
Philadelphia	41	27	s	40	25	s
Phoenix	67	45	pc	71	51	pc
Pittsburgh	31	20	pc	32	22	pc
Portland, ME	37	12	pc	22	4	s
Portland, OR	37	26	sn	38	31	c
Providence	38	20	pc	32	13	s
Raleigh	57	31	s	62	36	pc
Salt Lake City	51	41	c	52	44	c
St. Louis	40	25	s	50	38	pc
San Antonio	64	54	pc	72	58	c
San Diego	65	49	s	64	50	pc
San Francisco	57	52	r	60	51	r
Seattle	42	29	c	42	27	c
Washington, DC	48	32	s	50	30	pc

WORLD CITIES

City	Today			Tue.		
	Hi	Lo	pc	Hi	Lo	pc
Amsterdam	60	37	pc	61	38	pc
Baghdad	71	48	s	72	50	s
Beijing	52	28	pc	52	31	pc
Berlin	55	36	pc	55	36	c
Buenos Aires	68	46	pc	73	52	c
Cairo	84	56	s	70	56	pc
Calgary	-1	-14	s	5	-13	pc
Cancun	86	74	pc	85	73	pc
Dublin	58	38	pc	56	39	pc
Edmonton	0	-28	s	4	-13	s
Halifax	34	16	c	19	5	c
Kiev	42	33	pc	37	30	c
London	61	39	s	63	40	s
Madrid	66	37	s	68	35	s
Mexico City	75	50	pc	77	50	pc
Montreal	27	3	sf	11	-3	pc
Ottawa	23	-2	sn	10	-9	pc
Paris	61	37	s	63	38	s
Regina	-9	-22	s	-2	-18	c
Rio de Janeiro	97	80	pc	90	79	r
Rome	59	34	s	57	43	pc
St. John's	27	25	sn	31	17	c
San Juan	82	73	pc	82	73	sh
Sydney	77	65	pc	81	66	pc
Tokyo	55	44	sh	51	43	pc
Toronto	23	10	c	21	9	pc
Vancouver	40	22	s	38	23	s
Winnipeg	-4	-21	s	2	-7	c

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