Stoltenberg seeks to heal divisions between alliance, U.S.

WASHINGTON — In the first address to Congress by a NATO head, Jens Stoltenberg, on Wednesday acknowledged serious divisions within the alliance and called for bigger defense budgets to cope with global challenges such as Russian assertiveness, the core reason NATO was created 70 years ago.

“We have to be frank,” Stoltenberg said before a joint meeting of Congress. “Questions are being asked on both sides of the Atlantic about the strength of our partnership. And, yes, there are differences.”

The NATO secretary general acknowledged President Donald Trump with competing allies to spend more on defense, without noting that Trump also has questioned the value of the alliance and suggested that some members are free-riders. Trump’s criticisms have upset a delicate balance of the alliance and suggested that some members are free-riders. Trump’s criticisms have upset a delicate balance of the alliance and suggested that some members are free-riders. Trump’s criticisms have upset a delicate balance of the alliance and suggested that some members are free-riders. Trump’s criticisms have upset a delicate balance of the alliance and suggested that some members are free-riders. Trump’s criticisms have upset a delicate balance of the alliance and suggested that some members are free-riders.

“Obamacare” fight. First example, that in response to the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, NATO invoked Article 5 of its founding charter to come to the aid of a member under attack. He said allies also provide the U.S. with valuable military support, from tracking submarines in the Arctic to providing bases in Europe from which the U.S. can project power.

“Our alliance has not lasted for 70 years out of a sense of nostalgia or of sentiment, but because it is in the national interest,” he said. “NATO lasts as an insurance policy, a guarantee of future support, and it’s a reminder to all of our allies of their obligations.”

Stoltenberg made a point of highlighting the benefits to the United States of having NATO allies. He noted, for example, that in response to the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, NATO invoked Article 5 of its founding charter to come to the aid of a member under attack. He said allies also provide the U.S. with valuable military support, from tracking submarines in the Arctic to providing bases in Europe from which the U.S. can project power.

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US finds "severe problems" in Alabama prisons

By Kim Chandler and Eric Tucker
The Justice Department has determined that Alabama’s prisons are violating the Constitution by failing to protect inmates from violence and sexual abuse and by housing them in unsafe and overcrowded facilities, according to a scathing report Wednesday that described the problem as "severe" and "profound.

The federal government could sue if officials there and overcrowded facilities, violence and sexual abuse and prisons are violating the

The Justice Department has

Afternoon:

Pick 3

REPORTER: Roxanne Brown
frank.jolley@dailycommet.com................................ 352-365-8268
DIGITAL EDITOR, LIFESTYLES EDITOR: Whitney Lehnecker
EXECUTIVE EDITOR: Tom McNiff
steve.skaggs@dailycommercial.com ....................... 352-365-8213
PUBLISHER: Steve Skaggs

Afternoon:

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to address crowding through
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that Roxanne Brown

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Clermont
Cop: Man stabs woman's boyfriend outside bar, dies off

By John Kennedy

A man attacking a woman outside a bar Tuesday morning allegedly stabbed her boyfriend and when the man intervened, police say.

Joseph Elroy Nunez, 24, allegedly attacked the woman and her boyfriend in a bar in the 600 block of Black Mountain Drive. The man died later at a hospital.

A witness who intervened said he was driving westward on U.S. 17 and saw the victim's blood-spattered body.

A police sergeant and a detective arrived after and witnesses were able to identify the victim's vehicle's tag number. The victim was transferred to Orlando Regional Medical Center.

Police Sergeant Ryan Hogan was presumed as dead when he was driving northeast on U.S. 17 and had the victim's blood-spattered ident-

By Payne Ray

Lake County Animal Enforcement Supervisor Alyssa Bates guid-

Protesters condemn bill arming teachers

The Orlando Sentinel reports that Hispanics at a school shooting protest Wednesday in the Capitol, a small-scale version of the massive demonstrations against gun violence that followed last year’s shootings at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School.

Two students who watched the massacre of 17 people at the Parkland school spoke from the steps of the Historic Old Capitol.

“He said to me that teachers is so irrational and just stupid,” said Ashlar Earnst, a senior at Winter Springs High School. “I told him I’m not a teach-

Tips for living with alligators

The American alligator, Florida’s state reptile, is an important part of Florida’s wetland habitats. This large reptile is found in locations where the water is fresh, wetland ponds, swamps and slow-moving rivers.

During spring, alligators become more active and visible. When temperatures rise, their metabolism increases and they begin seeking prey. Although alligator bites incidents result-

Lake County Animal Enforcement Supervisor Alyssa Bates guides the ugly, Shib-Tzu-Poodle-mix that she rescued from a neighborhood storm drain in Grand Island. The dog had been missing around a week. [LAKELY KIRKPATRICK/DAILYCOMMERCIAL.COM]
Rudy Reese Howard

Rudy Reese Howard, 69, of Center Hill Florida, son of Grady and Zelda Howard and sister, Linda Howard. He was born to the home on March 30, 2019. Survived by four children, Penny Smith of Allentown, Pennsylvania; Grady, Justin and Heidi Howard of Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina; Mary Carter of Tampa, Florida; 6 grandchildren. He was preceded to the church by his wife, Robin. Mr. Perry will be held on Sunday, March 17, 2019, 11:00 AM at the Church of God of Prophecy, Mascotte, FL.

Wesley Lopez Brown

Wesley L. Brown, 50, Leesburg, Florida, born May 17, 1968, in Orlando, FL. He transitioned from labor to reward on March 29, 2019. A Celebration of Life will commence on Monday, April 1, 2019, 6, 2019 at 11:00 AM at Mount Zion Baptist Church, 1318 E. Main Street, Leesburg FL. Rev. Dr. Daryl E. Reeves, Pastor, Rev. James Brown, Officiating. Professional mourners to gather at Rocker-Cusack Mortuary, Leesburg, FL. Viewings will be one hour prior to the service at final arrangements entrusted to Rocker-Cusack Mortuary, Leesburg, FL. Burial to be at Mount Zion Baptist Church Cemetery.

George Franklin Perry

George Franklin Perry passed away on March 30, 2019. He leaves behind his loving wife; Lovely Joan Perry, his mother; Maureen Saunders, his father; Elbert Franklin Perry, Jr., his brother; Elliott Myers Jr., his sister,落地；Linda Perry, his grandparents; and a host of other relatives and friends. Funeral services will be held by Mr. Perry will be held Saturday, April 6, 2019 at 11:00 AM at Germaine's Memorial Baptist Church located at 500 S. Bay St. Eustis, FL. 32726. Viewings will be one hour prior to the service at these arrangements entrusted to Rocker-Cusack Mortuary, Leesburg, FL. Burial to be at Mount Zion Baptist Church Cemetery.

Robert D. “Skip” Crawford

Robert D. “Skip” Crawford of Altoona, passed away on April 3, 2019, at the age of 69. Mr. Crawford was a U.S. Army veteran having served in the United States Marine Corps. He had been preceded by his wife Dorothy in 1991, and his sons, John Crawford in 2014, and Robert Crawford in 2018. He is survived by his sisters, and nephew, and nieces. Mr. Crawford was a Veteran having served in the United States Marine Corps. He had been preceded by his wife Dorothy in 1991, and his sons, John Crawford in 2014, and Robert Crawford in 2018. He is survived by his sisters, John Crawford of Altoona, Florida; 6 grandchildren. He was preceded to the church by his wife, Robin. Mr. Perry will be held on Sunday, March 17, 2019, 11:00 AM at the Church of God of Prophecy, Mascotte, FL.

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Protestors who oppose legislation arming teachers line the Rotunda leading into the Florida House chamber Wednesday, many carrying photos of those killed at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland or the Pulse nightclub in Orlando, Florida. The full House was scheduled to hear the bill Wednesday, but legislative leaders delayed action on the measure. Photographers were instructed not to photograph with phones.

The Florida House on Tuesday unveiled a tax package that includes a three-day tax “holiday” on clothes, school supplies and景点 applying for more than a seven-day tax “holiday” on hurricane supplies. (BETHEL HILLIARD/THE LAKELAND EAGLE)

The Florida House on Tuesday unveiled a tax package that includes a three-day tax “holiday” on clothes, school supplies and景点 applying for more than a seven-day tax “holiday” on hurricane supplies. (BETHEL HILLIARD/THE LAKELAND EAGLE)
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Democrats say they want access to all of that information, even of conversations between Trump and McGahn, that is closed to the public. Nadler will be sure to keep the White House on its toes, he said, adding that if Trump obstructed the federal inquiry, then he would be asking for documents that are "produced by the president" and that "there is no amount of redaction that can satisfy them because they may not be responsive to the question."

"This is reckless, it's irresponsible and it's disingenuous," Collins said.

Trump himself has largely been silent on the report’s release while also saying he would have favored a more limited declassification. He then retaliated by calling Nadler "slow" and blaming him for not releasing the results of the vote. Trump said he wanted to get back at Nadler’s "vindictive" behavior, and he was not happy that the White House was not "as forthcoming" as he had been. He accused Nadler of "cover-up and obstruction of justice" and sequestered the documents in the White House, meaning the committee should have access to them. However, Nadler is not sure they will be covered by executive privilege. The chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., passed a resolution calling for Attorney General William Barr to turn over the full Mueller report to Congress, saying that the House would take action if the Justice Department refused to legally disclose to the public the special counsel’s report on Russian interference in the 2016 presidential election. He also said that the report should be released to the American people and to Congress. He noted that the Justice Department had been obstructing the investigation, and he said that the committee would hold Barr in contempt if he did not turn over the full report. The House has already passed a resolution calling for Barr to turn over the full Mueller report to Congress, and Nadler said that he was prepared to take action if the Justice Department did not comply.

"We've worked together on a lot of issues," Trump said. "We've had a great relationship, and I'm looking forward to working with you, Jerry."

"I wasn't planning a vote right now, but I was never planning a vote without your knowledge," Trump said to Nadler. "I was never planning a vote without your knowledge, and I was never planning a vote without your knowledge." Trump added that he was not planning to take up the matter right now, but he was not ruling it out. He said that he had respected Nadler's position and that he had worked with him on many issues. He said that he was looking forward to working with the new chairman, Jerrold Nadler, who he said had done a great job. Trump said that he had worked with Nadler on many issues, and that he had always respected him. He said that he had been pleased with the way that Nadler had handled the investigations.

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But Nadler said that he was not surprised when he saw the differences between our views. He said that he had worked with Trump on many issues, and that he had always respected him. He said that he had been pleased with the way that Trump had handled the investigations. Trump said that he had worked with Nadler on many issues, and that he had always respected him. He said that he had been pleased with the way that Nadler had handled the investigations.

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**Wildfire could be sign of things to come**

By Jim Turner

The head of Florida’s wildfire protection program said this week that the state faces conditions that could lead to catastrophic wildfires in the months ahead and that such events could mean the need for state and federal assistance.

“Unfortunately, we know this is just one of the worst wildfire seasons in living memory,” said Commissioner Nikki Fried, appearing at a press conference March 12. “You could see fires that are running tens of millions of dollars to fight fire, tens of millions of dollars to contain by Monday morning.”

The CPRT has pre-registered more than 2,500 new wildfire protection equipment items in its budget proposal for the fiscal year beginning July 1, while the Senate budget proposal is at about $4 million for the same equipment.

The Senate budget proposal also features $20 million for hurricane recovery, which would bring the state response to the storm to about $15 billion.

The fire over the weekend of March 7-10 in the Panhandle was the first of several major wildfires in recent weeks that have been attributed to this fire, Karlens said.

“Catastrophic fire in those kinds of events means big aircraft that I’ve got to bring in under federal contract,” Karlens said on March 12. “You could see fires that are running tens of millions to $100 million, similar to what we saw with the wildfire, in this case, in the Panhandle.”

The entire debris total of more than 300 acres, after a brief 24 hours, said Fried. “It is going to take months and sometimes into July.”

The fire over the weekend required two homes to be evacuated, and because of the wind on the ground and the inability to get there.”

Fried said that they required $50 million from state land-owners for fire retardant, new forest firefighting equipment.

The House has offered at least $70 million for new wildfire protection equipment, to its budget proposal for the fiscal year beginning July 1, while the Senate budget proposal is at about $4 million for the same equipment.

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MARKET WATCH

Dow 28,218.13 ▲ 39.80

NASDAQ 7,938.26 ▲ 2.46 +0.03%

NYSE Comp. 12,892.57 ▲ 14.55 +0.11%

GLOBAL ECONOMIC DATA

Price-earnings ratio: ▲
Dividend: ▲

Stocks Recap

THE DOW 62,849.29 ▲ 59.6 ▲ 0.11%

The Dow Jones Industrial Average, which consists of 30 large companies, closed at 26,218.13 on April 4, 2019, down from 26,219.03 the previous day.

The S&P 500 Index, which includes 500 large companies, closed at 2,873.40 on April 4, 2019, down from 2,874.55 the previous day.

The Nasdaq Composite Index, which includes 3,500 small to medium-sized companies, closed at 7,938.26 on April 4, 2019, down from 7,940.65 the previous day.

The Russell 2000 Index, which includes 2,000 small-cap companies, closed at 1,568.40 on April 4, 2019, up from 1,567.88 the previous day.

The Wilshire 5000 Index, which includes all publicly traded companies, closed at 29,803.17 on April 4, 2019, up from 29,785.15 the previous day.

The S&P 1500 Index, which includes 1,500 large and mid-cap companies, closed at 2,678.40 on April 4, 2019, up from 2,677.45 the previous day.

Ratings and revenue fell short of ana-

lysts' expectations, and the company's fiscal first-quarter results were weak. The video game retail-

er posted a 47-cent loss for the quarter, down from a year-earlier profit of $2.96 per share. Revenue fell 5.8% to $2.7 billion, below expectations of $2.8 billion.

STOCK PERFORMANCE

STZ $228.16 ▲ .04 ▲ 0.02%

STZ's stock price fell 0.02% on April 4, 2019, closing at $228.16. The stock has been volatile in recent months, with prices ranging from $200.00 to $250.00.

Financial analysts predict the company's fiscal first-quarter results will be weak, and the stock price is likely to continue to decline.

W奖励

Winston Churchill is known for his ability to inspire others with his words. He once said, “Never give in, never give up.” These words have become a source of motivation for millions of people around the world. Churchill's unwavering spirit and determination have inspired countless individuals to overcome challenges and achieve their goals.

While many people have been inspired by Churchill's words, his personal journey was far from easy. He faced numerous challenges throughout his life, including political setbacks, health issues, and personal tragedies. Despite these obstacles, Churchill never gave up. He consistently worked hard to achieve his goals and inspire others to do the same.

Churchill's legacy lives on today, and his words continue to inspire people around the world. Whether you are facing a personal challenge or struggling to achieve your goals, remember Churchill's words of encouragement: “Never give in, never give up.”
Safes lawmakers are considering building still another expressway — maybe two — right through North Florida’s natural assets. The plan is to extend the Suncoast Parkway north, which is already under construction. The new toll roads would inconvenience the Ichetucknee, Santa Fe and Suwannee rivers, already home to thousands of fish and springs, already have enough environmental challenges without new roads and development planned on their watersheds. Instead of continuing to throw money into an existing system, the state is constantly creating task forces until they get somewhere. The toll road plan “would shift infrastructure investment most to serve people and to sustain our southern springs heartland, fueling sprawl and diverting funding toward the roads proposed to open by 2030. Money at restoring damage to springs, the state needs to start now,” wrote Thomas Hawkins of 1000 Friends of Florida.

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If not an emergency, what is it?

Colin Thomas

The flood tide of illegal immigration continues to wash around our southern shore, and it shows no sign of letting up. Sun, Lindsay Gaetz, R-Apopka, called it a “breaking point.” DHS reported that 352,000 migrants entered the United States in April, making it the largest number of newcomers per month since April 2006, while welcoming relatively large sections of the border” to build expressways through rural and agricultural areas, where the costs will weigh on anyone’s conscience,” wrote Thomas Hawkins of 1000 Friends of Florida.

A recent study by the Brookings Institution found that illegal immigration costs the United States over $11 billion annually and the toll roads proposed to open by 2030. Money at restoring damage to springs, the state needs to start now,” wrote Thomas Hawkins of 1000 Friends of Florida.

Tom McNiff

B readily, it occurred to some that the Trump adminis-

The Department of Homeland Security issued a press release last month warning of a large number of migrants arriving from Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador. Acting Director Ron Vitiello. The department said the agreement “aims to reduce the flow of illegal migrants,” and that the “sweep of illegal immigration just hit a 12-year high, with more migrants on the more migrant caravans, and another wave of would-be asylum seekers, which the Department of Homeland Security has said would start arriving at court hearings. Trump’s administration wants to include a new migrant court system that would have fix this problem long ago. Both parties should work together. With an overall cap of 150,000 refugees, Congress under both Presidents Trump and Obama has already taken steps to cooperate with Washington, both during the prior migration spike and in the current surge. As the Trump administration continues to work with the migration crisis through better coordinated efforts and to eliminate the risk of paralyzing manufacturing and throwing the U.S. econ-

Tom McNiff

We welcome signed letters and guest columns. Letters should not exceed 300 words and columns should not exceed 800 words. Columns need to include a recent headshot of the writer. We edit for length, clarity, and grammar. Mail: Venice, P.O. Box 40999, Longboat Key, FL 34240-0997. Email: letters@suncoastnews.com.

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Tom McNiff, Editor
(941) 352-9570
tom.mcniff@dailycommercial.com

The toll road plan "would shift infrastructure investment most to serve people and to sustain our southern springs heartland, fueling sprawl and diverting funding toward the roads proposed to open by 2030. Money at restoring damage to springs, the state needs to start now," wrote Thomas Hawkins of 1000 Friends of Florida.

A recent study by the Brookings Institution found that illegal immigration costs the United States over $11 billion annually and the toll roads proposed to open by 2030. Money at restoring damage to springs, the state needs to start now," wrote Thomas Hawkins of 1000 Friends of Florida.

Tom McNiff

Huffing and puffing at the border

Colin Thomas

If not an emergency, what is it?

Colin Thomas

If not an emergency, what is it?

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If not an emergency, what is it?
LONDON — Prime Minister Theresa May has brought a new word to the Brexit lexicon: compromise. May met Wednesday with opposition Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn to try to avoid Britain’s chaotic departure from the European Union in little over a week.

The shift came after lawmakers rejected the government’s Brexit deal on three occasions and twice failed to agree on any other option. What happens next is uncertain.

NO DEAL

If Britain can’t break its Brexit impasse, it risks crashing out of the EU in nine days. Last month, the EU agreed to postpone Article 50’s Article 50’s April 12 deadline, come up with a new plan and seek a further extension, or leave without an agreement or a transition period to smooth the way.

Most politicians, economists and business groups think leaving the world’s largest trading bloc without an agreement would be calamitous for the U.K. and disastrous for the EU. It could lead to tariffs imposed on trade between Britain and the EU, and customs checks that could clog up ports and supply chains with essential goods.

A compromise on Brexit legislation and May’s Cabinet divided, which the Labour Party dismisses as “Project Fear” and argues for, might just be a “clean Brexit.” But most lawmakers are opposed to leaving without a deal. Parliament has voted to reject the only course of action the bloc says it will adopt if necessary. Brexit is canceled or the EU grants an extension. The bloc says it will only accept an agreement that offers a new Brexit deal.

A COMPROMISE DEAL

After almost two years of negotiations, Britain and the EU agreed in November, laying out the terms of the departure from the bloc and giving a rough outline of future relations. But it has been thrice rejected by Parliament amid opposition from lawmakers on both sides of the Brexit divide. Pro-Brexit lawmakers think it keeps Britain too closely tied to EU rules.

Pro-EU legislators argue it is worse than the U.K.’s “current status as an EU member.” On Tuesday, May she said it would be prepared to compromise with her Labour opponents to help them get the backing for a withdrawal deal. That’s likely to include a pledge to keep closer economic ties with the bloc than she has long advocated.

SOFT BREXIT?

May’s offer of opposition talks suggests she is pivoting to a softer form of Brexit than the one she has described for almost three years.

May has always insisted Britain must leave the EU’s single market and customs union in order to forge new trade deals around the world, but those ideas have strong opposition support.

BREXIT RECONSIDERED

The government has ruled out a “confirmatory referendum” if Britain comes up with a new Brexit deal. But May always insisted Britain must leave the EU’s single market and customs union in order to forge new trade deals around the world, but those ideas have strong opposition support.

This week, Parliament narrowly rejected a proposal for a new referendum on whether to leave the EU. The proposal for any Brexit deal would be put to public vote as a “confirmatory referendum” was backed by opposition parties, plus some of May’s Conservatives.

The government has ruled out holding another referendum, saying voters in 2016 made their decision to leave.

But with divisions in both Parliament and in May’s Cabinet, handing the decision back to the people in a new plebiscite could soon be the only way forward.

UK’s May, opposition seek elusive Brexit concord

By Jill Lawless

A Pro-Brexit Leave the European Union supporter holds up placards outside the Houses of Parliament in London. After failing repeatedly to settle Parliament’s backing for her Brexit blueprint, Britain’s Prime Minister Theresa May dramatically changed gear Tuesday, saying she would seek to delay Brexit — again — and hold talks with the opposition to seek a compromise.

The Associated Press

By Jill Lawless

A Pro-Brexit Leave the European Union supporter holds up placards outside the Houses of Parliament in London. After failing repeatedly to settle Parliament’s backing for her Brexit blueprint, Britain’s Prime Minister Theresa May dramatically changed gear Tuesday, saying she would seek to delay Brexit — again — and hold talks with the opposition to seek a compromise.

The Associated Press
Towering Gator tight end and turning heads at spring drills
By Graham Hall
Gainesville Sun Correspondent

Florida's spring light-reel plays midway through Florida's spring camp, often at the expense of the passing game. Now in his second season at Florida, Pitts is seemingly the leader of the offense, his speed as much of a factor as his lengthy frame.

“He’s one of the most dynamic players we have, as you can see. He comes in as a receiver, and he’s a guy you can put anywhere on the field,” tight end Lucas Krull said.

“That’s awesome to have a young guy like him that we can count on. He’s an elite player, he’s a great teammate and I love the way he’s working his butt off. It’s good to have a player like that. When we get in those situations, we can count on now. He’s a great player," Krull said.

Pitts plays in 12 games last season, primarily on special teams, as C’Ryan Lewis and Moral Stephens locked down both his inside targets for the majority of the season in Gainesville. Now, with starting spot open for the taking, Pitts has thrown his name into the discussion in his first spring camp at Florida.

But Pitts isn’t just competing for playing time at tight end. In the aftermath of his freshman season at UF, the pass-catching specialist has spent much of his time working with the wide receivers – a sizable workload for a player.

See PITTS, B3

Pitts impresses at spring drills

Mount Dora Christian Academy's tight end impresses at spring drills

By Zach Dean
Daily Commercial

Mount Dora Christian Academy's tight end impresses at spring drills.

Mount Dora Christian Academy has already enjoyed a rapid rise.

The Bulldogs started on Monday with a 4-0 come-from-behind road win against Class 5A powerhouse East Ridge to improve to 1-0 on the season.

Then, the team learned on Tuesday that it was the top-ranked Class 3A program in the state, according to MaxPreps.

For many players, the Villages' Terry Ivery (10) drives to the basket against Seacrest Country Day at No. 1 ranked Mount Dora Christian Academy.

Mount Dora Christian Academy has been the mainstay on the basketball court in recent years, is one-and-done, or you can do it through developmental coaching,” Few said. “But whether it’s one-and-dones or two-and-dones, you have to have it.”

A wealth of NBA talent has been the mainstay on premium talent such as Kentucky, Duke and Kansas, which are among the programs that stood out in the AP analysis. Of the 32 teams the AP analyzed (including seven that made fewer than 10 appearances but went to the Final Four at least once), those blue-bloods, along with North Carolina and “March Madness,” were the only programs that advanced to the three wins – a trip to the Elite Eight – per tournament appearances since 1980. (All teams were picked in the top 10 of programs that had the most early exits in recent years and were grouped by common team names).

That’s 120 unique formulas that have worked to make it to the Final Four.

The most surefire way to the pros – an Associated Press study of the 32 teams that have made it to the Final Four of the NCAA Tournament at least 10 times over the last 30 years, and saw a field that goes beyond the anecdotes and occasional team with magical runs that have underscored the sport’s history over the decades and decades for decades.

The conclusion, as succinctly summed up by Gonzaga coach Mark Few: “It’s not a big secret. If you want to get the NBA talent through recruiting, one-and-domes, or you can do it through developmental coaching,” Few said. “But whether it’s one-and-dones or two-and-dones, you have to have it.”

The AP analyzed rosters of every team to make the tournament at least 10 times over the last 30 years and saw a field that goes beyond the anecdotes and occasional team with magical runs that have underscored the sport’s history over the decades and decades for decades.

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That’s 120 unique formulas that have worked to make it to the Final Four.
By Michael Worker
Associated Press

HAVANA — The Cuban baseball federation announced its first group of players eligible for MLB contracts.

The deal, announced in December by MLB, the Cuban federation, and the Major League Baseball Players Association, specifies the player will receive 100% of his signing bonus and the club will pay the Cuban federation a royalty equivalent to 25% of the signing bonus.

12. Justin Rose 877 $2,431,269
11. Paul Casey ENG 5.55
10. Felix Rosenqvist, 40
9. James Hinchcliffe, 42
8. Takuma Sato, 37
7. Marco Andretti, 45
6. Will Power, 47
5. Aric Almirola, 245
4. Michael Annett, 209
3. Kevin Harvick, 256
2. Grant Enfinger, 194
1. Kyle Busch, 310

Through March 24
FROM PAGE B1

South Lake senior Ryan Boswell sits with his parents, Jennifer and Jamie, after he signed his letter of intent to play baseball at Stetson University.

PITTS

DeForest (in back under center for the Hatters, and, most importantly, he's a good guy."—McGovern

FROM PAGE A1

In the final game of the season, Mc Govern, meanwhile, had said, a career high of 380 yards and 26 touchdowns. When it comes to passports that, in many ways, have been running for the past two decades, Beilein says that his expansion plans have to be focused on what they're doing this season. Those are, of course, exceptions to the talent—equals-titles rule. This year's Michigan State team, which doesn't appear to have any NBA-ready underclassmen in its roster, even though it is one of the teams that traditionally draws that sort of talent.

The Loyola-Chicago and Macon-Monticello women's programs are part of the world that are the teams that prove, semi-regularly, that talent is not the only thing necessary for success in college basketball. The reality only serves to reinforce the point that talent is better. According to the league over the span of its history, there have been 13 regular-season tournament winners in the NCAA men's basketball tournament, and only one of them has not had early-entry talent. Ben Simmons, the former LSU product, was named AP Tournament MVP after his senior season. Simmons, who left to become lottery material, was the only one of the tournament's top 10 scorers who didn't have early-entry talent.

And the year-to-year consistency of the AP poll is remarkable, given that basketball is an unpredictable sport. But, remarkably, the AP poll is pretty consistent year to year. If you were to look at the AP poll from the past two decades, you'd find that most of the teams that made the tournament from one year to the next are the same teams, year after year after year. The AP poll certainly serves as a guide, but it's not the only thing to focus on when discussing the tournament. There are other factors at play, such as recent form, injuries, and other external factors. But, overall, the AP poll is pretty consistent year to year, and it's a good guide to predicting who will make the tournament and who will make it far.

FROM PAGE B1

The reality only serves to reinforce the point that talent is better.
**National League**

**East Division**

- **Atlanta**
  - W: 1 (L: 3.5) .250 2½ 1 1-3 W-1 1-0 0-3

**Central Division**

- **Chicago**
  - W: 4 (L: 1) .800 — — 4-1 W-4 0-0 4-1

**West Division**

- **Los Angeles**
  - W: 4 2 .667 — — 4-2 W-1 4-2 0-0

- **San Diego**
  - W: 1 (L: 4) .250 — — 1-4 W-1 1-0 0-3

- **San Francisco**
  - W: 3 (L: 1) .667 1-3 1 1-3 W-1 1-0 0-3

**American League**

**West Division**

- **Kansas City**
  - W: 2 3 .400 2 1½ 2-3 L-3 2-3 0-0

- **Cleveland**
  - W: 2 3 .400 2 1½ 2-3 L-1 1-1 1-2

**East Division**

- **Boston**
  - W: 1 5 .167 3½ 3 1-5 L-4 0-0 1-5

- **Baltimore**
  - W: 4 1 .800 — — 4-1 W-4 0-0 4-1

**Box Scores**

**NATIONAL LEAGUE**

**NEW YORK**

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<th>AB</th>
<th>R</th>
<th>H</th>
<th>BI</th>
<th>BB</th>
<th>SO</th>
<th>AVG.</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
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**DETROIT**

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<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>.250</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**STATISTICS**

**NEW YORK**

- Runs: 1
- Hits: 1
- RBIs: 1

**DETROIT**

- Runs: 3
- Hits: 1
- RBIs: 3

**RESULTS/SCHEDULE**

**WEDNESDAY'S GAMES**

- **Chicago Cubs** at **Atlanta**, late
- **St. Louis** at **Pittsburgh**, late
- **N.Y. Mets** at **Miami**, late
- **Houston** at **Texas**, late

**FRIDAY'S GAMES**

- **San Diego** at **St. Louis**, 4:15 p.m.
- **L.A. Dodgers** at **Colorado**, 4:10 p.m.
Fifth-place for Jimmie Johnson

KEN'S CALL:
He's been in and out of the conversation his entire career, but it's safe to say this is one new one of his “in” periods.

A fifth-place for Jimmie Johnson on Sunday buying $7 GODWIN: Is it rapidly approaching the second anniversary of his last win (June 4, 2017)?

KEN WILLIS’ TOP 10 NASCAR DRIVER RANKINGS

KYLE BUSCH

1. Chain breaker
Look for a driver to break the strangle- hold that Joe Gibbs Racing and Team Penske have on the Cup. Gibbs/ Penske drivers have won all seven races staged to date. Stewart-Haas Racing, which won four of this year’s races this past weekend, had seen all four of its drivers finish top-10 at Texas. Hendrick Motorsports showed up to play at Texas with three drivers, leading laps for the first time since the 2018 Daytona summer.

2. Qualifying rules
NASCAR changed the rules for Cup series qualifying for Texas, and there were still problems in time trials. Ryan Newman moved up the line on infield, but still managed to win at Texas. Denny Hamlin had two penalties and still managed to win at Texas.

Is Jimmie back?

FEBRUARY 2019 SCHEDULE AND WINNERS

Feb. 10: SCHEDULE AND WINNERS

Feb. 17: Denny Hamlin

Feb. 24: Joey Logano

March 3: Kevin Harvick

March 10: William Byron

March 17: Martin Truex Jr.

March 24: Kyle Busch

March 31: Denny Hamlin

April 7: Joey Logano

April 14: Kevin Harvick

April 21: Denny Hamlin

April 28: Joey Logano

May 5: Denny Hamlin

May 12: Denny Hamlin

May 19: Denny Hamlin

May 26: Joey Logano

June 2: Joey Logano

June 9: Joey Logano

SCHEDULE:

Daytona 500 (Denny Hamlin)

South Point 400 at Las Vegas (Kyle Busch)

Hollywood Casino 400 at Kansas (Martin Truex Jr.)

New Hampshire 301 (Jimmie Johnson)

Coca-Cola 600 at Charlotte (Jimmie Johnson)

Possum Run 400 at Martinsville (Kevin Harvick)

Michigan (Ryan Newman)

Brickyard 400 at Indianapolis (Jimmie Johnson)

NASCAR Cup Standings

SCHEDULE:

CUP SERIES: Food City 500

SCHEDULE: Friday, practice (Fox Sports 1, 1 p.m.); Saturday, practice (Fox Sports 1, 3:30 p.m. and 5 p.m.); Sunday, race (Fox Sports 1, 6 p.m.).

WHAT’S ON TAP (All times are Eastern)

CUP SERIES: Food City 500

SCHEDULE: Friday, practice (Fox Sports 1, 3:30 p.m.); Saturday, practice (Fox Sports 1, 3:30 p.m.); Sunday, race (Fox Sports 1, 3:30 p.m.).

Success for Kevin Harvick and Team Penske have on the Cup Series. Gibbs/ Penske drivers have won all seven races staged to date. Stewart-Haas Racing, which won four of this year’s races this past weekend, had seen all four of its drivers finish top-10 at Texas. Hendrick Motorsports showed up to play at Texas with three drivers, leading laps for the first time since the 2018 Daytona summer.

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On Tap this weekend

**Local Entertainment Scene**

### The Fair, Fish fry and 'Footloose' makes for a busy weekend

By Linda Florea Correspondent

The two-actor comedy "Greater Tuna" by the Bay Street Players opens Friday and plays until April 28 at the Historic State Theatre in Eustis.

The long-running off-Broadway hit features two actors creating the entire population of Tuna in a tour de force of quick-change artistry, changing costumes and characterizations faster than a jack rabbit runs from a coyote.

Two actors play all the men, women and animals in Tuna," said Nina Vatter, producer. "There are 47 costumes changes. It's a day in the life of Tuna, Texas, where the Lion's Club is too liberal and Pat's Claws never shut down."

Besides Vatter, Carlton Aase is directing, Heather McFall is the costumer and Tom Young and Brian Williams are the actors. "As you can imagine, it takes quite a bit to carry the show with two actors. They are on stage all the time and have to change their costumes, voice and demeanor," Vatter said.

"They pull it off incredibly and do a bang up job."

The play is rated PG, suitable for ages 10 and older. Details: baystreetplayers.org.

### HydroDrag Nationals

It's the 10th year for the U.S. HydroDrag Nationals from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. this Saturday and Sunday at the Wooten Park West Boat Ramp, 100 E. Butler St. in Tavares.

The event is the first of a four-event series, with the remaining races in May, July and November.

Billed as the World's Fastest Race on Water, UFA from U-jet is the current world record holder. Details: ujet.com.
During the time it took to transition to a new label, they thought would be their debut album “Start Here” when they signed their record deal and just trying to figure out how do we put out music that’s next. “We were completely blind-sided,” said Dye. “It was such a huge blessing in disguise and work that we have now,” Marlow said. “But it was a huge blessing in disguise and there’s no ill will.”

“(Country) Song” hit in 2014, the vocalist duo of Chris Marlow and Tyler Dye, of the duo Maddie & Tae were both just 18 when they signed their first record deal and had a successful debut album “Start Here” that was distributed with a No. 1 platinum debut single “Girl In a Country Song,” a jarring of gender stereotypes in contemporary country music. Expectations were high for their follow-up record.

Then they got the call their label was shutting down. “We were completely blindsided and just trying to figure out how do we put out music for our fans,” said Marlow, now 23. “How do we recover from this?”

Now nearly four years after releasing their first album, the duo is releasing their first EP on their new label Mercury Nashville called “One Heart to Another,” out April 26. And they’re giving away free songs with a radio album coming later this year.

During the time it took to transition to a new label, they decided that it was too soon and giving deeper than they were able to get on the first record. “It wasn’t for Dot closing and us having to completely start fresh, we wouldn’t have the body of work that we have now,” Marlow said. “But it was a huge blessing in disguise and there’s no ill will.”

During the process, they had to make an important decision. “We started hearing about our record label shutting down and we were like, what’s really refreshing is that it’s clear everyone’s invited,” said Dye. “We really needed to get back in the studio working what’s next and just trying to figure out how do we put out music that we are proud of.”

The album is a bit of a reflection of how they felt after Dot closed. The track “One Heart To Another” shows the vulnerability in getting the new music shows a more welcome-all party country, not just a side of us that we were going to show first and there was going to be multiple sides to follow after that. So we were never going to let it go in a standpoint of making us stick and that’s what we do.”

Considering they wrote their first album when they weren’t even 20 years old, the new music shows a more matured side, a maturity reached from having set back tracks and the realization that they’re just going to have to work harder because they are women in a male-dominated industry. “There’s more than just a side of us that we were going to show first and there was going to be multiple sides to follow after that. So we never were going to let it go in a standpoint of making us stick and that’s what we do.”

BILLYBOARD TOP 10 FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 24

TOP 10 SONGS OF THE HOT 100 LIST
1. 7 Rings, Ariana Grande
2. Wildin’, Post Malone
3. Sunflower (Spider-Man: Into The Spider-Verse), Post Malone & Swae Lee
4. A Lot, Post Malone
5. Please Me, Cardi B & Bruno Mars
6. Menger, Marshmello & Bastille
7. Shallow, Lady Gaga & Bradley Cooper
8. Sucker, Jonas Brothers
9. Middle Child, J. Cole
10. Going Bad, Hoodie MIll Featuring Drake

TOP 10 ALBUMS OF THE BILLBOARD 200 LIST
1. The Album, Juice WRLD
2. Thank U, Next, Ariana Grande
3. Number One Fan, Lady Gaga & Bradley Cooper
4. Hoodie SZN, A Boogie Wit Da Hoodie
5. Orange: The Complete Series, Post Malone
6. Scorpion, C.Pacino
7. A Star Is Born, Bradley Cooper, Lady Gaga & Bradley Cooper
8. Shallow, Lady Gaga & Bradley Cooper
9. Every Day, Shawn Mendes
10. The First Lady, 2Pac

FICTION
1. “Where the Crawdads Sing” by Delia Owens (P.G. Putnam’s Sons)
2. “Wolf Pack” by C.J. Box (Random House Books for Young Readers)
3. “Green Eggs and Ham” by Dr. Seuss (Random House Books for Young Readers)
4. “Dog Man: Brawl of the Wild” by Dav Pilkey (Graphix)
5. “One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish” by Dr. Seuss (Random House Books for Young Readers)

NONFICTION
1. “The Power Habit” by Charles Duhigg (Random House)
2. “Decomposing” by Michelle Obama (Crown)
3. “Girl, Wash Your Face” by Rachel Hollis (Thomas Nelson)
4. “Educated” by Tara Westover (Random House)
5. “The Case for Trump” by Victor Davis Hanson (Basic Books)

BEST-SELLING BOOKS

The Wall Street Journal's list reflects nationwide sales of hardcover books for the week ending March 17

FICTION
1. “Where the Crawdads Sing” by Delia Owens (P.G. Putnam’s Sons)
2. “Wolf Pack” by C.J. Box (Random House Books for Young Readers)
3. “Green Eggs and Ham” by Dr. Seuss (Random House Books for Young Readers)
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5. “The Case for Trump” by Victor Davis Hanson (Basic Books)

FICTION E-BOOKS
1. “The First Lady” by James Patterson and Brendan DuBois (Grand Central Publishing)
2. “Wolf Pack” by C.J. Box (Random House Books for Young Readers)
3. “Where the Crawdads Sing” by Delia Owens (P.G. Putnam’s Sons)
4. “Heart of the Devil” by Megan March (Red Dress Ebooks)
5. “Music Game” by Christine Foshan (Berkeley)

NONFICTION E-BOOKS
1. “Educated” by Tara Westover (Random House)
2. “Decomposing” by Michelle Obama (Crown)
4. “Red Blood” by John Carreyrou (Knopf)
DIVERSIONS

Latest disagreement may end rocky five-year relationship

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend and I have been together for five years. We have a lot in common, but I feel like we clash on many issues. I’ve been pressuring him to stop taking birth control pills because once you’re off of them, you are susceptible to pregnancy. However, I can’t trust him enough to make up my mind to stop taking birth control, and I feel guilty about leaving him. We have been married 27 years. My husband and I have decided I need to move to be with him. I don’t want to break up with my husband. Would it be wrong of me to do this? I want to make up my mind to stop taking birth control pills, and I’m sure you will tell me I can’t trust not to cheat, but I can see the look in his eyes, and I have a guaranteed answer on this one problem. It’s time to do what you should have done years ago. Recognize that you can do much better than my situation.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I live in Washington state. My son and his family live in South Carolina. I have decided that we should move there. My husband and his family have different religious beliefs, but we make up our minds to move there. He wants his family to come with him to South Carolina, but his family has not agreed. We have been married 27 years. I have a new job there, my first child was born from my first marriage, and he needs some objective advice. I am feeling本身 at risk, and I am sure you will tell me I can’t trust him not to cheat.

DEAR ABBY: I am attached to my husband, but I feel like I want him to move to be with me, but I can’t trust him enough to make up my mind to stop taking birth control pills. I just want to make up my mind to move to South Carolina, but can’t trust him not to cheat. Would it be wrong of me to move to be with him? I have no faith to begin with, so I can’t trust not to cheat. This is what you should do: make up your mind to move to South Carolina, but don’t do anything. If you are not truly happy, you should end this relationship. If you feel like your relationship is over, make up your mind to move to South Carolina, but don’t do anything.

DEAR ABBY: I am a pre-school teacher, and I have a four-year-old boy who is having behavior problems. He is hitting his classmates and is not following directions. He is also very aggressive. I have tried to talk to his parents, but they do not seem to care. I have also tried talking to his principal, but he is not interested in helping. How can I get him to stop his behavior?

DEAR ABBY: I am a 22-year-old woman, and I have a problem with my boyfriend. He is always late, and he never helps with the housework. I feel like I am doing all the work, and he never helps. I have talked to him about it, but he never does anything. How can I get him to help?

DEAR ABBY: I am a 30-year-old woman, and I have a problem with my husband. He is always late, and he never helps with the housework. I feel like I am doing all the work, and he never helps. I have talked to him about it, but he never does anything. How can I get him to help?

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**CALENDAR**

**From Page C1**

**Manipulation Details:** Do not hallucinate.

**SLOGGING YOUR FAMILY HISTORY:** From 10 to 11 a.m. in the Tech Room at the Lake County Public Library, 100 E. Main St. Free to all. 352-787-5400.

**CHURCH-WIDE YARD SALE:** All day at Midway Baptist Church, 32775 Bishop Lane, Locke Lake, Tavares. Toys, kitchen, clothing, food, beverages available. If you have items to donate, call 407-322-5505.

MONTHLY BREAKFAST: From 8 to 10 a.m. every Saturday the third Saturday of the month at 7510 W. Wright Ave, Debary. No charge. Donations of collectibles for sale. 352-429-4251.

**SAR MEETING:** At 10 a.m. the first Saturday of each month at the home of Joe Tassell, 2301 W. Central Ave. Free admission. 352-742-2772.

**LEGION BBQ:** 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays at American Legion John Gella Memorial Post 215, 194 W. Fountain St. in Eustis. The fair opens in April and runs until April 13 at the Lake County Fairgrounds, 44 N. Donnelly Street. Details: lakecofair.com. Non-resident admission and free parking at the site. Nonmembers must be signed in by a member of the post. Go to americanlegion352.com.

**SHARK SERVICES:** At 10 a.m. every Saturday at the Chalcedon House—Center for Adelaide and Learning, 13030 County Airport Blvd. Sunshine State Dairy Show. 352-787-2338 or gotoamericanlegion352.com.

**HYDRO BRAVE NATIVES:** At 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Eustis at the home of Ben and Marlene Johnstone, 4411 Eau Gallie, Eustis. The fair opens in April and runs until April 13 at the Lake County Fairgrounds, 44 N. Donnelly Street. Details: lakecofair.com.

**DINNER AND ENTERTAINMENT:** At 5 p.m. every Saturday at Amorette's Food & Drink, 3201 Seminole St, Eustis. Free admission, but reservations required. 352-787-2338 or gotoamericanlegion352.com.

**RANGER HISTORY PROGRAM:** From 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. every Saturday at the Clermont Performing Arts Center at 3 p.m. In early 19th century, who was the first African American to serve as a Ranger in Florida? (You can see the Ranger history exhibit in the foyer before the show.) The weekend kicks off this spring with 2 p.m. Friday on Montrose Street. Admission is $25.90 plus tax, and includes your choice of an entrée and a glass of wine.