Teacher of Year hopefuls ready
14 educators vie for district-wide honors on Wed.

By DEREK GILLIAM
From staff reports

Fourteen educators will represent their schools at the District Teacher of the Year ceremony, sponsored by Presbyterian Church on Wednesday.

The guest speaker will be Alexandre Lopes, 2013 Teacher of the Year and Christian McDonnell-Ambassador for Education. The event will begin at 4 p.m., with a reception to follow.

The 14 teachers of the year were chosen by their peers from the schools where they teach.

"Our teachers are representative of the high quality of all teachers in our schools," said Dorothy S. Spradley, director of education and community affairs. "It is our hope to have these teachers and all teachers to let them know how much we truly appreciate their many contributions, hard work, dedication, creativity, wellness and care they give the students in our schools."

Cory Russell and Alfred Johnson survey the damage caused by a car crashing into a house off Greg Place in Lake City. Johnson was sleeping in the back seat when the car smashed its way through the wall. Russell said he was in the living room when he heard a boom.

Woman said to be angry at boyfriend
She reportedly hit house, then chased him in her car.

By DEREK GILLIAM
gilliam@lakecityreporter.com

As a car crashed into the house and the tires smashed white, Alfred Johnson woke up and at first thought it was a tornado. The wall was blown in and the Swatch television had slid near where he lay sleeping on the couch, but there was no sound.

When the car backed up and turned the house a second time, he knew it wasn’t a storm. Allegedly, 35-year-old Alex Shemeka Mixon repeatedly crashed her car into the house on Greg Place off Llewellyn Avenue in Lake City about 10 a.m. Friday.

According to witnesses, she rammed the house of her ex-boyfriend and chased him with her vehicle around the house, destroying part of a wooden fence and sideswiping a car parked behind the house. Mixon faces charges of aggravated assault with a weapon and two counts of damage to property.

Cory Russell was at the house when the rampage started. He heard a boom while he was in the living room. Russell and his friend, who said he had been dating Mixon for the past two years, went outside to see what made the sound.

"Her foot was on the gas, and white smoke was coming out of the tires, then she backed up and ran into it at least two more times," Russell said.

"Then she backed up and tried to run over my friend who was running around the house trying to get away from her," Russell said.

"Mixon said the two had recently had an argument. He knew Mixon was angry because her boyfriend had reportedly cheated on her. Johnson said he was shocked that she crashed her car into the house. After Mixon chased her boyfriend around the house, Russell said, she stopped at the front of the house, unknowingly raked webbed, and started yelling at the man she had been chasing.

Then she sped down the street a few houses before sheriff’s deputies cut her off and stopped her. Russell said the destruction was over in about three minutes.

The man chased by Mixon in the car left the property when police arrived and was not available for comment. Contact information was left with Russell and Johnson, but the alleged victim had not contacted the Lake City Reporter by Saturday night.

The Columbia County Sheriff’s Office had not released official reports by press time Saturday night.

Plum Creek has a new partner for development

By DEREK GILLIAM
gilliam@lakecityreporter.com

The North Florida Intermodal Park has a new partner after Plum Creek Timber Company and The Rockefeller Group signed an agreement to pursue a joint-venture development project at the 2,622-acre site near Lake City.

Palm Beach is the largest landowner in the United States, currently owns the land of the intermodal park.

Plans for the intermodal park include developing the area into a hub of commercial and industrial activity. According to a news release, the joint-venture will look at developing manufacturing and distribution centers as well as developing an inland port and office buildings.

The site is on the south side of U.S. 200 east of Lake City.

"In the beginning of January, we started having talks and had to make the project shovel-ready for business prospects," said the area where the joint venture is planned would also included the 560-acre parcel known as the cattle park.

At the last stakeholder meet- ing held on Jan. 14, Rick Moore.
**A ROUND FLORIDA**

**Legislature puts employee salaries online**

TALLAHASSEE — Florida lawmakers finally got a chance on their own to find out who makes how much, as people are getting paid to work for a public government.

The two Republican lawmakers in charge of the House and Senate have finally linked to legislative websites that will allow the public to look up legislative employee pay and other information.

The two chambers are also posting copies of contracts.

The move to post the information comes nearly two weeks after House Speaker Richard Corcoran Scott posted salaries of most state workers. Scott eventually paid the salaries of other legislation employees even as some of those employees left the state for some of those working for the schools.

Florida has also added information regarding state contracts posted online.

Friday, a young spokesman, a resident of Tallahassee, Woodie Willardson, said the move to post the information was most frequently requested.

"This is the best way we can do to make public and so easy for people to access by putting them online," Dufly said.

The House website shows, for example, that 32 employees in the House earned $20,000 or more a year, while the Senate website shows 30 employees earning at least $20,000.

The House lawmakers came after a decision by the Senate to halt their efforts to ensure a better budget-tracking website that the Senate paid $5 million to develop.

The Florida Senate hired a contractor to build but the contract was canceled on the website called Transparency 2.0 website or Dec. 31. The vendor decided to take the $5 million total to new use.

The Legislature appropriated $2.5 million to transfer the website to Scott's office and make it available. But Scott deleted the website through a nodal contract.

Scott's office then announced that it would seek competitive bids for a Florida website budget website, general office and advocacy websites or other agencies had already used the pending system to make its 2.0 website and making it public.

The Legislature was already established by a vendor through a nodal contract.

Judge don't delay voting lawsuit JACKSONVILLE — A federal judge has ordered the state's resident to delay a voting law challenging Florida's redistricting and voting laws.

State sought a delay until June 3, about a month after the upcoming legislative session ends, to see if lawmakers restore early voting days they set in 2011.

U.S. District Judge Timothy Corrigan in Jacksonville told a court on Thursday there was no guarantee such a law will be enacted.

U.S. Rep. Corrine Brown, a Jacksonville Democrat, and other plaintiffs against the Republican-controlled Legislature's decision to remove early voting days and cut the first 13 days of early voting.

"Our ancestors. We shot this film on a Friday, Saturday: "Red Tails," the drama about the Tuskegee Airmen, and exceptional public service.

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**PEOPLE IN THE NEWS**

Kerry Washington tops NAACP awards

LOS ANGELES — Kerry Washington took a triple threat at the NAACP Image Awards.

The star of ABC’s "Scandal" picked up a trio of trophies at the 46th annual ceremony: outstanding actress in a drama series for "Scandal," outstanding performance in a movie or action picture for "Django Unchained" and the NAACP Image Award for her role in the film directed by Quentin Tarantino. "It belongs to our ancestors. We shot this film on a Friday, Saturday: "Red Tails," the drama about the Tuskegee Airmen, and exceptional public service.

"This award does not belong to me," said Washington, who plays a slave turned goddess to driving her character in "Django Unchained," as she picked up her first Trophy of this year for her role in the film directed by Quentin Tarantino. "It belongs to our ancestors. We shot this film on a Friday, Saturday: "Red Tails," the drama about the Tuskegee Airmen, and exceptional public service.

Washington, who plays an executive management consultant Olivia Pope on ABC’s "Scandal," sat on the stage as President Barack Obama’s Committee on the Arts and the Humanities.

Denzel Washington was awarded the outstanding actor in a comedy series trophy, while the star of the space agency commitment in Soulfood’s "House of Lies" also won a trophy.

A few winners weren’t present at the ceremony to pick up their trophies, including Donnell Washington, who was listed as outstanding in a movie for "Flight," Viola Davis, who was listed as outstanding in a movie for "The Help," and the film for outstanding in a drama for "House of Lies.

"Red Tails," the drama about the Tuskegee Airmen, won three outstanding movie categories.

Travis admits driving drunk, gets probation

SHERMAN, Texas — Travis Pierson pleaded guilty to driving while intoxicated Thursday, in a case that began after his favorite music word was found needle after crashing a Saturn against a Travis献血.

Travis received two years of proba

Stallone supports assault weapon ban

BEVERLY HILL — Sylvester Stallone says that despite his celebrity status and newendorovin weapon — like really, unless you read those sweeping, colossal walls, mud pits, cargo net chicks, toam, body washer, moon walk, fo and sli dots and water obstacles.

Foam fest?

An undifferentiated radar sloop through a foam tunnel in the 93rd Foam Fest at Amelia Earhart Park in Hialeah on Saturday.

Stallone supported the now-expired ban on assault weapons. "I have seen the horror of gun violence," Stallone said after he walked on the foam, choking one of his team mates.

She tried fighting off Isidra Zavala, begging him to kill her and not the little driv

The 4-year-old man said he didn’t want the driver to get away. So he followed him to a nearby parking lot for the driver’s truck. That’s when the tractor-trailer rolled over before the truck hit the man. The man was later released from jail.

The driver, 25-year-old Travis Pierson, of Isidra Corrington, Ga., was released from jail Thursday.

Authorities say that Travis Bloodworth, 20, is expected to survive.

Travis also had faced a charge of driving under the influence of alcohol last year and was arrested in a car accident. He had a blood alcohol level of 0.21. The judge ordered he will no longer face charges.

If he doesn’t complete 100 hours of community service, he could be ordered to serve up to one year in jail.

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MIAMI — A year after Florida was waiting for funding based on its $700 million Race to the Top grant project, the Florida Department of Education is saying the state has regained its momentum.

A Florida Department of Education report released Friday concludes nearly all projects are on track with Florida’s amended timeline.

Ninety-eight percent of the grant funds are being used. Ninety-eight percent of the state’s amended timeline on an ambitious education reform plan has been met since 2008, according to the report.

Florida was one of 11 states and the District of Columbia to receive a share of the $4.3 billion in Race to the Top money in the first two rounds of the competition. The state wants to double the percent of students scoring proficient in college- and career-ready achievement gap in half; and increase the percentage of students scoring at or above proficient on the National Assessment of Educational Progress by 2015.

Florida’s strategic plan also focuses on improving instruction. The Student Success Act, passed in 2011, created a new teacher evaluation system that uses student growth data and the compensation to evaluation remains one of the hallmarks of Race to the Top projects.

The Rockefellor Center developed the Rockefellor Center in Manhattan and has developed about 5 million square feet of industrial development since 2008, according to a news release.

CHASTEENS’ 35 years
Continued From Page 1A

It was a seafood restaurant, and both Emmie Chasteen and Robert Chasteen committed to making it in the restaurant business. They cooked, cleaned and did whatever was necessary.

That is still true today at their downtown restaurant, Chasteen’s Downtown. They sweep the floor and help in the kitchen. They’ve never passed owners or active participants in the success of their business.

“We’re here to work, and neither one of us would be comfortable sitting around doing nothing,” Robert Chasteen said.

Despite the hard work, Emmie Chasteen said it’s a profession she’s enjoyed.

“I can’t begin to tell you how many good friends we’ve made in this business through the years,” she said.

Emmie and Robert Chasteen, owners of Chasteen’s Downtown, pose for a photograph in their restaurant in downtown Lake City Friday. On Chasteen’s are the restaurateurs 35 and have been at their current location for 13 years.

State back on track with Race to the Top projects

Florida has made excellent progress toward implementing its plan, and we want to see Florida accelerate in the second half of the grant,” U.S. Department of Education Secretary Arne Duncan said.

In its second year of carrying out the grant, the state adopted Common Core State Standards, a set of standards for math and reading, in kindergarten through fifth grade.

New teachers and principal evalu- ation systems were developed and professional development for teachers has been an important component of the plan.

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• Neck/Back Pain
• Balance Disturbances
• Difficulty Walking
• Generalized Weakness
• Impaired Abilities to Perform Activities (Bathing, Ambulating, Dressing, Eating and Transferring)
• Wound Care

Get Connected

Lake City Reporter

PLUM CREEK: Continued From Page 1A

Peace Creek for the inter- modal park, presented a timeline under which the site could have a conceptu- al environmental resource permit for stormwater by March.

The Rockefellor Center developed the Rockefellor Center in Manhattan and has developed about 5 million square feet of industrial development since 2008, according to a news release.
A culture of lying

The latest viral hashtag on Twitter is #teoing, which has linked thousands of male college students with their arms around an invisible girlfriend. This is a new form of deceit, but speak to a larger societal issue — a culture of lies.

While it is not possible to say whether Notre Dame football star Manti Te’o is a victim or perpetrator, his girlfriend hoax, his star-paired with cyclist Lance Armstrong’s admitted doping during Oprah Winfrey’s OWN network last month, represents someone resting a big lie into the cultural mainstream.

There is no longer limited to pulling a deception among one’s peers. Rather, the practice of lying often turns into whirlwinds of deceit that grow into grand scandals. One of the grandest went all the way to the president of the United States and forced his resignation.

And the repercussions are not just a share of the “sorry, I got caught” rather than just the one-word apology, as in the case of former Cincinnati Reds player Pete Rose, who was involved in a betting scandal. Rose told Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig: “I didn’t think I got caught.”

Everyone from the elementary school student to the white collar has learned a lesson from the media and the courts about narratives that suggest they are telling the truth.

But this does not change the case. The First Amendment’s freedoms apparently protect lying to some degree.

In January, the Florida whistleblower case between the Fox affiliate WTVT in Tampa and veteran employee Debra White for “refusing to knowingly include false information” in a segment about milk production was settled out of court for $900,000.

Debra’s lies are not ending there. In July, 2012, she was fired from the Florida State Conference of the NAACP. As an NAACP employee, she had access to the NAACP’s membership records in various counties.

This is a moral issue that is foreign to the concept of integrity and hard work. This is America, a country built on the belief that the truth will out.

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Feb. 3
Churches’ Day celebration

The Vineyard Baptist Church will celebrate Churches’ Day on Monday, February 4, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The church is located at 3480 Seabreeze Blvd., at the corner of Seabreeze Blvd. and University Dr.

Feb. 4
Leaves Workshop

Columbia Extension will host a free workshop on growing and planting fall and winter vegetables and herbs. The workshop will be held from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Extension Office.

Feb. 5
Musician presented

The Friends of the Library will host a performance by Tracy Lawrence, a singer and songwriter, on Tuesday, February 5, at 7 p.m. at the Library. The performance is free and open to the public.

Feb. 7
Forest workshop

The Florida Forest Commission is hosting a workshop on forest management and sustainability on Tuesday, February 7, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Extension Office.

Feb. 10
Library group to meet

The Friends of the Library will host its annual meeting on Thursday, February 10, at 4 p.m. at the Library.

March 5
Columbia County Public Library

The Friends of the Library will hold an open house at the Library on Saturday, March 5, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

March 12
Musician presented

Tracy Lawrence will perform at the Columbia County Public Library on Saturday, March 12, at 7 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

April 1
Community Calendar

The next issue of the Community Calendar will be published on Monday, April 1, 2013.

April 16
Columbia County Public Library

The Friends of the Library will host its annual Spring members art exhibit on Saturday, April 16, at 10 a.m. at the Library.
As stand down drivers on, town grievances bus driver

Authorities holding back out of concern for abucted boy.

By JAY REEVES
Associated Press

By MARY CLARE JALONICK

for abducted boy.

elementary schools.

and to 8-ounce portions in

tions in middle schools

limited to 12-ounce por-

sell some sports drinks,

juice. High schools could

Elementary and middle

house door," Agriculture

be supported when kids

eating habits in our kids,

lines that sell other foods.

sided by the federal gov-

tent of school breakfasts

regulate the nutritional con-

and sodium limits on almost

their lunch menus and

boys between 6 and 8 years old.

afternoon and demanded two

filled with 21 children Tuesday

by Congress in 2010, are

a child nutrition law passed

Iowa, has been working

put in place last fall. The

were revised last year and

latest in a long list of chang-

sumption.

for their own personal con-

anything students bring

regulate them. The new

states have the power to

apply to in-school fundrais-

school. They would not

for drinks in high schools,

including the calorie limits

shouldn’t be telling kids

Republicans in Congress,

criticism from some con-

said the government

21 children.

the government for the first time is proposing broad new standards to make

our schools are places that

lunches.

the healthier subsidized

money that helps pay for

reduced-cost lunches and

were designed to make foods

for meats and grains in

ment relaxed some limits

on meats and grains in


Members of an FBI special operations team visit Saturday in Midland City, Ala., the fifth day of a standoff with a man who held up in a bunker with a 5-year-old as a hostage after the man shot and killed school bus driver on Tuesday. Authorities said the man still had communication with the man, Jim Lee Dykes.

Sherrif Walt Olson said Saturday that Jimmy Lee Dykes has told them that he has blankets and an electric heater in the bunker.

"I want to thank him for tak-

ing care of our boy," Olson said.

The shooting and abduction took place in Midland City, a small town near Dothan, Ala., in the state’s southeastern corner.

Newton is about three miles

away, a small hamlet with fewer

2,000 residents. It sits amid

potatoes sprinkled with red earth, most

of the residents commit to

one of the nearby Army post.

Nearly everyone in Newton was

busy preparing to attend Poland’s

funeral or vigil on Saturday.

"He probably the nicest guy you'll ever meet," said Lonne Daniels, the 60-year-old owner of the NAPA Auto Parts store, one of the businesses that was open Saturday.

Daniels last saw his friend Tuesday morning, when Poland agreed to buy a car from him.

The two men shook hands and

closed the deal the “like gentlemen,” Daniels said. Poland was to return after work to pick Daniels up to pay for the car.

Saturday afternoon, Daniels said that Poland had been married to his wife for 41 years. But his wife was from Newton. The couple lived for decades in small mobile homes, and Poland enjoyed gardening and cleaning brush from his property.

"I knew that he was always there if you needed him," said Daniels, adding that Poland was an excellent mechanic with an array of tools that he let people in to use.

In Midland City, police were mostly staying mum about their standoff with Dykes. — A Vietnam veteran known as Jimmy to his neighbors. Some have described him as a menacing figure with antigovernment views.

Sherrif Olson would not say Saturday whether Dykes has made any demands. Olson added that he is limited in the details he can release.

FBI spokesman Jason Pack said Saturday that officials were working to establish a command post near the bunker.

Dykes had scheduled to meet with three men to possibly take them as hostages, police have confirmed, but he gave them no answers when they asked questions, police said.

"He was in the living room or kitchen area with a small mobile home", he said. "He’s talking to someone that the homeowner might know an acquaintance of


Sundays, apple sauce and plums await the students of Eastside Elementary School in Clinton, Miss. The government for the first time is proposing broad new standards to make lunches healthier, including putting anticancer, high-calorie sports drinks and greasy foods at schools that receive federal funds.

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The new rules are the

final rule could be in place

have 60 days to comment

school nutritionists said

on meats and grains in

ment relaxed some limits

on meats and grains in

menus and vending machines, others are still selling high-

fat chips, snack cakes, nachos and mozzarella sticks with the

the lunch lines and vending

machines. In their place

were low-fat chips, low-fat

sports drinks, and have

Japanese, Chinese, South

American, Hispanic and

kinds of foods.

The food industry has

agreed to buy a car from him.

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Share the love, romantic music and chuckle INDUSTRY SAVINGS

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission said Friday that roughly three dozen Burmese pythons have been killed in the Everglades since the competitive Python hunt began Jan. 12.

Two of the speakers at Friday’s opening ceremonies for Black History Month at Richardson Community Center talked about how the history should be celebrated year-round. I’d like to spread the word,” Quinton Callum Jr. has his cholesterol checked at the Columbia County Recreation Department’s annual Community Health and Wellness Fair at Richardson Community Center on Saturday. Callum teaches physical education at Columbia High School and coaches the running teams for the football, track and cross-country teams. He noted that more than 30 students were expected to participate in the event.

Two others involved in the Kid- napping plot — her friend Shae Weissman, 45, and her attorney Scott Sadle, 45, — have also pleaded guilty and face similar five-year sentences. Two other men accused of playing roles in the scheme are set to go to trial in April.

Scott Rothstein, a now-disbarred lawyer who formerly headed a high-profile law firm, is set to go to trial in April.

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On her way out, traffic fatality victim’s ex-husband MS. AMY L. ANDERSON

City Clerk

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Normal
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Record Low
Normal months-to-date
Normal waterlevel
*corrected value

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IN 10 YEARS!
Decision time for Tunsil

Columbia High’s 2013 softball team is (front row, from left) Kasey Murray, Brandy Morgan, Tatun Morgan, Lace King, Brittny Morgan, Erin Anderson, Leslie Ann Rosenz, and Holly Burns. Back row (from left) is head coach Jimmy Williams, Ashley Shoup, Kail McAlaid, Kayli Kielati, Hollie Dotten, Lauren Eaker, Jessica Shimmel, assistant coach Mitch Shoup and assistant coach Greg Sund.

Parade All-American to sign live on Wednesday

As a first-team member of this year’s Parade All-America Football Team, Columbia High’s Laremy Tunsil continues to rake in the recognition. Tunsil is the fourth player in the Lake City Reporter’s coverage area to be named to the Parade All-America Football team. For a player that has been handed so many honors, Tunsil still accepts each recognition as a gift.

“Tunsil said that he’s not to overindulge in the awards. “I don’t take it to the head, because I’m still in high school,” Tunsil said. “I don’t wanna get the big head, so it’s always another TUNSIL continued on 2B

Back in action

By BRANDON FINLEY
bfinley@lakecityreporter.com

After a 21-6 campaign last season, head coach Jimmy Williams doesn’t plan on the Lady Tigers’ softball program of Columbia High slowing down any in 2013.

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Lady Tigers begin season on Tuesday.

By BRANDON FINLEY
bfinley@lakecityreporter.com

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Heart Disease
Reduce Your Risk!

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT
Speed Saves: Shave Minutes to Save Lives

Wednesday, Feb. 20, 12-1pm
Fifth Generation Farms Banquet Hall (3739 W US HWY 90)

In a continued effort to raise awareness about heart disease and to reduce the risk factors for it, Lake City Medical Center and Cardiologist Steven Roark, MD, are hosting a Heart Health Lunch and Learn. Learn the warning signs of a heart attack and why speed saves.

Please call 386-758-3385 to reserve your spot for this informative seminar. Seating is limited. A light lunch will be served.

Lake City Medical Center
LakeCityMedical.com
Williams said, "The lineup may split duties leading off for the season. Tatum will probably be our leadoff hitter. We still want to hit our approach," Williams sarily try to hit it over the goal is to still hit the ball the park, but we don't want to eight girls that can hit it out of and having Keeley Murray Kvistad, Hollianne Dohrn will move to a come from their ability to Lady Tigers this year will they will both complement in waiting for a while now Stephanie Pilkington's grad- and added 15 last year. Kayli, she's seen in my life. Kayli, she greatest outfielder I've ever "She may be the single "They're just getting bet- "They're all er," Tunsil said. "They're all "I don't know the year. "We're still working to get to our ability to do, because she's working out with coach. She's getting better, she's making all the smart outs that she used to make. Kayli already held the Orlando record for bat runs for runs; she's still got two years to add to it. She's going to be a freshman in her senior year. Dohrn will move to another position. Stephanie Pilkinghton's gradu- and she's just got better every single day. Williams also mentioned by the other expected start- "I think it’s going to be coming down to the recruiting game appearsperimental negotiating rights to players with credit; all 2012 player contracts expire. All qualifying offers to their restricted free
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By BRANDON FINLEY
bfinley@lakecityreporter.com

Columbia High enters the District 4A-6A tournament next week as the No. 2 seed following the regular season, but the Tigers are looking to end the year as district champions.

"Honestly, we're playing as well as we have all year," Columbia head coach Horace Jefferson said. "According to the records, Wolfson is the team to beat. They're 20-3. In the last few weeks, they've lost to Raines and Fort White. The last time we played them, they made their free throws down the stretch. Against Raines, they were 11-of-33 down the stretch. Against Wolfson only." The Tigers (15-6) haven't finished with a losing record since 2001. Their lone district title was in 1979.

Jefferson offered up simple keys.

"Akeem is going to have a favorite to come out of that game with a victory. It was easily the most exciting high school basketball game I've been to, well, since high school — now 11 years ago for those counting. The game featured long-range threes, dunks and a final three minutes full of nail biting. When the final buzzer went off, the Tigers had defeated the Indians, 72-70, and Columbia’s faithfulness rushed the court.

It was like a scene out of a movie.

On the other end, Fort White’s disappointment in the loss was obvious. But here’s the kicker, for as much as the game was filled with jubilation for the Tigers and despair for the Indians, neither team can look back.

Columbia’s moment to bask in its senior night glory was over the day after the game and preparation for the district championship begins. Fort White has to leave the way it ended the season behind as well. Both of these teams are loaded with players capable of propelling their teams into a deep playoff run.

They both have the ability to score from both the inside and outside. Each team excels exceptionally from beyond the arc as witnessed by the 11 total connections in Thursday night’s affair. Sure, it’s a game that each team is going to remember long after their playing days are over. For Columbia senior Javontae Foster, he described the moments following the game as “Heaven.” I’m sure many of the Fort White players felt the same way in defeat.

But if heaven is a playground, it’s located at Lakeland in the Final 4. Brandon Finley covers sports for the Lake City Reporter.

Jefferson pointed out Akeem Williams on the defensive side and the Tigers’ Big 3 of Morris Marshall, Javontae Foster and Tre Simmons on the offensive side as keys to the tournament.

"Akeem is going to have to defend," Jefferson said. "I have to have two of our big three guys going. I think Tre Simmons has to continue to get up and down the court. If he continues to do that, we’re alright. If there’s a key, we have to keep pushing the ball, and I think that’s running the floor.”

Jefferson said "We’re playing better as we have all year,” Columbia head coach Horace Jefferson said.

Jefferson said "We’re going to have to keep pushing the ball and play as hard as we’ve been playing. We’re looking for a Wolfson team that’s not going to let us get passed the first round. It’s a hyperextension injury. "It’s a hyperextension and we’ll see how it works out in the next couple of days. He experienced very little pain. There was very little swelling. We look for him to be playing.”

Jefferson also is looking for some key bench minutes out of one of his seniors.

"I’m looking to get big minutes out of Kevin Louder,” Jefferson said. "He could be a tremendous asset to us if he’s strong and can jump. It would give us another physical jumper.”

Columbia’s Tre Simmons manages to steal the ball from Fort White’s Mattan Sanders during a game on Thursday.

What’s next after game for the ages from county rivals?

Erectile Dysfunction Drug May Be Dangerous To Your Health

"We’re trying to get the ball out of our hands," Jefferson said. "We’ve got to take care of the ball and play as hard as we’ve been playing. We could beat (Wolfson). It’s hard to beat a team three times in a row and we’re stepping up to the plate. We’re knocking. The way things are, if we keep our streak going, we have beat- ers everyone that’s beaten us this year. Well use it as a motivator.”

The Tigers (15-6) haven’t played since their 72-70 win over Fort White’s on Jan. 31 in the District 4A-6A championship game. Jefferson and treasurers think that could work well for them.

"We played better then we were playing two weeks ago, so I think we should make a little noise, however, we have to get past the first round first," he said. "I’ll be scouting the game on Tuesday night. Nothing will be taken for granted.”

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Columbia High’s Montis Marshall celebrates after making a dunk against Fort White Thursday. 

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Another movie.
Tigers, Indians go down to
wire in county showdown

Columbia High’s DaKarry Rosson (25), Akeem Williams (11) and Morris Marshall (22) goes up for a rebound against Fort White on Thursday. Fort White fell 72-70.

Fort White High basketball head coach Isiah Phillips instructs his team during a game against Columbia High.

Fort White High’s Trey Phillips focuses a free-throw shot.

An open Tae Foster goes for a lay-up against Fort White on Thursday. CENTER: Columbia High’s Dillan Hall makes a shot over Fort White’s Qarin Porter. RIGHT: Chris Cottrell glides through the air for a lay-up Thursday.
WASHINGTON — Some people work for themselves because they like the autonomy. Others have been unable to find full-time, regular jobs and have had to settle for contract work for a specific project or period of time. And still others have retired but have been brought back as consultants by their former employers.

Contract workers, consultants, freelancers or the self-employed — these workers face additional challenges when it comes time to file their income taxes.

New challenges for self-employed, contract workers

By CAROLE FELDMAN
Associated Press

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Contract workers, consultants, freelancers or the self-employed — these workers face additional challenges when it comes time to file their income taxes.

Job seekers fill a room at the job fair in Sunrise. U.S. employers added 157,000 jobs in January.

The hiring picture over the past two years also looked stronger after the department's annual revisions. The revisions showed that employers added an average of roughly 180,000 jobs a month in 2012 and 2011. That was up from previous estimates of about 150,000.

"The significantly stronger payroll gains tell us the economy has a lot more momentum than what we had thought," Joseph LaVorgna, chief U.S. economist at Deutsche Bank, said in a research note.

By CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON — The U.S. job market is proving sturdier than expected at a time when the economy is under pressure from Washington gridlock and the threat of government spending cuts.

Employers added 157,000 jobs in January, and hiring was much stronger at the end of last year than the government had previously estimated.

The Labor Department’s estimated job gains for the final two months of 2012 — a period when the economy was being threatened by the fiscal cliff — rose from 161,000 to 247,000 for November and from 155,000 to 196,000 for December.

The mostly encouraging jobs report Friday included one negative sign: The unemployment rate rose to 7.9 percent from 7.8 percent in December. The rate is calculated from a survey of households, and more people in that survey said they were unemployed.

The job gains are derived from a separate survey of employers. The hiring picture over the past two years also looked stronger after the department’s annual revisions. The revisions showed that employers added an average of roughly 180,000 jobs a month in 2012 and 2011. That was up from previous estimates of about 150,000.

"The significantly stronger payroll gains tell us the economy has a lot more momentum than what we had thought," Joseph LaVorgna, chief U.S. economist at Deutsche Bank, said in a research note.

Stocks surged immediately after trading began at 9:30 a.m. Eastern time, an hour after the jobs report was released. The Dow Jones industrial average jumped 130 points and briefly touched 14,000 for the first time in more than five years, before falling back.

Other economic news Friday contributed to the stock rally. Manufacturing expanded at a much faster pace in January compared with December, a private survey found. Ford, Chrysler and General Motors released earnings reports and showed strong sales in January.

Job seekers fill a room at the job fair in Sunrise. U.S. employers added 157,000 jobs in January.

The hiring picture over the past two years also looked stronger after the department’s annual revisions. The revisions showed that employers added an average of roughly 180,000 jobs a month in 2012 and 2011. That was up from previous estimates of about 150,000.

"The significantly stronger payroll gains tell us the economy has a lot more momentum than what we had thought," Joseph LaVorgna, chief U.S. economist at Deutsche Bank, said in a research note.

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ECONOMY: New numbers show strong hiring
Continued From Page 1C

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Every dog has its day

Animal shelters are real winners of this televised game.

By SUE MANNING
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — There will be a winner and a loser every Super Bowl Sunday. But at the “Puppy Bowl,” it’s always a win for animal shelters.

The show provides national exposure to the shelters across the country that provide the puppy athletes and the kittens that star in the halftime show, and introduces viewers to the different breeds and animals that need homes, animal workers say. Many shelters see bumps in visits from viewers who are inspired to adopt a pet.

“It raises awareness for our shelter and others that take part,” said Madeline Bernstein, president and CEO of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Los Angeles. “It shows dogs in a happy, playful, fun way, which makes people think, ‘Gee, I could play with a dog too.’ You hope it will also stimulate adoption, and if not, at least a positive attitude toward dogs, rather than fear, either for yourself or for your kids. It’s a vehicle to show that animals just like the ones on the show can be found at any shelter at any time.”

“Puppy Bowl” airs today from 3 to 5 p.m. on The Animal Planet and will keep repeating until 3 a.m. The Super Bowl starts at 6:30 p.m.

Dogs mingle on the playing field during taping of “Puppy Bowl IX,” a two-hour TV special on The Animal Planet that takes advantage of Super Bowl Sunday to highlight the plight of pets in animal shelters across the country.

Los Angeles Times

“Puppy Bowl IX” is part of the Animal Planet network’s weeklong “Puppy Bowl” event, which kicks off today from 3 to 5 p.m. on the network. The event will run through March 4.

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TASTE: The Alhambra has new life
Continued From Page 1D

For Lincoln fans, there’s lots to see in Washington
16th president memorialized in many places.

by Beth J. HERMANN or
The Washington Post
WASHINGTON — Whether you’re interested in President Lincoln or “Lincoln” the movie, Washington, D.C., offers some splendid sightseeing destinations.

And then there’s the 16th president of the United States, a man who, indeed, has become the country’s most admired.

Many museums are offering exhibits for the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation. Even if you can’t visit any time, the Lincoln Memorial, the cottage where Lincoln was born, and Ford’s Theater, where he was shot, are all in the District of Columbia.

A statue of President Abraham Lincoln and his horse, Traveler, outside Lincoln’s Cottage, a number of his homes in various locations, is the perfect setting for the last time we were there our meal was prepared by fabulous chefs and the menu included a selection of delicious appetizers.

The whole place seemed to reflect the warmth and color of the previous years. The table seating was brown, beige, and rust colored. The table setting was done in warm colors. The table seating was brown, beige, and rust colored. The table setting was done in warm colors.

The food was also delightful, served with a buttery, yeasty roll served with an omelet, served with a selection of vegetables and some delicious desserts. The dessert offerings were the Martini florata (raspberry or lemon with a crisp, yeasty crust), served with a selection of vegetables and some delicious desserts. The dessert offerings were the Martini florata (raspberry or lemon with a crisp, yeasty crust), served with a selection of vegetables and some delicious desserts.

The other choice was citrus and a blackberry cheesecake. The blackberry cheesecake was a delicious option, served with a selection of vegetables and some delicious desserts. The dessert offerings were the Martini florata (raspberry or lemon with a crisp, yeasty crust), served with a selection of vegetables and some delicious desserts.

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By HILLARY SPEED

3DLIFE

CRAFTS

Give new life to old dinnerware

Vintage china doesn’t have to go in the ding bin. Dish

OLD PLATES WITH A PEN

The popular craft-savvy website Pinterest is full of plate-
decorating projects that tap into the "magic" of magic mark-
ers.

"I would often see cute little
platters with a pen, then goes
to the "magic" of magic markers.

by Marceli Botticelli, of Franklin, Mass.

The inaugural "Puppy Bowl" — held in Feb-
ør, was inspired to find a use for

A handcrafted Valentine’s Day card can be designed

PUPPY: Adopted pets are big winners

Continued From Page 1D

"I'm not really a fan of
and Fiber Supplement (Valenslime). This homemade

"Slime" is a fun, non-toxic alternative to candy.

For the kids

I decided to take that

I chose a simple con-

I would be a good tool

work and fiber supple-

This vintage-plate-decorating project upcycled with mod-
ern lettering with a Sharpie and baking the

"Berry" variety, ends up a

CARDBOARD SLIME

My son is 8, so I knew hearts and flowers weren't going to cut it for Valentine’s Day this year.

So I decided to take that

As with all real TV shows,
the below-desserts cutoff

Materials:

For the kids

It's easy to make, not too
icky, and if you use pure

It's been directly impacted

"Shelters and rescues
are at capacity, and pet

"I'm not really a fan
of Valentine’s Day this year.

For the kids

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DEAR ABBY

Stranger’s act of kindness gives comfort last years

Abigail Van Buren

Dear Abby: When I was 12, my family moved to New Jersey. It was a difficult time in my life. Luckily for me, I made a best friend across the street. “Janie” was a young man in his 40s — a Marine veteran, and shared a little pain would lessen.

Sobbing. When the load-...
**TRAVEL**

**Tulum, Mexico, an escape to the beach**

Cancun alternative attracts different classes of tourists.

By MANUEL VALDES

TULUM, Mexico — The all-inclusive Cancun resorts are not for those seeking privacy on the beach or Argentinians with scrappy boards playing Gypsy music. But that’s the scene in Tulum, a Mexican seaside spot south of Cancun that attracts a mix of bohemians, well-pocketed New Age types and sun-seekers to its turquoise waters and white sandy beaches.

Despite its proximity to Cancun and its low-key party neighbor Playa del Carmen, Tulum is not for the same spring break crowd.

“The college kids go to Cancun. The professors and teacher assistants come to Tulum,” said Richard Contreras, whose family has managed properties in Tulum for nearly a decade.

That doesn’t mean Tulum is cheap. We couldn’t find a room on the beach for less than $150 a night that came with a bathroom. Meals nearby cost just as much as they do in my hometown of Seattle.

“Tulum is luxury, but the luxuries here are nature and the beach,” said Mimi Contreras, Richard’s sister.

Our trip was a five-day sun-seeking dash in the first week of January, during the area’s high season, which stretches from winter through spring break. Tulum, located on Mexico’s lush green Yucatan Peninsula, was an ideal destination.

“The weather was perfect. The bright sunshine was rarely obscured by fast-traveling clouds. December and January are among the driest months on the Yucatan Peninsula and offer hot weather, but no debilitating clouds. The daytime highs in our trip were in the mid-80s. The night skies were full of stars.

Tulum is nestled on a sandy stretch of beach and the highway running both north and south is well-paved. We flew into Cancun, rented a car ($25 a day plus insurance from Hertz) and made the drive late at night. It went smoothly and we hit no traffic, but watch out for speed bumps scattered around the area and pedestrians crossing the highway in some spots. There are also shuttles available from Cancun to Tulum, but the car gave us the mobility to visit attractions beyond the beach.

“Tulum is pretty laid-back and chill. And I think most of the people who live here, work here, who have property here, want to keep that way to a certain extent,” Mimi Contreras said.

Tulum can be divided into three parts: the town, the Mayan ruins and the beach.

The complex is surrounded by a wall (Tulum means wall) and was inhabited for centuries before Spanish colonialists arrived in the early 1500s. Entrance to the park is $10, which also gives you the use of the beach.

Tulum the beach. Stretching for roughly six miles (10 kilometers), waterfront Tulum is lined with cabanas, “eco-chic” hotels, fancy restaurants and yoga spots, but it’s less developed than some of Mexico’s other resort areas, where the view of the beach often includes higher hotels.

There’s only one main road and it does get crowded during the day. So, it’s barely accommodates the stream of cars, trucks, tans, bicycles and pedestrians using it. Biking can be perilous; two women staying next to us fell off their bikes in the traffic, though fortunately they were not seriously injured.

We stayed at properties of Contreras’ seaward cabanas for $75 a night. It included a shared bathroom, a fan and occasional insects coming in from the water; and a shared pathway leading to the beach. We paid $6 for a second-floor cabana with a private bathroom, “eco-chic” rooms for $75 a night.

The early 1500s. Entrance to the Castles of the Maya ruins is one of the main attractions in Tulum. It’s the most developed part of the ruins and the beach.

Tulum the town is on the highway, about a 20-minute drive from the beach. Tourism has pushed the population to around 30,000 people, but the town retains the pueblos, centered around an open plaza or town square. Shops, street vendors, hotels and restaurants catering to tourists line the main drag. In general, hotels and restaurants downtown are much cheaper than those on the beach. (We found tasty Mexican food and great service at La Malpereida."

Just past the town are the near-city, which is water caves that are part of a network of rivers under the Yucatan Peninsula. We went to the Gran Cenote ($10 per person plus snorkel rental for a swim in its cool and clear waters. Snorkeling underwater, you can see how the water has created the cave’s limestone walls over the eons into formations of many different shapes and sizes.

The Gran Cenote even had fish in its cavernous pool and bats flying overhead. The Yucatan has many cenotes and some are deep enough for scuba diving.

Tulum may be best known for its ancient Mayan ruins, which attract a steady stream of day-trippers, cruise passengers and tour buses. The complex of crumbling structures here is smaller and less impressive than some other Mayan sites like Chichen Itza.

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