

Future's looking up

Winter's free-agency grind should help Cubs in long term with Bryant
David Haugh, Chicago Sports



BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE



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Suit ties speaker's team, ballot fakes

City corruption depositions allege Madigan organization used phony candidates

BY RAY LONG
Chicago Tribune

In House Speaker Michael Madigan's 13th Ward operation, secrecy is expected and loyalty is rewarded.

Now those political vows are being put to the test in a civil courtroom, even as the speaker deals with his name surfacing on a recorded conversation as part of a federal City Hall corruption probe.

Attorneys for a vanquished opponent have placed the powerful South-west Side Democrat and his operatives under oath in recent months as part of a civil lawsuit alleging one of Chicago politics' oldest and most effective tricks: putting sham candidates on the ballot to siphon away votes from a more formidable foe.

The Tribune obtained never-before-seen depositions in the case that estab-

lish ties between Madigan's organization and two other candidates in a 2016 Illinois House contest. But the depositions also show the speaker and his aides proved adept at providing short, clipped answers that do little to reveal motive or method.

Take Madigan himself. The 76-year-old speaker used the phrases "I don't recall," "I don't remember," "I don't know" and "I have no memory" more than 100

times during a five-hour deposition that he said was the first he'd ever given.

The suit was filed by Jason Gonzales, who unsuccessfully ran against Madigan in the March 2016 primary election in a bid that was bankrolled by allies of then-Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner, the speaker's political nemesis.

Gonzales contends that the speaker's team stacked



ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/CHICAGO TRIBUNE 2016

A spokeswoman for state House Speaker Michael Madigan said he won't comment on a lawsuit filed by a former rival.

Turn to **Speaker**, Page 6



BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

BREAK IN THE COLD

The city's James J. Versluis, an 80-foot icebreaking tugboat, goes to work Thursday on the Chicago River. The mercury dropped to 21 degrees below zero at O'Hare airport early Thursday, according to the National Weather Service. On the South Side, the extreme cold prompted a couple to initiate an effort to move more than 100 people living in a homeless camp into a hotel. And temperatures were rising. See stories on **Chicagoland**, Page 4.

Piecing together attack on actor

Chicago police sift surveillance video from Streeterville

BY ROSEMARY SOBOL, TRACY SWARTZ AND WILLIAM LEE
Chicago Tribune



TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES/CHICAGO TRIBUNE 2015

Jussie Smollett reported being attacked near his apartment. He co-stars in "Empire," which films in Chicago.

About a dozen Chicago police detectives have been sifting through video from nearly every surveillance camera in Streeterville these last few days, piecing together "a digital puzzle" they hope will solve what happened outside the apartment building of "Empire" actor Jussie Smollett.

So far they've been able to track stretches of Smollett's walk from a Subway

shop to his apartment in the 300 block of East North Water Street early Tuesday, according to Chicago police spokesman Anthony Guglielmi.

Somewhere along the way, Smollett said, two men walked up, yelled racial and homophobic slurs, hit him and wrapped a rope around his neck. None of that has been caught by any of the cameras detectives have

checked. They did spot two people walking near the area around the time of the incident, but the images are dark and the faces are not clear.

Celebrities and politicians have condemned the attack and voiced their support for Smollett, who is black and openly gay and an activist for LGBTQ rights.

Turn to **Attack**, Page 8

U.S. to announce INF Treaty pullout

'No progress' on U.S.-Russia talks to salvage accord

BY DEB RIECHMANN, ROBERT BURNS AND MATTHEW LEE
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration is poised to announce Friday that it is withdrawing from a treaty that has been a centerpiece of superpower arms control since the Cold War and whose demise some analysts worry could fuel a new arms race.

An American withdrawal would follow years of unresolved dispute over Russian compliance with the pact, known as the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces, or INF, treaty. It was the first arms control measure to ban an entire class of weapons:

ground-launched cruise missiles with a range between 310 miles and 3,100 miles. Russia denies that it has been in violation.

U.S. officials also have expressed worry that China, which is not party to the 1987 treaty, is gaining a significant military advantage in Asia by deploying large numbers of missiles with ranges beyond the treaty's limit. Leaving the INF Treaty would allow the Trump administration to counter the Chinese, but it's unclear how it would do that.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said in December that Washington would give Moscow 60 days to return to compliance before it gave formal notice of withdrawal, with actual withdrawal taking place six months later. The 60-day deadline expires Sat-

Turn to **Treaty**, Page 11

Police reform plan is OK'd

U.S. judge says of work within CPD: 'Let us begin'

BY DAN HINKEL
Chicago Tribune

The long, divisive battle over the future of the Chicago Police Department hit a turning point Thursday as a federal judge approved a plan intended to fundamentally alter the way a troubled police force treats the people it is sworn to serve and protect.

But the judge's order made clear that the next phase of the push to overhaul the department — sparked more than three years ago by Laquan McDonald's video-recorded shooting death at the hands of a Chicago police officer — won't be easy or swift.

"It took a long time to get to this place, and it may take a long time to get out of it," wrote U.S. District Judge Robert Dow Jr. "With that said, there are good reasons to think that the conditions and incentives may be in place to start making progress right away."

The judge concluded the order: "Let us begin."

Dow's action clears the way for the department to start making hundreds of changes to policy and practice laid out in the consent decree, a court order of some 230 pages backed by the judge's enforcement power. The document is the product of a lawsuit that former Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan filed against the city after Mayor Rahm Emanuel wavered in his commitment to court oversight; aides to the two politicians worked toward the decree for more than a

Turn to **Police**, Page 8

Senate rebukes Trump's military drawdown plans

The vast majority of Senate Republicans backed Mitch McConnell in a rebuke of the rationale for withdrawing U.S. troops from Syria and Afghanistan.

Nation & World, Page 9



Tom Skilling's forecast High 21 Low 18

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Chicago City Hall.

RAQUEL ZALDIVAR/CHICAGO TRIBUNE



JOHN KASS

January's Moutza of the Month: So many candidates

The Chicago mayoral race is only weeks away and candidates known as the Burke Four are playing Chicago voters for fools in the "Idiocracy" sweepstakes of 2019.

The Rams are in the Super Bowl on that idiotic blown call. Personal grooming — from toxically masculine male shaving to long female armpit hair — has become dangerously political.

And infamous Chicago Ald. Dan "Viagra" Solis has taken Chicago political corruption to new levels. He wired up with the feds in investigations involving Boss Michael Madigan and Ald. Edward Burke. The Sun-Times reported that Solis took trips to massage parlors and wistfully expressed his fondness for a "nice ending."

And in the middle of all of this, reader Keith Killacky has a question about January's Golden Moutza of the Month Award.

"Do you ever give a Double Moutza Award for the month?" Keith asked on Facebook, where moutza nominations are made.

There are so many worthy candidates for the January Moutza of the Month, there aren't enough hands in the world to moutza them all. They're killing me smalls. They're killing me.

But you know what to do: Extend your palm, fingers spread in the ancient gesture of contempt, and just say the magic word: "Nah" (here)!

"I know you prefer non-political (moutza nominations)," writes Linda Feddor Cappozzo. "That new trend in multi-colored unicorn armpit hair. Why does anyone need this? Nah!"

Yes, Linda, Marie Claire, the magazine for fashionistas, has declared that "Unicorn Armpit Hair Is the Best Beauty Trend of 2019 So Far." And stories celebrate something called #unicorpnits.

It's so fashionable, isn't it? I will offer no opinion. Grow it long and braid it if you wish.

Please, just don't hurt me. "My Moutza is awarded to the voters of Chicago who have continued to re-elect the same people who have done such a great job with tax dollars," said Dewey Pierotti.

Well, not the same people exactly,

but we get the point. The insiders play the outsiders. It's laughable.

The mayoral candidates that I call the Madigan-Burke Four try to present themselves as political reformers.

Bill Daley, Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle, Illinois Comptroller Susana Mendoza and lawyer Gery Chico are getting media and political fundraising love in the crowded mayoral campaign.

And if one of them becomes mayor on a "reform" ticket, Chicago will be the laughingstock of American politics for keeps.

They all belong to the Democratic Party clique run by House Speaker Madigan and his ally Burke.

Burke has been charged with one federal extortion count, but the feds aren't done and continue sifting through City Hall.

In a fascinating story by Tribune reporter Ray Long, Boss Madigan was deposed in a five-hour deposition in a civil case about his secret support for candidates to undercut political challengers.

It's a dirty, Machiavellian business, what can I say?

Boss Madigan never forgets a thing. But according to Long, Madigan said the words "I don't recall," and "I don't remember," "I don't know" or "I have no memory," more than 100 times during the deposition.

Boss Madigan, you should have stuck with the classic phrase, "To the best of my knowledge, at this point in time, I can't recall."

You can't remember?

Nah!
David Kleckner nominated "Mendoza, who keeps pushing ethics yet only got rid of thousands of Danny Solis' (campaign donation) dollars ... in the wake of the Burke investigation. NAH!"

Mendoza has a great personality with which to charm journalists. But she's a creature of Burke and Madigan and an ally of Ald. Viagra. She has Mayor Rahm Emanuel's minions behind her, but she's trying to present herself as the reformer.

It's ridiculous. But Mendoza's rival Preckwinkle is even more ridiculous. She casts herself as a political outsider, though she's

Democratic Party chairman and a beneficiary of Burke's fundraising. She helped his son get a \$100,000 county job.

"Preckwinkle deserves it for claiming in TV commercials she's not an insider," said Terry Poulos. "That's the whopper of all lies. She also hired Burke (Jr.) ... Preckwinkle is either a liar or the most incompetent person ever to hold office. I go with a tie, Eddie and Toni. Nah!!"

Chico deserves one too, just because.

Gery? Lift your head up, for old times' sake: Nah!

And Bill Daley? He's presented himself as quite the reformer, talking about reducing the size of the Chicago City Council from 50 to 15 members.

His brother, former Mayor Richard M. Daley, had friendly media people spin a similar story years ago, about his proposal to reduce the size of the council to 25 or 20 in the name of reform.

But it's not about reform. It's about control sold as reform. Wake up, Chicago.

"I've had a political relationship with Ed for years," Bill Daley was quoted as saying about the 14th Ward alderman. "So, I'm not saying anybody is better than the other and it's not about Ed Burke."

Bill? It's not about Ed Burke? Nah!
But nothing this month compares to Ald. Solis begging a fixer for Viagra, and explaining what he wants on FBI tape, according to the Sun-Times.

"I want to get a good massage, with a nice ending," Solis said. "Do you know any good places?"

And then he thought he might be considered a hero for helping bring down the corrupt?

Idiot.

Dan Solis, you win the Golden Moutza of January.

Have a double.
Nah! and Nah! again.

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Freeze-fried eggs and other things we've learned from **THE DEEP FREEZE**

ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

So-called arctic sea fog — who knew? — rises up from Lake Michigan on Thursday.



MARY SCHMICH

Before the Great Polar Vortex of 2019 is nothing but a memory and a bragging right, let's take a moment to appreciate the things this time has taught us.

Things like this:

That sandwiching a plastic bag between two layers of socks will keep your feet warm.

That the smoke rising off Lake Michigan is called "arctic sea fog."

That the strange noises we've been hearing on these subzero nights are called "ice quakes."

And we've learned that even in a time of ice quakes and arctic fog, some of us need to go out for coffee or, frankly, go out for anything because we'd rather die of frostbite than cabin fever.

Did it really take the polar vortex to teach us that working from home is overrated? Yes, it did, at the same time it revealed how many people work from home in nightwear they are freakishly proud to display on social media.

We've learned that even after the apocalypse there will be an open Starbucks.

Other things we've learned:

That in winter's subzero depths, it helps to repeat "At least the sun is out."

That in this fathomless cold, the daylight is so piercing it makes snow sparkle and tree branches shine and the sliver of morning moon look etched into the sky. We have also learned that this unsparing light does not enhance the image in the mirror.

We have learned that Vaseline is our best friend.

In these few days — Only a few? The media coverage has made it feel like a century — we've learned that the sound of your car starting when it's 20 below is more beautiful than the sound of wind chimes at the summer shore.

We — one of us, anyway — have also learned that you should not rock the car crazily back and forth on the ice to get out of your curbside parking spot because that could do something very bad to your car, which you'll realize only when you start smelling gas; and when you smell that unfortunate smell, you'll tell yourself you'll think about it tomorrow. Because. You. Have. Got. To. Get Out of the House. Whatever it takes, whatever it costs. Now.

And we've learned this:

That it's fun to say "Chicago is colder than Antarctica!" while ignoring the fact that it's currently summer in Antarctica, meaning the comparison isn't that impressive.

It's also fun to say "Chicago is colder than Mars!" even though most of us have no idea what the temperature is on Mars.

And we've learned that just because Chicago is colder than Mars doesn't mean there's no global warming. But we already knew that. Didn't we?

Other things the polar vortex has prompted us to learn:

To do the penguin walk on icy pavement and not to care that it looks ridiculous; being safe always trumps looking ridiculous.

To leave two layers on indoors because getting entirely dressed and undressed is as exhausting as Rollerblading nearly naked on the lakefront when it's 18 below.

We've learned some bozo really did that. Hey. It's Chicago. There's always one.

We've learned that if you crank your home's heat up, one room will swelter and the others will stay frozen and your fruitless attempt to heat your porous place will suck up all the money you'd been saving for that vacation somewhere warm.

We've learned we should have sealed the windows back in October.

We've learned many totally pointless but thrilling things too. Like there's such a thing as freeze-frying, and you can do it to an egg on the sidewalk!

(Thank you to my Tribune colleagues Stacy St. Clair and Morgan Greene who braved the cold to conduct this newsworthy experiment.)

And we've learned — again — that the worst weather brings out the best in many people: The ones who fix the broken water pipes, fight the fires, help the homeless find shelter, shovel the snow for their neighbors.

Now our polar vortex education is coming to a close. We'll remember some of what we learned. Some things we'll have to learn all over again.

But this truth we should hold on to: After 21 below, anything above zero feels like winter in Hawaii. Which just goes to show that pain is relative and suffering always passes, at least when it comes to the weather.

mschmich@chicagotribune.com
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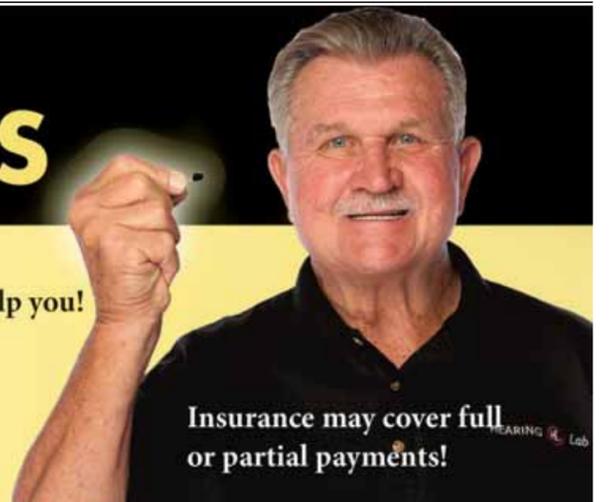
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Chicago Tribune CHICAGOLAND

Chicagoans ready for a break: 'Zero is going to feel warm'

BY KATHERINE ROSENBERG-DOUGLAS, TONY BRISCOE, MORGAN GREENE, ELYSSA CHERNEY, PATRICK M. O'CONNELL AND JOHN KEILMAN
Chicago Tribune

It wasn't an all-time record, and it wasn't even as cold as the day before, but the polar vortex that held northern Illinois in an icy grip for the second straight day made for extremely unpleasant, and dangerous, conditions across Illinois and northwest Indiana.

The mercury plunged to 21 degrees below zero early Thursday at O'Hare International Airport, according to the National Weather Service, 2 degrees "warmer" than Wednesday and 6 degrees shy of the all-time coldest temperature for Chicago, set in 1985. Still, Chicagoans experienced the coldest temperatures in three decades, and the last two days were the coldest-ever for both the dates of Jan. 30 and Jan. 31.

At least the sun was shining. "I was surprised when I walked outside and my face hurt," said Nick Dewlaney, 39, a California native who visited Montrose Harbor with the temperatures still hovering well below zero. Using the frosted city as a backdrop, visitors with hoods up and selfie sticks out posed in front of a skyline clouded by suspended puffs of smoke rising off Lake Michigan.

Away from lake, the temperatures were even colder. Aurora logged minus 32 and Rockford hit a record 31 below zero, making for its coldest temperature since the weather service started keeping records there in 1905, according to the weather service. Elsewhere, health officials reported at least one cold-related death, at a hospital in the central part of the state, as a result of the deep freeze. And Chicago-area hospitals reported treating dozens of patients for frostbite or hypothermia.

The cold also contributed to numerous car crashes on iced roads and water main breaks throughout Chicago and the suburbs. Social service agencies scrambled to serve the homeless and those less fortunate, pairing up with city and county agencies to provide shelter from the life-threatening conditions.

Relief is finally on the horizon, with temperatures expected to rise above zero by Friday morning, with 40s forecast for the weekend. It won't come soon enough for Jeffrey Young, a homeless college student who normally lives in Wheaton. Young spent the cold snap near downtown Glen Ellyn, circling



TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Power lines are damaged on the Metra tracks south of the Harvey station at 154th Street and Park.

among the heated train station, a coffee shop and another open building.

Standing outside the station, he described surviving the days of ferocious cold as a near-spiritual exercise of patience and perspective.

"I just look at the fact that it's only for a few days," he said. "I can literally watch the day go by, and once it's over, I don't have to worry about it anymore. Today the temperature is forecast to get up to zero. Zero is going to feel warm compared to what it's been."

The face-freezing weather capped a dayslong polar vortex cold snap that descended on the Midwest starting Monday night. The Arctic blast led to school cancellations, closed courts, thousands of flight cancellations, a stop on U.S. Postal Service delivery and disruption of all Amtrak service, as well as scaled-back Metra and CTA service. With a warmup on the way, schools are scheduled to reopen Friday after two days of canceled classes across the city and suburbs.

'Chi-Laska'

The cold caused plenty of headaches for those who still needed to travel to work. South Shore and Metra Electric trains were still out of service Thursday afternoon. Metra Electric service and the South Shore Line will be down for a third day on Friday, due to a combination of cold weather damage and power lines being hit by a derailed freight train.

The CTA only experienced minor delays throughout its sys-

tem Thursday, with president Dorval Carter Jr. describing operations as going "fairly well."

With air temperatures lower than 20 below zero and a wind chill that made it feel like nearly minus 40, the Austin Green Line station on the border between Chicago and Oak Park was nearly deserted before sunrise.

Roy Townsel, 49, was one of the few souls who rolled through the turnstiles on his way to work. The Oak Park resident said he called off the day before but decided to brave the frigid conditions Thursday so he wouldn't lose any more vacation time. By the time Townsel prepared to board the train, the area had endured 36 consecutive hours of subzero weather, with roughly 12 hours to go until temperatures reached zero again, according to the weather service.

"It feels colder than the North Pole right now," Townsel said, standing beneath a heat lamp as frost grew on the fibers of his Bulls skullcap. "This is like Chi-Laska."

Chicago's department of streets and sanitation had 200,000 tons of salt, treated with beet juice to help it bind to roadways, for the Thursday night rush hour. The city's water department worked on more than a dozen water main breaks during the cold spell, and the department also assisted residents with frozen pipes and lack of water.

Staying diligent

A small fleet of five CTA buses were on the street overnight, providing a warm place for the homeless and vulnerable who did not otherwise seek shelter.

Those buses served 160 people, said Lisa Morrison-Butler, commissioner of the Department of Family & Support Services. Five other buses are available at O'Hare. The buses were scheduled to be out again Thursday night.

Mayor Rahm Emanuel, who delivered doughnuts to water crews and visited with CTA mechanics Thursday morning, commended Chicago residents on their efforts to help elderly neighbors and those in need. But he warned people to continue to stay diligent.

"If you don't have to be outside, don't go outside," the mayor said during a late-morning news conference at The Salvation Army's Shield of Hope facility in Humboldt Park. "This is not just bad weather, it can be considered, we look at it as a public health risk."

During the cold snap, the city completed hundreds of building checks and thousands of well-being checks.

By Thursday, the department of buildings had worked through the cold snap to get heat restored to seven buildings, said Gregg Cunningham, spokesperson for the department. The majority of the buildings where emergency actions were taken to restore heat were two-flat buildings that included one or two units without heat, Cunningham said. In an Englewood building, a family that included five children lived in a unit that lost heat during the cold snap, Cunningham said.

Chicago Tribune's David Jackson, Elvia Malagon, Lisa Schenker, Mary Wisniewski and Elizabeth Wolfe contributed.

Garcia not worried about Solis talks

New U.S. legislator says he is unaware of having been recorded

BY LISA DONOVAN
Chicago Tribune

U.S. Rep. Jesus "Chuy" Garcia says it's possible conversations he's had with Ald. Danny Solis were recorded as they worked together on a political action committee, but the new Democratic congressman from Chicago said he's "not worried whatsoever."

Solis may have recorded some of their conversations, Garcia said, given their involvement in the political action committee and that Garcia's congressional district overlaps the 25th Ward. They've also been at many of the same events together over the years, Garcia said.

"We had conversations — in groups and parties and press conferences and cookouts. It's possible, if someone wore a wire that long, you don't know when it's on, when it's off," Garcia said in a phone interview with the Tribune. "I'm not worried whatsoever."

Solis, who has not been accused of wrongdoing, wore an undercover wire for the FBI and recorded multiple conversations with Ald. Edward Burke, sources told the Tribune. Burke has been charged with attempted extortion over allegations he pressured executives of a Burger King franchise in his ward to steer business toward his property tax appeals law firm in exchange for help with a permit.

Garcia said he was "extremely disappointed" to hear about the public corruption scandal brewing in Chicago and Solis' apparent involvement.

The retiring Solis and Garcia were once in rival political camps. But they've worked together in recent years to form a political action committee aimed at getting more Latino candidates elected to office.

Garcia, who's been a Chicago alderman — his time on the council overlapped with Burke's — Cook County commissioner and state lawmaker, said he has not looked to make money off of his public office and has "always been pretty broke."

"I won't say poor. I live modestly in a working-class neighborhood," Garcia said. "I live in Little Village — and I didn't move out and I don't intend to."

Asked whether he's endorsing one of the 14 candidates in the Feb. 26 mayor's race, Garcia said he's taking a wait-and-see attitude, in part because of the public corruption probe.

"As of now, I'm not," Garcia said.

Garcia and Solis were part of different — sometimes opposing — political blocs. Solis, initially appointed by Mayor Richard M. Daley, came up through the Hispanic Democratic Organization, a patronage machine that allied with Daley during the 1990s by dispatching members across the Chicago area to campaign for the mayor and candidates he backed. Garcia, who came on the scene during then-Mayor Harold Washington's campaign and election, was part of the progressive 22nd Ward Independent Political Organization.

Garcia and his predecessor, retired former U.S. Rep. Luis Gutierrez, who also would have worked with Solis, said it is important now more than ever for some new blood in elected office.

Gutierrez issued a statement saying: "The latest news about Ald. Solis and Ald. Burke is disturbing, and all the more reason why we clearly need new, independent leadership — not only for the Latino community, but for the City Council as a whole."

The Sun-Times reported this week that the FBI recorded Illinois House Speaker Michael Madigan during a 2014 meeting Solis arranged with a developer of a proposed hotel in Chinatown. Madigan subsequently released a statement saying, "To my knowledge, I am not under investigation by the office of the U.S. attorney, and I have not been contacted by the U.S. attorney relative to Dan Solis."

Burke, free on a \$10,000 unsecured bond, has yet to enter a plea, but his attorney, Charles Sklarsky, has said the allegations were meritless.

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'Regular people' move dozens from camp to inn

BY MADELINE BUCKLEY AND ROSEMARY SOBOL
Chicago Tribune

In a room at the Amber Inn in Bronzeville, bundles of clothing were piled high on a queen-size bed Thursday afternoon, jackets, scarves and sweaters spilling onto the floor. Boxes of doughnuts sat stacked on a table next to a carton of coffee and a tub of broccoli soup. A group of about eight friends, business owners from the South Side, scurried about, organizing the clothes and coordinating the next meal.

The friends, most under 40, helped move more than 100 people living in a homeless camp south of the Loop into the hotel to escape the life-threatening cold that paralyzed Chicago this week.

"This is just regular people trying to help," said Candice Payne, 34, who initiated the effort with her husband.

Payne said she and her husband were familiar with the homeless camp near Roosevelt Road and Des Plaines Avenue because they passed it every time they went to get on the nearby Dan Ryan Expressway. When temperatures plunged, they worried that the city and charitable organizations wouldn't have the resources to get the homeless community out of the cold.

"We wanted to get as much of

them out of there as possible," said Payne, who works in real estate.

The couple and some friends drove by the homeless camp Tuesday night and took those they could persuade to leave to the Amber Inn at 39th Street and Michigan Avenue, renting 20 rooms at about \$70 a piece. Payne had called dozens of hotels, and the Amber Inn was the only place that would take them.

On Wednesday afternoon, with temperatures well below zero, a propane tank exploded at the camp. That led fire officials to confiscate dozens of propane tanks, leaving the campers who hadn't accepted the initial offer of a hotel room without any source of heat.

Payne and her crew returned to the camp and took another group of people, now facing a night of near-record-low temperatures, to the motel.

Payne posted about the effort on her Instagram account, and friends jumped in to help. They quickly paid for more rooms and also donated food, clothes and diapers. Many came to the hotel to help get the people settled.

By Thursday night, they had enough money for 60 rooms for four nights, enough for about 120 people. A receptionist at the motel said the group has nearly filled the inn.

The homeless camp was des-



TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Candice Payne and her husband initiated the effort to move people from the homeless camp during this week's extreme-cold spell.

erted Thursday afternoon, though tents and personal items remained in the wooded area.

Asia Walker and Willis Norwood were among those who left the encampment, which everyone calls Tent City, for a room at the Amber Inn. They sat on a bed Thursday night watching TV in the heated room. "It was really good to get out of the cold," Walker said.

The couple said they had lived in Tent City for about two months, previously living in their car. They were doing OK for a while, but were not sure they would have survived without the propane tank in subzero temperatures.

As friends, family and some strangers began donating more, Payne and other friends stretched across the city to other homeless camps.

Armez Spearman, who works in real estate with Payne, reached out to a group living in a foreclosed building near 63rd Street and King Drive. Christopher Jones and Tyann Crawl were among those in the building. They were facing several nights in the harsh cold with no heat or water in the building. "It was rough," Jones said.

Spearman showed up and ordered several Ubers to take them to the motel. They've been able to shower and eat three meals a day provided by Payne and the other volunteers.

Once Jones and Crawl check out Saturday morning, when temperatures are expected to rise above freezing, they will probably return to their previous home.

"We don't have nowhere else to go," Crawl said.

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Suit ties speaker's team, ballot fakes

Speaker, from Page 1

the ballot with phony candidates with Latino-sounding last names to confuse voters and undermine his legitimate bid for office. He argues that violates federal civil rights voting protections, and he's seeking as much as \$2 million in damages.

While the depositions are not always revelatory, they still could prove helpful to Gonzales' lawyers.

For instance, a Madigan operative acknowledged under oath that he inquired whether one of the two allegedly phony candidates would be interested in running. Madigan political workers also collected signatures to get the other challenger on the ballot, according to a review of depositions and state campaign records. And a Madigan lieutenant testified that he drove the nominating paperwork for both of the other candidates to Springfield.

A Madigan spokeswoman said Thursday that the speaker won't comment on the suit, "as the proper place to litigate is in court."

"Mr. Gonzales had his opportunity to make his case to the voters and he lost overwhelmingly. The majority of the claims against the speaker and his political committees have been dismissed," Madigan spokeswoman Eileen Boyce said in a statement.

The protracted, bare-knuckled legal battle is among the latest in a series of challenges for Madigan's political organization.

On Tuesday, Madigan had to address a Chicago Sun-Times story that he was secretly recorded while pitching his property tax appeal services during an August 2014 meeting with an associate of a developer who wanted to build a Chinatown hotel. The meeting at Madigan's law office was arranged by Ald. Daniel Solis, whom sources said has worn a recording device as part of the investi-



ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/CHICAGO TRIBUNE 2016

Jason Gonzales, above, alleges that Michael Madigan's team stacked the ballot with phony candidates with Latino-sounding names to confuse voters.

gation that led to an attempted extortion charge against veteran Ald. Edward Burke this month. Madigan has not been charged.

On Monday, a college student sued Madigan, Ald. Marty Quinn and the 13th Ward Democratic Organization, alleging an overly aggressive attempt to knock the challenger off the ballot until the alderman pulled back after receiving negative publicity. And last year, the speaker publicly parted ways with several longtime trusted associates amid a series of #MeToo allegations and an accusation of bullying.

Whether Gonzales' legal arguments will pass muster — and whether his suit will even go to trial — will be determined in the coming months.

A threat materializes

Gonzales moved into the 22nd Illinois House District ahead of the 2016 election to try to defeat Madigan on his home turf. While critics have long decried Madigan's decadeslong grip on the House, statewide voters don't get to weigh in on his tenure. It's only a small sliver of the electorate on the Southwest Side that determines whether Madigan gets to go back to the Capitol, where the nation's longest-serving speaker has held sway for all but two years since 1983.

As a challenger, Gonzales had some potential. He talked about his degrees from Duke, MIT and Harvard. He was a Latino in a predominantly Hispanic district. And his campaign

was well-funded.

Donating to Gonzales' effort were major campaign contributors to Rauner, who had tried to make Madigan the villain in their statehouse stalemate that the speaker recently called an "epic struggle." Among Gonzales' contributors were the conservative Illinois Opportunity Project and Blair Hull, who lost a 2004 Democratic primary bid for the U.S. Senate seat to then-state Sen. Barack Obama.

Hull, who has clashed with Madigan, is helping pay Gonzales' legal bills in the suit, according to Gonzales' testimony and court records. The money is going to the law firm of Tony Peraica, a former Republican Cook County Board member.

Under questioning from Peraica, Madigan contended that Rauner played a key role in getting Gonzales to run against him.

"We viewed this as a Republican Rauner invasion of the Democratic primary," Madigan said. Rauner and Gonzales both have denied that was the case.

For Madigan, who leaves little to chance, the threat to his power was not to be overlooked. And so the speaker and his political operation prepared to respond. They held weekly Sunday strategy calls for two hours, with the speaker taking part from his ward office at 65th Street and Pulaski Road, according to depositions. Madigan testified that the group would talk about the various campaigns, including his race against Gonzales and the two other candidates.

Timothy Mapes, at the time Madigan's chief of staff, said in his deposition that the calls probably began in December 2015 following the deadline for state legislative candidates to file to run in March. Gonzales was among the topics, he said.

"It was about a strategy for the speaker to win the 2016 primary," said Mapes, who was forced out in June 2018 following sexual harassment allegations.

During his deposition, Madigan acknowledged that as the incumbent, his odds of winning improve when more challengers are in the contest.

"I study returns, and you know that in my case for certain not every applicant for a ballot in the Democratic primary is going to vote for me," he said. "And, therefore, in a primary election it's advantageous to me to have multiple candidates."

Asked by Peraica if he meant multiple Latino candidates, Madigan replied: "Not Hispanic, just multiple candidates."

The district's population was about 60 percent Latino in 2011. But Madigan said he was not concerned about Gonzales' challenge because the speaker enjoyed "widespread support among Hispanic people in the district."

Peraica then asked Madigan whether he had

reached out to any political allies to try to load up the ballot with candidates.

"I don't remember that," Madigan said.

"Is it possible that you did?" Peraica asked.

"No," Madigan responded.

"So you're certain that you didn't?" Peraica asked.

"I don't remember," Madigan said.

Later, on cross-examination from Michael Kasper, one of his lawyers, Madigan said he did not direct anyone who works for him or anyone associated with him to recruit candidates to run against him, nor did he know of anyone connected to him who did so.

"The answer is no," Madigan said.

Recruitment drive?

Even so, two other primary challengers did surface along with Madigan and Gonzales — Joe Barboza, a union construction laborer from the West Lawn neighborhood near Midway Airport, and Grasiela Rodriguez, a dispatcher for a ready-mix truck company who also lives in West Lawn.

Neither Barboza nor Rodriguez filed financial reports with the state to indicate they raised or spent money, the kind of activity associated with active campaigns. So how did they wind up on the ballot?

In the case of Barboza, onetime Madigan political operative Kevin Quinn gave a glimpse of the political intrigue during his deposition.

Last year, Madigan ousted Quinn over allegations that he had aggressively pressured a female campaign worker to go out with him despite being repeatedly rebuffed. During the March 2016 campaign, however, Quinn was still on good paper with the speaker. He even signed off as a notary on Madigan's own nominating petitions.

Under oath, Quinn recounted an unusual maneuver unfolding.

Quinn testified that he spoke to his brother, 13th Ward Ald. Marty Quinn, about calling Charlie Hernandez, a Cicero politician who's married to Democratic state Rep. Elizabeth Hernandez, about the possibility of Barboza running for state representative too. Kevin Quinn said his brother gave him the go-ahead.

"I had asked Charlie to see if Joe (Barboza) would be interested in running as a Democrat," Kevin Quinn testified. He added he had "met Joe through Charlie" at a 13th Ward fundraiser.

"I had simply reached out to Charlie to see if Joe had an interest," he said. "I never heard back from Charlie."

To the average voter, it might seem counterintuitive for someone to go out and look for a candidate to run against their boss. But in any contest featuring an incumbent, there's a certain percentage of voters who will vote against the person

holding the office. Having more candidates in the race spreads out the anti-incumbent vote, making it harder for a challenger to win.

In addition, Madigan said under oath that he talked to Cicero's Charlie Hernandez about the election.

"My memory," Madigan said, "is that in a social setting I had a conversation with Hernandez talking about Barboza and talking about Gonzales, very short." Madigan, however, said he did not ask Hernandez to ask Barboza to run.

During his deposition, Barboza was asked why he decided to run against the speaker. Barboza said he opted to run after talking to a group of neighborhood friends. Barboza also testified that neither Madigan nor his associates urged him to jump into the contest. Barboza could not be reached for comment.

The other candidate on the ballot was Rodriguez. During her deposition, she was asked dozens of questions about the campaign and how she came to run against Madigan. She often replied: "I don't remember."

Rodriguez said she recognized taking on the speaker would be a difficult task, but said she believed she could beat him. "I was motivated," she said.

So who did Rodriguez ask to help gather voter signatures to try to secure a spot on the ballot? A person in Madigan's political organization, Rodriguez testified that she contacted Jennifer Solski, whom she knew as a waitress from a neighborhood diner.

Solski served for many years as a precinct captain, Ald. Quinn said in his deposition. Madigan testified that Solski does constituent services in the joint office on Central Avenue, where work is done for Madigan's House district and Quinn's ward.

Solski said under oath that she knew Rodriguez from passing out political literature. Asked if Rodriguez ever asked her how to run for political office, Solski said, "I don't recall."

Two of the people named on nominating petitions as gathering signatures for Rodriguez, Frank Glass and Joseph Nasella, have been paid by Madigan-controlled political funds, state records show.

Glass said in a deposition that he was unfamiliar with Rodriguez. Glass also said he did not know how his name got on Rodriguez' petitions and replied "no" when asked if he ever supported a candidate running against Madigan.

Gonzales' attorneys have sought Nasella's deposition, according to court records. So far, he has not sat for questioning, though Peraica told the Tribune that Nasella was served with a request after several months of attempts.

Rodriguez testified that she didn't know Glass and Nasella. Nor did Rodriguez remember whether she gave her nominating peti-

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House Speaker Michael Madigan leaves the state Capitol after a Democratic caucus meeting in 2016.

Speaker,
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tions to a person to file for her or if she had been at the Illinois State Board of Elections in Springfield on the day her paperwork was filed. Rodriguez could not be reached for comment.

In a twist, she acknowledged that her husband, Mike Rodriguez, had run unsuccessfully against Madigan in 2012. That election was much like 2016, with accusations that phony candidates had been put on the ballot to help the speaker win. Like his wife a few years later, Mike Rodriguez did not report receiving any campaign contributions in that contest.

For his part, Madigan backers viewed the one Democratic challenger who actively campaigned against him as a Republican plant. A conservative activist was backing her. “2012 was another Republican invasion of the Democratic primary,” Madigan said in his deposition.

Peraica asked the speaker whether he knew that Grasiela and Mike Rodriguez had a pro-Madigan campaign sign in front of their home in 2016.

“I didn’t know that,” Madigan replied.

Getting on the ballot

For Barboza and Rodriguez to end up on the ballot, they had to collect enough valid signatures from district voters and get that paperwork to the Illinois State Board of Elections in Springfield.

It was another top Madigan political operative — lobbyist Shaw Decremmer, a former Madigan staffer — who drove the petitions Downstate for Barboza, Rodriguez and other candidates. Last February, Madigan parted ways with Decremmer following allegations that he bullied a Democratic lawmaker and staff while working on a 2016 campaign.

During his deposition, Decremmer acknowledged he took the nominating petitions for both candidates to Springfield.

“Why would you be bringing Grasiela Rodriguez’s petitions who is an opponent of Michael Madigan to file for her?” Peraica asked Decremmer.

“Because someone asked me to,” Decremmer said.

“Who?” Peraica asked.

“I don’t know. I don’t recall,” Decremmer said.

Decremmer also testified he was at the elections board on the final day of filing and saw Gonzales, who was preparing to submit his paperwork to run against Madigan shortly before the 5 p.m. deadline.

Gonzales said in his deposition that Decremmer then grabbed a couple of boxes, left the room, made a phone call and returned with nominating petitions in hand. Gonzales recalled that Decremmer said hello and mentioned that he thought Gonzales was not running.

“I said, ‘I changed my mind,’” Gonzales said. “And

Highlights from 257-page deposition given by Madigan

By **RAY LONG** | Chicago Tribune

Illinois House Speaker Michael Madigan has been heavily involved in politics since 1969, but it wasn’t until mid-September 2018 that he sat for what he said was his first-ever deposition.

Before an audience of seven lawyers in a conference room inside a Loop high-rise at Franklin and Randolph streets, the powerful Democrat raised his right hand and swore to tell the truth.

For five hours, the chairman of the state Democratic Party sparred with the attorney for one of the failed 2016 primary election challengers for his legislative seat. The proceedings were part of a federal civil lawsuit in which it is alleged the speaker conspired with his political operation to place on the ballot two sham candidates with Hispanic-sounding names to dilute the vote and stymie opponent Jason Gonzales.

Madigan was his typically taciturn self, keeping the answers short and displaying a dry wit. Along the way, he touched on a few episodes from his storied 50-year political career.

The speaker attacked his most recent nemesis, former Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner. He acknowledged his alliances with fellow Southwest Side power brokers William Lipinski and Ald. Edward Burke are uneasy. The questioning took place before Burke was accused of attempted extortion by federal prosecutors and before it was revealed that as part of the same investigation, Madigan had been recorded offering property tax appeal services to an associate of a Chinatown hotel developer. Madigan has not been charged.

During his deposition in the election lawsuit, Madigan also took some sarcastic swipes at his interrogator, former County Board member Tony Peraica. And Madigan also denied that he had anything to do with putting the alleged sham candidates on the ballot — the crux of the suit he faces.

Here are some highlights from the 257-page deposition, a copy of which was obtained by the Tribune:

Rauner beef

Madigan testified that he blamed Rauner for the Gonzales challenge. As rough-and-tumble as Illinois politics can be, the opposition party typically doesn’t field primary candidates against the four legislative leaders.

“Like I said early on, we viewed this as a Republican Rauner invasion of the Democratic primary, and it had happened for a reason,”

Madigan said.

In a story the speaker has told Democratic audiences before, Madigan testified about a private meeting at the governor’s mansion in February 2015, shortly after Rauner had been sworn in.

“I had a meeting with Rauner. Rauner laid out his agenda, his turnaround agenda,” said Madigan, whose campaign funds are filled by the labor unions and trial lawyers that Rauner’s legislative push was aimed at.

“I told him I wasn’t going to support it, so you know what he said to me? ‘Well, if you don’t support my agenda, I’m just going to come after you,’ and it was only a few weeks later that they spent \$1 million on Downstate TV defaming me and now they’re like over \$30 million defaming me. So if you’re concerned about nastiness in politics, why don’t you go over and talk to Bruce Rauner?” he continued.

Madigan was asked by Peraica, Gonzales’ attorney, if he had authorized a series of nasty attack pieces his campaign sent out against Gonzales.

“Have you seen the TV ads put on by Rauner against me?” Madigan countered.

Pressed on the matter, Madigan said Rauner’s ads were a “defamation that’s been performed on me and my family simply because we’ve got a governor that thinks he’s a dictator, and he was supporting Gonzales.”

Madigan also brushed aside a Peraica question on whether he was concerned in the 2016 primary about Gonzales as a challenger, saying he was “concerned with all of the money that Bruce Rauner was going to bring into the election.”

“We were going to make sure that the voters in the district knew that Bruce Rauner was on the scene and that he was supporting Jason Gonzales because Bruce Rauner is not a popular person in the 22nd District,” Madigan said.

Campaign records showed that big money poured into the Gonzales campaign from a series of Rauner supporters, including various wealthy investors. Gonzales’ support also came from an independent expenditure committee funded heavily by Blair Hull, who lost a 2004 Democratic primary bid for the U.S. Senate seat to then-state Sen. Barack Obama, and the right-leaning Illinois Opportunity Project.

Peculiar passion

Early on in the deposition, Peraica asked about Madigan’s political background, including his

election as 13th Ward Democratic committeeman in 1969. Madigan described the drudgery of the unpaid political job, from hooking residents up with government services to preparing sample ballots to raising money to pay for such activities.

Peraica asked: “With all the other responsibilities that you have in your various roles, why would you want to continue as a committeeman for 50 years?”

“It’s a good question,” Madigan said.

“Have you figured out the answer? I’m curious,” Peraica said.

“My stock answer is to tell people that I’m rather peculiar,” Madigan replied.

“You’re passionate about that position, right?” Peraica asked.

“You want an answer to that?” Madigan said. “I’m not sure I’m passionate, but I still perform the duties.”

Uneasy allies

Later in the deposition, Peraica asked Madigan about neighboring Southwest Side political dynasties, the Lipinski family in the 23rd Ward and Ald. Burke in the 14th Ward. The questions came in the context of Peraica trying to prove those ward organizations helped in the anti-Gonzales effort.

Peraica: “Would you consider former Congressman Bill Lipinski your ally, political ally?”

“Sometimes yes, sometimes no,” Madigan replied.

“How about his son, current Congressman Dan Lipinski?” Peraica asked.

“Same answer,” Madigan said.

“Not a consistent ally, political ally?” Peraica inquired.

“Well, Congressman — current Congressman Lipinski and I have some issue differences. That’s the nature of the Democratic Party.”

Peraica also quizzed Madigan as to whether he thought he had Burke’s support for the speaker’s re-election to the House in the March 2016 primary.

“The answer would be yes,” Madigan said.

Peraica inquired whether Madigan had ever asked Burke to send literature out on behalf of the speaker or another candidate running against the speaker in the primary.

“Not that I remember,” Madigan replied.

And later, asked whether he considered Burke an ally, Madigan replied, “Sometimes yes, sometimes no.”

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then he started asking me

questions about ‘where I was going to get money?’ and ‘Who was going to support me?’ and ‘How I thought I was going to win?’ and all that. And I basically said, ‘Don’t worry about it. It’s really none of your business.’”

Gonzales testified that he remembered getting Decremmer’s name before he left and then went to see if any other candidates filed to run. “And (the elections staffer) said, ‘Yeah, there’s two candidates that were just filed right after yours,’”

he said.

Decremmer, however, testified that he did not file the Barboza and Rodriguez petitions. Their paperwork got filed right after Gonzales’ petitions and only minutes before the deadline.

Peraica, Gonzales’ attorney, attempted to get clarity. “You didn’t file them?” Peraica asked.

“I did not,” Decremmer said.

“Who filed them?” Peraica asked.

“I don’t recall,” Decremmer said.

The elections board no

longer has a record of who filed the paperwork because the agency only keeps such receipts until candidate filing for the next election begins, an agency spokesman said.

Peraica asked Decremmer if he feared being labeled a “turncoat” for handling petitions for Madigan opponents.

“No,” Decremmer said.

Under questioning from Madigan attorney Adam Vaught, unsuccessful challenger Gonzales said he believed the speaker “used his power and position by

virtue of that to direct these acts to happen.”

“You believe,” Vaught said. “I’m saying, ‘Do you have any facts? Do you have any knowledge?’”

“I don’t have any facts,” Gonzales responded, “that Speaker Madigan specifically ordered these two candidates, but I believe that he is part of a conspiracy.”

Campaign unfolds

During the campaign, Madigan’s campaign team

peppered the district with anti-Gonzales mailers featuring grainy, unflattering images of the challenger, casting him as a career criminal. Gonzales has acknowledged that as a teen, he committed crimes involving forgery and illegal use of a credit card. He spent 71 days in jail.

In early 2015, Gonzales won a pardon from then-Democratic Gov. Pat Quinn. Still, the attack pieces highlighted Gonzales’ guilty pleas, which included “multiple felonies.” An asterisk on one flyer noted the pardon, but the headline blared: “Jason Gonzales can’t hide his record of deception and dishonesty.”

During his deposition, Gonzales said the campaign attacks led him to seek help from a psychiatrist, who prescribed medication.

“This guy’s trying to destroy your soul,” Gonzales said of Madigan. “He just doesn’t want to defeat you. He wants to make sure that you never come back again.”

On Election Day, Madigan won with 65 percent of the vote, while Gonzales had 27 percent, Rodriguez had nearly 6 percent and Barboza 2 percent.

Though the votes for Gonzales and the two other candidates combined didn’t come close to Madigan’s total, Peraica said in an interview with the Tribune that running the two extra candidates as challengers alongside Gonzales depressed his support and reduced the final number of votes for him.

“If those candidates weren’t on the ballot,” Gonzales said under oath, “I believe I would have won this election.”

Madigan, however, was going to be tough to defeat. The speaker boasted goodwill built up through decades of constituent services, an army of strong precinct captains to turn out the vote and the endorsement of then-County Commissioner Jesus “Chuy” Garcia, who now serves in Congress.

Kasper, Madigan’s long-time political, government and election lawyer, questioned Gonzales’ argument that Latino voters would have flocked to him if he’d had a one-on-one race with the speaker, pointing to precincts with as much as 90 percent Hispanic populations that voted overwhelmingly for Madigan.

Take the 44th Precinct in the 13th Ward on the district’s east side. Kasper said Madigan got 443 votes, Gonzales got 26 votes, Rodriguez got six and Barboza got one.

The speaker had an explanation for his big win.

“We worked to identify our voters and get them voted,” Madigan said in his deposition. “And our polling told us at the beginning that I had over 65 percent support. That’s (what) I got on Election Day because we identify our voters.”

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CHICAGO POLICE

Detectives are trying to identify and talk to two people seen on video to learn of any involvement in the incident.

Police sifting video after attack on actor

Attack, from Page 1

Rep. Bobby Rush, D-Ill., has called on the FBI to investigate the attack as a hate crime. President Donald Trump, asked about it at a news conference, said, "It's horrible. Doesn't get worse."

Taraji P. Henson, who plays Smollett's character's mother on the show, tweeted: "I wish what happened to my baby was just one big bad joke but it wasn't and we all feel his pain right now. @jussiesmollett is pure love to the bone."

But the lack of progress in the case has fueled some harsh skepticism on social media. Smollett's family acknowledged that in releasing its first public statement about the incident Thursday.

"We want to be clear, this was a racial and homophobic hate crime," the statement said. "Jussie has told the police everything from the very beginning. His story has never changed, and we are hopeful they will find these men and bring them to justice. Our family thanks everyone for their prayers and the huge amount of love he has received."

For now, the only lead police appear to have are pictures from a surveillance camera on New Street near Illinois Street, taken between 1:30 a.m. and 1:45 a.m. Smollett, who plays Jamal Lyon on Fox's "Empire," said he was attacked about 15 to 30 minutes later around the corner.

"They are outside on a street walking," Guglielmi said. "They are in the area that we have determined it could have taken place ... in the time and the area. It certainly leads us to have questions for them."

Smollett told police he had just left a Subway when two men in dark clothes approached and yelled the slurs. Smollett told police he was hit and a chemical — maybe bleach — was poured on him. They put a rope around his neck and yelled, "This is MAGA country," he told detectives. The initials stand for Make America Great Again, a Trump campaign slogan.

Police were called just after 2:30 a.m. A friend of the actor told responding officers that "a noose was placed over the friend's neck."

So far, police detectives have used at least three surveillance cameras to piece together what Guglielmi called "a digital puzzle," tracking the movements of both Smollett and the two people of interest. Smollett is seen walking in one direction on a street and the two other people are walking the other way.

"One was going north and one going south," Guglielmi said. There are times when Smollett and the two people are out of range.

"They kind of all go off camera and reappear in different cameras," he said. "You almost have to watch them at the same time" because each camera shows the same time stamp but from a different angle.

There is no image so far of any attack, he said.

Guglielmi said video from the apartment building is sharp and shows Smollett walking in with a white rope around his neck. "We can confirm that, yeah, it was a rope, tied as a noose. It was tied that way," he said. "You can tell it's a rope tied as a noose."

Forty minutes later, as officers responded with their body cameras turned on, Smollett still had the rope around his neck, but it was untied.

"It was draped around his neck still, but it's not fashioned as a noose,"

Guglielmi said. "It was loosely dangling rope." Officers took the rope and some of Smollett's clothing as evidence.

Smollett went on his own to Northwestern Memorial Hospital nearby and was treated for cuts to his face, according to Guglielmi.

The actor told police he was on the phone with his manager during the attack, but both of them have refused to turn over their phone records, Guglielmi said.

"Both the victim and his manager have made statements to detectives that they were on the phone with each other," the police spokesman said in an email. "We were not able to independently verify that because they did not turn over cellphone records to police when asked."

"That being said, we have no reason to doubt the statements given, and the reason that detectives requested cellphone records is because the manager and the victim have a financial relationship with each other," he added. "Because of that, independent verification was needed for the investigation."

Brandon Z. Moore, Smollett's music manager, declined to comment to the Tribune. "Nothing I can tell you," he said by phone.

Guglielmi said detectives "still have a lot more cameras to look at. But now that we've got potential persons of interest, the focus will be following their paths. Where did they come from and where did they go?"

"We've got a dozen detectives out there looking for leads, so anything can happen," he said.

A week before Smollett reported the attack, a letter containing white powder and making racial and homophobic threats was mailed to the actor at Cinespace Chicago Film Studios, where "Empire" is filmed, according to police. The letter triggered a hazardous materials call, but fire crews determined the powder was not dangerous.

The FBI has since taken over the investigation into the letter while Chicago police continue to look into Tuesday's incident, authorities said.

"Empire," which premiered on the Fox network in 2015, is a musical drama that films in Chicago for most of the year. Smollett plays a gay musician.

Production on "Empire" resumed Thursday after Chicago's subzero temperatures shut down filming of TV shows across the city Wednesday. "Empire" filmed scenes at Cinespace, a source told the Tribune.

It was unclear whether Smollett went back to work Thursday. A Fox representative declined to comment on filming. "Empire" also was scheduled to shoot at Park Community Church on the Near North Side, according to notices posted near the church, but there was no sign of filming there at midday. The church's voicemail message indicated its office is closed until Monday because of the weather.

Signs posted Thursday outside a Northwest Side park said "Empire" was scheduled to film there Friday.

A representative for the Troubadour club in West Hollywood said Smollett is still scheduled to play a sold-out show there Saturday. Smollett released his debut album, "Sum of My Music," last year.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Area Central detectives at 312-747-8380 or report it anonymously to cpdtp.com.

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Mayor hopefuls get backing

Enyia, Daley, Mendoza pick up endorsements

By JOHN BYRNE AND LOLLY BOWEAN
Chicago Tribune

Dorothy Brown backed public policy consultant Amara Enyia for mayor Thursday, potentially giving a boost to her candidacy in the crowded field.

Her endorsement of Enyia's campaign came the same day other mayoral candidates picked up support: Cubs co-owner Laura Ricketts announced she was backing state Comptroller Susana Mendoza and U.S. Rep. Bobby Rush said he was supporting former U.S. Commerce Secretary Bill Daley.

Brown, the Cook County Circuit Court clerk, called Enyia "the best person to take this city forward and to bring true change to Chicago for all of its people."

Brown has been Cook County clerk of the Circuit Court since 2000, and her citywide base of support could be helpful as the 14 mayoral candidates scrape for the votes in the first-round Feb. 26 election to make it to the likely one-on-one run-off election in April.

Brown said her backers have been waiting to see whom she would endorse since the Chicago election board removed her from the ballot last week for having too few valid petition signatures.

"Right now they were not going to vote at all," Brown said. "That cannot be, you cannot not vote in this election. And they're just waiting for who we're going to endorse, who we have assessed to be that person that can bring real change to the city of Chicago, and hope for all Chicagoans."

Rush's endorsement of Daley also is meaningful, in part because Rush has broad and enduring support from a large and strong African-American voting base on the South Side. Not only was he a co-founder of the Illinois Black Panther Party, Rush is also a former activist and minister who has long been vocal about social and economic injustices en-



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Cook County Circuit Court Clerk Dorothy Brown, right, on Thursday said she would be backing Amara Enyia in Chicago's upcoming mayoral race.



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Democratic U.S. Rep. Bobby Rush said he is supporting Bill Daley in the mayoral race.

dured by African-Americans.

Rush's decision might surprise some of his base, because he's not backing an African-American candidate. But on Thursday, he defended his decision.

"I have for years and years wanted to see another African-American as mayor of the city of Chicago," he said. "However, for this election, I think Bill Daley is the wise choice for my community. He's tuned in to the lack of opportunities that a significant population of this city suffer under."

"Daley has an old name, but with new and innovative ideas and approaches," Rush said. "I'm voting with my head and not my heart."

And in a statement released by the Mendoza campaign, Laura Ricketts cited Mendoza's plan to fight City Council corruption as key to her support for the state comptroller.

"Susana Mendoza has

outlined an outstanding plan to fight corruption and raise the standard of ethics and accountability in city government," Ricketts said in the release. "She has consulted with corruption-fighting lawyer and former U.S. Attorney Dan Webb to create a proposal for an Anti-Corruption, Accountability and Ethics Commission that she will create on her first day as mayor. I strongly support her proposals to end the arbitrary and capricious Chicago aldermanic prerogative and expand and strengthen the Inspector General's oversight of the city council."

Enyia has drawn other high-profile endorsements and contributions from Chance the Rapper and Kanye West. At a City Hall news conference where she joined Brown on Thursday, Enyia praised Brown for her career, "for the work that you've done and for standing with us

and your vision."

The Brown endorsement could complicate Enyia's efforts to portray herself as an outsider looking to overturn the political status quo, since Brown is a longtime Democratic Party insider who has been dogged by federal investigations and ethics questions at the clerk's office.

For five years, the U.S. attorney's office has investigated allegations that bribes were paid for jobs and promotions in Brown's office, a probe that so far has netted one conviction and an indictment against a former high-ranking employee. Brown has denied any wrongdoing and has not been charged.

On Thursday, Enyia, who has criticized other mayoral candidates for their ties to embattled Ald. Edward Burke, brushed off the concerns about a federal cloud hanging over her new backer. "We both support the rule of law, we support investigations following their due course, and so the hope is that will happen, it will follow its course," Enyia said. "But in terms of what we're focused on, it is about breaking away from an establishment that's mired in corruption, it's about a new vision for the city and people wanting a change from the status quo."

Chicago Tribune's Gregory Pratt contributed.

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U.S. judge approves CPD reform plan

Police, from Page 1

year.

The decree calls for changes — ranging from the technical to the philosophical — to be implemented over the next five years. The order mandates changes to the way officers are trained, supervised and disciplined, among other areas.

For example, the consent decree mandates that the Police Department ban officers from using Taser electric shock devices on people who are simply running away, something that is not now specifically prohibited. It also calls on the department to better train officers on how to deal with people in crisis and how to respond to hate crimes.

More broadly, the decree repeatedly urges officers to respect "the sanctity of human life" and uses the words "dignity" and "respect" in describing how cops should interact with people.

Major steps in the court oversight process remain. Within the next month, Dow wrote, he will appoint a monitoring team that will oversee the department's progress. Four teams of finalists have been named for that crucial role, and Dow wrote that the decree will take effect as soon as he appoints the monitoring team, no later than March 1.

The court order is one of the most significant consequences of the fatal shooting of McDonald by Officer Jason Van Dyke. The November 2015 release of a video showing the white officer firing 16 shots at the black teenager sparked heated protests fueled by long-standing frustration among African-American residents about their treat-

ment by Chicago police, and the controversy built political pressure for court oversight of a police force with a long history of scandals followed by ineffectual reform efforts.

The shooting spurred a yearlong investigation by the U.S. Department of Justice, resulting in a January 2017 report that described a badly broken department in which poorly trained and supervised cops have used excessive force with little risk of consequences.

That report emerged at the end of an Obama administration that often used its authority to intervene in local police agencies and seek court-supervised reforms, and Emanuel agreed to work toward a consent decree. Trump administration officials, however, have been skeptical of federal intervention in local law enforcement, suggesting that too much oversight could worsen crime.

With pressure from the federal government relaxed, Emanuel waffled on the need for court supervision.

In August 2017, Madigan sued the city to force the court's involvement, and Emanuel went along with the litigation.

Madigan, who did not run for re-election and left office in mid-January, called Dow's ruling "historic and hopeful."

"For the first time, Chicago has an enforceable, detailed plan to change police practices and ensure constitutional and safe policing for residents and officers," Madigan said in a statement. "While much work remains, this milestone should give hope to all Chicagoans that we will be able to live safely and thrive in our wonderful city."

In a joint statement with police Superintendent Eddie Johnson, Emanuel called Thursday "a historic day for Chicago and a step towards significant, lasting change."

"After seven separate attempts at police reform in the last century, Chicago now has an enforceable agreement that will stand the test of time," the statement said.

Numerous groups, including Black Lives Matter Chicago and the American Civil Liberties Union of Illinois, also sued the city to force changes in the department, and Madigan and Emanuel gave them a role in the consent decree litigation.

Craig Futterman, a University of Chicago law professor involved in the litigation, said in a statement that Dow's order marked "a real victory for the people of Chicago who have fought tirelessly against unchecked police brutality." The ACLU of Illinois said in a statement that the ruling was "the catalyst for change we have been waiting for."

As the consent decree case has worked its way through federal court over recent months, criminal prosecutions related to McDonald's shooting have played out in Cook County criminal court. Van Dyke was convicted of second-degree murder in October and sentenced to about seven years in prison. In mid-January, a judge acquitted three police colleagues who were accused of lying about McDonald's shooting.

The city's main police union, the Chicago Fraternal Order of Police, objected to those prosecutions and served as the most prominent voice against the proposed con-

sent decree. Union leaders contended that further oversight would restrain officers from doing their jobs, and the organization waged an unsuccessful court battle to stop the decree. Union President Kevin Graham could not be reached for comment Thursday.

The order Dow entered appears substantively unchanged from the proposal Madigan and Emanuel aides submitted for approval in September. After the proposal was submitted, Dow accepted hundreds of public comments and held a two-day hearing at which people both blasted and supported the decree. Some suggested specific changes to the eventual court order.

Dow wrote: "Although the Court declines the requests of those commenters who have urged further court-mandated revisions to the parties' final draft prior to approval, it has made special note of several suggestions that are worthy of continued attention and study."

Dow noted complaints about the \$2.85 million annual budget for the monitoring team but pointed out that the city has spent vast amounts on settlements, damages and legal fees related to lawsuits alleging police misconduct.

"Indeed," he wrote, "had a monitoring team been billing the City at the rate of \$2.85 million per year since 1790, when Jean Baptiste Point du Sable first set up camp at the mouth of the Chicago River, the total bill of \$652.65 million would not equal the City's litigation-related payouts in civil rights actions since 2004."

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Chicago Tribune

NATION & WORLD

Trump rebuked on Syria, Afghanistan

Vote by Senate opposes withdrawal of U.S. troops

BY MARY CLARE JALONICK
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In a bipartisan rebuke to President Donald Trump, the Senate voted 68-23 Thursday to advance an amendment that would oppose withdrawal of U.S. troops from Syria and Afghanistan.

The amendment by Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell comes after Trump called for a draw-down of troops in both countries. The measure says the Islamic State and al-Qaida militants still pose a serious threat to the United States, and it warns that “a precipitous withdrawal” of U.S. forces from those countries could “allow terrorists to regroup, destabilize critical regions and create vacuums that could be filled by Iran or Russia.”

Trump abruptly tweeted plans for a U.S. pullout from Syria in December, arguing that Islamic State had been defeated even though his intelligence chiefs have said the group remains a threat. Trump also ordered the military to develop plans to remove up to half of the 14,000 U.S. forces in Afghanistan.

McConnell didn't frame the measure as a reproach to the president, but he said before the vote that “I've been clear about my own views on these subjects.” He said he believes the threats remain.

“ISIS and al-Qaida have yet to be defeated,” McConnell said. “And American national security interests require continued com-



U.S. armored vehicles on patrol Thursday in the Deir Ezzor province in eastern Syria.

GETTY-AFP

mitment to our missions there.”

The vote is the latest indication of deepening cracks between the Republican Senate and Trump on foreign policy matters.

Similar rifts exist within Trump's own administration, evident this week when the heads of major U.S. and intelligence agencies testified to the Senate and contradicted him on the strength of the Islamic State and several other foreign policy matters. Trump's announcement on Syria, meanwhile, prompted the resignation of Defense Secretary James Mattis.

In another twist Thurs-

day, Trump — a day after he lashed out at his intelligence chiefs over their assessments of global threats — abruptly reversed course, saying he and the intelligence community “are all on the same page.”

The president met with his director of national intelligence and other top security officials in the Oval Office and said afterward that they told him their testimony at a Senate hearing had been “mischaracterized” by the news media.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and other Democrats had slammed Trump for his comments disparaging Di-

rector of National Intelligence Dan Coats, CIA Director Gina Haspel and other top security officials.

The intelligence agency chiefs “said that they were totally misquoted and it was taken out of context,” Trump told reporters at the White House. “They said it was fake news.”

McConnell's amendment, which is nonbinding, would encourage cooperation between the White House and Congress to develop long-term strategies in both nations, “including a thorough accounting of the risks of withdrawing too hastily.”

Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., argued in support of the amendment on the Senate floor, saying Trump's withdrawal announcement has

already undermined U.S. credibility in the region.

“This is being used against us right now,” Rubio said. “This is a very dangerous situation. That's why this is a very bad idea.”

Though many Democrats have argued that the U.S. should eventually withdraw from the conflicts in Syria and Afghanistan, around half of them supported McConnell's resolution.

California Sen. Dianne Feinstein said after the vote that she believes it's “far past due for the United States to negotiate an appropriate end” to the conflict in Afghanistan. But she said she also agreed with McConnell that the “precipitous withdrawal” from either country without po-

litical resolutions would risk what troops there have already achieved. She voted in favor of the measure.

Many of the most liberal members of the Senate — including several Democrats who are eyeing presidential runs in 2020 — voted against the amendment.

Independent Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont said he thinks Trump announced the withdrawals too abruptly, but the U.S. has been in Afghanistan and Syria for too long. “What McConnell is saying is let's maintain the status quo,” he said.

A handful of Republicans also opposed the amendment. Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., missed the vote but said he was against it.

“It's time to bring our troops home from Afghanistan and Syria,” Paul wrote in a tweet, saying he stands with Trump. “It is ludicrous to call withdrawal after 17 years ‘precipitous.’”

A vote on final passage of the amendment could come early next week. If it succeeds, the language would be added to a wide-ranging foreign policy bill that has been pending on the Senate floor for several weeks. The legislation includes measures supporting Israel and Jordan and slapping sanctions on Syrians involved in war crimes.

That bill has also split centrist and liberal Democrats over a provision by Rubio that seeks to counter the global Boycott, Divest and Sanctions movement against Israel over its treatment of Palestinians and their settlements. Israel sees a growing threat from the BDS movement, which has led to increased boycotts of the Jewish state in support of the Palestinians.



J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/AP

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi focuses on border security Thursday at the Capitol.

Pelosi, Trump harden stances over border wall

BY ANDREW TAYLOR AND ALAN FRAM
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi on Thursday hardened their positions about a border wall, casting doubt on the prospects of Capitol Hill negotiations intended to reach a compromise and avoid a second government shutdown.

“There's not going to be any wall money in the legislation,” Pelosi, D-Calif., told reporters. Her remarks came after Democrats had signaled at least some flexibility in the talks on border security funding that began Wednesday.

Pelosi's stance came as Trump used Twitter to reiterate his demands on the wall and appeared to sour on the congressional talks aimed at striking a deal with Democrats. Trump told reporters in the Oval Office that Pelosi is “just playing games” and repeated his threat to declare a national emergency and transfer billions of dollars in previously allocated funds to build the wall.

In a barrage of morning tweets, Trump sent mixed

messages in which he alternately hardened his wall demand and also suggested that repairing existing fencing is a big part of his plan.

“Lets just call them WALLS from now on and stop playing political games! A WALL is a WALL!” Trump tweeted. He tamped down expectations, telling GOP negotiators they were “wasting their time.”

Democrats offered further details of their border security plan Thursday, unveiling a measure that would not provide a penny for his wall.

The Democratic measure, totaling almost \$22 billion for the customs service, Border Patrol and immigration agents, would significantly increase spending for scanners at ports of entry, humanitarian aid for apprehended migrants and new aircraft to police the U.S.-Mexico border. It would freeze the number of border patrol agents and block any wall construction in wildlife refuges along the border.

Pelosi suggested she would be open to vehicle barriers called “Normandy fencing.”

“If the president wants to call that a wall, he can call that a wall. Is there a place for enhanced fencing? Normandy fencing would work,” Pelosi said, referring to military-style fencing.

Trump's threat to unilaterally build the wall through an unprecedented use of emergency powers could upset congressional Republicans.

Pelosi's move could push the president further in that direction.

The high-stakes talks are taking place against the backdrop of another possible shutdown in mid-February — an outcome Trump's GOP allies in the Senate are especially eager to avoid. It increases the chances that the only way to avert another shutdown would be to put a host of federal agencies on autopilot for weeks or months.

Border barriers already in place have not kept out caravans. Of nearly 6,000 people who arrived to Tijuana, Mexico, in November, where a barrier between San Diego stretches into the ocean, 2,600 crossed into the U.S. illegally, according to Border Patrol statistics.

ICE force-feeding some detainees on hunger strike

Nearly 30 are said to be not eating at El Paso facility

BY GARANCE BURKE AND MARTHA MENDOZA
Associated Press

Immigrants have gone on hunger strikes over the past month to protest conditions inside detention facilities, prompting officials to force-feed six of them through plastic nasal tubes at a Texas location, The Associated Press has learned.

More detainees are refusing food at the El Paso Processing Center than at any other ICE facility, and lawyers say some detainees are losing weight rapidly after not eating or drinking for more than 30 days. Detainees, a relative and an attorney told the AP that nearly 30 men in the El Paso ICE detention center, mostly from India and Cuba, have been striking there to protest what they say is rampant verbal abuse and threats of deportation from guards. They are also upset about lengthy lockups while awaiting legal proceedings.

ICE confirmed Thursday there are 11 detainees in El Paso who are on hunger strikes — which means they have refused nine consecutive meals — and an additional four in the agency's Miami, Phoenix, San Diego and San Francisco areas of responsibility, according to agency spokeswoman Leticia Zamarripa.

In mid-January, two weeks after they stopped eating, a federal judge authorized force-feeding of some El Paso detainees, Zamarripa said. She did not address the detainees' allegations of abuse but did say the El Paso Processing Center would monitor the food and water intake of detainees to protect their health and safety.

The men with nasal



RUDY GUTIERREZ/THE EL PASO TIMES 2018

Protesters march past the El Paso Processing Center in Texas. Officials are now force-feeding some immigrants.

tubes are having nose bleeds and are vomiting several times a day, said Amrit Singh, whose two nephews from the Indian state of Punjab have been on hunger strike for about a month.

“They are not well. Their bodies are really weak, they can't talk and they have been hospitalized, back and forth,” said Singh, of California. “They want to know why they are still in the jail and want to get their rights and wake up the government immigration system.”

Singh's nephews are both seeking asylum. Court records show they pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge in September after illegally walking across the border near El Paso.

Hunger strikes are uncommon and court orders authorizing force-feeding are rare, said an ICE official. Although the agency doesn't keep statistics on this, attorneys, advocates and ICE staffers AP spoke with did not recall a situation where it's come to this.

To force-feed someone, medical experts typically wind a tube tightly around their finger to make it bend easily, and put lubricant on the tip, before shoving it into a patient's nose. The patient has to swallow sips of water while the tube is pushed down their throat.

It can be painful.

The El Paso detention facility, located on a busy street near the airport, is guarded and surrounded by chain-link fence.

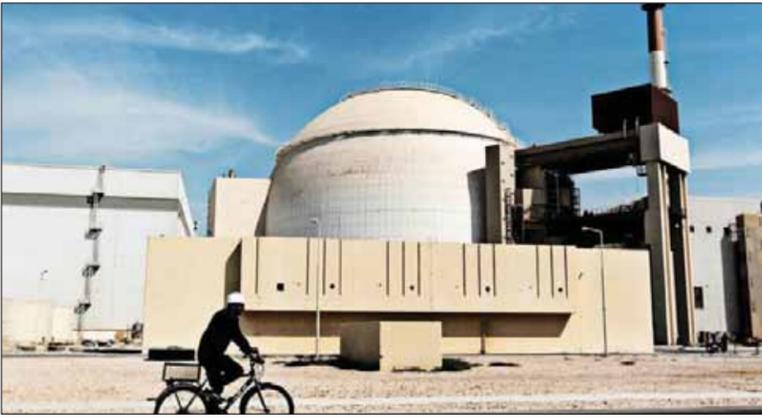
According to ICE standards for treatment of hunger strikers, medical staff members weigh detainees and take their vital signs at least once a day.

“They go on hunger strike, and they are put into solitary confinement and then the ICE officers kind of psychologically torture them, telling the asylum-seekers they will send them back to Punjab,” Kaur said.

Eiorjys Rodriguez Calderin, who on a call from the facility described himself as a Cuban dissident, said conditions in Cuba forced him and other detainees to seek safety in the U.S., and they risk persecution if they are deported.

“They are restraining people and forcing them to get tubes put in their noses,” said Rodriguez, adding that he had passed his “credible fear” interview and sought to be released on parole. “They put people in solitary, as punishment.”

Those “credible fear” interviews are conducted by immigration authorities as an initial screening for asylum requests.



MAJID ASGARIPOUR/AP 2010

A worker rides a bike outside a nuclear power plant in the city of Bushehr in southern Iran.

EU nations devise way to bypass U.S. Iran sanctions

By DAVID RISING
Associated Press

BERLIN — Three European countries working to preserve a deal that was meant to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon have established a new system so their companies can continue trading with the Mideast nation without incurring U.S. sanctions, diplomats said Thursday.

The barter-type system set up by France, Germany and Britain is designed to allow businesses they host to skirt direct financial transactions with Iran and thereby evade possible U.S. sanctions.

Once the process is up and running, a financial institution, known as an Instrument in Support of Trade Exchanges or INSTEX, would run a payment channel, brokering Iranian imports in and European exports out, while insulating the companies involved.

In a joint statement, the foreign ministers of Germany, Britain and France sought to allay Washington's possible fears.

"INSTEX will function under the highest international standards with regards to anti-money laundering, combating the financing of terrorism and EU and U.N. sanctions com-

pliance," the statement said.

The three nations have been working on the plan for months. It follows President Donald Trump's decision last year to unilaterally withdraw from the international accord aimed at preventing Tehran from developing nuclear weapons in exchange for economic incentives. His administration also introduced new sanctions on Iran.

The other parties to the 2015 agreement — France, Britain, Germany, Russia and China — have been scrambling to keep the deal alive. In recent months, Iranian officials threatened to resume enriching uranium to higher purities than allowed under the deal, putting pressure on the Europeans to find a way around the sanctions.

"This is a clear, practical demonstration that we remain firmly committed to the historic 2015 nuclear deal struck with Iran for as long as Iran keeps implementing it fully," British Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt said.

The ministers emphasized that their payment channel is "aimed at facilitating legitimate trade between European economic operators and Iran."

"We're making clear that

we didn't just talk about keeping the nuclear deal with Iran alive, but now we're creating a possibility to conduct business transactions," German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas told reporters Thursday after a meeting with European counterparts in Bucharest, Romania.

Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif welcomed the establishment of INSTEX, saying in a tweet it was a "long overdue 1st step" to save the nuclear deal.

"We remain ready for constructive engagement with Europe and on equal footing & with mutual respect," Zarif wrote.

The European Union's foreign policy chief, Federica Mogherini, who helped negotiate the 2015 accord with Tehran, said the new system would be "essential for the continued full implementation of the nuclear deal with Iran."

The U.S. State Department said in a statement: "As the president has made clear, entities that continue to engage in sanctioned activity involving Iran risk severe consequences that could include losing access to the U.S. financial system and the ability to do business with the United States or U.S. companies."

Birth tourism crackdown targets Chinese businesses

U.S. says fraud also creates national security risk

By AMY TAXIN
Associated Press

SANTA ANA, Calif. — Twenty people have been charged in the largest-ever crackdown on businesses that help Chinese women travel to the United States to give birth to babies who automatically are American citizens, authorities said Thursday.

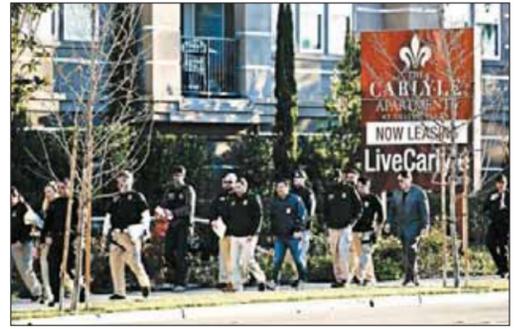
Three people were arrested in Southern California on charges including conspiracy, visa fraud and money laundering. More than a dozen others have also been charged in cases stemming from three so-called birth tourism businesses, with many believed to be in China, the U.S. attorney's office said.

It is the first time the United States has criminally prosecuted birth tourism operators, said Thom Mrozek, a spokesman for the U.S. attorney's office.

The businesses — which were raided by federal agents in 2015 — billed Chinese women tens of thousands of dollars to travel to California to deliver their babies in American hospitals so the children would automatically obtain U.S. citizenship, prosecutors said.

It isn't illegal to visit the United States while pregnant but authorities said the businesses touted the benefits of having U.S. citizen babies and had women hide their pregnancies while seeking travel visas and lie about their planned trips. One business allegedly coached women to tell consular officials they planned to visit a Trump hotel in Hawaii when really they would spend three months at an apartment in Irvine, Calif., to give birth.

U.S. authorities said the businesses not only en-



JAE C. HONG/AP2015

Federal agents raid an apartment complex where officials say a birth tourism business housed pregnant women.

gaged in fraud, but also have created a national security risk. Their customers — some who work for the Chinese government — have secured American citizenship for children who can later move back to the United States, and once they're 21 years old, sponsor their parents for green cards.

"I see this as a grave national security concern and vulnerability," said Mark Zito, assistant special agent-in-charge of Immigration and Customs Enforcement's homeland security investigations in Los Angeles. "Are some of them doing it for security because the United States is more stable? Absolutely. But will those governments take advantage of this? Yes, they will."

The phenomenon of birth tourism is hardly new. The businesses have long operated in California and other states and cater to couples from China, Russia, Nigeria and elsewhere.

In the past, birth tourism operators sometimes ran into trouble with local code enforcement officials when neighbors in residential areas complained about crowding or excess trash, but they didn't face federal scrutiny.

In 2015, federal agents raided about three dozen sites connected with birth tourism in Los Angeles,

Orange and San Bernardino counties. More than 20 people were designated material witnesses to the cases but some later fled back to China and were charged with violating federal court orders, and an immigration lawyer who helped them leave the country was convicted of obstruction of justice.

This week, a federal grand jury indicted four people who were accused of running the three birth tourism businesses until the 2015 raids. One of the businesses dated at least to 2010 but advertised having brought 8,000 women to the United States — half of them from China — since it claimed to have been started in 1999.

Federal officials said each business brought hundreds of customers to give birth in the United States. In one of the cases, U.S. authorities outlined in court filings how wealthy Chinese couples paid the company You Win USA between \$40,000 and \$80,000 to travel to apartments in Irvine, to deliver their babies.

In one instance, a couple paid the indigent rate for hospital bills — \$4,080 — even though they had more than \$225,000 in a U.S. bank account they had used to shop at luxury stores including Louis Vuitton in Beverly Hills.

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47 years ago, Chisholm was the first

Harris runs for president, following an 'unbossed' icon

BY KYLE SWENSON
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The sitting Republican president was unpopular and divisive. The country was a pressure cooker of partisan rage. Big names in the Democratic Party were mulling whether to jump into the presidential race: past candidates; high-powered senators; known personalities.

But then in January 1972, a political outsider announced a surprise run for the White House — upsetting the party's power brokers and making history.

Forty-seven years ago this month, Rep. Shirley Chisholm, D-N.Y., announced she was seeking the Democratic Party's nomination, becoming the first woman and first African-American to run for a major political party's presidential ticket.

"I am not the candidate of black America, although I am black and proud," Chisholm said in her announcement as supporters cheered. "I am not the candidate of the woman's movement of this country, although I am a woman and I am equally proud of that. I am not the candidate for any political bosses or fat cats or special interests. ... I am the candidate of the people of America."

On Jan. 21, Sen. Kamala Harris, D-Calif., announced her candidacy for the 2020 presidential election in an interview on ABC's "Good Morning America."

As one of only a handful of African-American women to run for the nomination, the 54-year-old former prosecutor rolled out her campaign by consciously evoking the first.

Not only was Harris's announcement timed with the anniversary of Chisholm's own, eagle-eyed po-



PBS

Nearly 50 years ago, Rep. Shirley Chisholm, D-N.Y., forged political history with a surprise run for president.

litical watchers noted Harris's campaign logo has borrowed the same striking yellow-and-red color scheme as the former congresswoman.

The Congress's new freshman class contains a diverse array of trailblazers, many who cite Chisholm — who battled bias and bucked the wishes of her own party — as an inspiration. Chisholm's 1972 quixotic bid for the White House now serves as a blueprint of how an outspoken politician can upend the status quo.

"She ran to win, but she knew she wouldn't win," Anastasia Curwood, a Chisholm biographer and professor at the University of Kentucky, told History.com last year. "She said many times: I just want to show it can be done."

Chisholm was from Brooklyn, and she entered politics in the mid-1960s after working as a nursery

schoolteacher and educational consultant for the city, The Washington Post reported last year. In 1965, she was elected to the New York State Assembly — becoming only the second African-American woman elected to the state legislature.

In 1968, she ran for a newly redrawn U.S. congressional district covering Brooklyn's Bedford-Stuyvesant neighborhood, made up mostly of African-American and Puerto Rican residents, according to a 2018 NPR report. She entered the race despite not having the backing of the local Democratic Party. A fluent Spanish speaker and longtime resident of the area, Chisholm won over both constituencies and sealed the election with a 2-to-1 margin.

The election meant Chisholm would be the first black woman elected to Congress — a distinction

Chisholm recognized for what it was.

"That I am a national figure because I was the first person in 192 years to be at once a congressman, black and a woman proves, I think, that our society is not yet either just or free," she would later state.

As a freshman lawmaker, Chisholm made it clear she would not quietly ride the backbench and simply vote when told to by party leaders. She was initially assigned to the Agriculture Committee — an odd choice for a representative from New York. As The Post reported, Chisholm publicly stood up to then-House Speaker John McCormack, D-Mass., over the assignment. He eventually relented, reassigning the new congresswoman to the Veterans Affairs Committee.

"There are a lot more veterans in my district than trees," Chisholm said in response.

"She was unafraid of anybody," Robert Gottlieb, a former Chisholm intern, told Smithsonian Magazine in 2016. "Her slogan was 'unbought and unbossed.' She was really unbossed."

Chisholm's decision to run in 1972 also put her at odds with the party's establishment. Numerous candidates jumped in for the opportunity to take on President Richard Nixon, including front-runner Sen. George McGovern, D-S.D., and the party's 1968 candidate, former vice president Hubert Humphrey, D-Minn.

The primaries were thrown into more chaos when Alabama Gov. George Wallace, then a vociferous proponent of segregation, announced his own candidacy.

But Chisholm was undaunted by the competition. "If they don't give you a seat at the table, bring a folding chair," she once quipped.

Her campaign, however, struggled to capture momentum. Both women and African-Americans lent their support to other candidates. Major civil rights figures, like the Rev. Jesse Jackson and John Conyers Sr., campaigned for McGovern. As Gottlieb, her former aide, told Smithsonian, her campaign literature was defaced with racial slurs in the south.

Chisholm stuck it out, arriving at the Democratic National Convention in Miami Beach with 152 delegates — more than former nominee Humphrey, but well below the number she needed to negotiate with McGovern. Following the election, and McGovern's landslide defeat against Nixon, Chisholm returned to Congress, where she would serve until 1983.

Chisholm achieved much in the halls of Congress. She was a founding member of both the Congressional Black Caucus and the Women's Caucus, but her greatest legacy might be as an example for the latest freshman class in the House, a group that contains a record number of women and minorities.

"I want history to remember me not just as the first black woman to be elected to Congress, not as the first black woman to have made a bid for the presidency of the United States, but as a black woman who lived in the 20th century and dared to be herself," Chisholm once stated.

Following her career in Washington, Chisholm returned to education, teaching at Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley, Mass. She died in January 2005 at 80, but her impact continues.

This month, Rep. Ayanna Pressley, D-Mass., — the first African-American woman to represent her state in Congress — announced she will occupy Chisholm's old office in the Longworth House Office Building.



FEDERICO PARRA/GETTY-AFP

Juan Guaido, with his wife and daughter, talks to the media in Caracas on Thursday.

Guaido to Venezuela police: Don't threaten my family

BY CHRISTINE ARMARIO
AND JOSHUA GOODMAN
Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela — The Venezuelan opposition leader challenging Nicolas Maduro's claim to the presidency warned officers from a state security unit Thursday to stay away from his family after he accused them of showing up at his apartment in a tense brush with the force he is trying to persuade to switch allegiance and back him.

A visibly flustered Juan Guaido told a crowd gathered at a university that members of a special police unit known for its brutal tactics had gone to his high-rise apartment in a middle-class neighborhood of Caracas while his 20-month-old daughter was inside.

Guaido said four agents from the police's Special Action Force arrived at the building asking for his wife, who owns the unit. Guaido had been living there with his family until recently, when he began changing locations as a security precaution amid the current crisis.

"I hold you responsible for anything that might

happen to my baby," the 35-year-old lawmaker said as his wife stood beside him.

In a statement on Twitter, Venezuela's police denied that special agents had gone to Guaido's home, dismissing the claim as "totally FALSE."

Guaido is at the center of Venezuela's political upheaval as he presses forward with establishing a transitional government after swearing himself in as the nation's rightful president in a move denounced by Maduro as a U.S.-backed coup.

In a country where the socialist leader's foes often end up behind bars, Guaido has thus far managed to avoid arrest, but in recent days authorities have let it be known that even as his powerful international support grows Guaido isn't untouchable.

On Tuesday, the government-stacked Supreme Court barred Guaido from leaving the country and froze his bank accounts while chief prosecutor Tarek William Saab, a Maduro ally, conducts an investigation into his anti-government activities.

"Once more they are playing the intimidation

game and once more it has gone bad for them," Guaido said later Thursday outside his family's home as supporters cheered. "Children are sacred. Wives are sacred. So don't cross that red line."

Venezuelan officials said Thursday that authorities had taken down a "terrorist" group backed by political opponents plotting to assassinate Maduro. Interior Minister Nestor Reverol said National Guard Col. Oswaldo Garcia Palomo was among those detained. Garcia Palomo had openly declared his intentions to amass a military force in exile to remove Maduro from power.

Though Maduro has retained the support of powerful allies, including China and Russia, he is growing increasingly isolated as more nations back Guaido.

The European Parliament called on the European Union's 28 member states Thursday to recognize Guaido. The regional bloc has not yet defined its position on the crisis amid differing opinions among members, though several nations have said they will recognize Guaido if Maduro doesn't announce a new election by week's end.

U.S. ready to exit INF Treaty

Treaty, from Page 1

urday, and the administration is expected to say as early as Friday that efforts to work out a compliance deal have failed and that it would suspend its compliance with the treaty's terms.

In a tweet Thursday, the chief spokeswoman for NATO, Oana Lungescu, said there are no signs of getting a compliance deal with Russia.

"So we must prepare for a world without the Treaty," she wrote.

Technically, a U.S. withdrawal would take effect six months after this week's notification, leaving a small window for saving the treaty. However, in talks this week in Beijing, the U.S. and Russia reported no breakthrough in their dispute, leaving little reason to think either side would change its stance on whether a Russian cruise missile violates the pact.

A Russian deputy foreign minister, Sergei Ryabkov, was quoted by the Russian state news agency Tass as saying after the Beijing talks Thursday, "Unfortunately, there is no progress. The position of the American side is very tough and like an ultimatum." He said he expects Washington now to suspend its obligations under the treaty, although he added that Moscow remains ready to "search for solutions" that could keep the treaty in force.

U.S. withdrawal raises the prospect of further deterioration in U.S.-Russian relations and debate among U.S. allies in Europe over whether Russia's alleged violations warrant a countermeasure such as



BOB DAUGHERTY/AP 1987

President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev prepare to sign the INF Treaty at the White House.

deployment of an equivalent American missile in Europe. The U.S. has no nuclear-capable missiles based in Europe; the last of that type and range were withdrawn in line with the INF Treaty.

The prospect of U.S. withdrawal from the INF

pact has stirred concern globally. The mayor of Des Moines, Iowa, Frank Cownie, is among dozens of local officials and lawmakers in the U.S., Canada, Europe and elsewhere who signed a letter

this week to President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin expressing worry at the "unraveling" of the INF Treaty and other arms constraints.

"Withdrawing from treaties takes a step in the wrong direction," Cownie said. "It's wasn't just Des Moines, Iowa. It's people from all around this country that are concerned about the future of our cities, of our country, of this planet."

The American ambassador to NATO, Kay Bailey Hutchison, set the rhetorical stage for Washington's withdrawal announcement by asserting Thursday that Russia has been in violation for years, including in Ukraine.

"Russia consistently refuses to acknowledge its violation and continues to

push disinformation and false narratives regarding its illegal missile," she said. "When only one party respects an arms control treaty while the other side flaunts it, it leaves one side vulnerable, no one is safer, and (it) discredits the very idea of arms control."

Nuclear weapons experts at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace said in a statement that while Russia's violation of the INF Treaty is a serious problem, U.S. withdrawal under current circumstances would be counterproductive.

"Leaving the INF Treaty will unleash a new missile competition between the United States and Russia," they said.

Kingston Reif, director for disarmament at the Arms Control Association, said Thursday the Trump administration has failed to exhaust diplomatic options to save the treaty. What's more, "it has no strategy to prevent Russia from building and fielding even more intermediate-range missiles in the absence of the agreement."

Reif said the period between now and August, when the U.S. withdrawal would take effect, offers a last chance to save the treaty, but he sees little prospect of that happening. He said that Trump's national security adviser, John Bolton, is "unlikely to miss the opportunity to kill an agreement he has long despised."



Pompeo

NEWS BRIEFING

Staff and news services

Agents at Arizona border make largest bust ever of fentanyl

PHOENIX — U.S. Customs and Border Protection officials announced Thursday their biggest fentanyl bust ever, saying they seized nearly 254 pounds of the highly potent synthetic opioid from a secret compartment inside a load of Mexican produce heading into Arizona.

The drug was found Saturday morning in a compartment under the rear floor of a tractor-trailer after a scan during

secondary inspection indicated “anomalies” in the load, and the agency’s police dog team alerted officers to the presence of drugs, authorities said.

Most of the seized fentanyl with an overall street value of about \$3.5 million was in white powder form, but about 2 pounds of it was contained in pills. Agents also seized nearly 395 pounds of methamphetamine with a street value of \$1.18 million, the CBP said.

Judge awards \$300M to family of journalist killed in Syria

WASHINGTON — A Washington judge has hit the Syrian government with a \$302 million judgment over the 2012 death of journalist Marie Colvin, a longtime foreign correspondent for London’s Sunday Times.

In a verdict unsealed late Wednesday night, U.S. District Court Judge Amy Berman Jackson concluded the Syrian military targeted with sustained artillery barrages the

makeshift media center in the city of Homs, killing Colvin and French photographer Remi Ochlik.

The 2018 film “A Private War” was based on Colvin’s life.

Technically foreign governments are immune from jurisdiction in U.S. courts. However, that immunity is lifted for alleged crimes against American citizens by governments classified as a “state sponsor of terrorism.”

France grants citizenship to trio who thwarted terror attack

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Three California men have been granted French citizenship for their role in thwarting a terror attack on a French train in 2015.

Spencer Stone, Alek Skarlatos and Anthony Sadler were naturalized Thursday at a ceremony in Sacramento. They were honored by Emmanuel Lebrun-Damiens, consul general of France in San Francisco, and Guy Michelier, honorary consul of France in Sacramento.

The three men were traveling from Amsterdam to Paris when they helped subdue a man who opened fire inside the train. Authorities say attacker, Ayoub El-Khazzani, had radical ties.

Skarlatos is a former member of the Oregon National Guard, and Stone is a former Airman 1st Class in the United States Air Force.



SHAMMI MEHRA/GETTY-AFP

Men attempt to flee a leopard that strayed into a residential area of northern Jalandhar, India, on Thursday. The big cat was eventually captured by animal control officers, but not before it bit one ranger, scratched two others and injured a resident, authorities said.

Catholic leaders in Texas name 286 accused of abusing minors

DALLAS — Catholic leaders in Texas on Thursday identified 286 priests and others accused of sexually abusing children, a number that represents one of the largest collections of names to be released since an explosive grand jury report last year in Pennsylvania detailed seven decades of abuse by more than 300 predator priests.

Fourteen dioceses in Texas named those credibly accused of abuse. The only diocese not to provide names, Fort Worth, did so more than a decade ago and then provided an updated

accounting in October.

There are only a handful of states where every diocese has released names and most of them have only one or two Catholic districts.

Arkansas, for instance, is covered by the Diocese of Little Rock, which in September provided a preliminary list of 12 former priests, deacons and others.

Oklahoma has two districts: The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is scheduled to publicly identify accused priests on Feb. 28 and the Diocese of Tulsa previously named two former priests accused of

predatory behavior.

In the months after the Pennsylvania report, about 50 dioceses and religious provinces have released the names of nearly 1,250 priests and others accused of abuse. Approximately 60 percent of them have died.

About 30 other dioceses are investigating or have promised to release names of credibly accused priests in the coming months.

It’s not clear whether any of the names released Thursday could result in local prosecutors bringing criminal charges. The majority of those identified have since died.

Trump said to consider Herman Cain for Fed

WASHINGTON — Herman Cain, the former pizza company executive who ran for the Republican presidential nomination in 2012, is being considered by President Donald Trump for a seat on the Federal Reserve Board.

Cain, 73, was in the White House on Wednesday,

according to people familiar with the matter.

Two seats on the Fed board are vacant, but nominating Cain raises the prospect of a Senate confirmation hearing focused on the sexual harassment and infidelity accusations that ended his presidential campaign.

Cain was said to also be

under consideration for other top posts.

Cain had a long corporate career and is also familiar with the Federal Reserve system. From 1992 to 1996, he served as a director of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, as well as deputy chairman and then chairman.

Trump offers key changes to how Rx drugs are priced

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration on Thursday proposed changes to drug pricing by ending the widespread practice of rebates to middlemen in an effort to reduce what consumers pay for prescription drugs.

Under draft rules announced by Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar, drug manufacturers would be allowed to offer discounted prices directly to consumers, but they would no longer be able to give rebates to middlemen, known as pharmacy benefit managers.

The Pharmaceutical Care Management Association, the main trade group that represents the benefit managers who negotiate rebates on drugs for employers and health insurance companies, predicted that the administration’s proposal would be counterproductive and increase drug costs.

Stay tuned: President Donald Trump said Thursday he will announce next week the site and date for the second summit he plans with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un around the end of February. Trump later said he would likely make the announcement during his State of the Union address on Tuesday.

In the Mideast: Israeli and Palestinian officials have signaled that security coordination between them will continue, despite a midnight Thursday deadline that ends all U.S. assistance to the Palestinians. Security cooperation in the West Bank is one of the few areas of contact between Israel and the Palestinian Authority.

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EDITORIALS

The Chicago police consent decree demands action. Over to you, City Hall.

"(T)he Court is under no illusion that this will be an easy process. It took a long time to get to this place, and it may take a long time to get out of it. With that said, there are good reasons to think that the conditions and incentives may be in place to start making progress right away. ... Let us begin."
— U.S. District Judge Robert Dow Jr.

The long arm of the law now has within its reach the Chicago Police Department. On Thursday, Judge Dow signed off on the consent decree that gives him oversight of CPD's transformation into a police force respected and trusted by all Chicagoans.

This milestone — a federal judge intervening in the police reform process — is long overdue. Decades overdue. How many times has a Chicago mayor promised this city's residents that the police will do their jobs well or be held accountable for abuse of their powers? Six previous times since 1960 the city promised reforms and improvements.

That's six blue-ribbon vows to fix dysfunction and get rogue cops off the streets. None took hold. Mayors and police superintendents would make promises and then, when the misconduct continued, the same mayors and superintendents would sign off on legal settlements with victims.

Last time we checked, Chicago had paid out \$662 million in settlements over police misconduct from 2004 to early 2016. The police worked to keep Chicago safe, but often at unconscionable costs.

The tragic incident that set in motion

Dow's decree was the 2014 shooting death of African-American teenager Laquan McDonald by white Officer Jason Van Dyke. The 2015 release of police video, after a court fight, of Van Dyke shooting McDonald 16 times led to another reappraisal of policing practices.

This time a U.S. Department of Justice investigation also nailed the department for misuse of force, and lax oversight and accountability.

Mayor Rahm Emanuel agreed to negotiate with Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan on the consent decree, which brings in the federal judge and an independent monitor to oversee ongoing reforms. Training, supervision and accountability are all part of the court order.

Whether Judge Dow acts mostly to offer encouraging pats on the back or provide angry rebukes will depend entirely on how City Hall and the Police Department respond.

STANTIS



SCOTT STANTIS

But these changes must occur. Consent decrees don't evaporate. Judges don't forget to follow up. Remember, the Shakman consent decree implemented to curb patronage hiring in City Hall lasted 42 years.

Dow wasn't overstating things Thursday when he said overhauling training and procedures will take time. That's why he sounded so eager to get cracking. Eradicating "Dirty Harry" policing from Chicago requires changing the rules, the accountability structure and the culture.

Early steps have been taken. Revised training is underway. New equipment, including body cameras for officers, is hitting the streets. The city also replaced its ineffectual Independent Police Review

Authority, which hardly ever held officers accountable for their actions, with a stronger oversight agency, the Civilian Office of Police Accountability.

The consent decree puts the city's promises on paper and sets out in broad terms the timing for action. But it's more a road map toward better policing than a detailed handbook. The mayor who will be held responsible by Judge Dow for the reform process won't take office until May. That new mayor, and his or her City Council, have to commit to an enormous amount of work.

Under the decree, City Hall and the Police Department face a number of quick-

approaching deadlines related to such issues as use of force and foot pursuits by officers. We want to see Emanuel and Superintendent Eddie Johnson get moving immediately.

Emanuel's successor should walk City Hall's corridors each day obsessing over the progress of police reforms. Candidates, tell us now how you'll make the most of this unusual gift: Either policing will improve so relations with residents can heal, or you're going to hear about it from the judge.

Welcome to this new role, Judge Dow. It's time to give Chicago the Police Department it deserves.

As you said: Let us begin.

Mother Nature's menace retreats — for now

We've had our fill of Arctic air for 2019. As our Aunt Roberta often intoned, *About so much and that's enough.*

So it is that Chicago breaks out of the frigid fugue state. Temperatures should lift to 40 degrees by Saturday.

Don't let Mother Nature out of your sight, though. As always, she'll find ways to remind us that we live in a natural world, not the orderly, predictable one we sometimes think we control.

You have an app to summon every convenience? She freezes your phone battery.

Your smart home thermostat can be adjusted from any location? She strikes your furnace.

You obediently set faucets to a trickle to avoid freezing pipes? She bursts your water main.

Eyelash-freezing cold isn't her only weapon. In a couple of months there will be rains that flood, and winds that fell trees. Then, in turn, oppressive heat will arrive. Your seemingly all-powerful smartphone doesn't like to sweat any more than it likes to shiver.

Climate change is not only making these extremes more likely. It's also making them harder to predict, reports the Tribune's Tony Briscoe. Not in the sense of what the weather will be tomorrow or next week, but in assessing what new effects will be wrought over time.

"So much is unraveling so quickly," says Kimberly Gray, a professor and chair of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Northwestern University. "Our ability to predict is based on past phenomenon. So, when we're in this active phase of learning and gathering data, I'm not sure we quite know what to expect."

The icy polar vortex recedes, for now. The frost quakes cease. But watch your back — and the skies. Your next moment of insignificance isn't all that far away.

Choices for the Chicago City Council

The Tribune Editorial Board today continues its endorsements in contested races for aldermanic seats in the Feb. 26 municipal election.



7th Ward: Before Ald. Gregory Mitchell's election in 2015, the South Side's 7th Ward churned through four aldermen in 10 years. William Beavers, Darcel Beavers, Sandi Jackson and Natashia Holmes all served stints as alder-

men. A political newcomer when he ran, Mitchell says his re-election is important for stability. We agree. Mitchell brought nearly \$1 million in capital development and school improvements to the ward. He has been vigilant regarding its retail corridors. That includes cracking down on loitering and ousting seedy businesses. It's a tough climb. Mitchell faces two opponents: community activist Jeddiah Brown and youth program director Charles Kyle. Both are passionate about revitalizing the 7th Ward. But Mitchell needs more time to reverse a trend of exodus, both commercial and residential, from the ward. Brown and Kyle should help him. What a trifecta it would be. Mitchell is endorsed.



8th Ward: If voters want to send to the City Council another soldier obedient to the status quo, they should keep voting for Ald. Michelle Harris. Under Mayor Rahm Emanuel and working alongside Ald. Ed Burke, she dutifully tied up in

her rules committee ordinances that would have empowered the city's inspector general to probe aldermen. She also sat on an ordinance creating an outside financial adviser to the council. Voters keep sending her back, but a better choice is **Faheem Shabazz**, a barber-turned-real estate agent who has run twice before. He knows the ward. He will bring transparency. He will bring change. Shabazz is endorsed.



9th Ward: We have disagreed in the past with Ald. Anthony Beale's attempts to over-regulate ride-sharing companies. But there's little doubt Beale has earned another term on the City Council. In

addition to a consistent focus on improving economic development and transportation in the Roseland-based 9th Ward, Beale's vision to offer sports opportunities for kids expanded, again, with a new community recreational center. The Pullman Community Center represents his nearly decade-long mission to build a much-needed indoor sports complex for South Side teams and families. And he did it with grants and private investments, not taxpayer money. It's a gem. Beale is a consistent voice for his ward and its needs. He is endorsed over his three opponents.



10th Ward: Explore this southeast corner of Chicago and you'll wonder why its open spaces and robust blue-collar heritage haven't brought it a wealth of industrial redevelopment. Part of the problem may be that potential employers see first-term Ald. Susan Sadlowski Garza, a Bernie Sanders supporter and former Chicago Teachers Union official, as part of the City Council's anti-business caucus. She acknowledges that high taxation is driving people out of Chicago, yet she wants, yes, more taxation to deal with the city's pension crisis. Sadlowski Garza may be vulnerable this year; in 2015 she won office by 20 votes among nearly 12,000 cast. What's more, many voters in this geographically remote ward tell us city services have slipped under the incumbent alderman. We endorse attorney **Robert "Bobby" Loncar**, a more moderate candidate who could better navigate City Hall's bureaucracy — and who understands that Chicago can't attract jobs by alienating

employers and pretending that higher taxation won't drive more people away. We think Loncar would be more aggressive about economic development. He sees Chicago at a tipping point: "Will we be the New York of the Midwest — or the next Detroit?" Loncar is endorsed.



11th Ward: If he didn't look more than a little like his late grandfather, Mayor Richard J. Daley, you wouldn't know that Ald. Patrick Daley Thompson is part of the family that has ruled this Bridgeport-based ward for generations. He

doesn't grandstand, he doesn't pontificate, he doesn't wear his family connection on his sleeve. As he did as a commissioner at the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, this whip-smart lawyer delves into arcane public policy topics and absorbs a lot of information before he speaks. If we sound impressed with his day-to-day work on the council — including his emphasis on physical upgrades to public schools in his ward — we are: Since 2015, his diligence has won over some of the voters who opposed him mostly because they didn't want another member of the Daley family in office. We endorse Thompson over David Mihalyfy, a former writing teacher who now works in assisted living.

As the Feb. 26 Chicago election approaches, you'll find the mayoral and aldermanic candidates' answers to our surveys, and our endorsements, at chicago.tribune.com/candidates. To find more information about the mayoral candidates, go to chicagotribune.com/mayorsrace.

Chicago Tribune

PERSPECTIVE



ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

House Speaker Michael Madigan, shown in 2017, has been in the news because of a reported FBI recording of a 2014 meeting with a developer, plus a pair of lawsuits.

Calm down everyone, Madigan ain't takin' a perp walk — yet



ERIC ZORN

I don't have enough yarn and thumbtacks in stock to make the connections that put Democratic Illinois House Speaker Michael Madigan under indictment or even plausible suspicion in this seemingly huge local political scandal.

Maybe someday.

But now, even though Madigan's name is rattling through the news because the FBI reportedly has a recording of a meeting he had with a developer in 2014, and even though former Gov. Bruce Rauner and others are ready to fit Madigan with a prison jumpsuit for his "Mafia behavior," it appears Madigan has once again stayed on the legal side of the line.

In fact, Madigan said nothing remotely incriminating in that meeting as recounted in a Sun-Times report posted Tuesday that has so many eyebrows dancing.

The developer was hoping to build a hotel in Chinatown, according to a confidential 120-page federal court

affidavit obtained by the Sun-Times, the paper said.

He met with the veteran speaker in Madigan's capacity as a private attorney whose firm, Madigan & Getzenanner, handles property tax appeals.

"We represent buildings like that on the real estate taxes," Madigan said in the meeting, according to the Sun-Times' account of the affidavit. "And we do quite a few hotels. And, uh, we have a little different approach to representation on hotels than the other law firms that do the work. ... We're not interested in a quick killing here. We're interested in a long-term relationship."

Sounds to me like a basic sales pitch, and a fairly bland one at that.

Of course there is the bigger question about the seaminess of any legislator — let alone the most powerful one in the state — doing work on the side related to the politically combustible issue of property taxes.

But unless and until such work is outlawed, the belief of the conspiratorially minded that Madigan is running a criminal enterprise — Rauner, the one who made the mob reference, has referred to Madigan as a crook and called him corrupt — remains merely a fever dream.

As my colleagues Jeff Coen and Ray Long reported in a Page 1 story

Wednesday, investigators have come up empty in several probes of Madigan's conduct over the decades.

I've long been of the belief that Madigan is too experienced, too savvy, too clever and too controlled to overtly commit a crime — to offer to perform an official act in exchange for a private benefit for himself, for instance. Even when he's confident no one is listening.

But then, admittedly, I believed the same about former Republican Gov. George Ryan when serious allegations began swirling around him in 2000. No way would someone who'd served for nearly 30 years at so many levels of state government have risked it all on clumsily venality!

Way.

Ryan spent five years and eight months in prison after his conviction on charges of racketeering conspiracy, mail fraud, lying to the FBI, obstruction and tax fraud.

And I long believed the same about 14th Ward Ald. Ed Burke, the dapper dean of the City Council, the student of local political history who has seen so many colleagues wind up in the dock for brazen abuse of their power. Burke was charged in a federal criminal complaint Jan. 3 with attempted extortion in connection with an evidently wide-ranging corruption probe

tangentially related to the recording made in Madigan's law office.

Though Burke retains the presumption of innocence, the presumption that wily, veteran pols are too canny to get caught up in greasy little enrichment schemes is out the window.

Maybe the feds have incriminating recordings of Madigan not mentioned in the affidavit leaked to the Sun-Times, though given how long ago the reported recording was made, the likely inference is they don't.

And maybe illegal acts by Madigan will be uncovered — instead of just speculated about — in the pair of ongoing lawsuits contending that his organization's heavy-handed campaign tactics crossed the line.

The Tribune recently obtained transcripts of depositions in one of those cases, a suit alleging Madigan's organization violated federal civil rights voting protections by putting up sham candidates to run against him in order to dilute opposition votes. But, our story noted, "the speaker and his aides proved adept at providing short, clipped answers that do little to reveal motive or methods."

Stay tuned, in other words, but back off from the edge of your seat.

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Twitter @EricZorn

Venezuela tests Trump: Will U.S. return to 'regime change' foreign policy?

BY IVO DAALDER

President Donald Trump's decision to recognize Venezuelan opposition leader Juan Guaido as the country's new interim president gained broad international support. Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Peru and other countries in the region immediately followed with their own recognition of Guaido. Key European allies said they would as well, unless Venezuelan strongman Nicolas Maduro agreed to call new presidential elections by week's end.

The Trump administration's ability to bring allies and partners along represents a welcome return to working with others to bring much-needed change to Venezuela, a country that has suffered greatly under Maduro's leadership. Hyperinflation and rising food and medicine shortages have left much of the population destitute. More than 3 million residents have already fled the country for safer climes.

Even so, the sudden change in direction raises important questions about U.S. policy toward the region, the administration's support for democracy, and even whether this new U.S.-led effort is the best way to bring about the



FERNANDO LLANO/AP

President Donald Trump, along with other key countries, have recognized Juan Guaido, above, as Venezuela's interim president.

change of course that is so desperately needed in Venezuela.

There is, first of all, the uncomfortable history of past U.S. regime-change efforts in Latin America — from Guatemala in the 1950s, Brazil in the 1960s, Chile in the 1970s, to Central America in the 1980s. Given this long history, it's not all that surprising that some wonder whether we are seeing a return to the unwelcome policy of regime change of the past. After all, it comes on the heels of national security adviser John Bolton's call for an end of

the "troika of tyranny" — Cuba, Nicaragua and Venezuela.

To avoid that impression, it would have been far better if the Lima Group, not Washington, had taken the lead. This group of 12 countries, which includes all key nations in the hemisphere except for the United States, was formed in 2017 to coordinate policy on and demand changes in Venezuela. The Lima Group was therefore perfectly placed to take the public lead, even if Washington was quietly coordinating policy behind the scenes.

Second, the administration's sudden concern for democracy would be more credible if it had pushed this policy consistently. But it hasn't. Instead, Trump has repeatedly emphasized the importance of sovereignty and the right of countries to decide their own affairs. On his first trip abroad as president, Trump told Arab leaders (none of them elected), that "we are not here to lecture — we are not here to tell other people how to live, what to do, who to be, or how to worship."

And until now, the administration has been true to its words. A year ago, Washington recognized the new Honduran president even though his election was marred by such widespread fraud

that the Organization of American States called for new elections. And just this week, even as Washington sought the ouster of the Venezuelan leader because he had subverted the presidential election, it recognized the new president of Congo though he had clearly stolen his own election.

Indeed, for the past two years Trump has embraced strongmen around the world — not only long-standing autocrats like Vladimir Putin, Mohammed bin Salman, Xi Jinping and Kim Jong Un, but also Abdel Fattah el-Sisi who seized power in Egypt in a coup and Recep Tayyip Erdogan who's subverted democracy in Turkey. The sudden concern for restoring democracy in Venezuela raises the question of why there but not elsewhere.

Finally, having set this new policy in motion, there is the question of where it will end — and what steps the White House is prepared to take to achieve the goal of restoring real democracy in Venezuela. For now, the focus is on diplomatic and economic pressure, including cutting off oil exports, a key source of revenue for Maduro's regime.

The immediate impact of these measures, however, will fall on the Venezuelan people, who have

already suffered so much. Perhaps they will take to the streets, which may force the Venezuelan armed forces to choose sides between the people and the regime. Clearly, the opposition hopes that the military will back its efforts to topple Maduro. But what if it doesn't? Or what if the military splits — setting off a bloody civil war? Would Washington then intervene militarily? To what end — to oust Maduro, install Guaido, control the military, rebuild the nation, oversee elections?

These are pressing questions. It's not at all clear that they have all been thought through. This administration is not known for careful planning, weighing options, probing different scenarios and considering all of the consequences before making decisions. To the contrary, Trump's way is to make decisions and leave it to others to figure out how to get it done. Perhaps Venezuela turns out to be the exception — a well thought-out policy, well executed. But so far it has all the markings of business as usual.

Ivo Daalder is the president of the Chicago Council on Global Affairs and a former U.S. ambassador to NATO.

PERSPECTIVE

CPD consent decree marks a 'new beginning'

By LISA MADIGAN

A federal judge approved a consent decree Thursday that will govern changes within the Chicago Police Department to address a history of problematic policing.

This is a historic and hopeful moment for a city that has endured decades of misconduct and mistrust, mainly between communities of color and police officers. For the first time, Chicago has an enforceable, detailed plan for reform that will ensure constitutional, effective and safe policing for residents and police officers.

The Chicago Police Department now has one of the most comprehensive plans for reform in the country. The provisions were drafted and informed with guidance from the nation's top policing experts, concerned and engaged Chicago residents, and police officers and their supervisors.

The tragic reality is that too many Chicago residents, especially members of Chicago's African-American and Latino communities, have been treated inappropriately and experienced unjustified violence at the hands of the police.

The police and their unions also rightly complain that Chicago has "policed on the cheap." For too many years, officers have had insufficient support, numbers, training, supervision and mental health care.

The provisions in the consent decree reflect and respond to the concerns and needs of everyone in Chicago to address these terrible realities and move Chicago toward having a modern, model police department.

Many Chicagoans have



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Chicago police investigate a shooting in the 6400 block of North Kedzie Avenue on Saturday.

worked and waited a lifetime to see real change that will make them and their families safe. I am grateful for their efforts and sacrifices.

Though the road to real reform will not be short, the record of police reform in other cities shows that the time it takes to improve policing depends largely on the willingness of the city and the police department to resource and adopt the policies and practices detailed in consent decrees. The

hardest work starts now. Mayor Rahm Emanuel and Superintendent Eddie Johnson must meet deadlines in the upcoming weeks and months to lead the Chicago Police Department into a new era.

While this spring's mayoral election will result in new leadership for Chicago, the terms adopted for police reform will remain in place because the federal judge supervises and enforces the consent decree — not City Hall. That is

why the consent decree promises real, lasting police reform. It is not subject to the types of politicians' whims that have thwarted past reform efforts.

Nonetheless, Chicagoans should demand that our next mayor adhere to the requirements and timing in the consent decree without needing the constant intervention of the federal judge overseeing the case. A failure to adopt necessary reforms will delay progress and slow improvement.

I believe we are at a new beginning, not an end, of Chicago's long, difficult journey to ensure appropriate, respectful, safe and constitutional policing.

Much difficult work remains, but this remarkable milestone should give hope to all Chicagoans that we will be able to live safely and thrive in our wonderful city.

Lisa Madigan was the attorney general of Illinois from 2003 until 2019.

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

To the helpers in this cold

How can we begin to thank all the people who have helped manage our safety and comfort these last few days? As many of us stayed inside, numerous police officers, airline workers, firefighters, transportation drivers, nurses, doctors, EMTs, grocery store clerks, pharmacists, plumbers, heating and utility workers, and so many others were out there so we could survive.

Your dedication and sacrifice do not go unnoticed. You have a very special place in our hearts.

— Nancy Newell, Burr Ridge

Smart, not 'soft,' about cold

The governor of Kentucky said Americans have grown soft because they close schools and businesses just because the tem-

perature has dropped to minus 30, with wind chills beyond minus 50, when kids would be waiting for school buses and parents would be leaving for work.

I went to high school in the late '50s. We canceled school once, when we'd had an overnight wind-driven snowfall of 11 inches. The country roads were impassable because of snowdrifts. The city roads were impassable because they were blocked by cars stuck in the unplowed snow.

As an adult, I went out on a snow-filled New Year's Eve because it was expected of me. I once drove 45 miles on Christmas Eve in wind-driven, drifting snow. Out of necessity, I ventured out in the country on a day that was minus 28, with sustained winds of 35 mph, and ended up in the northbound ditch when I was driving south. I spent the night in a farmhouse that also sheltered

three other people who ended up in ditches.

Would I do any of that again? No, nor would most people in those conditions.

Governor, it seems you have not experienced the cold and wind we are seeing. We have not grown soft. We have grown smart.

— Fred Lierman, Rockford

Food trucks unfair competition

In a recent editorial ("Give Chicago's food trucks room to compete," Jan. 26), the Tribune Editorial Board chose to appeal to emotion rather than intellect in addressing the food truck issue now before the Illinois Supreme Court.

This is not at all about regulations that benefit "restaurant insiders." It's about whether the unfettered entrance of food trucks into a market heavily occupied by brick-and-mortar restaurants would constitute the creation of unfair competition.

I have owned five Sopraffina restaurants in the Loop for dec-

ades. At each restaurant, I pay hundreds of thousands of dollars per year in rent and real estate taxes. Why should a food truck be able to access the same market I've paid so dearly to locate in by just putting a few coins in a parking meter?

Is it fair that I involuntarily subsidize a startup competitor by sacrificing sales and have to cut staff because of the business that's being sucked off in an overcrowded market?

Food trucks are "just plain fun"? Is that a good enough reason to drive brick-and-mortar restaurants out of business?

Restricting food trucks "deprives office workers who crave variety and tourists who want to sample cuisine from a neighborhood they can't make it to — this time"? Baloney. A visit to the Revival Food Hall or any of the hundred or so other great spots in the Loop takes all that off the table ... and tastily!

All we brick-and-mortar operators in the Loop are asking for is a level playing field.

— Dan Rosenthal, President, Sopraffina Marketcaffe

Nothing wrong with competition

Regarding food trucks and restaurant regulations, I don't understand why there are so many restrictions. If you are an excellent establishment, your food should speak for itself. What's wrong with a little competition? It keeps you from becoming complacent.

I can't speak for other cities with food trucks, but in Austin, Texas, which I have visited often, there are many food trucks that operate next to brick-and-mortar restaurants. They all seem to be thriving and making money.

Perhaps it is time for the judges and lawmakers to take a field trip to Austin and various other cities that have food trucks that are thriving. With Illinois' population dwindling each year, you would think lawmakers would want to keep people here. Eventually these entrepreneurs will leave for greener pastures.

— Matina Kantzavelos, Morton Grove

For online exclusive letters go to www.chicagotribune.com/letters. Send letters by email to ctc-TribLetter@chicagotribune.com or to Voice of the People, Chicago Tribune, 160 N. Stetson Ave., Third Floor, Chicago, IL 60601. Include your name, address and phone number.

SCOTT STANTIS CARTOON CAPTION CONTEST



Think you are simply hysterical? Enter the Scott Stantis cartoon caption contest.

Scott draws a cartoon each week — this week's cartoon appears above — and invites readers to submit their ideas for the caption. Scott will choose 10 finalists and readers will vote on the winner. Here's how to play:

Scott will post a new cartoon each Thursday afternoon at chicagotribune.com/caption. Readers can submit their captions by email to ctc-captions@tribpub.com until noon Monday. Please include your name and town of residence. Voting will start Monday afternoon and finish at noon Thursday. A new cartoon, plus the previous week's winners, will appear online each Thursday afternoon and in print each Friday.

CAPTION CONTEST WINNERS



WINNER:

"Hey, you told me there would be Diet Coke in here. What the hell is *amontillado*?"

— Ron Meadows, Chicago

RUNNERS-UP:

"It's your boss — Putin."

— Rich Wessel, Jeffersonville, Ind.

"When Chuck and Nancy agreed to a wall, I should've been suspicious."

— Norman Kelewitz, Aurora

"It's Roger Stone. He wants to know if there's room for two?"

— Rob Huffman, Fredericksburg, Va.

BIG GAME

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Chicago Tribune BUSINESS

Coalition plans to tackle Trump's trade war

Business groups aim to ramp up pressure on lawmakers for bill

BY MATT TOWNSEND
Bloomberg News

NEW YORK — Corporate America is taking the gloves off in its campaign to end President Donald Trump's trade war.

A coalition of more than 200 trade associations spanning agriculture, manufacturing, retail, technology, oil and even liquor will begin a new two-pronged attack next week to try to end the policies they see as damaging. The campaign, called Tariffs Hurt the Heartland, will involve blanketing Capitol Hill with farmers and other business owners, plus debuting an ad aimed at parents that essentially says the trade war might be endangering babies.

The escalation comes at a crucial time: The president and Chinese officials are



MARK VANCE/LEAVE/MINNEAPOLIS STAR TRIBUNE 2018

Workers move soybeans into silos at a grain elevator in Randolph, Minn. Soybeans have been hit by Chinese tariffs.

meeting this week with just a month to go before U.S. tariffs on \$200 billion of Chinese imports are slated to more than double to 25 percent.

It also marks a shift in strategy. After a year of struggling to sway Trump and his inner circle, including running ads on Fox News — his favorite cable channel — corporate lobby-

ists are ratcheting up pressure outside the White House.

"People have to think through different strategies because the normal operating procedure doesn't work," said Matt Priest, chief executive of the Footwear Distributors and Retailers of America, which is part of the wider coalition. "Some of that strategy

is paying off, but the response isn't the response we would've liked."

Next week, about 100 executives and business owners from companies big and small will visit Washington to lobby Congress, especially the large freshmen class — mostly Democrats — that may still be formulating their stances on trade. Support is also needed for a bipartisan bill intended to rein in the president's trade authority.

The group descending on Washington includes people like Brent Bible, who runs a 5,000-acre corn and soybean farm in Romney, Ind. Soybeans were hit by retaliatory Chinese tariffs last year, pushing down prices to a point where farmers no longer make money. His farm also took a hit when U.S. levies on steel and aluminum made equipment pricier.

"Just get it fixed," said Bible, who holds an economics degree. If this dispute goes on much longer, he

said he worries about a "snowball effect" that could make soybeans almost worthless. Bible voted for Trump but said his support has waned in recent months. "If we don't get a deal soon, then we are looking at a major long-term impact."

This coalition was formed in September, and its activities have included hosting anti-tariff events across the country and publishing statistics on the impact of the trade war.

The new push takes that further. It will include a news conference Wednesday with a bipartisan group of senators, including Democrat Mark Warner and Republican Pat Toomey, who crafted the bill to reduce presidential trade powers.

The coalition also had a new ad that tries to tug at the heartstrings of Americans by getting them to feel the pain it says Trump's trade war is causing. The spot, which will first run

online in Washington and swing states like Ohio and Pennsylvania, features Cribs for Kids, a Pittsburgh-based charity that sells 100,000 low-cost portable baby beds a year to local governments and hospitals. The partners then give them to low-income families, who might not have one otherwise.

In the ad, the nonprofit's executive director, Judy Bannon, says Trump's tariffs are increasing costs for the cribs it imports from China. The charity has already seen a decline in orders after a 10 percent levy on Chinese goods last year, Bannon said. She paints the impact in life-and-death terms, saying that getting babies to sleep in cribs and on their backs — a message reinforced on the charity's cribs — reduces sudden infant death syndrome.

"As a nonprofit, we never thought tariffs would affect us, but they do," Bannon says in the 30-second video.



ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Ald. Brian Hopkins, 2nd, speaks in support of the proposed Lincoln Yards development before the Chicago Plan Commission at City Hall on Jan. 24.

Dearth of affordable housing is latest Lincoln Yards challenge



BLAIR KAMIN
Cityscapes

Those "frost quakes" caused by the cracking of frozen soil aren't the only thing rocking in frigid Chicago.

There's a whole lot of shakin' goin' on at City Hall, and it could slow down the \$6 billion Lincoln Yards megadevelopment that was railroaded through the Chicago Plan Commission last week.

Ald. Ed Burke, 14th, who in December outfoxed progressive aldermen trying to block \$1.5 billion

in controversial tax-increment financing for Lincoln Yards and three other huge projects, is out as City Council finance committee chair — forced to step down after federal officials charged him with extortion.

And Ald. Daniel Solis, 25th, who would have presided over a key Lincoln Yards vote as chair of the council's zoning committee, is also out. He resigned Tuesday after the Chicago Sun-Times revealed a federal court affidavit's allegations that Solis received favors, including sex acts and Viagra, in exchange for his help on official City Council actions.

With Solis relegated to the sidelines, the spotlight shifts to an alderman who

appears to be more altar boy than bad boy — Ald. James Cappleman, 46th, the zoning committee's former vice chair and now its chair, at least until the City Council reorganizes itself after the Feb. 26 first-round election and the April 2 run-off vote.

Cappleman, who represents the North Side's Uptown neighborhood, is making it known that he wants Lincoln Yards' developer, Sterling Bay, to deliver more affordable housing for people who make less than 30 percent of the area median income.

He also wants Ald. Brian Hopkins, 2nd, in whose ward Lincoln Yards would be built, to get community groups to pledge their

Turn to **Kamin, Page 2**

Lampert's plan for Sears becomes campaign issue

BY LAUREN COLEMAN-LOCHNER AND ELIZA RONALDS-HANNON
Bloomberg News

Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren, a possible Democratic presidential candidate, slammed Sears Chairman Edward Lampert in a letter dated Wednesday, citing the "inherent conflicts of interest" in the hedge fund manager's takeover of bankrupt Sears Holdings Corp.

Warren calling out a billionaire isn't necessarily surprising — she's proposed a tax on the superwealthy and describes herself as a champion of America's middle class. What's unusual is that Lampert made saving thousands of jobs a centerpiece of his winning bid for parts of the 126-year-old retail icon.

In the letter to Lampert, who ran the company until last year and remains its chairman, Warren questioned his "commitment to the company's employees given your history of slashing jobs."

Sears "appears to be suffering from a unique set of problems as a result of your leadership — and now it appears that the same company you brought to the brink of liquidation could be back in your control without any substantial changes in leadership or governance," Warren wrote. "It appears that you have enriched yourself



DANIEL ACKER/BLOOMBERG NEWS

In a letter to Sears Chairman Edward Lampert, Sen. Elizabeth Warren wrote "it appears that you have enriched yourself while driving the company into bankruptcy."

while driving the company into bankruptcy?"

Lampert's hedge fund, ESL Investments, has said that transactions undertaken while Lampert ran Sears were valid and show consistent support for the company's return to profitability in the middle of disruption in the retail industry.

Lampert's offer to buy the company "would preserve employment for tens of thousands of associates, as well as the relationships with many vendors and suppliers who provide Sears with goods and services," members of the Sears board said in a Jan. 17 statement.

Warren's salvo is another sign that Democratic lawmakers are serious about making economic inequality a political issue ahead of the 2020 presidential election. A special concern for

Warren, a former Harvard Law School professor, and others is the treatment of workers in bankruptcy, where U.S. law focuses on reimbursements to bondholders while people rendered jobless by a company's collapse are left to fend for themselves.

The liquidation of Toys R Us looms over bankrupt Sears. The toy-store chain's employees were able to negotiate a \$20 million hardship fund for themselves with the company's private equity owners. To help consummate the deal, they paid an August visit to Capitol Hill, where they met with presidential hopefuls Kirsten Gillibrand and Cory Booker. In their purple and blue company T-shirts, the workers pleaded for limits on leverage in

Turn to **Sears, Page 2**

Advocate still plans \$250M hospital and offices in Wisconsin

Move is despite Foxconn news that it is reconsidering a plant in same area

BY LISA SCHENCKER
Chicago Tribune

Advocate Aurora Health is moving forward with its \$250 million plan to build a hospital and other facilities in southeastern Wisconsin, despite news that Foxconn Technology Group is reconsidering plans for its first U.S. plant in the same area.

Foxconn, a Taiwanese electronics giant that supplies Apple, had initially promised a \$10 billion investment and up to 13,000 jobs in the area. But on Wednesday, the company said in a statement that a changed global market environment has "necessitated the adjustment of

plans for all projects, including Wisconsin."

Foxconn said it is still committed to creating the 13,000 jobs and investing in Wisconsin. The company said Wednesday that it is considering adding research and development to a facility that it initially said would focus on manufacturing.

Wisconsin Gov. Tony Evers' administration said Thursday that the project was moving forward, despite criticism over the nearly \$4 billion in state and local incentives it could receive, depending on job creation quotas.

Despite the change of direction, Advocate Aurora Chief Business Develop-



STACEY WESCOTT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE 2018

The Foxconn electronics plant site lies just over the Illinois border in Wisconsin.

ment Officer Rick Klein said in a statement Thursday that the hospital system remains "focused on advancing our plans to expand access to care in communities throughout southeast Wisconsin."

Advocate Aurora announced its intention to build a hospital, medical office building and two clinics in Racine County in May — about eight months after Foxconn said it would locate a plant there.

"Our decision to build and invest here was made

independent of any Foxconn pledge but informed by long-term projections of market dynamics and an opportunity to better serve the health care needs of this growing region," Klein said in the statement.

The area already has seen the addition of an Amazon distribution center in Kenosha, Wis., and the growth of Uline packaging services in Pleasant Prairie, Wis.

Construction on the

Turn to **Advocate, Page 2**

Amazon closes area fulfillment centers due to extreme cold

BY LAUREN ZUMBACH
Chicago Tribune

Hoping to beat Chicago's frigid temperatures by having a space heater or a pair of warm gloves delivered to your door? The cold snap could be over by the time the products arrive, at least if you're buying on Amazon.

Amazon temporarily closed fulfillment centers and delivery stations in areas affected by the freezing temperatures, including Chicago, on Wednesday, citing concerns about the safety of employees and people handling its deliveries. Some Chicago-area facilities had reopened as of Thursday afternoon.

"We work hard to deliver on our fast, free shipping promise, but weather conditions are out of our control. Customer service is

available to work with any customer who is experiencing an issue," an Amazon spokesperson said in an emailed statement.

That means customers could see slower-than-usual guaranteed delivery times. On Thursday, some items listed as being eligible for the company's free two-day Prime shipping said they would be delivered Monday and did not offer next- or same-day shipping. The company's Prime Now app said delivery availability "may be limited."

The e-commerce giant wasn't the only one struggling to make deliveries. The U.S. Postal Service suspended service to certain Illinois ZIP codes Wednesday and Thursday.

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PATRICK T. FALLON/BLOOMBERG NEWS 2018

Laid-off BuzzFeed workers pressed the company to pay unused time off.

Unlimited vacation time can burn workers when they leave

BY JENA MCGREGOR
The Washington Post

If you're laid off from your job or quit to go elsewhere, does your employer owe you the vacation time you've accrued?

As with so many things related to employment law, the answer, unfortunately, is "it depends." And if your employer has an "unlimited" vacation policy, it may owe you nothing at all.

Employees at BuzzFeed got a taste of the patchwork nature of these policies after the media company said last week it was cutting about 15 percent of its workforce, or 200 jobs. At first, according to a letter posted on Medium by the BuzzFeed News Staff Council and signed by more than 500 employees, the company did not plan to pay out the unused time off employees had earned, except to workers in California, where it is legally required.

But this week, the company said it would pay accrued-but-unused time off after all, including in states where it's not mandated. (A company spokeswoman noted in an email to The Washington Post that employees' severance included a minimum of 10 weeks' salary and pointed to a BuzzFeed executive's

memo that said severance was adjusted "to be fair and competitive in every state where we operate.")

Indeed, by law, many CEOs could technically do just that. Still other employers may seek ways around the requirements: As more companies offer unambiguous, "unlimited" vacation policies, that can also mean there's not a specified number of days they'd be forced to pay out when an employee quits or gets fired.

Some states legally require employers to pay out that vacation time that's been "earned" and left on the table in all cases; most go by whatever an employer's policy or an employment contract says it will do.

But many employers, particularly in competitive industries or among larger employers with multistate workforces, choose to make it a blanket policy to pay out the vacation time or offer it when employees exit as a show of goodwill.

Marc Mandelman, an employment lawyer at Epstein Becker Greene in New York, counts eight states that have statutes requiring employers to pay out unused but earned vacation time, including Illinois and Massachusetts, but he says most of his clients do it in practice.

Industries where companies compete heavily for talent, such as financial services or technology, are more likely to offer it — even where it's not required — than those that have more low-skilled, low-wage jobs, such as retail.

Yet, as more employers have begun offering "unlimited" paid-time-off policies where the company suggests that workers can take the time they need, rather than be allotted a certain number of days, employees could also lose out. The perk can mean more flexibility and generous vacation time in some cases. But by not defining the number of days employees get off, employers also aren't on the hook for paying out a certain number of hours when an employee leaves.

While the idea of unlimited vacation may sound nice in practice — and indeed, with the right boss who is clear with employees on how they can use it, it well can be — it has a nice side benefit for employers, too.

"It's a great recruiting tool," said Jonathan Yarbrough, an employment lawyer at Constangy, Brooks, Smith & Prophete. "And generally upon termination, there's nothing to pay."

Billionaire's plan for Sears an issue in presidential campaign

Sears, from Page 1

private equity buyouts and protections like profit clawbacks that could generate money to help other laid-off workers. Warren called for lenders to contribute to the hardship fund.

The publicity, and the workers' success, created tension in the Sears bankruptcy case. Bankers worried they'd be blamed for firings if they didn't support Lampert's bid for Sears. Judge Robert Drain told stakeholders that "it would be a very good thing" if the company could preserve most of the remaining jobs.

Lampert and his hedge fund, ESL Investments, moved to keep Sears alive earlier this month by buying it out of bankruptcy and giving it a new corporate parent. His \$5.2 billion proposal cleared one hurdle Jan. 16, and will likely be

formally green-lit in court on Monday.

All this despite protests from Sears creditors, including some landlords, vendors and the U.S. agency overseeing its pension fund. An official creditor group has objected to the bid. They say Lampert has pilaged Sears for more than a decade, and have threatened to sue him over controversial past transactions.

Warren raised similar concerns in her letter.

"The inherent conflicts of interest and the decisions you made while running the company have short-changed Sears workers, leaving a company with a long, proud history in American retail on its last legs," she wrote.

Midterm elections intensified the pressure to rethink the norms of capitalism. Democrats won control of the House of

Representatives, and candidates jockeying to take on President Donald Trump in 2020 aren't being shy about staking out their positions. Warren earlier this week proposed a so-called "ultramillionaire tax" on households worth at least \$50 million.

Warren ended the letter to Lampert with eight queries, including whether Lampert would commit to a five-year pause on share buybacks and provide details of his plans to avoid conflicts of interest and invest in the company. She requested a response by Feb. 14.

"I believe in capitalism," Warren told Bloomberg TV on Wednesday, "but capitalism without rules is theft."

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Despite Foxconn news, Advocate moving forward with Wis. hospital

Advocate, from Page 1

medical project originally was supposed to begin late last year but hasn't started yet as the hospital system has awaited various local approvals, said Adam Mesirov, a spokesman for Advocate Aurora. The system has 27 hospitals in Illinois and Wisconsin.

Advocate Aurora also announced in July that it would partner with Foxconn Health Technology Business Group on projects to keep people healthier and lower health care costs for employers and consumers. The organizations said they planned to use Foxconn's technologies and Advocate Aurora's health care expertise to improve preventative care and employer-based wellness pro-

grams and invest in precision medicine, among other things.

In the statement Thursday, Advocate Aurora's Klein said: "Our collaboration with Foxconn is centered on helping people live well, enhancing quality, expanding access and lowering costs. It is not our practice to comment on the evolving business model of partners, but instead focus on pursuing health care innovations and improving health outcomes."

Advocate Aurora has also partnered with Foxconn and two other groups on a \$100 million venture capital fund to invest nationally and globally in health care innovations, technology, manufacturing and financial services. Each organization is contrib-

uting \$25 million to the fund "as the latest step by the companies in their commitment to advancing innovative technology and positioning southeastern Wisconsin as a global technology hub," according to an August news release. That partnership is also moving forward, Mesirov said.

President Donald Trump, who heralded the Foxconn project as the "eighth wonder of the world" at its groundbreaking last summer, had pointed to it as a sign of a manufacturing resurgence in America.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

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United making hubs like O'Hare a priority in 2019

BY JUSTIN BACHMAN
Bloomberg News

A year ago, United Airlines startled the airline world with an aggressive growth agenda aimed at bolstering hub profits and reclaiming traffic — a strategy to win back passengers rivals had siphoned away in the nine years since the carrier's chaotic merger.

One-third of the way into its three-year plan, United has declared the project a success and is plotting the next phase. Now comes the hard part.

United's overall expansion involves adding as much as 6 percent of capacity annually. In 2018, much of that growth came from beefing up its schedule in Hawaii and larger U.S. cities, said Savanthy Syth, an airline analyst with Raymond James Financial. United also plucked "low-hanging fruit" such as improving its operations and customer service, she said.

But in 2019, the carrier is concentrating on its hubs. While Delta and American have been minting money at their respective bases in Atlanta and Dallas-Fort Worth, United hasn't been as successful with its hubs in Chicago, Denver and Houston. One of United's top priorities is to close that gap.

"So far I don't think there's anything that they've done that causes alarm at other airlines," Syth said. "It was always 2019 and 2020 that are the key questions on that growth."

Chicago-based United is aiming at small-city growth, moving regional jets out of big markets in favor of flying mainline jets between hubs and hinterlands. To do so, it will use 40 new jets — its highest annual total since 2010 — plus another 25 Embraer 175s at its regional airlines.

United's grand plan might just help it regain some of what President Scott Kirby called its "natural share" of the travel market.

American and Delta, however, might not see it that way. The good news for consumers is that, if the two rivals choose to retaliate, it could trigger a fare war.

Moves to counter United's hub-and-spoke expansion will be easier if fuel prices stay low, making it less costly for American and Delta to add flights in the same markets. Still, executives at both airlines have noted that new flights



STACEY WESCOTT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

A United Airlines plane takes off at Chicago O'Hare International Airport on Monday.

into a dominant hub don't typically spark major price skirmishing. More often, the Big Four (including Southwest) hit back at ultra low-cost rivals such as Frontier or Spirit Airlines should they encroach. In October, American Chief Executive Officer Doug Parker said his carrier hadn't detected "any discernible market share shift" from United's growth.

For its part, American is planning 3 percent capacity growth this year; two-thirds will be 100 additional flights from 15 new gates at its home base in Dallas, its largest and most profitable hub. The airline is working toward a goal of 900 daily departures from Dallas-Fort Worth this summer. Delta, which also is targeting 3 percent growth, already has about 1,000 flights per day at Atlanta, its biggest hub. By comparison, United has only about 600 at Chicago O'Hare, its biggest.

All three carriers are keen to harvest profits with new flights this year from cities such as Augusta, Ga.; Madison, Wis.; and Santa Barbara, Calif. — destinations where airfares are generally higher. "The environment's going to get more competitive," said Joseph DeNardi, an aviation analyst with Stifel.

"American Airlines' growth is going to start to accelerate in 2019," he said. "They recognize that there's some share being lost."

When United executives laid out their plan last January, they criticized prior management's decision to shrink capacity. One reason United's margins trail its two biggest rivals, according to current leadership, is that the carrier lagged American and Delta in seat growth from 2011 to 2016, leaving United exposed to its own hubs.

United has already re-

vamped its schedules in Chicago and Houston, and has similar plans for Denver, where in the coming weeks the size of each flight "bank" will increase from 43 to 50 flights. United said Jan. 16 that it's also cutting pre-6 a.m. departures by half because they command less revenue.

A broad response from American and Delta to United's aggression has yet to materialize, according to traffic data Wolfe Research compiled for a Jan. 18 report. Of the 59 domestic routes United recently connected to its hubs, American competes on only 11. American added capacity to only four routes and shrank in seven, Wolfe's research showed. Delta contracted on three routes and grew on two of the five which overlap with United.

United declined to comment beyond saying it is focused on its operations.

United's capacity growth relative to the other two legacy airlines means it is deriving a larger, "natural" share of traffic in places like Oklahoma City, where no airline holds a clear advantage, analysts said.

"We believe UAL didn't really 'go after' one specific airline with its growth, but rather added capacity to small spoke cities that it believed could use more service because of limited existing supply, high connecting fares, or circuitous connecting options to the most popular destinations from that city," Wolfe analyst Hunter Keay wrote.

"American and Delta have the most to lose because their fares (have been) higher, and United is picking them off," said George Ferguson, an aerospace analyst with Bloomberg Intelligence. "That's what they get paid to do."

Bloomberg's Mary Schlangenstein contributed.

Next hurdle for Lincoln Yards

Kamin, from Page 1

support for the plan in writing.

"It was unclear to me whether or not the Second Ward residents saw it," Cappelman said Thursday of the Lincoln Yards proposal, whose third version was made public just five days before last week's Plan Commission vote. "I wanted to make sure that they had some input on what passed the Plan Commission."

The Commission unanimously approved the proposal, by Chicago architects Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, which calls for transforming 54.5 acres of former industrial land along the Chicago River into a high-rise cluster of offices, apartments, shops, restaurants, parks and a riverwalk.

But the commission's rubber-stamp did little to address one of the many criticisms hurled at Lincoln Yards: That it will be a socio-economic island, a gated community without gates that has little room for low-income people.

Of the 6,000 housing units planned at Lincoln Yards, just 5 percent, or 300, will be affordable units built on site. While Sterling Bay agreed to erect another 600 units within three miles of Lincoln Yards and will contribute \$39 million to the city's Affordable Housing Fund, that's not good enough for Cappelman.

The poor are not an

abstraction to him; they're an everyday concern, symbolized by the homeless people who lived under Lake Shore Drive viaducts in his ward. Chicago's lack of housing for such people is a "crisis," Cappelman said. Citing the city's plan to back the project with \$900 million in tax-increment financing, he wants Sterling Bay to partner with the Chicago Housing Authority or nonprofit developers to create housing "for people living on the streets."

Such an effort would be "extraordinarily complicated," Cappelman acknowledged, but "there are still decisions being made about on-site and off-site housing...It's not in stone. Let's have some discussion and let's explore how we can make this happen."

Sarah Hamilton, a spokeswoman for Sterling Bay, reiterated the firm's stance that it is fully complying with the city's affordable housing ordinance. But she opened the door for further negotiation on housing, saying: "We will continue to work with Alderman Hopkins on this issue."

How — and when — all this will play out is unclear.

There probably will be two zoning committee meetings before the next City Council meeting, which is scheduled for March 13. By that time, two mayoral candidates will likely be vying to succeed Mayor Rahm Emanuel, a major supporter of Lincoln

Yards.

Other actors in the drama could be shunted off stage. Burke, for example, remains on the zoning committee. Yet his position appears conflicted because Sterling Bay used Burke's firm to seek property tax cuts, then severed ties with him after the alderman was hit with corruption charges.

Asked if Burke should recuse himself from any Lincoln Yards vote, Cappelman replied that it's up to Burke and the city's law department.

Further complicating Lincoln Yards' political prospects, another member of the zoning committee, Ald. Proco "Joe" Moreno, 1st, tweeted Thursday that he plans to vote against the project, citing a lack of affordable housing.

When I asked Cappelman about the campaign contributions he can now expect to flow his way because he chairs the powerful zoning committee, he said he would continue his self-imposed policy of not accepting such contributions around the time developers request or receive his support for their project.

"No pay to play," he said.

A zoning committee chair who wouldn't accept hundreds of thousands of dollars in campaign contributions?

Now that would be a political earthquake.

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Young investors face hard test

Many confronting a volatile market for the first time

BY STAN CHOE
Associated Press

NEW YORK — After gliding through years where stocks mostly just rose, a generation of investors last year suddenly confronted a hard financial truth: Stocks are risky and can plunge at any moment.

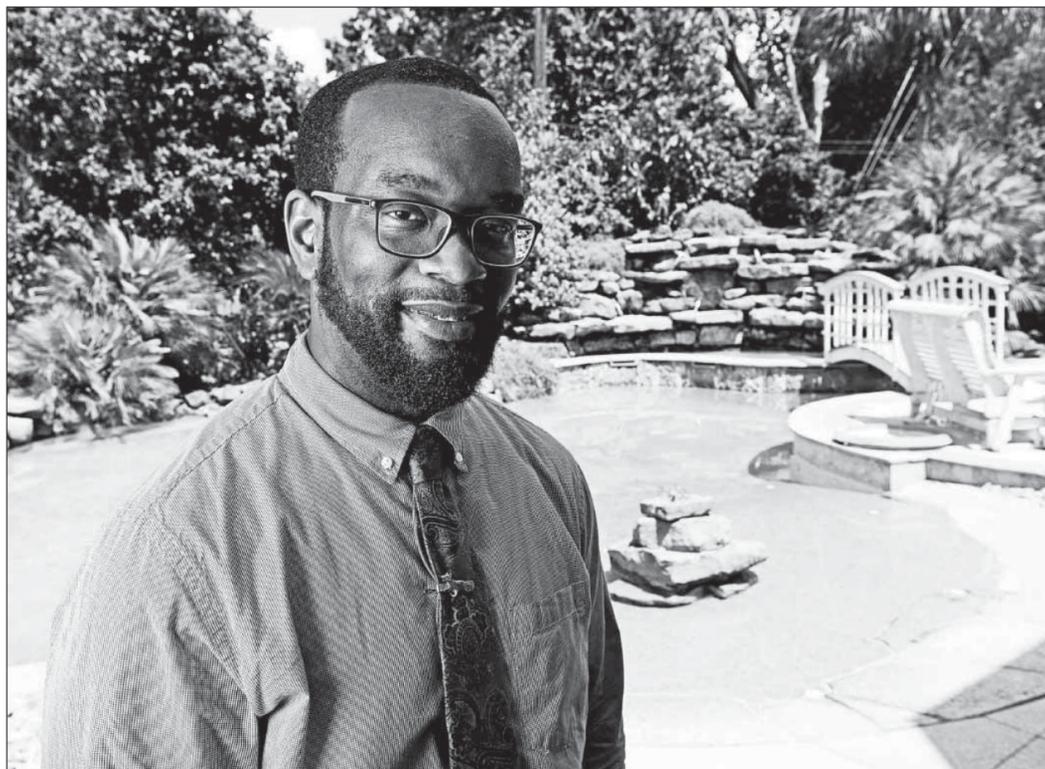
For older investors, the nearly 20 percent drop in the S&P 500 index from late September through Christmas Eve was a reminder of the fear that gripped markets during the 2008 financial crisis, though not as bad. But for many investors in their 20s and early 30s, it was the first test of their mettle since they opened 401(k) and brokerage accounts.

So how did they do? The answer is crucial because these younger savers are on the hook to pay for more of their retirements than their parents or grandparents.

The fear was that many would panic at their first brush with a severe downturn, sell their stocks and lock in the losses. Investing is an area where many experts say a participation trophy is an unquestionably good thing. Given enough years, stocks have gone on to recover from every one of their past declines.

Early indications are that millennial investors generally avoided panic. And not only are they still participating, but many embraced the volatility and saw it as an opportunity to buy more stocks at lower prices, according to data from brokerages.

At Fidelity, for example, millennial investors put in twice as many buy as sell orders for stocks and stock funds during the last three months of 2018, when the S&P 500 plunged 14 percent for its worst quarterly per-



DAVID J. PHILLIP/AP

Marcus Harris, 35, and a physician in Spring, Texas, experienced his first market downturn in five years of investing.

formance in nearly seven years.

They were actually more aggressive about buying stocks than they were a year earlier, at the end of 2017, when the S&P 500 closed out one of its strongest and calmest years in decades.

Older generations of investors also embraced the tumult in recent months and picked up their buying activity for stocks, though they were not as aggressive as millennials. Baby Boomers had roughly 1.3 buy orders for every sell order during last year's fourth quarter, for example. The data cover Fidelity's 20.8 million retail brokerage accounts.

The decisions did not come stress-free. Consider Marcus Harris, a 35-year-old internal-medicine physician in the Houston area.

Last summer, when stocks were setting record after record, Harris felt confident that he would be able to handle a severe downturn, even though he had yet to experience one in his five years of investing.

When the market started skidding on worries about a slowing economy and President Donald Trump's trade war with China, though, Harris acknowledges he felt some trepidation.

He had set his phone to notify him when some of the stocks he owns hit certain prices, both on the high and the low ends. As the S&P 500 careened lower in December to its worst month in nearly a decade, he got used to hearing often from his phone.

"It was probably five times a day," he said. "Ding!

This stock has hit your low. Ding! That stock hit your low."

"It was a little scary, looking at my retirement account saying, 'Man, that's a lot of salary gone,'" he recalled. Harris eventually turned off the notifications. But he also said that he knew he had many years to go before he needed to use the money.

He ended up putting more money into stocks late last year, hoping to buy low. "I got age on my side," Harris said. "This is a 30-year plan."

The reaction was similar for many clients of Charles Adi, financial adviser at Blueprint 360 in Houston.

Before the downturn, Adi had discussed market volatility and the importance of sticking with an investment plan many times with his

clients. But he got more worried calls than he was expecting as markets tumbled.

"You think your clients are going to act one way because you have these conversations, and they reassure you they know the game plan, but you really don't know what's going to happen in the moment," he said. "More often than not, the conversation I had was: 'You told me there were going to be some fluctuations, but I didn't understand what you meant. Are we going to change the plan?'"

Only four of his clients moved their investments out of stocks and into cash, and three of them were older.

For many of his younger clients, he suggested viewing the drops as an opportu-

nity to double down on stocks they were familiar with and had already reaped gains from. Many agreed.

Millennial investors were close to flat in terms of being net buyers or sellers of stocks at TD Ameritrade. That's similar to how they behaved in 2015, when the S&P 500 lost more than 10 percent in one five-day stretch.

"Not freaked out at all," said JJ Kinahan, chief market strategist at TD Ameritrade. "My theory, given the limited sample size, is that because of their age, they're willing to take more risk and see it as a buying opportunity."

Of course, the customers at TD Ameritrade are those who chose to invest. The majority of younger households don't own any stocks at all.

More than 41 percent of all households led by someone under 35 own stocks in some way, according to the latest data from the Federal Reserve. For all other age groups, except those 75 or older, more than half of households own stocks. The figures include both people who actively trade stocks and others who have a target-date retirement mutual fund in a 401(k) that they never touch.

But the rate of stock ownership has been going up in recent years for younger households. The most recent tally, from 2016, showed the highest rate of ownership for young households since 2007, before the financial crisis hit its peak.

Recent weeks have brought some relief for investors, as the S&P 500 has climbed about 12 percent since hitting a bottom on Christmas Eve.

That includes Harris, the doctor whose phone was dingling so often. "A few days after Christmas," he said, "I turned the notifications back on."

Comcast hot spots elusive for some during cold snap

BY ROBERT CHANNICK
Chicago Tribune

While thousands Chicagoans took advantage of Comcast's offer of free Wi-Fi hot spots during the polar vortex, others were left out in the cold.

Network outages, navigation issues and confusion over which hot spots were available proved frustrating to a number of people looking to get online.

Comcast, which has more than 1.7 million Xfinity hot spots in the Chicago region for use by its customers, opened up a portion of that network for free access during the cold snap.

The offer allowed guests to access Comcast's 145,000 outdoor and business hot spots through Thursday. The bulk of the network, which taps into Wi-Fi hot spots from Comcast's residential modems, remained a subscriber-only service.

A smartphone doesn't distinguish between home and business. It simply identifies the hot spot as xfinitywifi, meaning those near a residential model were prompted to sign in

or sign up for trial service.

Even those who found a business hot spot landed on a subscriber log in page — you had to scroll down to find the guest access log in.

"We regret that some people may have been confused by the login process, but at the end of the day, we were really proud to be able to offer free access to 145,000 hotspots in the area as a public service during this period of extreme cold," Comcast spokesman Jack Segal said Thursday.

Adding to the woes were spot outages to the broader Comcast network caused by the extreme cold. There were reported ongoing outages affecting thousands of customers in Chicago's East Lakeview, Lincoln Park, Uptown and Avondale neighborhoods, for example, as of Thursday afternoon.

"We've been working to restore service in the affected areas as quickly as possible," Segal said. "Only a small number of outages remain and crews are out in the field making repairs."

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SAVINGS UPDATE

What's included in your mortgage payment? Think PITI.

If you've ever played with a mortgage calculator to test monthly payments for different terms and rates, you know these calculators will spit out a payment amount that's precise to the penny. The only problem? For most people, your monthly payment will be higher. And likely a lot higher.

The reason is that mortgage calculators compute only one thing: the amount you'll owe the lender for your loan. Spread your loan amount over the term of your mortgage, then add interest, and this gives you your monthly payment to the lender.

This portion of the payment is called principal (P) and interest (I). But owning a home includes two additional expenses that aren't optional, and they come with the letters T and I.

T stands for taxes, or the property tax that will be assessed on your home. While these taxes are due just once a year, most homeowners pay 1/12th of the annu-

al amount into escrow once a month, tacked onto their monthly principal and interest payment.

Then comes I, for insurance. Everyone with a mortgage is required to carry homeowner's insurance. Like property taxes, the insurance premium is usually due once a year, but is often escrowed in 1/12th payments that are also added to your mortgage payment.

For homeowners putting less than 20 percent down on their home, private mortgage insurance (PMI) will also be required, until your equity in the home builds to at least 80 percent. For these homeowners, PMI is a fifth component in your monthly payment.

Put these all together and a homeowner's "all in" payment every month is characterized as PITI. So go ahead and start with that initial mortgage calculator number, but then determine what you'll need to tack on for taxes and insurance to calculate your actual monthly obligation.

Rate Criteria: The rates and annual percentage rate (APR) are effective as of 01/29/19. All rates, fees and other information are subject to change without notice. RateSeeker, LLC, does not guarantee the accuracy of the information appearing above or the availability of rates and fees in this table. The institutions appearing in this table pay a fee to appear in this table. Annual percentage rates (APRs) are based on fully indexed rates for adjustable rate mortgages (ARMs). The APR on your specific loan may differ from the sample used. All rates are quoted on a minimum FICO score of 740. Conventional loans are based on loan amounts of \$165,000. Jumbo loans are based on loan amounts of \$484,351. Lock Days: 30-60. Points quoted include discount and/or origination. Payments do not include amounts for taxes and insurance. The APR may increase after consummation and may vary. FHA Mortgages include both UFMIP and MIP fees based on a loan amount of \$165,000 with 5% down payment. Points quoted include discount and/or origination. Fees reflect charges relative to the APR. If your down payment is less than 20% of the home's value, you will be subject to private mortgage insurance, or PMI. VA Mortgages include funding fees based on a loan amount of \$165,000 with 5% down payment. If your down payment is less than 20% of the home's value, you will be subject to private mortgage insurance, or PMI. "Call for Rates" means actual rates were not available at press time. To access the NMLS Consumer Access website, please visit www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org. To appear in this table, call 773-320-8492.

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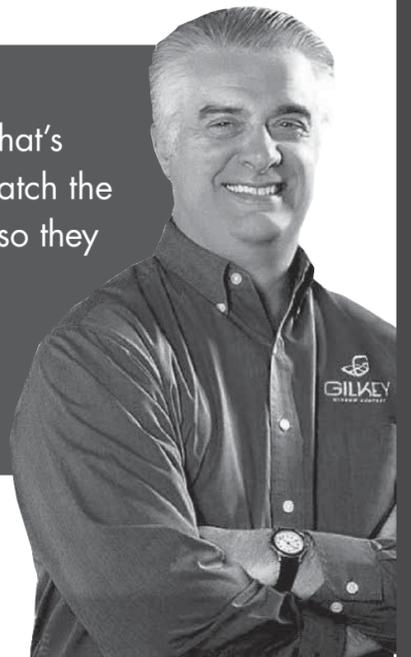
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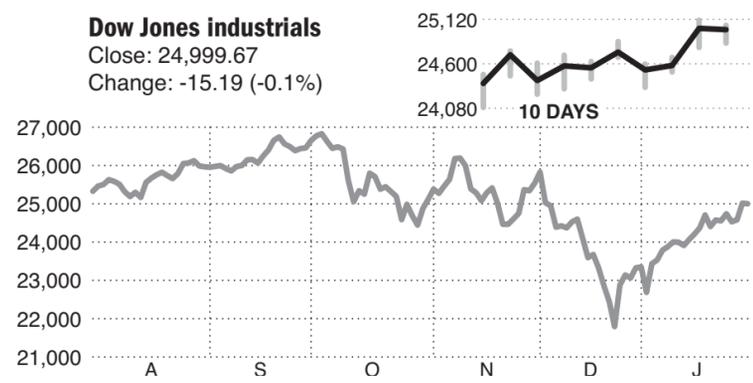


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Nasdaq	S&P 500	Russell 2000
+98.66 (+1.37%)	+23.05 (+.86%)	+12.48 (+.84%)
Close: 7,281.74	Close: 2,704.10	Close: 1,499.42
High: 7,303.12	High: 2,708.95	High: 1,500.74
Low: 7,205.94	Low: 2,678.65	Low: 1,484.82
Previous: 7,183.08	Previous: 2,681.05	Previous: 1,486.94

10-yr T-note	Gold futures	Yen	Euro	Crude Oil
-0.06 to 2.63%	+9.80 to \$1,319.70	-0.03 to 108.89/\$1	+0.0036 to .8738/\$1	-0.44 to \$53.79

Major market growth and decline

5-day % change			30-day % change			1-year % change		
DOW +1.82	NASD +2.94	S&P +2.34	DOW +10.20	NASD +12.66	S&P +10.47	DOW -4.53	NASD -1.41	S&P -4.18

COMMODITY	AMOUNT-PRICE	MO.	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	SETTLE	CHG.
WHEAT (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	Mar 19	517.75	520	513.50	516.50	-.25
CORN (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	Mar 19	381	381.50	375.75	376.50	-4.75
SOYBEANS (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	Mar 19	919.50	926.75	913.25	915.25	-5.75
SOYBEAN OIL (CBOT)	60,000 lbs- cents per lb	Mar 19	30.41	30.48	30.13	30.17	-.25
SOYBEAN MEAL (CBOT)	100 tons- dollars per ton	Mar 19	311.00	313.90	309.30	310.00	-1.10
LIGHT SWEET CRUDE (NYMX)	1,000 bbl.- dollars per bbl.	Mar 19	54.28	55.37	53.62	53.79	-.44
NATURAL GAS (NYMX)	10,000 mm btu's, \$ per mm btu	Mar 19	2.868	2.918	2.802	2.814	-.040
NY HARBOR GAS BLEND (NYMX)	42,000 gallons- dollars per gallon	Feb 19	1.3925	1.4119	1.3568	1.3593	-.0230

Source: The Associated Press

LOCAL STOCKS

Stocks listed may change due to daily fluctuations in market capitalization. Exchange key: N=NYSE, O=NASDAQ

STOCK	XCHG.	CLOSE	CHG.	STOCK	XCHG.	CLOSE	CHG.	STOCK	XCHG.	CLOSE	CHG.
Abbott Labs	N	72.98	+1.30	Equity Lifesty Prop	N	105.88	+1.76	Mondelez Intl	O	46.26	+2.45
AbbVie Inc	N	80.29	+1.23	Equity Residential	N	72.56	+0.56	Morningstar Inc	O	124.15	+5.31
Allstate Corp	N	87.87	+0.53	Exelon Corp	N	47.76	+1.11	Motorola Solutions	N	116.91	+1.10
Aptargroup Inc	N	99.12	+1.16	First Indl RT	N	32.72	+0.04	NiSource Inc	O	27.28	+0.53
Arch Dan Mid	N	44.90	+0.21	Fortune Brds Hm&Sec	N	45.30	+1.76	Nthn Trust Co	O	88.46	+0.97
Baxter Intl	N	72.49	+0.77	Gallagher AJ	N	74.71	+1.82	Old Republic	N	20.15	+1.10
Boeing Co	N	385.62	-2.10	Grainger WW	N	295.39	-0.69	Packaging Corp Am	O	94.32	+1.40
Brunswick Corp	N	50.32	-0.39	GrubHub Inc	N	80.40	+0.45	Paylocity Hldg	O	71.03	+2.10
CBOE Global Markets	N	93.27	-0.25	Hill-Rom Hldgs	N	100.02	+0.39	Stericycle Inc	O	44.08	-0.15
CDK Global Inc	O	48.91	+0.38	IDEX Corp	N	137.86	+0.76	Teleph Data	N	36.22	+0.68
CDW Corp	O	83.27	+0.29	ITW	N	137.31	+1.70	TransUnion	N	60.82	+1.42
CF Industries	N	43.65	+0.59	Ingredion Inc	N	99.00	-0.15	Tribune Media Co A	N	45.91	-0.04
CME Group	O	182.28	+1.91	Jones Lang LaSalle	N	143.41	+1.71	US Foods Holding	N	33.72	+0.43
CNA Financial	N	45.86	+0.55	Kemper Corp	N	75.18	+0.65	USG Corp	N	43.15	-0.01
Caterpillar Inc	N	133.16	+3.05	Kraft Heinz Co	O	48.06	+1.31	Ultra Salon Cosmetics	O	291.92	+3.32
ConAgra Brands Inc	N	21.64	+0.20	LKQ Corporation	O	26.22	-0.35	United Contl Hldgs	O	87.27	-0.20
Deere Co	N	164.00	+1.09	Littelfuse Inc	O	175.72	+4.97	Ventas Inc	N	64.49	+0.61
Discover Fin Svcs	N	67.49	-0.23	MB Financial	O	44.38	-0.27	Walgreen Boots Alli	O	72.26	+0.65
Dover Corp	N	87.83	-0.99	McDonalds Corp	N	178.78	-2.99	Waltrust Financial	O	71.14	-0.92
Equity Commonwh	N	32.36	+0.27	Middleby Corp	O	117.62	-0.59	Zebra Tech	O	173.60	+2.24

MOST ACTIVE STOCKS

STOCK	CLOSE	CHG.
Gen Electric	10.16	+1.06
Bank of America	28.47	-0.60
Pandora Media	8.38	-1.11
Nokia Corp	6.35	-0.22
Chesapck Engy	2.85	-0.05
AT&T Inc	30.06	+0.69
Vale SA	12.44	-1.15
Ford Motor	8.80	+0.23
Pfizer Inc	42.45	+1.23
Avon Products	2.34	+0.45
Dow DuPont Inc	53.81	-5.47
US Steel Corp	22.54	+0.32
Freepor McMoran	11.64	+0.37
CocaCola Co	48.13	+0.27
Verizon Comm	55.06	+1.06
Coty Inc	7.76	+0.54
Wells Fargo & Co	48.91	+1.73
Petrobras	16.30	+0.30
EnCana Corp	6.88	-0.12
Altria Group	49.35	+1.55
Itau Unibanco Hldg	10.64	+0.31
Alibaba Group Hldg	168.49	+1.67
Sprint Corp	6.24	+0.20
Visa Inc	135.01	-2.59

LARGEST COMPANIES

STOCK	CLOSE	CHG.
Alibaba Group Hldg	168.49	+1.67
Alphabet Inc C	1116.37	+27.31
Alphabet Inc A	1125.89	+27.90
Amazon.com Inc	1718.73	+48.30
Apple Inc	166.44	+1.19
Bank of America	28.47	-0.60
Berkshire Hath B	205.54	-0.42
Exxon Mobil Corp	73.28	+0.99
Facebook Inc	166.69	+16.27
JPMorgan Chase	103.50	-0.91
Johnson & Johnson	133.08	+1.44
Microsoft Corp	104.43	-1.95
Pfizer Inc	42.45	+1.23
Procter & Gamble	96.47	+1.95
Royal Dutch Shell B	62.80	+2.08
Royal Dutch Shell A	61.73	+2.17
Unitedhealth Group	270.20	-0.17
Visa Inc	135.01	-2.59
WalMart Strs	95.83	+1.03

LARGEST MUTUAL FUNDS

FUND	NAV	CHG	1-YR %RTN
American Funds AMCPA m	30.14	+0.21	-1.1
American Funds AmrnBAlA m	26.09	+0.11	-1.2
American Funds CptWldGrInCA m	645.90	+0.30	-9.2
American Funds CptInclBldrA m	58.62	+0.37	-5.7
American Funds FdmtlInvSA m	56.42	+0.42	-5.1
American Funds GrfAmrCA m	46.77	+0.57	-1.8
American Funds IncAmrCA m	21.49	+0.07	-4.1
American Funds InvCAMrCA m	35.99	+0.32	-6.2
American Funds NwPrspctVA m	40.81	+0.39	-4.8
American Funds WAMtInvSA m	43.52	+0.16	-2.2
DFA EMktCorEq	20.82	+0.17	-14.4
Dodge & Cox Inc	13.46	+0.03	+1.6
Dodge & Cox IntlStk	40.05	+0.03	-16.3
Dodge & Cox Stk	187.52	+1.26	-4.6
DoubleLine TtRetBdl x	10.45	...	+3.2
Fidelity 500DlxmsPrm	94.08	+0.82	-2.3
Fidelity Contrafund	12.05	+0.16	-2.0
Fidelity ContrafundK	12.06	+0.16	-1.9
Fidelity TtMktDlxmsPrm	76.67	+0.67	-2.3
Fidelity USBdldxmsPrm	11.37	+0.04	+2.2
Franklin Templeton IncA1 m	2.26	+0.01	-1.6
Metropolitan West TtRetBdl	10.49	+0.04	+2.2
PIMCO IncInclSt	11.91	...	+2.2
PIMCO TtRetIns	10.02	+0.04	+1.9
Schwab SP500Dlx	41.37	+0.36	-2.4
T. Rowe Price BCGr	106.70	+1.43	+2.4
T. Rowe Price GrStk	63.33	+0.86	+5.5
Vanguard 500DlxAdmrl	249.98	+2.19	-2.4
Vanguard DivGrInv	26.03	+0.17	+1.6
Vanguard EqInAdmrl	70.50	+0.55	+3.6
Vanguard GrldxAdmrl	75.52	+0.94	-1.1
Vanguard HCAmrl	85.76	+0.75	+2.8
Vanguard InTrnGdAdm	9.52	+0.04	+2.4
Vanguard InTrTEAdmrl	13.99	+0.03	+3.2
Vanguard InslDlxms	245.78	+2.14	-2.4
Vanguard InslDlxmsPlus	245.80	+2.15	-2.3
Vanguard InstTSMInPls	58.76	+0.51	-2.2
Vanguard MDCpDlxAdmrl	189.11	+1.28	-3.8
Vanguard PrmCpAdmrl	130.75	+0.71	-8.8
Vanguard STInvmGrdAdmrl	10.50	+0.01	+2.2
Vanguard SmCpDlxAdmrl	70.72	+0.51	-1.4
Vanguard TrgtRtr2025Inv	29.98	+0.14	-2.0
Vanguard TrgtRtr2025Inv	17.93	+0.09	-3.2
Vanguard TrgtRtr2035Inv	32.66	+0.18	-3.6
Vanguard TrgtRtr2035Inv	20.04	+0.11	-4.4
Vanguard TtBMDlxAdmrl	10.53	+0.04	+2.1
Vanguard TtBMDlxIns	10.53	+0.04	+2.1
Vanguard TtInBdXAdmrl x	21.90	+0.02	+4.6
Vanguard TtInBdXIns x	32.86	+0.03	+4.6
Vanguard TtInBdXInv x	10.95	+0.01	+4.5
Vanguard TtInSldxAdmrl	27.31	+0.09	-12.7
Vanguard TtInSldxIns	109.20	+0.34	-12.7
Vanguard TtInSldxInsPlus	109.22	+0.33	-12.7
Vanguard TtInSldxInv	16.32	+0.05	-12.8
Vanguard TtISMdXAdmrl	67.43	+0.58	-2.2
Vanguard TtISMdXIns	67.45	+0.59	-2.2
Vanguard TtISMdXInv	67.41	+0.59	-2.3
Vanguard WlngtAdmrl	66.94	+0.36	-1.9
Vanguard WlslyInAdmrl	61.09	+0.34	+1.1
Vanguard WndrInAdmrl	59.63	+0.33	-6.1

TREASURY YIELDS

DURATION	CLOSE	PREV.
3-month disc	2.35	2.37
6-month disc	2.39	2.42
2-year	2.45	2.51
10-year	2.63	
30-year	3.00	3.05

SPOT METALS

	CLOSE	PREV.
Gold	\$1319.70	\$1309.90
Silver	\$16.022	\$15.880
Platinum	\$824.70	\$816.20

INTEREST RATES

Prime Rate	5.50
Discount Rate Primary	3.00
Fed Funds Target	2.25-2.50
Money Mkt Overnight Avg.	0.58

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

A U.S. Dollar buys...	
Argentina (Peso)	37.3113
Australia (Dollar)	1.3765
Brazil (Real)	3.6473
Britain (Pound)	.7626
Canada (Dollar)	1.3132
China (Yuan)	6.7004
Euro	.8738
India (Rupee)	70.952
Israel (Shekel)	3.6333
Japan (Yen)	108.89
Mexico (Peso)	19.1347
Poland (Zloty)	3.73
So. Korea (Won)	1114.09
Taiwan (Dollar)	30.73
Thailand (Baht)	31.24

THE LADDER: Have a hiring or promotion you'd like to tell the world about in print and online? Go to chicagotribune.com/theladder to share your news. Be sure to include a photo. We'll publish on our site and in the printed editions of the Chicago Tribune as space allows.

CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT

LEGAL NOTICE REGARDING PENSION FUND EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTION REFUNDS

EXHIBIT A

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT, CHANCERY DIVISION

DAVID BIEDRON, HEATHER KELLY, and SERVICE EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION, LOCAL 73,

Plaintiffs,

Case No. 2015 CH 14869

v.

PARK EMPLOYEES' AND RETIREMENT BOARD EMPLOYEES' ANNUITY AND BENEFIT FUND, and RETIREMENT BOARD OF THE PARK EMPLOYEES' ANNUITY AND BENEFIT FUND,

Judge Neil H. Cohen

Defendants

and

CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT,

Intervenor.

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to all persons who were employed by the Chicago Park District and who were participating in the Park Employees' and Retirement Board Employees' Annuity Benefit Fund of Chicago ("Fund") as of June 1, 2014, or any date thereafter.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that on March 1, 2018, the Circuit Court of Cook County issued a memorandum opinion and order finding that certain amendments to the Illinois Pension Code enacted by Public Act 098-0622 were unconstitutional, including increases in employee contributions to the Fund. On or before July 25, 2018, the Chicago Park District mailed checks refunding the increases in employee contributions and, since then, has made efforts to locate and reimburse current and former employees for the additional employee contributions to the Fund under Public Act 098-0622. If you were required to pay additional employee contributions to the Fund on or after June 1, 2014, and you have not yet been reimbursed for those additional contributions, you may be entitled to reimbursement. Please call the Chicago Park District at 312-742-5401 to find out whether you are entitled to such reimbursement.



OBITUARIES

ALBERT J. DUNLAP 1937-2019

Hired-gun CEO grew profits, fired thousands

By **HARRISON SMITH**
The Washington Post

Wherever Albert J. Dunlap went, success seemed to follow. A hired-gun CEO, he presided over nearly a dozen corporations, including a disposable-cup company, ketchup bottle manufacturer and toilet-paper giant, and grew profits while firing thousands of employees in the name of efficiency and cutting costs.

An unabashed proponent of downsizing, he became known as “Chainsaw Al,” “the Shredder” and “Rambo in Pinstripes,” while his own name entered the corporate lexicon as a verb — “to Dunlap” — for turning a wayward company into a high-flying success.

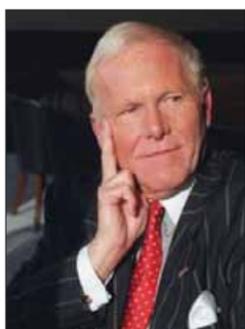
Yet Dunlap, who was 81 when he died Jan. 25 at his home in Ocala, Fla., went on to face allegations of smoke-and-mirrors accounting that led to his 1998 ouster from Sunbeam, a small-appliance company, and to news reports that unearthed similar fraud allegations earlier in his career.

He never faced criminal charges. But in 2002, he agreed to pay the Securities and Exchange Commission \$500,000 to settle the Sunbeam allegations and was barred from serving as an officer or director of a public company.

“In all my years of reporting, I had never come across an executive as manipulative, ruthless, and destructive as Al Dunlap,” journalist John Byrne, author of the 1999 Dunlap biography “Chainsaw,” later wrote in Fast Company magazine. Dunlap, he added, “sucked the very life and soul out of companies and people. He stole dignity, purpose, and sense out of organizations and replaced those ideals with fear and intimidation.”

Dunlap denied wrongdoing and insisted he was nothing less than a corporate doctor, saving “dying” companies that were overburdened by debt. While he generally disdained charitable giving as an executive, canceling \$3 million in charity pledges while running Scott Paper, he refashioned himself in recent years as a leading Florida philanthropist, donating more than \$40 million to Florida State University.

Still, his reputation as a cutthroat corporate leader proved hard to shake. Since being ousted from Sunbeam, he was cited in articles such as a Time magazine list of “Top 10 Worst Bosses” and a Fast Company story headlined “Is Your Boss a Psychopath?” For a 2015 GQ feature — “Your Boss Actually Is a Psycho” — writer Jon Ronson visited Dunlap’s estate in Florida, asking him whether he might not be a psychopath. Ronson based his questions on a list of traits assembled by psychologist Robert Hare.



ADAM NADEL/AP 1998

Ex-Sunbeam CEO Albert J. Dunlap agreed to a \$500K settlement involving fraud.

Dunlap, he wrote, redefined certain psychopathic traits (impulsivity, manipulative behavior) as “leadership positives” and wrote off his Sunbeam years as “a footnote” in his career.

As Dunlap told it, in frequent interviews and a best-selling 1996 manifesto, “Mean Business,” his was an all-American success story, in which “a nothing kid from the slums of Hoboken, N.J.,” rose to graduate from the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, N.Y., and claw his way to the heights of American business. That image of heroic, self-made success was undermined by accounts from his sister, Denise Dunlap, who told Businessweek that she and her brother had “a very comfortable childhood,” and from divorce filings in which his first wife, Gwyn Donnelly, alleged he had threatened her with guns and a Bowie knife. According to “Chainsaw,” Dunlap could also be cruel to co-workers; on one occasion, he threw a chair at Sunbeam’s human resources chief.

On Wall Street, however, Dunlap was long viewed as a hero who could do no wrong. Under his leadership in the 1980s, the cup-maker Lily-Tulip increased its stock price by more than 900 percent, from \$1.77 to \$18.55, according to “Mean Business.” He was later credited with tripling the stock price of Scott Paper, which was struggling with \$2.5 billion in debt when he was named CEO in 1994.

In both cases, the growth was fueled by massive cuts. Dunlap eliminated about half the staff of Lily-Tulip and about 11,000 jobs, or one-third of the workforce, at Scott Paper.

When Scott Paper was sold to Kimberly-Clark in 1995 for \$9.4 billion, Dunlap received a \$100 million payout. “Most CEOs are ridiculously overpaid,” he wrote, “but I deserved the \$100 million.” Two days after he joined Sunbeam, in July 1996, he told analysts in a conference call, “I love every dollar like a brother” and said he “would have hung” the previous management team for incompetence. Dunlap’s rise was halted in 1998, amid news reports that he had inflated

sales figures through tactics such as buy and hold, in which products such as outdoor grills were “sold” in the winter but not paid for until spring.

The Sunbeam board fired Dunlap that June, declaring he had misled investors. In 2001, the company filed for bankruptcy, struggling under \$2 billion in debt; the SEC charged Dunlap with accounting fraud that same year, saying he “orchestrated a fraudulent scheme to create the illusion of a successful restructuring of Sunbeam and facilitate the sale of the company at an inflated price.”

In addition to the SEC settlement, Dunlap paid \$15 million to resolve a shareholder suit. Sunbeam’s accounting firm, Arthur Andersen, which was later charged in the Enron scandal, settled a separate shareholder lawsuit for \$110 million, after signing off on an audit that allegedly included false profits.

Dunlap effectively retired from business after his ouster at Sunbeam, although he maintained he had done nothing wrong and embarked on an international speaking tour with Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. The subject was leadership.

Albert John Dunlap was born in Hoboken on July 26, 1937. After graduating from West Point in 1960, he served as a paratrooper and was stationed at a nuclear missile site. He joined Kimberly-Clark in 1963 and went on to be a senior vice president at American Can before becoming CEO of Lily-Tulip in 1983.

His success attracted the attention of British French financier James Goldsmith, who named him the head of Diamond International and Crown Zellerbach, a pair of forest products companies. He also restructured parts of Consolidated Press Holdings, controlled by Australian tycoon Kerry Packer, before joining Scott Paper.

Amid the SEC inquiry into his work at Sunbeam, The New York Times reported on fraud allegations that stemmed from Dunlap’s previously overlooked tenure at Nitec Paper in upstate New York. He had been fired there in 1976, although the job had been scrubbed from his employment records, and Nitec accused him of acting fraudulently, reporting multimillion-dollar profits while the company was suffering a \$5.5 million loss.

Lawsuits between Dunlap and Nitec dragged on for years and were dropped or settled out of court after the company filed for bankruptcy in 1982. Dunlap maintained his innocence even as the company’s financial vice president testified that Dunlap had ordered him to cook the books.

Chicago Daily Tribune

ON FEBRUARY 1 ...

In 1790, the U.S. Supreme Court convened for the first time in New York. (However, since only three of the six justices were present, the court recessed until the next day.)

In 1943 one of America’s most highly decorated mili-

tary units of World War II, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, made up almost entirely of Japanese-Americans, was authorized.

In 1960 four black college students began a sit-in protest at a lunch counter in Greensboro, N.C., where they had been refused service.

In 1994 Jeff Gillooly pleaded guilty in Portland, Ore., to taking part in the attack on figure skater Nancy Kerrigan.

In 1996 both houses of Congress voted overwhelmingly to rewrite the 61-year-old Communications Act, freeing the television, telephone and home computer industries to jump into each other’s fields.

In 1999 former White House intern Monica Lewinsky gave a deposition that was videotaped for senators weighing impeachment charges against President Bill Clinton.

In 2002 President George W. Bush responded to the collapse of Enron by proposing regulation reforms of 401(k) retirement plans. Also, Justice Department investigators directed Bush’s staff to preserve the paper trail of any contact with Enron.

WINNING LOTTERY NUMBERS

ILLINOIS	INDIANA
Jan. 31	Jan. 31
Lotto 01 11 12 22 27 40 / 11	Daily 3 midday 352 / 4
Lotto jackpot: \$8.25M	Daily 4 midday 8236 / 4
Pick 3 midday 974 / 8	Daily 3 evening 955 / 5
Pick 4 midday 9248 / 2	Daily 4 evening 0598 / 5
Lucky Day Lotto midday 04 20 24 26 41	Cash 5 09 14 24 27 35
Pick 3 evening 846 / 6	MICHIGAN
Pick 4 evening 8967 / 8	Jan. 31
Lucky Day Lotto evening 06 07 09 14 33	Daily 3 midday 637
Feb. 1 Mega Millions: \$125M	Daily 4 midday 0856
Feb. 2 Powerball: \$191M	Daily 3 evening 003
WISCONSIN	Daily 4 evening 2301
Jan. 31	Fantasy 5 02 03 04 19 29
Pick 3 167	Keno 01 09 10 15 17 20
Pick 4 8582	33 34 46 47 51 52 56 57
Badger 5 02 08 10 19 27	60 62 67 68 69 74 78 79
SuperCash 10 14 19 21 33 37	

More winning numbers at chicagotribune.com/lottery

Chicago Tribune Death Notices
Chicago Tribune extends our condolences to the families and loved ones of those who have passed.
chicagotribune.com/deathnotice

Death Notices

Arizzi, Mario
August 19, 1930 - January 29, 2019 Beloved husband for nearly half a century to Patricia (nee Musolino), and the late Vita; loving father of Carmen, Laura, Vita “Cookie” (Ray) Montgomery, Josephine (Steve) Maris, Holly (Lt. Commander Michael USN) Lemmons, and the late Mario Arizzi Jr.; dearest papa to his treasures: C.J. Rueda, Michael, Samantha and Hunter Lemmons, Patricia Morrison, Danny, Mario and Vinnie Arizzi; the fifth of twelve children of the late Vincenzo and Laura (Maggi); survived by his dear brother Robert (Angela), and loving sister Alice (Donald) Tufano, pre-deceased by his dear sisters and brothers: the late Laura (Joe) Cumbo, Trieste (Mike) Manning, Oberda (Mary), Salvatore (Antoinette), Italia (Tom) Alagna, Norma (John) Prete, Arturo (Joy), Biagio (Mary), and William; son in law of the late Papa John and Josephine Musolino; beloved brother in law of the late Lawrence and Josephine, Gino, Roland “Moose”, and Donald “Cookie”; loving and favorite uncle to his nieces and nephews of the Arizzi, Musolino and Rispoli families. Although he never left the United States he faithfully served his country during the Korean War. A member of the American Legion Post #0231 he proudly waved the flag as a veteran all the years of his life and was an honored guest of VFW Post #5179. He was a lifelong fan of his beloved Chicago White Sox and always said that living to see them win the World Series on the Southside was the thrill of his lifetime. Mario was an ardent bowler who toured the country with over 13,300 games to his credit. Moreover, his largest accomplishment was his love of life, family and friends. All who knew him loved him. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Ronald McDonald House Charities at rmhc.org or 26345 Network Place, Chicago, Illinois 60673-1263, in memory of Mario Arizzi. Visitation Friday 3 p.m. to 9 p.m., Funeral Services Saturday 9:15 a.m. at Michael Coletta Sons Funeral Home 544 W. 31st St. (Chicago) to St. Mary of Perpetual Help Church Mass 10 a.m. Interment Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. For info (312)225-8500 or colettasonsfuneralhome.com

Baskin, Linda D.
Linda D. Baskin nee Despres, 82. Beloved wife of the late Don Baskin. Cherished daughter of the late Leon and the late Marian Despres. Dear sister of Robert (Louise) Despres. Fond aunt of Frederick (Lisa) Despres. Adored granddaughter of the late Hattie Despres. Service Monday 2:00PM at The Montgomery Place, 5550 South shore Drive, Chicago. Private family interment was held at Waldheim Cemetery. Memorials in her memory to Circle Pines Camp, 8650 Mullen Road, Delton, MI, 49046, www.circlepinescenter.org would be appreciated. Arrangements by Chicago Jewish Funerals-Skokie Chapel, 847.229.8822, www.cjinfo.com

CHICAGO JEWISH FUNERALS

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Bayne, Paul
Paul Bayne, 87 of Glenview passed away peacefully due to cancer on January 7, 2019. His beloved wife of 60 years, Lorraine, was by his side. He is survived by his son John (Leslie) of North Carolina; Step grandsons Ryan (Sharon) and Justin (Amber) Idstein and their new Baby Mia. Paul is also survived by his younger son Eric, and two grandkids, as well as his brother, Bob (Nancy) of Florida and 3 nephews. He worked at S&C Electric for 25 years after which he became owner/manager of rental property in Glenview and Long Grove. A Celebration of Life will be held February 4th at 11:00 am at Ridgewood Memorial Park, 9900 Milwaukee Ave., DesPlaines. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Seaside Seabird Sanctuary, 18328 Gulf Blvd., Indian Shores, FL or other charity of your choice.
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Bollhoffer, Roy E.
Roy E. Bollhoffer, 78, of Deerfield, passed away on January 28, 2019 after a long illness. Roy was raised in Cudahy, WI and he moved to Highland Park, where he was a barber for 37 years. Beloved husband of Patricia for 54 years; loving father of Roy Jr. (Holly) and Robert (Kate); cherished grandfather of Mia; dear brother of Ronald (Sharon) and the late Richard and brother-in-law to the late Ronald. A visitation will be held on Saturday, February 2, 2019 from 2-5 pm at Kelley & Spalding Funeral Home, 1787 Deerfield Rd. Highland Park, IL. A service will be held on Monday, February 4, 2019 10:00 am at Ascension Cemetery, 1920 Buckley Rd. Libertyville, IL 60048, in the Chapel. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758516, Topeka, Kansas 66675. For info or directions please contact Kelley & Spalding Funeral Home at 847-831-4260 or www.kelleyspaldingfuneralhome.com

KELLEY & SPALDING FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY

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Canino, Dominic F.

Dominic F. Canino, beloved husband of Mary Ann (nee Lynch); loving father of Dominick, Jerry (Paula) Canino; dear grandfather of Michelle, Dominick (Holly) and Kathryn (Michael); dearest great grandfather of Penelope; cherished brother of Pauline, Frances, Angela, and the late Joana, Albert "Jerome"; fond uncle and great uncle of many nieces and nephews. Visitation Sunday 1:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Funeral Monday 9:00 AM from **Lawn Funeral Home** 7909 State Road (5500 W) Burbank, IL 60459 to St. Albert the Great Church. Mass 9:30 AM. Interment Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. Funeral info 708-636-2320.



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Cummings, Anna M

Anna M. Cummings (nee Zywicki) at rest January 28, 2019 at 93 years old. Preceded in death by her parents Peter and Helen (nee Mazuch) Zywicki. Loving mother of Nancy (Joel) Unowsky, Robert (Diane) Cummings, Shirlee (Terrence) McNulty, Leroy (Mary O'Connor) Cummings. Fond Grandmother of 9, Great Grandmother of 11.

Visitation Friday, February 1, 2019 from 4-8 pm at Cooney Funeral Home, 625 Busse Hwy, Park Ridge, Illinois. Gathering Saturday, February 2, 2019 at Cooney Funeral Home, 11:30 am for a 12:30 pm chapel service followed by interment at Ridgewood Cemetery DesPlaines, Illinois. For info, (847) 685-1002.

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Flaherty, Joseph William

Joseph William Flaherty, 56, of Aurora and formerly of Park Ridge died January 30, 2019. Beloved husband of Renee (nee Viator); adored father of Kathleen and Joseph; son of the late Joseph and Elizabeth (nee Ahearn) Flaherty; nephew of Juliette Ahearn, of New York, the late William Ahearn Jr. the late Thomas Ahearn and the late Joseph D. Ahearn. Joseph was an adored physical education teacher at St. Hilary Catholic Parish in Chicago for more than 20 years. Visitation will be held 4:00 P.M. until 8:00 P.M. Monday, February 4th at **Moss Family Funeral Home** 209 South Batavia Avenue Batavia, IL. Funeral services will begin with prayers at 10:00 A.M. Tuesday, February 5th before proceeding to Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church 801 Oak Street North Aurora to celebrate Mass at 10:30 A.M. In lieu of flowers memorials may be directed to National Association of Down Syndrome, www.nads.org Interment will be in St. Peter and Paul Cemetery in Naperville. 630-879-7900 or www.mossfuneral.com



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Flanagan, Bridget

Bridget Flanagan nee Sweeney, 91, native of Roose, Hollymount, Co. Mayo, Ireland; beloved wife of the late Bernard; loving mother of Susan (George) Passias, Brian, and Edward (Kelly); cherished grandmother of Clare (Robert) Anderson, Ryan, Samuel, Bridget, Michael, Jack, Joseph, Michael, Ryan and Delaney; dear sister of Winfred (the late Thomas) Molloy of Chicago, Peg (Martin) Richardson of England, James (Pauline) of Ireland, the late Mary McHugh of Ireland, Ellen, Patrick, Michael, Thomas and Edward; fond aunt of many; Visitation Friday 3-8 PM at **Gibbons Family Funeral Home** 5917 W. Irving Park Rd. (1/2 Block East of Austin). Family & Friends will meet Saturday for Mass of Christian Burial 9:30 AM at St. Odilo Church, 6745 23rd St, Berwyn. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery. For info 773-777-3944 or www.GFFH.com

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Giorno, Anthony "Tony"

Anthony "Tony" Giorno, 101, passed away Monday, January 28. Born in Chicago, Tony was a resident of Cicero for 25 years, of Bloomingdale for 25 years, and of Bartlett since 2017. Beloved husband of the late Eleanor (nee Jaglowitz) for 55 years; loving father of Carmen (Grace) and Marcia (Richard) Bulleri; dear grandfather of Laura (David) DeRousse, Michael (Jody) Salvetti, and Sharon (Graham) Manges; proud great grandfather of Ella and Alaina DeRousse, Kira Salvetti, Brayden and Declan Manges, and Olivia Gundersen; fond brother of the late Philomena Marone, the late Marie Basile, and the late Louise LaMonte; dear uncle and great uncle to many nieces and nephews. Visitation Saturday, February 2 from 9:00am until time of prayers 10:00am at Countryside Funeral Home and Crematory 950 South Bartlett Rd. (at Stearns Rd.), Bartlett, to St. Isidore Catholic Church. Mass 10:45am. Interment Mt. Carmel Cemetery. In lieu of flowers memorials to St. Jude at www.stjude.org, appreciated. Info (630)289-7575 or www.countrysidefuneralhomes.com



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Gotfried, David

1930-2019
David Gotfried, 88, passed away January 28, 2019. He served his country in the Marines, H35, during the Korean War. He was a recipient of the Purple Heart and one of the Chosin few. Beloved husband of Sharon for 43 years. Devoted son of Joseph and Leah Gotfried. Father of Michelle (the late Mark) Weitzman, Lawrence (Darlene) and Michael (Theresa). Dear brother of Helena (the late Harvey) Brody and the late Sarah (the late Norman) Bender. Loving grandfather of Jeremy Weitzman and the late Aaron. Beloved uncle of many nieces and nephews. Outdoor service 12:30 p.m., Monday, February 4, 2019 at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, 20953 W. Hoff Road, Elwood, IL 60421. Interment following service. For information: 815-423-9958. In lieu of flowers, donations to charity of choice.

Gretsch, Richard H.

Richard H. Gretsch, 91. Beloved husband of the late Dorothy Rose; loving father of Richard F. (Patricia P) and Carolyn R. (David W.) Rivers; proud grandfather of Lauren E. Rivers, Allison M. (Marc E.) Bennett, Sarah R. (Nicholas A.) Pritchard, Stephanie R. Gretsch and Kendall F. Gretsch; great grandfather of Hannah and Joshua Pritchard and Elsie Bennett. Visitation at St. John the Baptist Church, 233 Church St., Winfield from 10:30 A.M. until Mass at 11:30 A.M., Monday, February 4, 2019. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery, Hillside, IL. In lieu of flowers donations to the church. Funeral info 630-668-0016 or www.williams-kampp.com.

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Haerther, Eileen Smith

Eileen Smith Haerther, 96, of Geneva, IL, Amelia Island and Jacksonville, FL, slipped away peacefully January 26, 2019. Loving wife of the late William W. Haerther, Jr., she was the first female pharmacy graduate at the University of Minnesota. A native of Rochester, MN, she grew up surrounded by the medical community associated with the Mayo Clinic, where her mother was a surgical nurse. She and her husband were avid travelers and photographers and chronicled their many journeys, with Africa holding a special place.

Eileen and her husband, owner of Ideal Carbide Die, Co., raised a son and two daughters in Geneva, IL, where they were both active socially and in the community. Eileen is survived by her children, Thomas Haerther, Judith Kelley, Emily Ulrich; her grandchildren, Tracy Haerther, Allison Becker, Andrew Kelley, Timothy Kelley and Anastasia Ulrich; and 4 great grandchildren.

Funeral mass will be private. In lieu of flowers, her family asks that donations be made to the Jacksonville Symphony or Community Hospice of Northeast Florida.

Please visit our online Tribute at www.quinn-shalz.com. Arrangements by **Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home**, Jacksonville Beach, FL.

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Jakalski, Arlene D.

Arlene D. Jakalski (nee Tijan), of West Chicago, passed away on Tuesday, January 29, 2019 surrounded by her loving family. Beloved wife of 55 years to Donald; loving mom of Douglas (Patrice), Jeffrey (Constance) and Gail Lyn (Brian) Kronewitter; cherished grandma of Eric, Kathryn, Caroline, Nicholas, Tyler, Brandon and Alec; caring daughter of the late Larry A. and Emily M. (nee Zahradnik) Tijan and kind sister of Donna (Mike) Thiry. Visitation 2:00p.m. to 8:00p.m. Sunday, February 3, 2019 at the **Countryside Funeral Home and Crematory**, 950 South Bartlett Rd (at Stearns Rd), Bartlett. Funeral Monday 9:15a.m. to Resurrection Catholic Church, Mass 10:00a.m. Following service, cremation will be private at the **Countryside Crematory**. In lieu of flowers, memorials made to the American Cancer Society, www.cancer.org, would be appreciated. 630-289-7575 or www.countrysidefuneralhomes.com



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Kindelin, June

June J. Kindelin, nee Wiebe, beloved wife of the late William Edward; loving mother of Kathleen (Jack) Pender, Michael (Debbie) Kindelin, William (Mary) Kindelin, Elizabeth (Frank) Frabizio, Bernadette (Bill) Anderson, Timothy (Kathy) Kindelin, Mary (Paul) Maher and Marguerite (the late Mark Vervoerd) Kindelin; proud grandmother of 29 and great-grandmother of 22; dear sister of 7. Visitation Friday, 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, 9:30 a.m. until time of funeral 10:30 a.m. at **Gibbons Funeral Home**, 134 South York Road, (1/2 mile North of Saint Charles Road), Elmhurst. Mass of Christian Burial 11:00 a.m. at Visitation Catholic Church. Interment Queen of Heaven Catholic Cemetery, Hillside. For funeral information please call 630-832-0018 or www.gibbonsfuneralhome.com

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Kohler, Richard J 'Budd'

Richard (Budd) J. Kohler Sr., age 89, passed away on January 27th, 2019, surrounded by his companion Mary Hale and his loving family. Devoted father of Richard Jr. (Sarah Glenn) and David (Anne) Kohler. Cherished grandfather of Richard III (Renee), Scott, (Kristen), Ryan (Ryan), David Jr. (Savana) Nick, Kevin and great-grandfather to Addison, Richard IV, Jack, Scott Jr., Luke and Carter. He was preceded in death by his cherished daughter Barbara Peterson, his beloved first wife of 40 years Eleanor and his second wife Christel. A memorial service for Budd will be on Saturday, February 2, 2019 at Our Lady of Hope Church, 9711 W. Devon Street, Rosemont, IL. Visitation from 10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. and the Service from 11:00 a.m. - Noon. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to The Greater Chicago Food Depository 4100 W. Ann Lurie Place Chicago, IL 60632

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Kollin, Klaus Paul

Klaus Paul Kollin, age 53. Beloved husband of Jennifer; loving father of Katelyn; loving son of Paul and the late Herta; dear brother of Renate Schulz. Will be missed by family and friends. Memorial gathering Sunday, from 12 P.M. until time of service 5 P.M. at **Nelson Funeral Home** 820 Talcott Road, Park Ridge. For info www.nelsonfunerals.com or (847) 823-5122.



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Kontos, Dr. Michael

Dr. Michael Harry Kontos, D.D.S 82 passed away on Tuesday, January 29, 2019 at the home of his daughter surrounded by his loving wife of 60 years Eva and his family. He is survived by his beautiful and loving wife, Eva (nee Zaharias); his daughter Dr. Ellena M. Vranas, of Naperville, Illinois his son, Rev. Fr. Michael H. Kontos, Jr. of Columbus, OH, and his son Gregory J. Kontos, of Aurora, Illinois. A son-in-law, Nick Vranas, daughters-in-law, Kristina Kontos and Anna-Marie Kontos, and six grandchildren, Matthew & Timothy Kontos, Evanthia & Arianna Vranas, and Gregory Paul & Marianna Kontos, also survive him. He is also survived by his sister Georgiann Blake and her husband Robert; and his In-Laws Constantine and Penelope Zaharias, together with many loving nieces and nephews. Dr. Kontos was born on November 18, 1936 in Aurora, Illinois, at St. Charles Hospital and was baptized at All Saints Greek Orthodox Church in Joliet, IL. He married on July 5, 1959 at All Saints Greek Orthodox Church in Joliet, IL to Eva Kontos (nee Zaharias) of Athens Greece, and they lived in Aurora, IL and Naples, FL all of their lives. Dr. Kontos attended Oswego High School graduating as part of the Class of 1955; North Central College in 1959 with a Bachelor of Arts degree; and the University of Illinois College of Dentistry, from which he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Dentistry and graduated with the degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery in 1963. In 1965, Michael and his wife, Eva, were founding members of St. Athanasios Greek Orthodox Church in Aurora, IL where he served on the Parish Council for over 40 years, serving as Parish Council President five times, and Chairman of the Building Committee, and directed the Choir for over 24 years. He and his wife are members of St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church in Naples Florida. At St. Katherine he served on the Parish Council and loved singing with the Choir. Extremely proud of his Greek ancestry, together with his wife, Eva, they served as Co-Directors of the Apollo Dance Troupe, a Greek Ethnic Folk Dance Troupe, which Eva founded in 1974 that performed throughout the Country. Dr. Kontos served his Country in the United States Navy as a dental officer from 1963-65 with the Third Marine Division as Commanding Officer of the medical/dental clinic in Camp Sukiran, Okinawa. He began his private dental practice in Boulder Hill, Montgomery, Illinois in October of 1965. Several years later, Dr. Michael T. Tierney, joined him as his business partner, and together they had a very active and highly successful practice. Dr. Kontos retired in January of 2006 after 40 years in private practice during which he was on the Senior Medical Staff of Rush-Copley and Provena Mercy Hospitals where he served in the Department of Surgery. Elected as a Fellow of the American College of Dentists; the International College of Dentists; and the Academy of General Dentistry; Dr. Kontos was also a member of the Chicago Dental Society, Aurora Dental Society, Fox River Valley Dental Society, Illinois State Dental Society, and the American Dental Association, and as a Founding Member of the Hellenic American Dental Society. Dr. Kontos served all the offices of the local and state dental societies including as President of the Fox River Valley Dental Society, and most importantly as President of the Illinois State Dental Society. Dr. Kontos is preceded in death by his parents, Harry and Ruby Kontos, and his brother William Kontos. Visitation will take place at All Saints Greek Orthodox Church in Joliet, IL on Saturday, February 2, 2019 from 1-4PM. The Trisagion Service will be at 3PM. 102 N. Broadway St., Joliet, IL 60435. The offering of the Orthodox Funeral Service will be at St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church in Naples, FL this upcoming week. 7100 Airport-Pulling Road, Naples, FL 34109. In lieu of flowers, Eva Kontos invites donations to All Saints Greek Orthodox Church in Joliet, IL; Heartland Hospice in Westmont, IL; and St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church in Naples, Florida. For more information call Blake-Lamb Funeral Home at 630-964-9392 or visit www.blake-lambfuneralhome.com



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Kusatzky, Rose

Rose Kusatzky, nee Spiegelman, 93. Beloved wife for 62 years of the late Leonard; devoted mother of Barry and Mark (Julie Campbell) Kusatzky; cherished grandmother of Lori and Sheri Kusatzky; dear sister of the late Sidney Spiegelman. Graveside service Sunday, Feb. 3, 10 AM, at Menorah Gardens Cemetery, 2630 S. 17th Ave, Broadview. Please omit flowers. For info: 847-256-5700.



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Lenz, Henry 'Tom'

Henry "Tom" Lenz, age 65; beloved companion of Deborah Spector; loving father of Megan (Justin) Schmollinger, Daniel (Lisa Olson), Bess and Clare Lenz; cherished grandfather of Ben and Jake Schmollinger; dear brother of Catherine (Robert) Patterson, Therese (Richard) Bensinger, Lawrence and John (Joan) Lenz; fond uncle of many; dear nephew of Bishop John Gorman. Tom was a 1975 graduate of Loyola University of Chicago and received his J.D. from Loyola University College of Law in 1979. He devoted his legal career to the representation of injured longshoreman. Visitation 3 to 9 p.m. Friday at **Drechsler, Brown & Williams Funeral Home**, 203 S. Marion St. Oak Park. Friends will meet at Ascension Church, 801 S. East Ave., Oak Park on Saturday for Mass at 12 noon. Interment St. Mary Cemetery. On Sunday February 3, family will accept condolences at home between 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. with a service at 6:30 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations to Holy Family Villa, 12220 S. Will Cook Rd., Palos Park, IL 60464. In memory of Tom, please register as an organ donor. Funeral info: 708-383-3191 or drechslerbrownwilliams.com

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Malooly, James J.

James J. Malooly, born June 24, 1931, passed peacefully on January 27 at age 87. He will join his beloved Marilyn, his wife of 58 years, in their next life together. Left to cherish his memory are his children, James (Cathy), Lynn (Charles Blum), Janet Burton (Robert) and Diane Zeitheim (Eric), and his adored grandchildren, Catie, Taylor and Jack Malooly,



Lindsay, Andrew and Michael Blum, Sean, Colin and Casey Burton, and Elise, Brendan and Emma Zeitheim. Jim was born on the South Side of Chicago to the late James and Mae Malooly. He is predeceased by his dearest sisters and their husbands, Mary Janet McKeon (John) and Jean Molnar (Robert). He is survived by nephews, nephews and a host of friends, colleagues and neighbors. Jim was much loved by all who knew him. A graduate of St. Barnabas grammar school, and St. Ignatius High School, he attended his beloved Notre Dame, starting with the class of 1953. After a two-year stint in the Navy he graduated in 1955. Jim's real estate career started with Mckey & Poague, followed by managing real estate interests for John Cuneo. He will forever be remembered for his role as a "life-long resident serving Beverly" with James Malooly Realtors, where he found his passion helping families find their homes in his beloved Beverly. Jim and Marilyn built a beautiful life together in Christ the King Parish and community. Jim was a pillar of Christ the King, supporting the school and church in every way, and he and Marilyn were a fixed presence at the 11:00 mass in the fifth pew. He spent many years helping others in the St. Vincent DePaul Society, receiving the lifetime Frederick Ozanam award for service. Jim remained active his entire life, and was often seen walking or biking through the neighborhood, where he relished his 50-year membership at the Beverly Hills Tennis Club. He was a winner quite often in his weekly bridge group. He was a dear friend, with the biggest heart, to so many, throughout his life. His bright smile lit up a room, and all of our lives. He will be deeply missed and cherished forever, and we rejoice in knowing that he is home, celebrating his 60th anniversary with Marilyn, after having lived a most wonderful life. Visitation Sunday 1-5pm at **Curley Funeral Home (Heeney-Laughlin Directors)**, 6116 W. 111th St. Chicago Ridge, IL 60415. Family and friends will meet at Christ the King Church, 9235 S. Hamilton Ave., Chicago, IL 60643 on Monday morning for visitation 9:30am-10:30am. Mass of Christian Burial at 10:30am. Interment Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. Memorials to Christ the King St. Vincent DePaul Society or the Christ the King School Foundation are most appreciated. Info: Heeney-Laughlin Funeral Directors, 708-636-5500 or www.heeneyfh.com



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Serwinski, Lenore A.

Lenore A. Serwinski (nee O'Day), 79, of Hoffman Estates, died suddenly January 28, 2019. She was born February 13, 1939 in Chicago. Loving mother of Christine Serwinski, Joanne (Michael) Foley, and Linda (Ben) Templin; grandmother of Maxwell, Sydney, and Tess Foley, and Sadie and Hannah Templin; sister of the late Lorraine Ensweller and LaVerne Wittwer. Visitation Monday 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm at Meadows Funeral Home, 3615 Kirchoff Rd., Rolling Meadows. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial contributions be made to the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, STJUDE.org. Info @ (847) 253-0224 or Meadowssf.com.

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Serwinski, Robert J.

Robert J. Serwinski, 80, of Schaumburg, passed away peacefully January 27, 2019. He was born March 18, 1938 in Chicago. Loving father of Christine Serwinski, Joanne (Michael) Foley, and Linda (Ben) Templin; grandfather of Maxwell, Sydney, and Tess Foley, and Sadie and Hannah Templin; brother of Janet (Richard) Kotlarz. Visitation Monday 3:00 pm to 8:00 at **Meadows Funeral Home**, 3615 Kirchoff Rd., Rolling Meadows. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial contributions be made to the Illinois Railway Museum, IRM.org. Info at (847) 253-0224 or Meadowssf.com.

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Shimelfarb, Leah

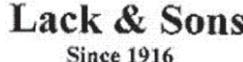
Leah Shimelfarb nee Bobeck, 86, beloved wife of the late Martin for 57 years; loving mother of Janna (Keith) Berk, Sari (Robert) Karbin and Barry Shimelfarb; adored grandmother of Joey, David and Annie Berk; Max, Emma and Zoe Karbin; Adam and Jacob Shimelfarb; cherished sister of Carol, Gene and Rosemary. Chapel service, Monday 2:30 PM at **Shalom Memorial Funeral Home**, 1700 W. Rand Road, Arlington Heights. Interment Shalom Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, donations in memory of Leah may be made to the Jewish United Fund (JUF) or the Kabbalah Centre. For information or to leave condolences (847) 255-3520 or www.shalom2.com.



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Smith, John Arthur 'Smittie'

John A. Smith "Smittie" age 92, died peacefully in his home on January 19, 2019. Beloved husband of the late Phyllis nee Bradford; loving son of the late Arthur and Ella Smith; brother of the late Patricia Jaffray; special father to Victoria Bradford, Jacqueline Bradford-Crews (Dominic), the late William Bradford, Thomas Bradford & Jerome Michael Bradford; uncle to Mark & Gregory Jaffray; best friend to Bill "W". Memorial Mass will be held Saturday, February 2, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Damian Church, 5300 W. 155th St., Oak Forest, IL. Arrangements by Lack & Sons Funeral Directors. 708-430-5700.



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Smith, Michael F.

Michael F. Smith, retired C.P.D. of Bloomingdale, Beloved husband of the late Roberta; Devoted father of Kelly (Jason) Novak, Angel (Tim) Megenbier and Starr (Darren) Delia; Dear grandfather of Andrew and Declan Novak, Tiffani (Christopher) Marella, Timothy Jr. and Christopher Megenbier, Nicholas and Anthony Delia. Memorial Visitation Saturday, February 2, 2019 1:00-5:00 p.m. at **Salerno's Rosedale Chapels** 450 W. Lake St. Roselle, IL. 60172 (3/4 mile west of Bloomingdale/Roselle Rd.). Memorial Service will begin at 4:30 p.m. Interment private. For info 630-889-1700 or www.salernofuneralhomes.com In lieu of flowers, donations to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.



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Smoot, Susanna

Susanna Mercedes Smoot, age 52, passed away Tuesday, January 29, 2019, in her Chicago home after a courageous battle with cancer. She was born April 7, 1966, in Chicago to Ruth Schiefen (Ladwig) and Kenneth Smoot. Susanna was a talented and creative artist. An avid photographer, Susanna was happiest with a camera in her hand, bringing out the beauty in the world around her. She loved travelling, spending time with her nephews and niece, bringing people together, and sharing her handmade crafts and ornaments. Susanna is survived by her loving husband Karl Lerch; her mother Ruth Schiefen; her father Kenneth Smoot (Minerva); her sisters Kaaren Thomas (Daniel), and Anna Maria Ryan (Edward); her nephews Colton Smoot (Monica), Elijah Nurre, Patrick Ryan, Martin Ryan and her niece Lillian Ryan. Family and friends are invited to join us for a memorial service on Wednesday February 6, 2019 at 11:00 am at St. Constance Church, 5843 W. Strong St, Chicago. Burial will follow at St. Adalbert Cemetery, 6800 N. Milwaukee Ave, Niles. The family will greet friends on Wednesday at the Church from 10:00 am until the time of service. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in Susanna's name to the Cancer Wellness Center, Northbrook, IL.

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Weissbluth, Linda

Linda Weissbluth passed away at her home on January 23, 2019 surrounded by her family.

Linda was born in Chicago and graduated from North Shore Country Day School in Winnetka in 1959. When young, she loved reading, studying Latin, and playing the cello. Her classmates described her as extremely friendly and always in the library. She enrolled in Mt. Holyoke College where she majored in Russian language and literature and graduated in 1963. One college highlight was bussing, with classmates, to Washington, D.C. to celebrate the hundredth anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation where MLK delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech. After graduation, Linda helped her mother and brother for several months, then, on a whim, she applied to the Russian Studies program at Stanford University where she started in the Spring Quarter of 1964. When classes resumed in the fall of 1964, she met her future husband, Marc, in the Stanford Main Library. On their first "date", they went on a motorcycle ride. Four weeks later, he invited her on a herpetology expedition to Mexico for the winter break and on this exciting lizard-chasing adventure, in Topolobampo, they decided to get married. They were married May 2, 1965 and a month later, Linda received her Master's Degree from Stanford University. Linda was always intellectually curious and when her four sons were growing up, she would often say, "What good is money if you can't spend it on education." But she also was fond of saying, "Don't let school interfere with your education" and thus, annually, she would declare a school holiday in the fall when the apple orchards had their first day for picking. She and her four sons would return with bushels for the neighbors, local firemen, and to make homemade apple pies and apple sauce. Linda also loved to garden, from planter boxes in married student quarters at Stanford to large plots in Winnetka starting in 1973. She loved taking her young sons to the Chicago Botanical Garden and watching it develop.

She was a nurturer, always generous with a radiant smile and infectious laugh. She devoted herself to her family. Friday Sabbath meals were elaborate events and she joked that she had to begin preparing on Thursday mornings. She was always an optimist. "Today is the first day of the rest of your life" was her refrain to help her children overcome a difficulty. In 1990, she moved to the Streeterville neighborhood of Chicago. Linda was an adventurer with a ready willingness to try new things. She discovered the Northwestern University Medical School Galter Library across the street and decided to investigate why babies might cry a lot in the evening hours. This led to her publishing three research papers on the effects of melatonin on intestinal smooth muscles in 1991 and one paper on Sudden Infant Death Syndrome in 1994. In 1994, she took courses in office medical management and became Office Administrator in a pediatric practice. In 1995, she succeeded in obtaining permission to develop a rubble strewn one-acre lot at 600 North Lake Shore Drive into a community garden. She single-handedly organized neighborhood volunteers and civic organizations to donate trees and plants. Linda continued to play her cello as an adult, go to symphonies and the opera. She enjoyed tandem bike riding, tennis, dancing the Tango, and Yoga. In 2000, Linda got the travel bug and made annual international trips from watching Alaskan brown bears catching salmon to wildebeests and zebra herds migrating. She enjoyed adventure travelling with mountain hiking, white water rafting, kayaking, and camel riding in Tanzania and Morocco. Linda continued to be an intellectual explorer; in 2006 she wrote in an email to her husband, "You knew I was spunky and spirited and speaking my mind-never mind that I give thoughts and ideas from left field. It's part of the creative process."

She learned to sew and crochet and enjoyed making many original afghans for her ten grandchildren. Even as Alzheimer's developed, she continued to be engaged in art, music, dance, and Yoga. Her four sons independently remembered her cheerfulness ("My mother's giggle was unique and infectious. Even recently when she could not speak, she could still giggle." "Her laughter used to ring contagiously through the house." "She created a home full of love and laughter." "She had a laugh that could fill the entire house.") and her cooking ("Mom knew the keystone of the family is the family meal." "She knew the that the fried matzoh was crispy enough 'when the smoke detector went off.'" "Learning how to make spaghetti sauce." "She taught me how to sew, iron, cook, and clean because 'You will be alone for a long time'.") As a wife, mother, office manager, or community organizer, Linda was always a gentle, compassionate and extremely empathic person. She always said hello to, smiled at, and wished to embrace friends and strangers, especially those with canes, walkers, wheelchairs, children, or dogs. Millagros Pacheco and Jamie Angio befriended and compassionately cared for Linda as if she were part of their own families. Thank you also to Esperanza Covaleda, Uzma Khan, Julia Newman, and Drs. Zoe Arvanitakis and David Oyer.

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Wright, Dale Charles 'Skip'

Dale Charles Wright 5-19-1931to1-16-2019.He was son to Albert and Dorothy Wright of Chicago, Ill. Husband to Janice for 57years and brother to Reginald Wright.He was Father to Ellen,Wayne and Dale. Grandfather to Alyssa,Stacy,Stephen,Kristopher and Michelle. Greatgrandfather to Sage, Lincoln, Sloane, and Riley. Rest In Peace, Dad

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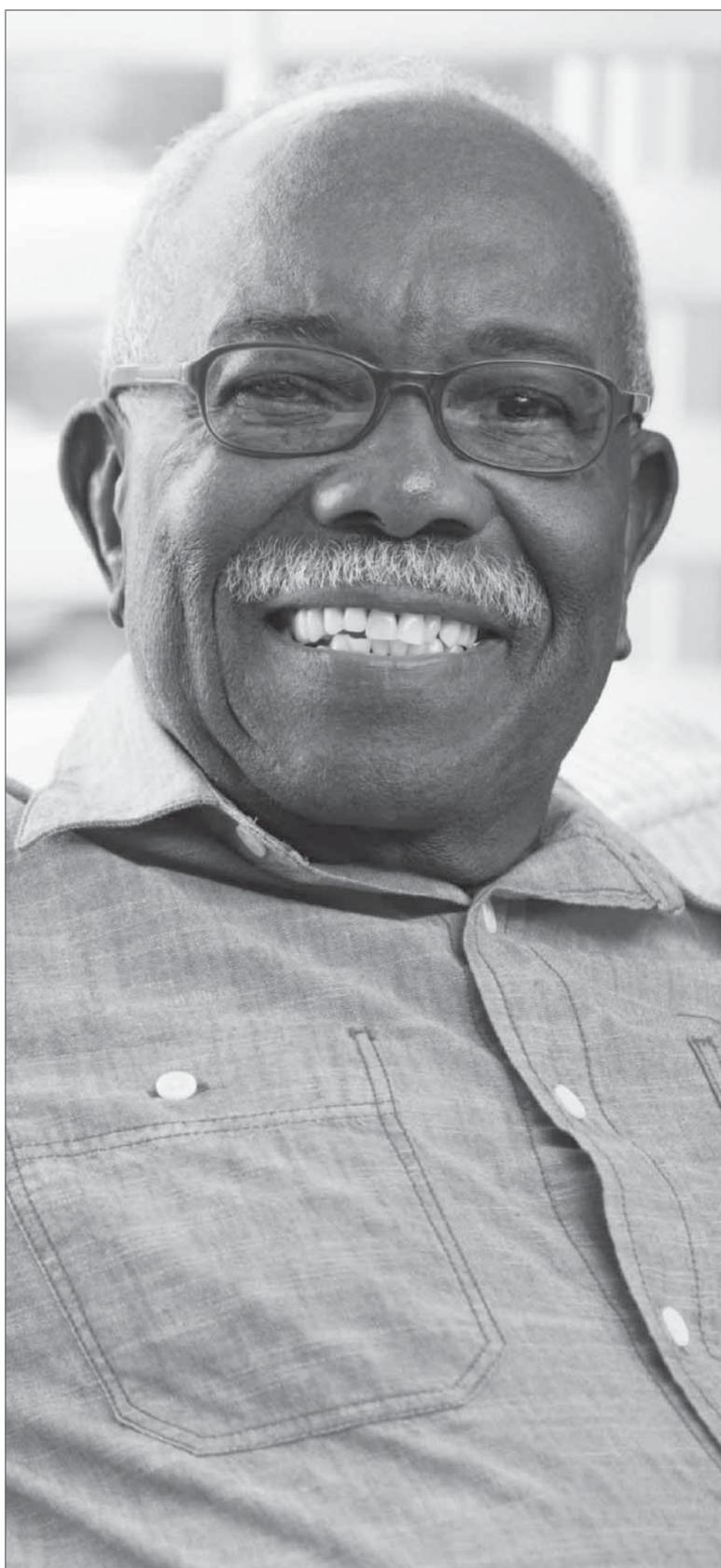


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Changing climate

BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

Will the frustrating landscape for baseball's top free agents in recent offseasons lead superstar third baseman Kris Bryant to sign a long-term extension with the Cubs?

Free-agent slog could be blessing, eventually helping the Cubs to keep **Kris Bryant** long term



DAVID HAUGH
In the Wake of the News

Every additional day the White Sox wait and worry about losing Manny Machado to the highest free-agent bidder, the Cubs come closer to keeping Kris Bryant off the open market in 2021.

That's merely an opinion rather than fact, hypothesis more than hyperbole. That's one way to interpret the slog the Major League Baseball offseason has become, the local prism through which to view this extended period of inactivity. That's impossible to prove or disprove but compelling to consider.

In an ironic twist, baseball's winter of Bryce Harper and Machado ultimately might help the suddenly budget-conscious Cubs nab a blockbuster free agent after all: Bryant.

Bryant's complaints at the recent Cubs Convention about Harper and Machado remaining unsigned as February approaches showed his awareness of the changing landscape concerning so many players. Like many in

Turn to **Haugh**, Page 5

Rams' punter always a heck of a weapon

Hekker nearly as dangerous with his arm as with his leg

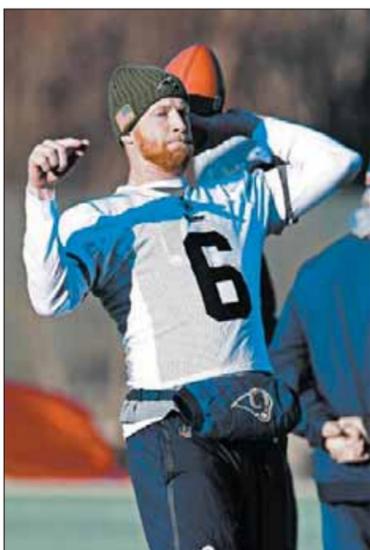


BRAD BIGGS
On the NFL

ATLANTA — When Bill Belichick uses the word weapon to describe a member of the Rams, several players come to mind.

Running back Todd Gurley led the NFL in touchdowns and finished second in yards from scrimmage per game. Wide receiver Brandin Cooks averaged 14.3 yards per catch after playing for the Patriots in 2017. Quarterback Jared Goff threw for the fourth-most yards in the NFL and his 32 touchdown passes tied for sixth. Aaron Donald is a certified game-wrecker. He led the NFL with 20½ sacks and is expected to be the runaway winner of the NFL Defensive Player of the Year Award.

Belichick may very well use the word when talking about those players, but he also has used it to describe Johnny Hekker



SCOTT CUNNINGHAM/GETTY

Rams punter Johnny Hekker fires a left-handed pass Thursday during his warmup for a Super Bowl practice. Patriots coach Bill Belichick labels Hekker a weapon.

SUPER BOWL LIII

Rams vs. Patriots
 At Mercedes-Benz Stadium in Atlanta

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■ After Parkey's disastrous tenure, questions abound on special teams. **Back Page**

Turn to **Biggs**, Page 2

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Sharing their love of game, for each other

NIU's James handled health scare with his mom's support

By SHANNON RYAN | Chicago Tribune

DEKALB, ILL. — Lacey James' right calf is a testimony to his passion and his triumph.

A tattoo of a basketball in the shape of a heart supplies a daily reminder for the Northern Illinois forward.

"It's all for the love of the game and what I went through with my heart," James told the Tribune last week as he sat on a bench at NIU's Convocation Center after practice.

James doesn't particularly enjoy talking about the summer before his senior year of high school, when he sat out of his travel basketball league because of a heart condition doctors initially worried could be serious enough to end his playing career.

But the episode has framed his mindset about sports and life, helping him relish his



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

"I always want to be on the court because of the feeling it gives me. I'm just blessed every day that I can do something I love."

— NIU senior Lacey James

Turn to **NIU**, Page 4

TOP OF THE SECOND



PHIL ROSENTHAL

Nearly ruining the Big Game

Whatever you think of the NFL, you would imagine even it couldn't conceive of a way to wreck the Super Bowl, a national fixation and the envy of every sports league and business in America.

Yet, in a largely forgotten bit of pro football lore, team owners nearly voted to do just that in the first week of April 1973.

Here's the backstory, based on coverage of those league meetings by then-Tribune sports editor Cooper Rollow.

The NFL was basking in the afterglow of the '72 Miami Dolphins' 17-0 run, which culminated with their 14-7 Super Bowl victory over the Washington Redskins just a few months earlier at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum.

"Why the hell change a game that's perfect?" Dolphins coach Don Shula said as the NFL opened its league meetings in Scottsdale, Ariz. "I'm not in favor of changing a damned thing."

The NFL is always making changes, however.

The league never has been reluctant to tweak anything. If it wants more TV money, it creates another package of games and sets off a bidding war for the rights and secures hundreds of millions of dollars a year for it. If it needs more scoring to keep audiences entertained, it figures out how to get more scoring.

That's why some years you don't know if a catch is a catch, a fumble is a fumble or where the Raiders will play their home games.

So, the league's teams contemplated changes large and small at the spring meetings that year, as always.

Some innocuous measures were approved, such as a uniform numbering system that corresponded to positions and prohibiting defensive players from jumping on, standing on or being lifted by teammates to block a kick.

Some meaningful rule changes the league later would adopt failed to muster enough votes for passage. These included implementation of sudden-death overtime, allowing two-point conversions after touchdowns and moving the goal posts from the goal line to the end line.

There even was some talk of — get this — using instant replay to review officiating decisions, an idea that earned particularly harsh ridicule from Rollow.

"Can't you just see George Halas leaping from his press-box cubicle and racing



VERNON BIEVER/GETTY

Don Shula is hoisted into the air after the Dolphins won Super Bowl VII in January 1973.

down to the sideline to join officials in viewing a critical replay?" Rollow wrote. "Better leave well enough alone. NFL officials' judgment calls have been surprisingly good in recent years."

(This seems like the place to state, for what it's worth, the unreviewable pass-interference non-call two weeks ago in the NFC title game, which likely cost the Saints a trip to the Super Bowl, was so infuriating, heartbreaking and stupid that it's hard to believe they're not a Chicago team.)

Replay review didn't get any traction to speak of at the spring '73 league meetings.

Neither did an idea concerning the Super Bowl that's so stupid and short-sighted it's amazing anyone ever entertained it, but it would have threatened to destroy the Big Game as we know it today.

This measure would have turned the Super Bowl, the NFL's one-day unofficial national holiday of food, football, mass media and consumerism, into a best-of-three playoff.

"I intend to throw my full support behind the proposal," Redskins coach George Allen told Rollow. "I suppose I might not feel this way if we hadn't lost. But that ride home from Los Angeles was awfully long, and I kept wishing we could have another shot."

Rollow thought that idea was pretty dumb too.

Fortunately, he would report later that week, the owners decided to stick with the

single-game format. It's not clear how close the measure came to passage, but it's stunning that no one had the sense to nix it before it ever reached Scottsdale.

Having already awarded the '74 Super Bowl to Houston, the owners approved New Orleans and Miami as the next two hosts, stipulating for the '75 game that New Orleans absolutely, positively had to have its new Superdome operational by then.

(It wasn't. The 1975 game was played outdoors at Tulane Stadium. It was Steelers-Vikings. The Vikings lost, naturally.)

And that was the end of the idiotic best-of-three Super Bowl talk. Football games should never be confused with tennis sets.

NFL owners evidently realized that getting the goose that lays golden eggs to produce up to three each year instead of one threatened to devalue all golden eggs.

It probably also wouldn't be healthy for the goose — not to mention the turkeys who endorsed it.

If you go to a Super Bowl party, some people will be rooting for the Rams, some for the Patriots and some for Gladys Knight finishing the national anthem in a brisk 1:47 or less because that's a proposition wager on the boards.

That's right, Pips fans. They're betting on a quick refrain in Georgia.

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RAMS

Super Bowl boon for merchandise



The Rams' Super Bowl berth has been good news for their merchandise business, with the team ringing up about \$3.5 million in online sales in the 10 days after they clinched a spot in Sunday's big game against the Patriots.

To put that number in perspective, it's about the same amount they sold over the entire 2016 season, their first year back in Los Angeles, Chief Operating Officer Kevin Demoff said on the Bloomberg Business of Sports podcast. The numbers don't include sales at the stadium or in stores.

"We had a fantastic honeymoon when we came back in 2016, but those were people who were just excited the NFL was back," Demoff said. "We've built a fan base steadily over the past three years. Now, playing in the Super Bowl, it's got LA excited."

The team's online merchandise sales in that 10-day period were also eight times larger than the previous 10 days, according to Fanatics, the NFL's official e-commerce partner. That stretch included the win over the Cowboys in the divisional round. Looking at the entire postseason, Rams running back Todd Gurley is the second-highest-selling player for Fanatics, trailing only Patriots quarterback Tom Brady.

From a larger business perspective, the Rams' Super Bowl berth comes at an opportune time for the team, which competes locally for fan attention with some of the premier names in professional and college sports, including the Lakers, Dodgers, USC and UCLA. The Rams are currently selling season tickets for their new \$4.9 billion stadium, an easier pitch when the team is playing in the Super Bowl.

"What's the value of going to the Super Bowl? It's really the long tail of getting people excited," Demoff said. "It's about trying to convince that person who might be a casual fan to become an avid fan. That's the greatest benefit we can get from a Super Bowl run, whether we win or lose."

— Bloomberg

For Rams, punter is a heck of a weapon

Biggs, from Page 1

— the punter — for several years now.

"This guy is a weapon," the Patriots coach said in 2016. "I mean, he's not a good player. He's a weapon."

That was two seasons ago when Belichick and the Patriots were preparing to face the Rams in the regular season. Now they will meet on the NFL's biggest stage and Belichick, who has an extensive background in and affinity for special teams, is paying respect to Hekker once again.

Hekker is a magician with his right foot and has been named All-Pro five times in a seven-year career and has been selected to four Pro Bowls. He set an NFL record by landing 50 punts inside the 20-yard line in 2016, when the Rams offense was a wreck and the punting unit was constantly in use. In 2013, he set the NFL record for highest single-season net average at 44.3.

He also possesses a high-powered right arm that makes him a fake punt machine, the greatest trick-play artist in the history of the kicking game. Pair him with an evil genius on special teams in coordinator John Fassel and a super-aggressive head coach in Sean McVay, and Belichick won't be the only one wondering what the Rams are up to when the punt team is on the field Sunday.

Westgate SuperBook in Las Vegas made Hekker throwing a pass a prop bet. "Yes" opened at plus-400 and "no" at minus-550.

As a passer, Hekker is 12-for-20 for 168 yards, 11 first downs and one touchdown, including the playoffs. That makes for a robust passer rating of 102.8. That's more pass attempts than any other non-quarterback in the last seven years. He's not just hitting coverage team players that are left uncovered. Hekker's 12-yard pass to Sam Shields in the NFC championship game in New Orleans was on a curl route to a receiver who was covered.

The Rams don't wait for prime fake opportunities — at midfield with a short distance needed to convert. They're prone to call a fake anytime, anywhere. It was fourth-and-5 on their 30 and the Rams were trailing the Saints 13-0 when they ran the fake to Shields. Botch that and the Saints would have been in range to take a quick three-score lead. Hekker hit tight end Gerald Everett for a 7-yard completion against the Bears on fourth-and-6 from the Rams 28-yard line midway through the



CHRIS GRAYTHEN / GETTY

Rams punter Johnny Hekker, left, and teammate Sam Shields celebrate a successful fake-punt pass play in the NFC championship game.

second quarter of the Week 14 meeting. Blow that and the Bears would have been in range to pad their 6-3 lead.

Stopping Hekker from throwing isn't as easy as just looking out for it either.

"You think you are getting one thing and it is tough to prepare for the multitude of options a special-teams unit can have to run fakes," Hekker said. "It's not a throw to one guy. However you draw it up, you can attack the return team in a bunch of different ways. Really to be able to continue to surprise people is going to be a dwindling factor, but you can't just play defensive stay the whole time because you're not going to get any return opportunities and you're not going to block kicks out of that. You have to pick and choose when you want to try and defend against the fake."

"McVay is fearless," Fassel said. "He asks for what you've got and you give it to him and sometimes he takes it and sometimes he doesn't. It's fun to just feel like you have a chance because he's as creative as anyone."

Hekker quarterbacked his high school team to the state championship game in Washington and had visions of playing the position at Oregon State.

"I walked on thinking, 'OK, maybe they will let me start throwing the ball in practice and I'll get into the quarterback room and I'll earn a scholarship there,'" he said. "That was in the back of my mind. Being a quarterback, I never wanted to give that

up. I quickly realized, I think we had six quarterbacks, maybe seven, but I realized if I was going to earn a scholarship it would be punting."

He wound up beating out Patriots punter Ryan Allen for that scholarship. Allen transferred to Louisiana Tech and Hekker wound up signing with the Rams as an undrafted free agent in 2012.

Former Bears punter Brad Maynard was a free agent looking for a job when his agent called Fassel.

"(Fassel) said, 'I've got this kid from Oregon State, I think he's going to be pretty good, so we're just going to stick with this rookie and see what happens,'" Maynard said. "I marvel at what Hekker has been able to do from a punting standpoint. The guy is incredible."

Maynard was effective in the fake game during his career. He was 5-for-8 passing for 94 yards and two touchdowns and once ran for a 20-yard gain on a fake. Two of the incomplections came on plays hampered by snap trouble.

But Hekker is next level with what he does and how the plays are designed. Under the previous coaching staff, Hekker would play scout-team quarterback at times during organized team activities when "occasionally we got the better of the defense," he said.

I asked Rams offensive assistant Jedd Fisch, who has been a coordinator and quarterbacks coach in the NFL and college,

if Hekker could have made it in college as a quarterback.

"I have never seen him play the position, but I have seen him make some unbelievable throws in practice and in games," Fisch said. "He makes some great throws — real quarterback throws. But I don't know if he could play the position."

Fassel surely has some ideas cooked up for the Patriots, who are as sound as any team in the league on special teams. He's not working from a playbook of fakes. He draws up possibilities on a weekly basis. Sometimes the situation arises. Sometimes it doesn't.

"The biggest thing is knowing what your guys can do and then trying to find opportunities to do it," Fassel said. "Some of it is simple and some of it is pretty complex and every game is different. He loves to throw routes way more than he loves to punt the football."

It's no wonder Belichick and the Patriots are paying attention and again telling the Rams how impressed they are with Hekker.

"It's flattering," Hekker said. "I am (definitely) happy to receive those comments from Coach Belichick. A couple years back when he said that stuff, I got a text from my mom and brothers, 'Look at what Bill is saying about you!'"

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SUPER BOWL LIII



JAE C. HONG/AP

The Rams' Todd Gurley was third in the NFL this season with 1,251 rushing yards despite missing two games with a left knee injury.



ELISE AMENDOLA/AP

Patriots rookie Sony Michel had four 100-yard games in the regular season and has added two more in the playoffs.

Star RBs feeling at home

Patriots' Michel to collide with his mentor, Rams' Gurley, in Atlanta after teaming in college at Georgia

BY MIKE DiGIOVANNA
Los Angeles Times

ATLANTA — Stand next to Sony Michel, and it seems difficult to fathom that this 5-foot-11, 215-pound rookie is one of the NFL's most bruising inside rushers, a budding Patriots star who gained most of his team-leading 931 yards this season on between-the-tackles runs.

"It's not always about size," fellow Patriots running back James White said in the run-up to Super Bowl LIII against the Rams. "It's about making your reads, hitting the hole hard, being able to make guys miss, and Sony is capable of doing all of those things."

Michel, 23, is one of two former University of Georgia backs who will stage a mini reunion Sunday at Mercedes-Benz Stadium, where he'll share the sport's biggest stage with former Bulldogs teammate Todd Gurley, 24, of the Rams.

Michel is the lesser of the two when it comes to fame and fortune — he's in the first year of a four-year, \$9.62 million contract, while Gurley, the 2017 NFL offensive player of the year, signed a four-year, \$60 million extension last summer — but is clearly the hotter back entering Sunday's game.

After carrying 16 times for 115 yards and a touchdown in a divisional-round win over the Cowboys, Gurley disappeared in the NFC championship game victory against the host Saints, rushing four times for 10 yards and a touchdown and fueling speculation he aggravated a left knee injury that sidelined him for two December games.

Michel, part of a three-back rotation that includes White and Rex Burkhead, carried 24 times for 129 yards and three touchdowns in a divisional-round victory over the Chargers and 29 times for 113 yards and two touchdowns in the AFC title game win against the host Chiefs.

"Oh, that's my little bro," Gurley said of Michel, who was a freshman at Georgia in 2014, Gurley's final year in school. "I remember when he first came in, he couldn't run and catch. I had to teach him how to do all that stuff."

Really?
"Yeah, I did," said Gurley, who led the NFL with 21 touchdowns and ranked third with 1,251 rushing yards this season.



RAINIER EHRHARDT/AP

Todd Gurley (3) and Sony Michel spent one season as college teammates at Georgia in 2014. Browns rookie Nick Chubb was also a member of that backfield.

"Hopefully, everything I taught him, he doesn't do it and he just plays like he used to play before I taught him everything."

Michel is here because the Patriots — drawn to his combination of power, speed, acceleration, instincts and pass-protecting abilities — took him with the 31st pick in the draft, a selection some thought was a bit of a reach because of a potential knee issue.

Michel did little to silence those critics in August, when he underwent a procedure to drain his left knee that knocked him out of the preseason and Week 1.

But he had a breakout game in Week 4 against the Dolphins, rushing 25 times for 112 yards in a 38-7 victory. He had three more 100-yard games in the regular season and has been a star in the playoffs, leading a potent rushing attack that has racked up 331 yards and six touchdowns on 82 carries.

"He's been awesome," White said. "He missed those preseason games and the first game, he had people talking trash about him, saying he sucked, that he's a bust, and he just went out there and worked hard and ignored the naysayers. He's been a big bonus for us. He's had some huge performances to

help us get here."

Georgia had three future NFL stars in that 2014 backfield in Gurley, Michel and then-freshman Nick Chubb, who rushed for 996 yards and eight touchdowns as a Browns rookie this season.

Gurley got off to a torrid start in that 2014 season, rushing for 773 yards and eight touchdowns, plus a 100-yard kick-off-return touchdown, in his first five games before the NCAA suspended him for four games for accepting money to sign autographs. He returned against Auburn and ran for another 138 yards and a score before suffering a season-ending torn ACL late in that game.

Michel was banged up when Gurley got suspended, so Chubb took over and became a star, rushing 219 times for 1,541 yards and 14 touchdowns in 13 games. Michel finished with 64 rushes for 410 yards and five scores in eight games.

"I learned from his work ethic, his playmaking ability and him doing his job the best he can," Michel said of Gurley. "He's a beast. He's one of the best backs in this league, and he carries himself well."

Michel, who grew up in Plantation, Fla., after his parents emigrated from Haiti, developed into a star at Georgia,

finishing third on the Bulldogs' all-time rushing list behind Herschel Walker and Chubb — and just ahead of Gurley in fourth — with 3,613 yards and 33 touchdowns in four years.

One of his biggest games came in a national semifinal playoff victory over Oklahoma in the Rose Bowl after the 2017 season, when he rushed 11 times for 181 yards and had a 27-yard walk-off touchdown run in double overtime.

The Bulldogs lost to Alabama 26-23 in overtime in the national championship game, which was also played at Mercedes-Benz Stadium.

"I don't have any bad memories from that game," Michel said. "That was the national championship. This is the Super Bowl. It feels good to be (here)."

Michel fumbled 12 times in college but has fumbled only once this season.

"I'm just more conscious of it," said Michel, who missed Weeks 8 and 9 because of a left knee injury. "Every coach focuses on the importance of ball security. Ball security is job security."

Michel said he would not have had this kind of success without an experienced and effective offensive line that is "so good that they open holes that I can get a full head of steam to run through."

With only seven receptions for 50 yards, Michel has not been much of a pass-catching threat. White handles most of the aerial duties out of the backfield with a team-high 87 catches for 751 yards and seven touchdowns.

But it is Michel — often aided by the tenacious blocking of fullback James Develin and tight end Rob Gronkowski — who has helped balance a Patriots offense that relied a little too much on Tom Brady's passing in recent years.

The Patriots have run the ball 67 percent of the time Michel is on the field, practically telegraphing their plans to the opponent, but Michel still is averaging 4.5 yards per carry in the regular season and playoffs.

"He's got a good running style that's allowed us to be a physical football team, and he's a very willing participant in blitz pickup," offensive coordinator Josh McDaniels said. "He's been able to add another element to our room in terms of his toughness and a style of play that we really enjoy."

Pats fans flock to Rhode Island to bet on Super Bowl

BY JENNIFER McDERMOTT
Associated Press

LINCOLN, R.I. — Given their team's success, die-hard Patriots fans have made Las Vegas like a winter home during Super Bowl week so they can enjoy a fair-weather party while placing bets on the team's chances.

Their destination this time is a lot closer. Rhode Island was one of six states that legalized betting on sporting events last year after the U.S. Supreme Court allowed it, ending the effective sports gambling monopoly Nevada enjoyed for decades. It is the only state in New England that allows sports betting, making it a focal point for Patriots fans.

"If you don't have to invest \$1,000 going

across the country, you're not going to," said Zack Natola, 30, from Watertown, Mass.

He has traveled to Las Vegas three times to bet on the Super Bowl.

For Sunday's game, he plans to make the short trip south across the state line to the Twin River Casino in Lincoln, one of two places in Rhode Island that offers sports betting.

He's excited about being able to watch his team and place bets without having to spend the money on a Las Vegas trip.

"It makes it a good weekend," he said.

The states that jumped into sports betting last year and the casinos that offer it are hoping it's a profitable weekend.

In addition to Rhode Island, Delaware, Mississippi, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and West Virginia legalized sports betting after

the high court's ruling last spring, as did the District of Columbia.

During the regular NFL season, casino customers complained about waiting an hour or more to place a bet. Since then, the Twin River Casino added betting windows, changed the way staff takes bets and ran promotions asking people to come early to make Super Bowl wagers, said Craig Sculos, the casino's vice president and general manager.

He said the casino is ready for a big crowd Sunday, which he called the "ultimate indoor tailgating party."

"A Super Bowl is an important event anyway," he said. "A Patriots Super Bowl becomes a mega event in New England."

It is exactly that for Sebastian Scardocci, who went to Twin River on Monday to

place bets on his favorite player, Rob Gronkowski.

Scardocci, 50, lives in Foxboro, Mass., near the Patriots tight end's home and close to Gillette Stadium.

In one of hundreds of bets gamblers can place on individual players and outcomes within the Super Bowl, he wagered that Gronkowski would outperform predictions.

Scardocci has traveled to Las Vegas and placed bets through local bookies. He said he and others he knows are excited to have legal betting so close to home, especially with their team returning to the big game.

"It's neat to have it nearby," said Scardocci, who plans to watch the Super Bowl from home. "We haven't had that option."

BULLS

He won't admit it, but Portis is back

Stellar performance vs. Heat a high point in tumultuous season

BY TEDDY GREENSTEIN
Chicago Tribune

MIAMI — The box score said one thing. Bobby Portis said another.

Portis was the high scorer in the Bulls' surprising 105-89 victory over the Heat on Wednesday. He tallied 26 points, and his fourth-quarter performance was remarkable. He made almost as many shots (7) as the entire Heat team (8).

So, Portis was asked after the game: Is Bobby back?

He smiled and took a pass. "You can say it," he replied. "I'm not a cocky guy."

Especially after what has transpired this season, which started with Portis turning down a four-year extension from the Bulls.

When Portis has made news, it generally has been for an injury caused by bad luck — or one caused by what he believed was a dirty play.

Portis missed 23 games starting Oct. 26 with a sprained knee and another seven from Dec. 21 to Jan. 4 with a sprained ankle. After he tangled with Kevin Durant in Oakland on Jan. 11, he accused the Warriors star of purposely pulling down his right arm, causing an elbow injury that cost him one game.

"That wasn't inadvertent," Portis said at the time.

The result was another stop-and-start, what some Chicagoans probably will experience the next time they turn the ignition on their parked cars.

"It has been tough going in and out of the lineup — play four games, sit out 20, play five, sit out six," Portis said. "It's kind of hard trying to catch a rhythm. When I first got hurt I was playing great basketball. I was scoring at will, getting to the hole, making my floaters. It's tough having to play on the court to get in game shape. You can practice and do all the training, but nothing beats game shape."

Said coach Jim Boylen: "Think about it: He's had the ankle, the knee and the elbow all in the same season. These are

like once every three years to have one of those. It says a lot of about his mental toughness, his makeup, his competitiveness. The Bulls across his chest means the world to him. It's always fun when guys like that have success."

The "Bulls across the chest" line makes some fans roll their eyes. Not Portis, though.

Asked what hearing that means to him, Portis told the story of being in the crowd for Game 3 of the Bulls' playoff series against the Cavaliers in 2015. Portis was in Chicago for predraft workouts.

After Derrick Rose banked in a 3 to win Game 3, Portis recalled thinking: *Damn, I want to be a Bull.*

"I kind of jinxed myself," he said Wednesday. "I never thought I'd fall to (pick No.) 22."

But he did, and he's still in Chicago with those five letters on his chest. Asked for the meaning in Boylen's comment, he said it reflects a "guy who really loves playing for the Bulls, loves putting a jersey on each and every day."

Said teammate Ryan Arcidiacono: "Bobby has always been the energy guy, bringing the juice. And he definitely brought it (against the Heat). Not only with his scoring but his defensive energy, his talking."

Portis scored in a variety of ways — jumpers, hooks, layups — and had four rebounds and two assists in 24-plus minutes.

"The last two games, I don't think he was so quick to shoot his 3 ball," Boylen said. "He was playmaking from the top — dribble (handoffs), doing things in our offense that make people better instead of shooting 3s right off the bat. When you have that unselfish mindset, it comes back to you."

Said Portis: "I don't predicate my game on just making shots. I try to bring the energy each and every night. Play with passion, play with toughness."

Portis said he talks to God before every game, asking for an injury-free night.

He'll have to keep asking nicely. The Bulls need him on the court.

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LYNNE SLADKY/AP

Bulls forward Bobby Portis gets fired up late in Wednesday's victory over the Heat. Portis scored 26 points, 15 in the fourth quarter.

Parker appreciative of extended playing time

BY TEDDY GREENSTEIN
Chicago Tribune

MIAMI — Chicago native Jabari Parker has a house sitter, so he'll be OK when he returns to town after Saturday night's Bulls game in Charlotte.

His concern about the city's deep freeze is for those less fortunate.

"I feel bad, honestly, for the homeless people," he said Wednesday. "They don't have awareness because what TV do they have?"

Wednesday's night game against the Heat was supposed to mark the final time Chicagoan Dwyane Wade faced his former team. But Wade missed the game with knee soreness.

"D-Wade inspired me to have pride in my city," Parker said. "He also influenced me to come

to Chicago."

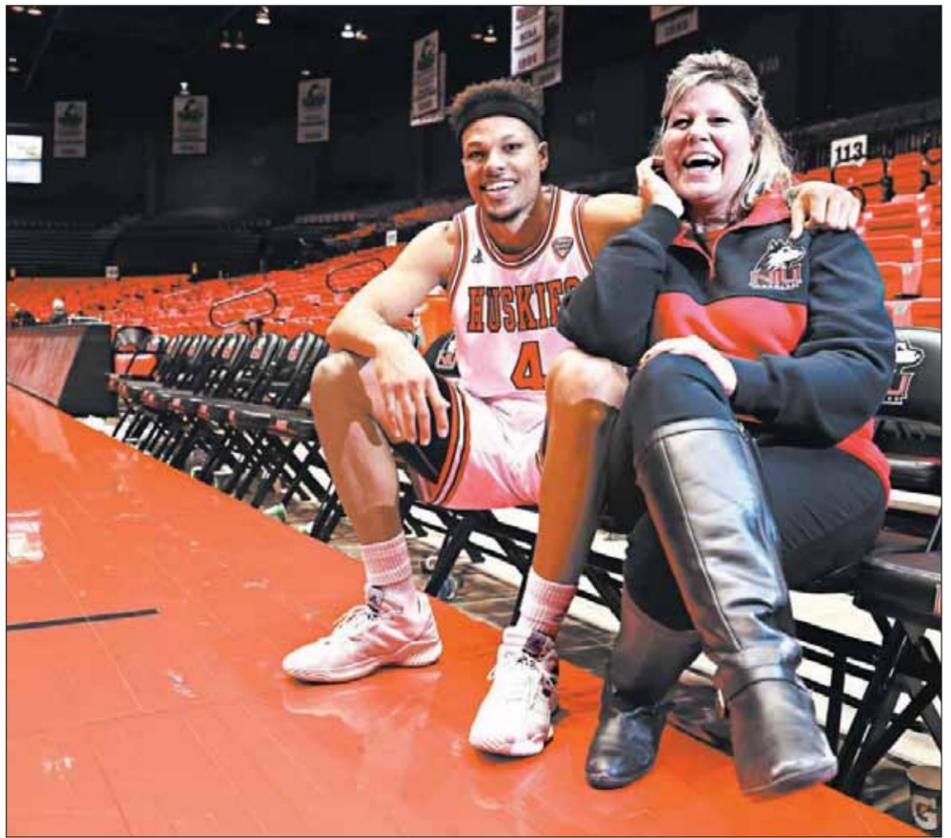
Parker's up-down-and-up season has been well-documented. The highest-paid player on the team has logged zero minutes 13 times, but he scored 22 points Tuesday in Brooklyn and drew praise from Bulls coach Jim Boylen for gutting it out Wednesday despite an elbow injury.

Asked if he regrets signing with the Bulls, Parker replied: "You know, that's a question for later. I cannot answer that right now. I don't want no problems. It is what it is."

He also said he appreciates Boylen giving him an extended run against the Nets.

"The points are one thing, the minutes are another," he said. "I'm so glad that Coach trusted me to play that long. I'm grateful for the opportunity."

COLLEGES



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

As an only child and single parent, NIU senior forward Lacey James and his mother, Karie James, have often leaned on one another for support. Says Lacey: "She makes sure we stay positive."

James is 'blessed'

NIU, from Page 1

senior season in DeKalb.

Averaging eight points and seven rebounds, the 6-foot-9 James has four double-doubles this season while trying to help the Huskies (12-9, 5-3) battle in the Mid-American Conference. His 50 percent shooting is up from 40 percent as a junior, and his defense has been paramount to NIU's improvement — which includes a Jan. 22 upset of then-No. 14 Buffalo — from a 13-19 finish last season.

"He's the first in the gym," coach Mark Montgomery said. "He stretches, gets his shots up. He lifts four or five times a week, on game day sometimes. He's a film guy. His defense is amazing; he shuts down the middle."

"He's even-keeled and humble, a great teammate. He's never, ever negative. You just don't see players like that. He's just pleasant to be around."

James said he has played basketball since "coming out of the womb," describing a photo of himself at 10 months clutching a basketball between his chubby legs. So while at a doctor appointment for bronchitis in 2015, hearing he could have a heart abnormality was distressing.

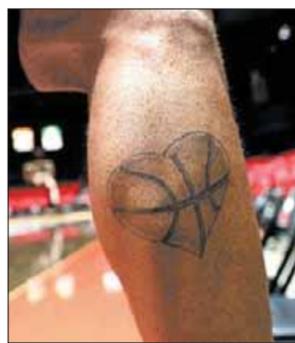
"One (doctor) said, 'We're going to shut you down. You can't play basketball anymore,'" James recalled. "I thought, 'I can't do that.' I kept praying and I knew one day I'd be fine."

He and his mother, Karie James, spent the next few months traveling to hospitals for tests and second and third opinions until he was cleared at the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota, where a doctor determined James had a moderate form of hypertrophic cardiomyopathy.

The experience shifted his perspective.

"It made me think, 'What are you without basketball?' he said. "It made me think about education and other things. I found out basketball doesn't define me. If I don't have basketball, I'll be OK. It woke me up to being thankful and not taking things so seriously."

During his senior season at



The heart-shaped basketball tattoo on Lacey James' right calf is a reminder of the sport he loves and the medical condition that almost took it from him.

Wayland Union High School in Michigan, James texted a black-and-white photo to his mom, showing him holding a basketball with his hands forming a heart shape on it, which he colored in orange with his phone. It's currently his Twitter profile photo.

"He's really a strong person," Karie James said. "Our faith really helped get us through it."

As a single mother and an only child, the duo always leaned on each other. It felt natural for Karie to move to the East Coast when Lacey played at Rider in New Jersey as a freshman and to DeKalb when he transferred to NIU.

This isn't a case of an overprotective, hovering mom or a needy child. It's simpler — and purer.

"It's just me and her," Lacey said. "I wanted to make sure she was OK, and she wanted to make sure I was OK. She's my best friend. She is someone I can talk to about anything."

A former Division II player, the 5-11 Karie took her son to the local high school late at night for extra practice, fetching rebounds for him. She could beat him one-on-one until he reached fifth grade.

Raising Lacey on a single income, Karie internally worried about budgeting for a rapidly growing boy whose feet quickly grew to size 17 and who could eat a refrigerator full of food in what seemed like a blink.

"We always got by," she said. "Our theme is: 'Make the best of things.' There's always been something special with him. I was blessed from day one."

Lacey was conscientious of his mother's sacrifices despite her best efforts to exude strength. She noticed when he would choose the cheaper option at restaurants or decline pricier toys.

"He's always been a great teammate with me," she said.

She worked as an assigning editor at television news outlets, including CBS-2 in Chicago, and earned an online degree to teach, which made it easier to find employment as she moved with her son.

Another tattoo on Lacey's left calf vertically spells out "SACRIFICE."

"We went through struggles," he said. "Seeing her work so hard and making sure we had food on our table and clothes on my back, I know if she can do it, I can do it. She's amazing. I call her the world's best mom."

"She's doing this alone and making sure I don't see her down. We're not down; we have each other. We have another day. She makes sure we stay positive."

Karie lets Lacey have his freedom. She attends home games, usually sitting across from the team bench, and talks with him afterward, offering feedback and support. They sometimes meet for dinner or attend church together.

Mostly, the comfort is in knowing she's nearby. They live about 15 minutes apart.

"He comes first," Karie said. "I just want to be there to support him."

With encouragement from his mother, his health and an eye on winning the MAC, Lacey bounds into practice most days with a smile.

"When you do something you love, you just want to keep getting that feeling again," he said. "I always want to be on the court because of the feeling it gives me. I'm just blessed every day that I can do something I love."

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Missouri to appeal academic fraud

BY DAVE SKRETTA
Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — The NCAA handed one-year postseason bans and other penalties to Missouri's football, baseball and softball programs while placing its entire athletic department on probation Thursday after a two-year investigation revealed academic misconduct by a former tutor.

The penalties mean the Tigers football team won't be eligible for the SEC title game or a bowl game this fall. Their baseball and softball programs will not be allowed to participate in the SEC or NCAA tournaments.

Missouri Chancellor Alexander N. Cartwright said the school would appeal "this harsh and inconsistent decision." Any appeal could take several months.

"We are shocked and dismayed by the penalties that have been imposed today and will aggressively fight for what is right," athletic director Jim Sterk said. "The Committee on Infractions

has abused its discretion in applying penalties in this case, and the university will immediately appeal this decision that has placed unfair penalties on our department and programs."

The Division I Committee on Infractions said the former tutor, Yolanda Kumar, admitted in late 2016 she had "violated NCAA ethical conduct, academic misconduct and extra benefits rules when she completed academic work for 12 student-athletes."

Kumar told the panel she felt pressured to ensure athletes passed certain courses, primarily in math. But according to the committee's report, "the investigation did not support that her colleagues directed her to complete the student-athletes' work."

NCAA investigators said Kumar completed course work offered by Missouri, those offered by other schools and a math placement exam required of all students. In one instance, Kumar allegedly completed an entire course for a football player, whose

name was not revealed.

The school began investigating after Kumar said on social media that she had committed academic fraud. Sterk sent a letter to Kumar that she also posted on social media in which he confirmed she had provided impermissible benefits and could no longer be associated with the athletic department.

Along with three years of probation and the postseason bans, the programs also must vacate any records for games that included participation by the 12 athletes. The programs will see a 5 percent cut in scholarships for the upcoming academic year, and recruiting restrictions include a seven-week ban on unofficial visits, off-campus contacts and any communication with prospects.

Former Clemson quarterback Kelly Bryant, who announced in December he was transferring to Missouri for his final season, plans to remain at Missouri despite the penalties, a source told The State newspaper in South Carolina.

HOCKEY

McGuire commits major penalty

Comments toward Coyne Schofield all too familiar in male-dominated fields



SHANNON RYAN

Imagine boarding a plane and stopping by the cockpit on the way to your seat to advise the pilot: "Now remember: The runway is over here. The sky is up there."

Weird, right?

NHL analyst Pierre McGuire made similarly tone-deaf and out-of-place comments when welcoming Olympic gold medalist Kendall Coyne Schofield to her NBC broadcasting debut Wednesday night, less than a week after she became the first woman to compete in the NHL All-Star skills competition.

"Tampa's going to be on your left. Pittsburgh's going to be on your right," McGuire explained to Coyne Schofield during the pregame broadcast. "What are you expecting out of this game? We're paying you to be an analyst, not to be a fan tonight!"

On behalf of women everywhere, let me put it bluntly: What the hell, man?

Why on Earth would McGuire expect — or even joke — that a player who scored two goals to help the U.S. win a gold medal in 2018 wouldn't know the difference between two NHL teams?

Did anyone explain to Jeremy Roenick what a puck is when he began as an NHL analyst? Did anyone warn him publicly that he shouldn't sound like a fan instead of a respected veteran player?

Nobody should have to supply Coyne Schofield's credentials to lay out the case that McGuire was wrong. She could never have laced on skates in her life — like a lot of hockey reporters — and still be qualified to have a place next to him in the booth.

But here's just part of her resume: In addition to starring on the U.S. team in Pyeongchang, South Korea, she won a silver medal in the 2014 Olympics. At Northeastern University, she earned the Patty Kazmaier Award, which goes to the nation's top female college hockey player. She currently plays for the Minnesota Whitecaps of the National Women's Hockey League.

Coyne Schofield is not a fan. She's a pro.

She does not deserve the disrespect of anyone questioning her knowledge of the sport — even flippantly. She deserves the benefit of the doubt that she is capable of objectively analyzing a sport she has played her entire life.

It's hard for women to gain footing in a male-dominated field when they're met with stereotypes on their first day. Male sports broadcasters and reporters have improved vastly over the decades about treating female colleagues professionally and as equals.

But every female fan, athlete or media member knows what it feels like to have her credentials unfairly questioned.

She did what so many women in the workforce do when they're met with condescending comments — smile, ignore it and get on with the job. Coyne Schofield's on-point analysis and composure during the broadcast shouldn't be lost in this.

McGuire blew it and put Coyne Schofield in an awkward position.

His unprofessional and sexist comments didn't help the hockey world, which has been met with criticism for its unfair treatment of female players. Coyne Schofield, a Palos Heights native, has been a vocal opponent of the gender wage disparity in USA Hockey.

The NHL looked petty after it awarded a \$25,000 award to the Oilers' Leon Draisaitl for a skills event at the All-Star Game even though Brianna Decker clocked an unofficial faster time in her demonstration, sparking the hashtag #PayDecker on social media. (A hockey equipment manufacturer paid Decker the same amount.)

In a sport in which few women are represented or given a substantial platform, Coyne Schofield has stood out as an ambassador for the game. NBC was wise to bring her on as an analyst.

Coyne Schofield posted on social media that she feels respected by McGuire as a hockey player and a woman and "didn't think twice about our on-air exchange when it happened."

Yet Coyne Schofield recognized that how she felt about McGuire's comments might not be as important as how young girls watching at home might have interpreted the moment: "What IS important is for every young girl reading this to know it doesn't matter what anyone thinks of my hockey knowledge — because I do not doubt my hockey knowledge. I didn't need a gold medal to come to that conclusion. I needed belief in myself?"

Let's hope McGuire learns quickly from this moment. And let's hope NBC asks Coyne Schofield back as an analyst — with or without McGuire.

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ERIN HOOLEY/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Jonathan Toews and Patrick Kane may remain on the same line after they combined for 12 points in two games before the All-Star break. The Hawks resume play Friday night in Buffalo.

BLACKHAWKS

Postseason not yet seen as impossible

Despite 1st-half woes, Hawks believe playoff berth still attainable

BY JIMMY GREENFIELD | Chicago Tribune

BUFFALO, N.Y. — There was no talk of making the best of a lost season, no talk of the pending trade deadline and certainly no talk of tanking.

Whether it's fanciful thinking or the product of too many recent afternoons lying in the sun daydreaming, the Blackhawks returned from a nine-day break believing the playoffs — yes, this season's playoffs — are still within reach.

"Crazier things have happened," said Jonathan Toews, who spent part of his break vacationing in Mexico. "So we've got to have that belief in ourselves that if we start putting some wins together and really building some confidence that our best hockey this year is yet to be played.

"I think it's exciting when you have purpose and you have a reason for playing. Every team believes they can make the playoffs, so why not us? We've had some ups and downs this year, but I think it's been a learning process and we've all gotten better, so now is the time to play our best hockey and see what we can put together."

It wouldn't be a huge surprise if the Hawks' best hockey is yet to be played. The first 51 games produced an 18-24-9 record and 45 points — just two ahead of the Senators' NHL-worst 43. Still, the Hawks entered Thursday just seven points out of the last wild-card playoff spot in the Western Conference.

The Hawks would need to jump over six teams to earn a playoff berth. For that to happen, those teams will need to lose regularly while the Hawks begin winning a lot, starting with Friday night's game in Buffalo.

The days of hoping for a long winning streak



UP NEXT
Blackhawks at Sabres
6 p.m. Friday, NBCSCH

in the future are over. The Hawks must go on one now or prepare to play out the string without any hope at all.

"There's an opportunity," Hawks coach Jeremy Colliton said. "We go on a run and there's no doubt we can get back in the mix, and that's what we want to do. For us to evaluate guys and learn more about our team and get better, we want to play meaningful games for as long as possible."

Thursday's practice at the Sabres' KeyBank Center was longer than usual for late January, but with the Hawks going nearly a week and a half without skating, Colliton knew something out of the ordinary was required.

"They're not going to feel good," Colliton said. "So hopefully we can get them feeling as normal as possible for (Friday) — that's why it was a little longer today. (A) lot of competition and some battles and some bumping. It was good."

Colliton wouldn't say who would start in goal; he did hint that Toews and Patrick Kane would remain on the same line, trying to sustain the magic that saw them score a combined 12 points during a two-game winning streak before the break.

"That seems like a long time ago," Kane said. "So now we got to get right back at it right away. We can't let any games or any points slip away, and we can't think just because we had a break we're going to ease into it and play well. We really need to bear down right away."

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BLACKHAWKS NOTES

Jokiharju sent to Rockford in hope of growing into star

BY JIMMY GREENFIELD | Chicago Tribune

BUFFALO, N.Y. — When Blackhawks coach Jeremy Colliton told rookie defenseman Henri Jokiharju he was being sent to Rockford, Colliton made it clear they'll see each other soon and, hopefully, for years to come.

"It doesn't change how we feel about him," Colliton said Thursday. "That's what I told him this morning. We believe in him and think he's going to be a big part of when we get this thing going the right way. He's a big piece of the puzzle. But we also think for him to continue growing his game, the best place is Rockford."

The move will allow Jokiharju, who won't turn 20 until June, to keep playing every day, and it alleviates a glut of players on the blue line. It also will let him get experience with the IceHogs' top power-play unit, an opportunity he wasn't going to get with the Hawks at this point.

The Hawks now are carrying six defensemen, but Gustav Forsling is expected to be activated from injured reserve prior to Friday's game against the Sabres.

The emergence of Carl Dahlstrom and a desire to see more from newly acquired Slater Koekkoek gave the Hawks eight defensemen they wanted to find playing time.

Jokiharju, who had no goals and 12 assists in 37 games for the Hawks, made the team out of training camp when Connor Murphy's back injury created an opening. He got off to a strong start, but his ice time slowly decreased after Joel Quenneville was fired. Jokiharju had

his first healthy scratch shortly after Colliton took over as head coach.

In December, Jokiharju was loaned to Team Finland to play in the World Junior Championships and was a key factor as the Finns captured the gold medal. After Jokiharju returned he played in five games but was a healthy scratch once and averaged only 14 minutes, 25 seconds per game.

"He's 19, and it's hard physically to get out of D-zone when you're that (age)," Colliton said. "Obviously, he doesn't have the man body yet, but he will. And we want him to not just be playing to survive out there, we want him to be playing to excel and be a top player."

Buffalo soldier: Each summer when the NHL schedule comes out, Buffalo native Patrick Kane does a quick scan to see when the Hawks play the Sabres. The hope is there will be a free night before the game so he can spend time with family.

This year, his wish was granted. Many of his family members watched Kane during Thursday's practice at KeyBank Center before joining him for an evening together. In seven career games in Buffalo, Kane has five goals and four assists and has scored at least one point in each game.

"I pretty much grew up in this rink coming to a lot of Sabres games when I was younger," Kane said. "Kind of brings back a lot of memories when you walk through the tunnel and you see where I used to sit. Nice we get a couple of practices here, too."

CUBS

Baseball's climate is changing

Haugh, from Page 1

and around the game, Bryant struggles to understand why so few teams have considered signing either 26-year-old superstar entering his prime. But to the chagrin of baseball, that has happened, with reports speculating both players eventually will have to settle for a deal worth much less than industry expectations.

The Sox and the Phillies are the only two known teams to show serious interest in both players, who possess the potential to change the trajectory of a franchise. Yet two weeks before spring training, suspense still surrounds where Machado and Harper will land. Jon Morosi of MLB Network reported Wednesday that no Machado signing was imminent while reports earlier in the week that Harper chose the Phillies were unfounded. The unknown spawns an uncertainty that resonates in every baseball city and affects every other unsigned player waiting for the big dominoes to fall first. That uneasiness permeates every clubhouse.

Astros owner Jim Crane underscored baseball's unwelcome new normal last week when he predicted the end of 10-year contracts and pointed out the hazards of long-term commitments to players. Labor strife looms for MLB, whose collective bargaining agreement with the players union expires Dec. 1, 2021. That coincides with the date Bryant could hit free agency before his 30-year-old season.

How much will owners want to spend if they fear the interruption of games? If trends continue, it's fair to wonder if becoming a free agent will represent the same payoff Bryant envisioned when he made his much-bally-hooded Cubs debut April 17, 2015 — a promotion delayed two weeks to manipulate Bryant's service time.

Will Bryant's free-agent deal in 2021 provide him more money and security than a contract extension he could sign with the Cubs the next time the team offers one? Would anticipating a bigger payday three tumultuous years from now be worth the gamble? Would the Cubs explore trading Bryant after the 2019 season if they can't lock him up long term?

No outcome appears implausible anymore for elite players, not with Harper and Machado playing the same risky waiting game marquee free agents Jake Arrieta and J.D. Martinez did a year ago. Not before knowing what contract Rockies third baseman Nolan Arenado — a Bryant peer set to hit free agency next offseason — will command. Not the way teams have stayed away from splashy, nine-figure investments. And not after Bryant endured a left shoulder problem that limited him at the plate in 2018, the kind of injury a contract extension could protect a player from in terms of earning potential.

Nobody needs to start a GoFundMe page for Bryant. He avoided arbitration by settling for a \$2 million raise and will receive \$12.9 million in 2019. But that's a fraction of what the Cubs likely would be willing to invest in a contract extension for Bryant. For that matter, baseball's changing economics and new free-agent realities might compel the Cubs to make a similar appeal to 2018 National League MVP runner-up Javier Baez, a bargain at \$5.2 million next season who's on the same free-agent clock as Bryant. Neither Cubs star should ignore its ticking.

The Cubs have discussed an extension with Bryant, whose agent, Scott Boras, earned the reputation for being the best in the sport by insisting his clients see what the market bears. That policy threatens to test players' patience more than ever given the direction baseball is headed. Boras, who also represents Harper, knows better than anybody how much baseball's competitive balance tax has affected how aggressive teams are.

With more big-market teams worried about surpassing that threshold and an increasing number of small-market teams tanking — similar to how the Astros and Cubs rebuilt — serious suitors willing to invest as much as \$200 million on a free agent likely will continue to decline. At best, it resembles groupthink. At worst, it qualifies as collusion.

For the Cubs, it could create an opportunity to keep Bryant in Chicago longer and prop the World Series window open a little wider.

David Haugh is a special contributor to the Chicago Tribune and co-host of the "Mully and Haugh Show" weekdays from 5-9 a.m. on WSCR-AM-670.

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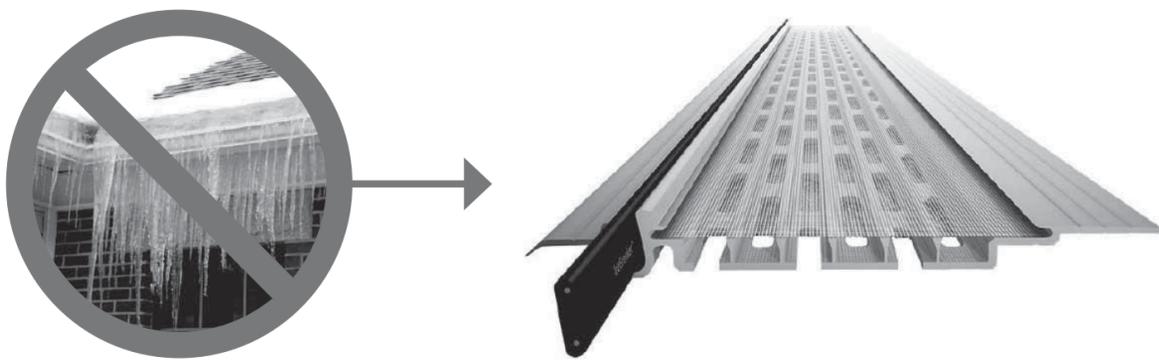


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CALENDAR

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		@CHA 6 WGN-9, AM-670				NO 7 NBCSCH, AM-670	
	@BUF 6 NBCSCH, AM-720	@MIN 7 NBC-5, AM-720			@EDM 8 WGN-9, AM-720		VAN 7:30 NBCSCH, AM-720

FRIDAY ON TV/RADIO

NBA	ESPN
6:30 p.m. Celtics at Knicks	ESPN
9 p.m. Rockets at Nuggets	ESPN
9 p.m. MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL	ESPNU
4 p.m. Pennsylvania at Cornell	ESPNU
6 p.m. Michigan at Iowa	FS1
6 p.m. Davidson at St. Bonaventure	ESPN2
6 p.m. Yale at Harvard	ESPNU
7 p.m. Buffalo at Bowling Green	CBSSN
8 p.m. Wright State at UIC	ESPNU
8 p.m. Marquette at Wisconsin	FS1

GOLF	Golf Channel
2 p.m. Phoenix Open	Golf Channel
3:30 a.m. Saudi International (Sat.)	Golf Channel

NHL	NBCSCH, WGN-AM 720
6 p.m. Blackhawks at Sabres	NBCSCH, WGN-AM 720

BUNDESLIGA SOCCER	FS2
1:20 p.m. Hannover vs. Leipzig	FS2

TENNIS	Tennis Channel
4 a.m. WTA St. Petersburg (Sat.)	Tennis Channel
5 a.m. WTA St. Petersburg (Sat.)	Tennis Channel

COLLEGE WRESTLING	BTN
8 p.m. Michigan at Penn State	BTN
9 p.m. Ohio State at Illinois	BTN

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

HOW MEN'S AP TOP 25 FARED THURSDAY

- Tennessee (19-1) did not play. Next: at Texas A&M, Saturday.
- Duke (18-2) did not play. Next: vs. St. John's, Saturday.
- Virginia (19-1) did not play. Next: vs. Miami, Saturday.
- Gonzaga (19-2) at BYU. Next: vs. San Diego, Saturday.
- Michigan (20-1) did not play. Next: vs. St. John's, Tuesday.
- Kentucky (17-3) did not play. Next: at Florida, Saturday.
- Nebraska (20-1) did not play. Next: vs. Boise State, Saturday.
- North Carolina (16-4) did not play. Next: at No. 15 Louisville, Saturday.
- Marquette (19-3) did not play. Next: vs. St. John's, Tuesday.
- Kansas (16-5) did not play. Next: vs. No. 16 Texas Tech, Saturday.
- Virginia Tech (17-3) did not play. Next: at No. 23 N.C. State, Saturday.
- Houston (21-1) beat Temple 73-66. Next: at UCF, Thursday, Feb. 7.
- Villanova (17-4) did not play. Next: vs. Georgetown, Sunday.
- Louisville (16-5) did not play. Next: vs. No. 9 North Carolina, Saturday.
- Purdue Tech (17-4) did not play. Next: at No. 11 Kansas, Saturday.
- Texas (15-6) beat Penn State 99-90 (OT). Next: vs. Minnesota, Sunday.
- Buffalo (19-2) did not play. Next: at Bowling Green, Friday.
- LSU (17-3) did not play. Next: vs. Arkansas, Saturday.
- Iowa State (16-5) did not play. Next: vs. Texas, Saturday.
- Maryland (17-5) did not play. Next: at No. 24 Wisconsin, Friday.
- Mississippi State (15-5) did not play. Next: at Mississippi, Saturday.
- N.C. State (16-5) did not play. Next: vs. No. 12 Virginia Tech, Saturday.
- Florida State (15-6) did not play. Next: vs. No. 21 Maryland, Friday.
- Wisconsin (15-5) did not play. Next: vs. Georgia Tech, Saturday.

HOW WOMEN'S AP TOP 25 FARED THURSDAY

- Baylor (18-1) did not play. Next: vs. Texas Tech, Saturday.
- UConn (19-2) beat No. 3 Louisville 78-69. Next: at Cincinnati, Saturday.
- Louisville (20-1) beat No. 2 UConn 78-69. Next: at Clemson, Saturday.
- Oregon (19-1) did not play. Next: vs. No. 14 Utah, Friday.
- Notre Dame (20-2) beat Clemson 101-63. Next: vs. Georgia Tech, Sunday.
- Mississippi State (20-1) beat LSU 68-35. Next: at Alabama, Sunday.
- N.C. State (21-0) beat Wake Forest 59-50. Next: vs. North Carolina, Sunday.
- Stanford (17-2) at California. Next: vs. California, Saturday.
- Oregon State (17-3) did not play. Next: vs. Colorado, Friday.
- Marquette (18-3) did not play. Next: vs. Kansas, Saturday.
- Maryland (19-2) beat Wisconsin 75-57. Next: at Illinois, Monday.
- Texas (17-4) did not play. Next: at Oklahoma, Saturday.
- Iowa (16-4) at Michigan, ptd to Friday.
- Utah (18-1) did not play. Next: at No. 4 Oregon, Friday.
- Gonzaga (19-2) at Pacific. Next: at Saint Mary's, Saturday.
- South Carolina (15-5) beat No. 19 Kentucky 74-70. Next: at Arkansas, Sunday.
- Rutgers (17-4) beat Indiana 69-64. Next: at Minnesota, Sunday.
- Syracuse (17-4) beat Virginia 72-58. Next: at No. 3 Louisville, Thursday.
- Kentucky (17-5) lost to No. 16 South Carolina 74-70. Next: vs. Florida, Sunday.
- Texas A&M (17-4) beat Vanderbilt 69-53. Next: at Mississippi, Sunday.
- Arizona State (14-6) did not play. Next: vs. Arizona, Friday.
- Michigan State (15-5) vs. Penn State, ptd. Next: vs. Purdue, Sunday.
- Iowa State (16-5) did not play. Next: at Kansas State, Saturday.
- Florida State (18-3) beat Miami 62-58. Next: vs. Wake Forest, Sunday.
- BYU (17-4) lost to Loyola Marymount 59-58. Next: at Pepperdine, Saturday.

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

MEN'S SCORES	W	L
MIDWEST		
Detroit 78, Cleveland St. 64		
Rio Grande 77, Chicago St. 46		
Youngstown St. 76, Oakland 74		
EAST		
Bryant 71, Wagner 64		
CSU 78, St. Francis Brooklyn 72		
Fairleigh Dickinson 80, LIU Brooklyn 77		
Georgetown 80, VMI 72		
Manhattan 62, Fairfield 49		
Marist 78, Iona 74		
Monmouth (NJ) 66, Siena 55		
Purdue 99, Penn St. 90, OT		
Rider 59, St. Peter's 51		
Sacred Heart 87, Mount St. Mary's 79		
St. Francis (Pa.) 76, Robert Morris 73		
SOUTH		
Appalachian St. 104, Louisiana-Lafayette 77		
Austin Peay 77, Tennessee Tech 66		
C. Carolina 92, Louisiana-Monroe 81		
Coll. of Charleston 70, James Madison 53		
LIU 74, Samford 66		
East Carolina 65, Tulane 65		
Elon 57, Delaware 56		
Furman 69, Louisiana Tech 61		
North Carolina 101, UT 86		
Old Dominion 72, North Texas 61		
Rice 65, Charlotte 61		
Southern Miss. 89, FIU 73		
Towson 77, UNC-Wilmington 76		
UNC-Greensboro 93, VMI 66		
William & Mary 75, Drexel 69		
Wofford 76, Mercer 67		
SOUTHWEST		
Houston 73, Temple 66		
Idaho State 86, Oral Roberts 80		
WOMEN'S SCORES		
Cleveland St. 67, Detroit 51		
Illinois 80, E. Michigan 72		
Minnesota 61, Northwestern 54		
Morehead St. 73, SIU-Edwardsville 67		

NFL

SUPER BOWL LIII | Sunday at Mercedes-Benz Stadium, Atlanta
New England (13-5) vs. L.A. Rams (15-3), 5:30 (CBS-2)

INJURY REPORT

Patriots: DNP: LB Dont'a Hightower (illness). LIMITED: DT Malcolm Brown (caul). Rams: LIMITED: 5 Blake Countess (foot).

SUPER BOWL MATCHUP: THE QUARTERBACKS

JARED GOFF, RAMS	TOM BRADY, PATRIOTS
2018 OPP	2018 OPP
09-10 at Oak	09-09 Hou
09-16 Ari	09-16 at Jac
09-23 LAC	09-23 at Det
09-27 Min	09-30 Mia
10-7 at Sea	10-7 at Buf
10-14 at Den	10-14 KC
10-21 at SF	10-21 at Chi
10-28 GB	10-29 at Buf
11-04 at NO	11-04 GB
11-11 Sea	11-11 at Ten
11-19 KC	11-25 at NYJ
12-02 at Det	12-02 Min
12-09 at Chi	12-09 at Mia
12-16 PH	12-16 at Pit
12-23 at Ari	12-23 Buf
12-30 SF	12-30 NYV
Season	Season
POST OPP	POST OPP
01-12 Dal	01-12 LAC
01-20 at NO	01-20 at KC
TOT	TOT

Career Postseason	Career Postseason
3 gms 2-1	39 29-10 984 1554 10917 73 33 90.9
Career vs. Patriots	Career vs. Rams
1 gm 0-1	5 gm 4-1 109 166 1137 9 2 98.4

TRANSACTIONS

BASKETBALL	Colle and D. Devon Toews from Bridgeport (AHL).
NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION	AMERICAN HOCKEY LEAGUE
Washington: Signed G John Jenkins to a 10-day contract.	AHL: Suspended Syracuse F Gabriel Dumont one game for an illegal check to the head of an opponent in a Jan. 26 game against Rochester.
WOMEN'S NBA	AHL: Signed D Zach Tolkin to a professional tryout agreement.
Washington: Promoted Eric Thibault to associate head coach.	EAST COAST HOCKEY LEAGUE
FOOTBALL	ECHL: Suspended Maine's Ryan Culkin one game and fined him an undisclosed amount for his actions in a Jan. 30 game at Reading.
NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE	MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER
Green Bay: Retained defensive line coach Jerry Montgomery and running backs coach Ben Sirmans. Promoted James Simmons to defensive coordinator and Ryan Downard to assistant defensive backs coach.	Atlanta Contract: Transferred Miguel Almir's contract to Newcastle United.
CANADIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE	Colombus: Got \$175,000 of General Allocation Money from Montreal for an international roster spot for the 2019 MLS season.
Edmonton: Signed WRs Bryce Bobo and Anthony Maloungou.	D.C. United: Got D Leonardo Jara from Boca Juniors (Superliga Argentina). Signed D Akeem Ward.
ATLANTA FOOTBALL LEAGUE	Ottawa: Signed D-M Dakota Barnathan.
Arena City: Named Ron James coach, Shane Stafford offensive coordinator, Sergio Gilliam defensive coordinator and Ryan Downard to assistant defensive backs coach.	NATIONAL PREMIER SOCCER LEAGUE
HOCKEY	New York: Signed F Jochen Graf.
NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE	COLLEGE
NHLPA: C Antoine Vermette retired.	NCAA: Put Missouri's football, baseball and softball programs on three years of probation and one-year postseason bans for academic misconduct involving a tutor who completed coursework for athletes.
New Jersey: Sent G Cam Johnson to Binghamton (AHL). Recalled G Mackenzie Blackwood and D Eric Gyro from Binghamton. Placed D Sami Vatanen on injured reserve.	
N.Y. Islanders: Recalled F Michael Dal	

LATEST LINE

NBA	FRIDAY
pregame.com	at Charlotte
4%	at New York
off	at Miami
4%	at Oklahoma City
4%	at Atlanta
4%	at Houston

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Pennsylvania	6	at Cornell
Princeton	1½	at Columbia
Brown	1	at Dartmouth
at Harvard	1	at Yale
Davidson	2	at St. Bon.
Michigan	3	at Iowa
N. Kentucky	3	at Iowa
at Green Bay	7½	Milwaukee
Wright St.	2	at Ill.-Chicago
at Wisconsin	4%	Maryland
Buffalo	8½	at Bowling Gr.

NHL

at Buffalo	-148	Blackhawks	+138
Nashville <td>-120 <td>at Florida <td>+110</td> </td></td>	-120 <td>at Florida <td>+110</td> </td>	at Florida <td>+110</td>	+110
Calgary <td>-113 <td>at Wash. <td>+103</td> </td></td>	-113 <td>at Wash. <td>+103</td> </td>	at Wash. <td>+103</td>	+103
at Pittsburgh <td>-248 <td>Ottawa <td>+228</td> </td></td>	-248 <td>Ottawa <td>+228</td> </td>	Ottawa <td>+228</td>	+228
ay NY Islanders	off	Tampa Bay	off
at Detroit	off	Toronto	off
at Carolina	-105	Las Vegas	-105
at Dallas	-130	Minnesota	+120

NFL SUPER BOWL LIII

New England	2½	SUNDAY	LA Rams
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AHL

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL	W	L	OL	QS	PT	GF	GA
G. Rapids	26	14	3	4	59	142	136
Iowa	24	14	4	3	55	152	128
WOLVES	24	14	5	1	54	156	129
Milwaukee	22	17	6	1	51	126	126
Texas	22	18	3	2	49	152	142
San Antonio	22	21	2	0	46	120	130
Rochester	19	19	3	5	46	105	130
Manitoba	19	19	3	2	43	110	135

THURSDAY'S RESULT

Grand Rapids	5	Texas	3
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FRIDAY'S SCHEDULE

Wolves at Rockford, 7
Laval at Toronto, 6
Lehigh Valley at Bridgeport, 6
Providence at Charlotte, 6
Utica at Syracuse, 6
Cleveland at WB/Scranton, 6:05
Hartford at Springfield, 6:05
Toronto at Binghamton, 6:05
Manitoba at Milwaukee, 7
Grand Rapids at San Antonio, 7:30
Colorado at Tucson, 8:05
Iowa at Bakersfield, 9
San Jose at San Diego, 9
San Jose at Stockton, 9

NBA G LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL	W	L	Pct	GB
Fort Wayne	15	14	.517	-
WINDY CITY	16	16	.500	½
Grand Rapids	17	17	.473	2½
Canton	12	19	.387	7½
Wisconsin	8	22	.267	7½

FRIDAY'S SCHEDULE

Raptors at Fort Wayne, 6
Salt Lake City at Capital City, 6
Westchester at Grand Rapids, 6
Santa Cruz at Oklahoma City, 7
South Bay at Iowa, 7
Long Island at Austin, 7:30
Sioux Falls at Texas, 7:30
Lakeland at Northern Arizona, 8
SATURDAY'S SCHEDULE
Windy City at Grand Rapids, 6
Fort Wayne at Grand Rapids, 6
Salt Lake City at Erie, 6
Wisconsin at Fort Wayne, 7
Memphis at Iowa, 7
South Bay at Texas, 7:30
Delaware at Northern Arizona, 8

SUNDAY'S SCHEDULE

Westchester at Westchester, noon
Oklahoma City at Sioux Falls, 1
Lakeland at Stockton, 3

MONDAY'S SCHEDULE

Fort Wayne at Long Island, 10 a.m.
Agua Caliente at Memphis, 7
Grand Rapids at Wisconsin, 7

TENNIS

WTA ST. PETERSBURG LADIES TROPHY

R2 at Sibur Arena, St. Petersburg, Russia; indoor-hard
#1 Kertens d. Ysaline Bonaventure, 6-4, 6-2.

#4 Arina Sabalenka d. Alina Van Uytvanck, 6-1, 6-4.
#5 Anastasia Pavlyuchenko d. #7 Jelena Ostapenko, 6-4, 6-4.
Ekaterina Alexandrova d. Tereza Martincova, 7-5, 6-2.

WTA TOYOTA THAILAND OPEN

R2 at True Arena Hua Hin Hua Hin, Thailand; indoor-hard
Wang Yafan d. #5 Zhang Shuai, 4-1 retired.
Viktoria Kuznetsov d. Duan Yingying, 7-6 (4), 7-5.
Madika Linette d. Monica Niculescu, 4-6, 6-3, 6-2.
Tamara Zidansek d. Jennifer Brady, 6-3, 0-6, 7-6 (9).

SOCCER

U.S. MEN

Saturday: Costa Rica in San Jose, Cal., 3
Tue, March 26: Chile in Houston, 7
a-Tue, June 18: TBA in St. Paul, Minn.
a-Sat, June 22: TBA in Cleveland
a-Wed, June 26: TBA in Kansas City, Kan.
a-CONCACAF Gold Cup

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

CLUB	W	T	L	GF	GA	PTS
Liverpool	19	4	1	55	14	61
Man City	18	2	4	63	19	56
Tottenham	18	0	5	50	24	54
Arsenal	14	5	5	50	33	47
Chelsea	14	5	4	50	23	47
Man United	13	6	5	48	35	45
Wolverhampton	10	5	9	30	31	35
Leicester	9	6	5	35	33	33
Watford	9	6	9	33	34	33
Bournemouth	10	3	17	37	42	33
Leicester	9	5	10	30	30	32
West Ham	9	4	11	30	37	31
Sheff. Wed.	7	5	12	27	36	26

BEARS



ROSTER RUNDOWN
SPECIAL TEAMS

Part II of an 11-part review
of the 2018 Bears season.

Chicago Bears kicker Cody Parkey (1) misses the potential game-winning field goal in an NFC Wild Card playoff game at Soldier Field on Jan. 6. The Bears lost to the Eagles 16-15.

BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

They're not all that special

Parkey, kickoff returns struggled, but Cohen, O'Donnell solid

BY BRAD BIGGS
Chicago Tribune

The Bears would be perfectly content if the narrative surrounding Cody Parkey centers on the kicker's postseason appearance on NBC's "Today."

Questioning Parkey's willingness to go on national television five days later to discuss missing the 43-yard field-goal attempt that would have beaten the Eagles in the wild-card playoff game diverts attention from the bigger issue.

The Bears guaranteed Parkey \$9 million.

Whatever factors went into the decision to roll out the Brinks truck to sign Parkey away from the Dolphins in free agency were more dubious than Parkey's decision to go on a morning talk show.

The 26-year-old's crazy season was defined by an uncanny knack for drilling an upright. It happened six times but didn't cost the Bears until the playoffs. Parkey missed four kicks off the uprights against the Lions on Nov. 11 and one in the Week 17 finale in Minnesota. Then the final one against the Eagles was tipped at the line of scrimmage, went off the left upright, bounced off the crossbar and back toward the field of play. Game over. Season over. Parkey's stay with the Bears likely over.

The bottom line is Parkey missed too many kicks, and it would be impossible for coach Matt Nagy to have faith in him. Parkey made 23 of 30 field-goal tries (76.7 percent); among full-time kickers, only the Vikings' Dan Bailey (75 percent) and the Steelers' Chris Boswell (65 percent) were worse. Parkey was the only kicker with three field-goal misses between 30 and 39 yards (7 of 10). He was 42 of 45 on extra points; only four kickers missed more — the Chiefs' Harrison Butker (65 of 69), Boswell (43 of 48), the Browns' Greg Joseph (25 of 29) and the Chargers' Caleb Sturgis (9 of 15).

The Bears didn't get what they paid for and cannot go forward with Parkey even though they're on the hook for \$3.5 million next season. That's fully guaranteed. If he lands with another team, it would mitigate the guarantee slightly. It's hard to imagine him being paid more than the league minimum while requiring a career resurrection.

There's a lot more to special teams, and 2018 saw the Bears produce a Pro Bowl returner for the first time since Devin Hester was selected after the 2010 season. Tarik Cohen proved to be elusive returning punts and showed better judgment than he did as a rookie. He also had the Bears' longest kickoff return of the season in the playoff game.



2018 season review

The Bears didn't fare well in special-teams rankings done by Football Outsiders and longtime sportswriter Rick Gosselin. Both had the Bears 26th in the league. Three key factors played into the poor ranking: Parkey's ineffectiveness, poor kickoff-return production and one brutal performance against the Patriots in Week 7. That doesn't mean improvements didn't happen.

Punter Pat O'Donnell was better and took to requests made by first-year special-teams coordinator Chris Tabor. He tightened his mechanics with a goal of getting the ball off sooner, and it worked. O'Donnell had been operating in the 1.3-second range and ventured as high as 1.4 from the time he caught the snap until the ball left his foot. The coaching staff worked to get him in the 1.2 range more consistently. That helped the Bears have an edge in net punting in 12 of 16 games.

"Two new guys working together had to figure it out together," Tabor said in December. "For him, to be punting as long as he has and to say, 'Hey, I am going to try some different things that you're trying to tell me,' and him doing it and accepting it — and when it went bad on a day we were working on it and he wasn't punting well, for him to say, 'I'm going to stay with it' — my hat is off to him. Some guys would go, 'That doesn't work for me,' and they move on. He has never wavered. He has continued to stay the course. That is impressive."

O'Donnell tied his career best with a net average of 39.7 yards and landed 28 punts inside the 20-yard line, also tying a career

best. Don't think the Bears were better on special teams? Opponents had 150 yards in punt returns this season. In 2017, they had 512 yards.

Cohen didn't score a return touchdown, but he led the NFC and finished fourth in the league with an average punt return of 12.5 yards. He didn't go in reverse quite as often as he did as a rookie, and the blocking was generally solid. Cohen also showed good judgment in terms of fair catches and was more conservative later in the season.

The kickoff-return game never got any traction, finishing last in the league with a 19.1 average and leading to the Bears also ranking 32nd in average starting field position after kickoffs (23.4). The Bears didn't have a very good option as they weren't interested in stretching Cohen too thin. Benny Cunningham and Taquan Mizzell were underwhelming, accounting for 15 of the 23 kickoff returns. Cohen had two and Anthony Miller, playing through a shoulder injury, had six. This has to be something the front office takes a look at during the off-season. It's not a high priority compared with other positions, but the Bears could use some options with a little juice and wiggle, especially if they don't want to expose Cohen often to kickoff returns.

Ironically, the disastrous outing against the Patriots occurred in the one game in which the Bears forced a turnover on special teams. Nick Kwiatkoski stripped returner Cordarrelle Patterson, and DeAndre Houston-Carson recovered. What happened next proved to be a determining factor in the 38-31 loss: Patterson had a

95-yard kickoff return for a touchdown, and Dont'a Hightower blocked a punt that Kyle Van Noy scooped up and returned for a score, the first blocked punt returned for a touchdown versus the Bears since 1987.

Five teams allowed two special-teams touchdowns on the season, and for the Bears both came in the same game. That shows the breakdowns were isolated, but you can't have major mistakes like that and expect to have an elite unit.

These were the Bears' top 10 players on special teams in terms of playing time:

- 1. Joel Iyiegbuniwe (317 plays, 74.6 percent)
- 2. Nick Kwiatkoski (304, 71.5)
- 3. D. Houston-Carson (260, 61.2)
- 4. Sherrick McManis (251, 59.1)
- 5. Benny Cunningham (249, 58.6)
- 6. Deon Bush (248, 58.4)
- 7. Josh Bellamy (245, 57.7)
- 8. Ben Braunecker (239, 56.2)
- 9. Daniel Brown (223, 52.5)
- 10. Isaiah Irving (186, 43.8)

Iyiegbuniwe — who tied for the team lead with six tackles, all solo — was quick to gain the coaches' trust, and that got him involved right away. He was a sound selection as a fourth-round pick, a player with special-teams experience at Western Kentucky who was going to find a way to contribute immediately. Coaches often say players can earn playing time on defense by how they play on special teams. There might not be an opening for Iyiegbuniwe on defense next season, but he could lay the groundwork for a future shot.

McManis was the veteran leader of the group again and made four tackles, all solo. Houston-Carson was steady on coverage teams with six tackles, four solos.

ROLL CALL

Punter Pat O'Donnell
Unrestricted free agent
Kicker Cody Parkey
Signed through 2021
2019 cap hit: \$4,062,500
Long snapper Patrick Scales
Restricted free agent
Returner Tarik Cohen
Signed through 2020
2019 cap hit: \$803,914

Free agency/ draft priority

High. The Bears need to replace Parkey and already have lined up one option, signing Redford Jones to a reserve/future contract after a tryout at Halas Hall.

Expect more action on the kicker front.

They also have to decide if they're going to pursue O'Donnell or go in a different direction at punter. He played for \$1.5 million this past season. Kickoff returner is a box they should try to check with a move or two. General manager Ryan Pace will always be looking for more speed.

Because the Bears owe Parkey a bunch of money, it wouldn't be a surprise if they shuffled through options who wouldn't command a high salary.

Chiefs special-teams coordinator Dave Toub had some interesting comments about kickers and punters in Kevin Seifert's story for ESPN during the playoffs.

"Personality is important to me there," Toub said.

"It's such a head game. You see guys that have confidence in college, then all of a sudden, they get to the NFL and, boom, they lose it. You've got to try to sift through it."

"I've never been big on drafting a kicker or punter. Every kicker or punter I've had have always been free agents, guys that came up the hard way, guys that have had to fight their way, earned their way. Those are the kinds of guys I want. The so-called name guy? A couple of years ago, (Roberto Aguayo, drafted in the second round by the Buccaneers and now out of the league) was everything. But in reality, what was inside there? It's a hard job."

It sure has been difficult for the Bears to fill.

Bottom line

The Bears have one of the more dangerous open-field players in the league in Cohen and a developing young core player for coverage teams in Iyiegbuniwe.

They also have decisions to make in the kicking and punting games.

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eNEWSPAPER BONUS COVERAGE



PHELAN M. EBENHACK/AP

Team owner Roger Penske has earned his lofty position in the world of NASCAR, and for his overall contributions to racing he'll be inducted into the circuit's Hall of Fame.

Passion for racing puts Penske in NASCAR Hall

BY JENNA FRYER
Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — There was no need for Roger Penske to stay awake for Daytona's 24-hour sports car race. Penske has people to do that for him, and hanging out atop a pit stand watching telemetry for two trips around the clock is slightly below his paygrade.

When he did it last year, Team Penske's return season to sports cars racing, somebody had dared "The Captain" to hunker down for the entire Rolex 24 at Daytona. It was an impressive effort many who are far younger than Penske have failed to complete.

Once he had finished the first 24-hour race it seemed silly to do it again, particularly during the cold and blustery rainstorm that drowned Daytona International Speedway on Sunday.

But Penske had committed to be part of the team for the entire event and Team Penske, so organized and unflappable, had meticulously prepared for the conditions.

Penske's transporter was stacked with thermal underwear — "I've got my ski stuff here," he said — heavy water resistant coats and black beanies branded with the Penske mark. The pit stand had been renovated to create additional space so Penske didn't have to sit all night, a lesson learned from last year's race, and overhead heaters had been installed.

When the poor weather finally hit the speedway, the crew zipped clear flaps and enclosed the pit stand to escape the wind and torrential rain.

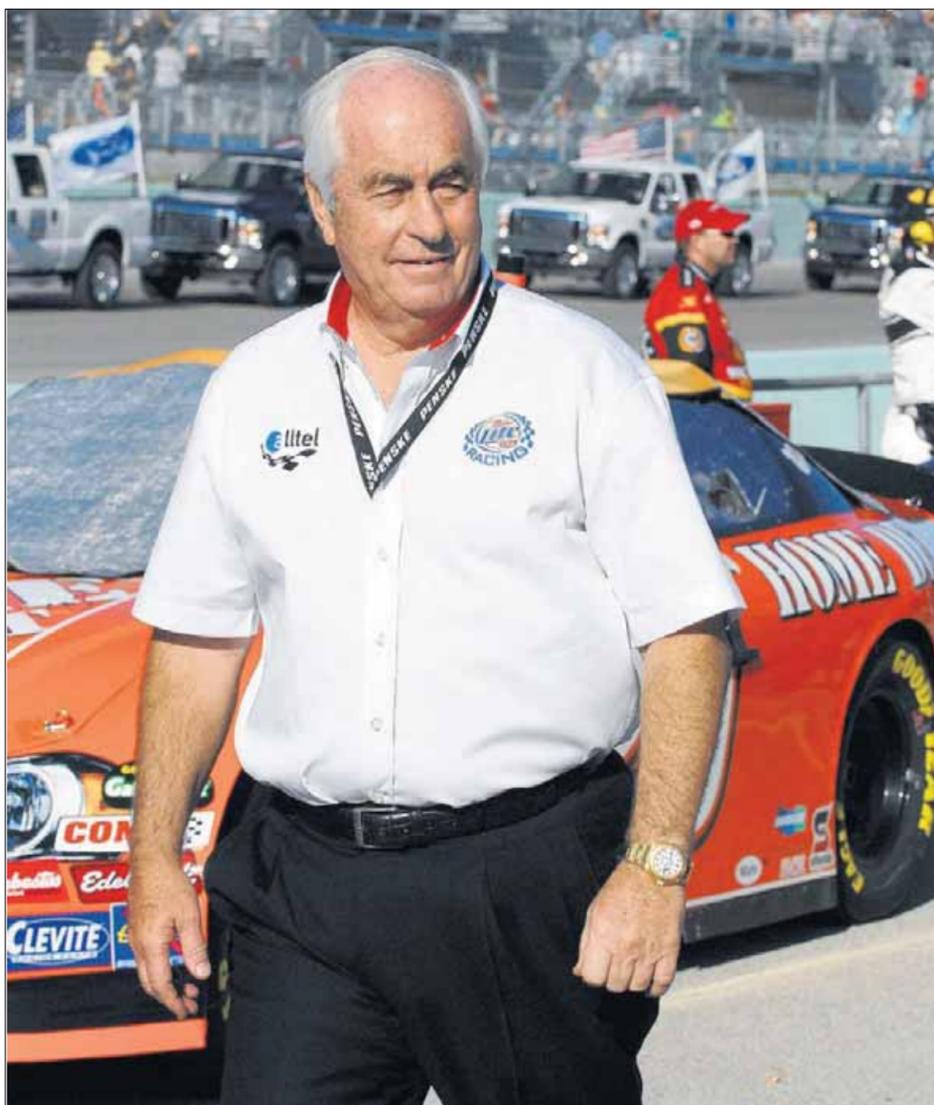
A month shy of his 82nd birthday, in the heaviest rain many racing veterans had ever seen, Penske pulled his beanie down low and hunkered down for an all-nighter.

"He doesn't even want to sit down, he's just standing there and it's crazy," said Juan Pablo Montoya, winner of the 16th of Penske's record 17 Indianapolis 500 victories. "That's why he's the big man and we are not."

His reasoning? Should he step away even briefly and one of his two cars had some sort of problem, Penske wanted to be present for problem-solving and strategic decisions.

"I could never do that, I could never stay up," said NASCAR driver Ricky Taylor, who noted after the final practice session before the Rolex that Penske had noticed an irregularity on the track and found Taylor to show him where to avoid.

Helio Castroneves, winner of



PAUL KIZZLE/AP 2007

Roger Penske, a team owner with 52 years of racing under his belt and a record 17 checkered flags in the Indianapolis 500, walks along pit road at Homestead-Miami Speedway.

three Indy 500s for Penske, wasn't at all surprised to see his boss there for the long haul.

"When you are passionate about racing like Roger, he has no reason not to be here for all of it," Castroneves said. "And three-four hours is all he needs to charge his battery. He has a very quick charger."

Penske had a sensible rebuttal for Castroneves' claim that the boss rarely sleeps.

"Guess it all depends on if it is something worth staying awake for," he said.

Next up is Penske's Friday night induction into the NASCAR Hall of Fame's 10th class, which was one of the most competitive elections in years. Jeff Gordon is the

headliner, along with Davey Allison and Alan Kulwicki, drivers both killed in aviation accidents at the prime of their careers. Team owners Penske and Jack Roush, a pair of Detroit fixtures who intertwined their many business interests with the automotive industry and motorsports, were elected together.

"Listen I'm just glad they let guys in from the North," Penske joked about his induction with Roush. Both team owners had been on the ballot several years before they were voted in last May, shortly before Will Power won Penske another Indy 500 title.

"For us going in with Jack, a Michigan guy like we are, it's a

big honor for the family, all the people before us who helped us open the doors, and I was surprised when I was picked. You never know when is the right time to go in — is it because of your age? What's the right time?"

Penske was elected based on his entire body of work, even though this Hall of Fame is specific to NASCAR. The voting was done five days before the biggest Sunday in racing of the year. Penske started his day with four Chevrolets racing at Indianapolis, where Power won, then the action resumed in North Carolina at the Coca-Cola 600 with three Penske Fords and a fourth affiliated car in the field.

The election was one part of a

season in which Penske won both the IndyCar races at Indianapolis Motor Speedway, the NASCAR race at the Brickyard, the organization's 500th overall victory and NASCAR's cup title. Penske's long-awaited return to sports car racing was completed last season with a two-car Acura effort, and Scott McLaughlin won the Virgin Australia Supercars title one week after Joey Logano's surprise Cup championship.

Across all his platforms, it was the most consistent season for Penske, who in NASCAR now has two Cup titles and two Daytona 500 victories.

"It's our 52nd year in racing and I guess it was time to make it all happen," Penske said. "It was the culmination of all our hard work, and we've had great seasons and maybe just don't get all the PR buzz down in NASCAR. Our guys have stayed under the radar, I guess except when our drivers get into a mess, but the NASCAR championship was really, really important that I get that done the year I go into the Hall because that validates and gives the team and me validation to be in the Hall."

Penske leads by example with standards that require immaculate, crease-free uniforms and a commitment to excellence and professionalism. When Alexander Rossi was hired to join Penske's Rolex lineup, he shaved his beard on his final day of Christmas vacation and arrived in Daytona with a clean face for the first time in years. No one told him to shave, he just assumed it was the Penske way of doing things.

The organization is indeed buttoned up to Penske's preferences, but it's not as straight-laced as outsiders perceive.

"He's such a people person, he has such a charisma, everybody likes him, everybody wants to work for him and the way he runs the team is unbelievable," Montoya said. "It's really funny because from the outside it looks very serious and very strict, but we actually do have a lot of fun and a really good time."

They understand Penske is the man they must please and that he prefers winning but mandates a standard of excellence to all his processes.

"His ability to lead by example is second to none. He doesn't have to go in the locker and give the big pep talk like other coaches and owners have to do in other sports. His presence is enough," Logano said. "Everybody knows who they're racing for, who they're working for and what he expects out of you."

— eNEWSPAPER BONUS COVERAGE —



GERALD HERBERT/AP

Rams defensive back Nickell Robey-Coleman makes the controversial hit on Saints receiver Tommylee Lewis that helped decide the NFC championship game.

NFL

Refs under a microscope

Notorious bad call in NFC title game focuses attention

BY MARK MASKE
Washington Post

ATLANTA — The talk of Super Bowl week is not the everlasting excellence of the New England Patriots. It's not the sideline wizardry of the boy-wonder coach of the Los Angeles Rams, Sean McVay. It is, much to the NFL's dismay, the sport's officiating crisis.

A season's worth of frustrations by fans, players and coaches bubbled over with the missed pass interference call in the NFC championship game that sent the Rams, not the New Orleans Saints, to Super Bowl LIII to face the Patriots on Sunday at Mercedes-Benz Stadium. The NFL may have hoped, with an off week for the consternation to dissipate, that one of the most consequential officiating gaffes in league history would be on its way by now to being a fading memory.

It's not. The venting and head-scratching are ongoing while many wonder what should be done to fix what appears, more than ever, to be a broken system.

"How could you miss that?" former NFL linebacker London Fletcher said this week. Fletcher was asked whether he could have handled, as a player, losing such a consequential game on a botched call like that and replied: "I could not. That would be devastating. You won't get over that. Ever."

But as the league contemplates its next steps in reaction to the officiating travesty in New Orleans, former NFL referee Gene Steratore warned that the league's leaders must be careful.

"The outlying play that this is — we all agree on, everyone — it can be corrected in a lot of ways," Steratore said. "But opening up an entirely new system based on an outlier has to be thought through."

Steratore, now a rules analyst for CBS, was in Kansas City for the Chiefs-Patriots matchup in the AFC championship game but managed to see the Rams-Saints ending on TV. When the officials failed to throw a flag for the blatant pass interference and il-



JOHN BAZEMORE/AP

Gene Steratore says the pressure is always on the officials, whether they're under increased scrutiny or not.

legal hit committed by the Rams' Nickell Robey-Coleman on the Saints' Tommylee Lewis in the final two minutes of regulation, Steratore said his immediate thoughts focused on empathy for referee Bill Vinovich and his crew at the Superdome.

"The human element of it, what the officials on the field would be experiencing in real time," Steratore said.

One thing the officials could have done, Steratore said, was to have huddled on the field to discuss the play. But once that didn't happen, there was no safety net for the crew and for the NFL's officiating department at the league office, headed by Al Riveron. Pass interference is not subject to review by instant replay, so there was no way for the non-call to be overturned.

The league's competition committee plans to give increased consideration, during its annual offseason deliberations, to making pass interference reviewable by replay.

"I do believe that the league can do a better job embracing technology in officiating," said Amy Trask, the former chief executive officer

of the Oakland Raiders. "Technology has evolved far faster than has the league adapting officiating to that technology. ... I mean, for [measuring] first downs, we're still using two sticks and a chain. ... [But] it's not going to solve everything. There's still going to be error. That's the nature of the game."

Trask said she is always wary of the potential unintended consequences of any prospective rule change but is nevertheless intrigued by the notion of adding a video official to each crew, stationed by a monitor on site at the game.

"That official can quickly say, 'You better take a look at this.' Or, 'Oops, we've got to check that.' Or, 'Wow, you missed that,'" Trask said. "Fair enough. Do it fast. Do it on a real-time basis."

Fletcher said he would make a greater range of calls, including interference and illegal hits, subject to potential review via the current system of replay challenges by coaches.

"I would open a lot of penalties to be challenged," Fletcher said. "Hits on a defenseless receiver, that would be one more so than

pass interference. Those hits on a defenseless receiver affect the game far more often than the pass interference penalties."

Patriots coach Bill Belichick has in the past proposed making any call or non-call on the field subject to review by replay, with the constraint that coaches only have a fixed number of replay challenges per game (the current limit is two per team, with the potential for a third). The competition committee always has resisted making judgment calls by officials subject to replay review. But some teams have favored an expansion of the scope of plays that are reviewable, and the Rams-Saints non-call could bolster such sentiment.

Steratore said he does not favor making pass interference reviewable. Even on replay, he said, it would be a subjective ruling. He would, however, be in favor of making illegal hits subject to replay review. Adding one on-field official to the current seven-person crews should also be considered, he said.

Kevin Demoff, the executive vice president of football operations for the Rams, said his team

actually has been in favor of the expanded use of replay. But Demoff said the league and owners should take a broader look at officiating and do all they can to give the officials the tools necessary to succeed. That could include, in addition to potential replay tweaks, finding a training league for young officials or providing virtual-reality simulators to train officials.

"A lot of the solutions we're talking about these days are reactive, which is unfortunate," Demoff said. "I would rather us get together as a league and be proactive and try to prevent the next missed call, whether that's a chop block in a key moment of the season opener or a holding call in Week 8 or any other big call. This one obviously gets magnified. But I think at the end of the day, it's about going back to the beginning, sitting down with [the NFL's] football operations and all the teams and figuring out how we get better as a league."

Steratore said the complexity of the NFL rule book these days has made it "more challenging" but not impossible for officials. He cited turnover among referees, those officials in charge of each crew, and some rule changes, such as the new lowering-the-helmet penalty and an early-season emphasis on roughing-the-passer calls, as additional challenges for this season. But he said he does not accept the notion that NFL officiating was worse than ever.

"I think the scrutiny enhances every season," Steratore said. "I think the game does get harder to work. As an officiating group, four referees did retire and move on last year, which was a big number. ... They also were asked to referee some things that were really hard to start. So I think the combination of all those things brought maybe more attention to officiating earlier in the season. ... But I don't think it's been any worse than it has [been] in years past."

Sunday's Super Bowl officiating crew will be under enormous pressure, but Steratore, the referee for last season's Super Bowl, said that's always the case.

"The pressure that comes with working this game," Steratore said, "nothing can enhance it any more than the initial pressure. ... There's always a microscope."

Chicago Tribune
A+E
 MOVIES



HELEN SLOAN/BLEEKER STREET

Mads Mikkelsen works hard to find warmth in the Iceland-shot "Arctic," opening next Friday.

Frigid features

Leo DiCaprio's chattering teeth, Walter Matthau's nearly fatal shoot in negative temps and more cold-movie lore



MICHAEL PHILLIPS
 Tribune movie critic

Woke up this morning around 6. My morning Tribune was already on the porch, quivering. The thermometer read minus 22, and for some reason a greasy old memory of Walter Matthau popped in my head, something about the actor coming down with double pneumonia while filming "Grumpy Old Men" in Minnesota during a colder than usual winter in early 1993.

Sure enough: Newspaper accounts of the time confirm it. Matthau and Jack Lemmon were out there, on the ice, on Lake Rebecca near Hastings, Minn., southeast of the Twin Cities. They filmed one physically taxing scene on a gray minus 22 degree day. The next day, Matthau's lungs filled up with fluid and he checked into an Edina hospital under his "Grumpy Old Men" character's name,



Liam Neeson in "Cold Pursuit." The movie was filmed in chilly, slippery conditions.

But in terms of atmosphere? Authentically, frighteningly cold.

Moviemaking isn't all hardship and frostbite. When Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers sang "A Fine Romance," their mutual romantic resistance was as much of a fake as the wintry sound stage setting. When Jack Nicholson got lost in the

Turn to **Phillips, Page 2**

Max Goldman.

A few months later Matthau, then 72, told Associated Press entertainment writer Bob Thomas: "They said, 'Boy, I don't know how you're alive. You've got bilateral infiltrate pneumonia.'"

Luckily for Matthau, he hung around seven more years, and reaped millions from the surprise success of both "Grumpy" movies co-starring Lemmon. Looking at the '93 film today, the tit-for-tat antics and one-upsmanship pranks come off as grating and formulaic and beneath the actors' talents.

'THEY SHALL NOT GROW OLD' ★★★

Peter Jackson enlists in a WWI digital restoration

BY **MICHAEL PHILLIPS**
 Chicago Tribune

A relentless technical wonder, director Peter Jackson's "They Shall Not Grow Old" leaps well past a straightforward digital restoration of century-old pieces of film, shot on the Western front in World War I, into a realm of creative license and dramatic amplification relatively new to historical documentaries.

The History Channel, among many others, has dabbled in similar realms of juiced-up sound effects and newly recorded voices, giving voice to silent film footage. Jackson offers a new, more complex level of historical reimagining. Judging from early public screenings, there's a big audience for the project, hungry for a closer look at a century-defining conflict caked in mud, blood and too few cinematic appreciations.

Jackson's grandfather fought in the Great War. "They Shall Not Grow Old" (the title taken from the Laurence Binyon poem of war and remembrance) is a plainly personal project from the man behind the "Lord of the Rings" and "Hobbit" trilogies. Yet there's nothing plain about the results, either visually or sonically.

The New Zealander has digitized, colorized and re-framed existing wartime footage housed by the British Broadcasting Corporation and the Imperial War Museum archives. To this footage, Jackson adds an omnipresent chorus of surviving WWI veterans' voices (audio recorded in the 1960s and '70s), unidentified until the end credits. On top of that, "They Shall Not



In "They Shall Not Grow Old," archival footage of British infantrymen in the World War I trenches gets cleaned up, digitized and colorized by director Peter Jackson.

MPAA rating: R (for disturbing war images)

Running time: 1:39

Grow Old" layers in an extremely dense sound design, adding 21st-century-crisp sound effects of roaring cannon booms, buzzing flies, galloping horses and, always, the under-the-breath chatter of battle-weary British infantrymen.

Jackson organizes his canvas as Before, During and After. At the outset, images of recruiting posters of the day blend with shots of long, long lines of British volun-

teers, many as young as 14 or 15. (The official age minimum for recruits was 19.)

The film works best in its most acutely observed details of daily life in the trenches. Many details are grotesquely harsh, if fleetingly observed: the men's memories of the smells of the dead, the gangrenous wounds, the spilled entrails. Where no tight shots existed in the original, grainy, scratchy black-and-white footage, Jackson opts to bring his own camera in closer, if only for an arresting second or two.

The faces make the movie. Middle-

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Cameron Monaghan on his last scene on 'Shameless'



NINA METZ
 Chicago Close-up

For the last five years, Cameron Monaghan has been juggling work on two TV shows. His role on "Shameless," Showtime's portrait of a raucous, cash-strapped family on Chicago's South Side, came first. Later, he added Fox's thrillingly excessive Batman origin story "Gotham" where he has tackled dual roles as the man (men?) who would eventually become the Joker. His characters on each show couldn't be more different, but both "Shameless" and "Gotham" share a certain thrill of the absurd.

Monaghan surprised many when he announced earlier this season that he was stepping away from "Shameless," a role he's been playing since the show began airing in 2011. (After we spoke, Showtime announced a 10th season renewal for the show with Monaghan poised to return in some unspecified capacity.) As Ian Galla-

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CELEBRITIES

Tribune news services



PASCAL LE SEGRETTAIN/GETTY

Celine Dion attends the Valentino Haute Couture Spring Summer 2019 show Jan. 23 in Paris.

Dion biopic 'Power of Love' in works

"The Power of Love," a \$23 million music-filled film about Canadian singer Celine Dion, is in the works from French studio Gaumont.

One of the highest-profile French films slated for 2020, "The Power of Love" is the latest project to tell the story of a celebrity singer, following smash hit "Bohemian Rhapsody," about the late Freddie Mercury, and upcoming "Rocket Man," about Elton John. "The Power of Love" will boast some of Dion's biggest hits: "All by Myself," "My Heart Will Go On" and "I'm Alive."

She and her record company have authorized the project and given rights to her songs.

The film will be directed by Valerie Lemerrier, who will also star as Dion. "The Power of Love" chronicles Dion's life from her birth and modest upbringing in Quebec in the 1960s to her extraordinary rise to fame as a teen, and also her relationships with her manager and husband, Rene Angelil, and her family.

Lemerrier said she was inspired by Dion's strength and determination and touched by Dion's grief following the death of her husband and started reading everything about the singer, Angelil, and Dion's mother, Therese. "I discovered the strength of their love story and their great humor, and I better understood how the alchemy of their three individual ambitions made her the greatest star on the planet," Lemerrier said.

—Variety



FRAZER HARRISON/GETTY

Gaga defends Kesha: Lady Gaga stood behind Kesha during a September 2017 deposition in the singer's lengthy legal battle with Dr. Luke in a recently unsealed deposition. Gaga said she first met Kesha at Luke's home studio, where she was in a back room wearing only underwear. "Why on earth would this girl tell the world this happened? Do you know what it's like?" Gaga told Luke's lawyer. "You should be ashamed of yourself." Kesha has claimed that Dr. Luke drugged her with a pill and then raped her in 2006. Dr. Luke has denied all allegations.

'Batman' film set for 2021: "The Batman" has a release date. Warner Bros. on Wednesday announced that Matt Reeves' stand-alone Batman film will hit theaters in June 2021. Ben Affleck was previously set to star in the film, but a new Caped Crusader is to be cast. Affleck tweeted that he's excited to see Reeves' vision of the film "come to life."

Howard honored by Harvard: A storied Harvard theatrical troupe is honoring "Jurassic World" star Bryce Dallas Howard at the debut of its first performance with a co-ed cast. The university's Hasty Pudding Theatricals has named the actor, producer and director its 2019 Woman of the Year. The award was first given in 1951. Previous winners include Elizabeth Taylor and Ella Fitzgerald.

Feb. 1 birthdays: Comedian Pauly Shore is 51. Actor Michael C. Hall is 48. Rapper Big Boi is 44. TV personality Lauren Conrad is 33. Singer Harry Styles is 25.



ASK AMY

By AMY DICKINSON

askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter @askingamy

Insecurities are triggered by jealousy

Dear Amy: I am in my late 40s. I have a wonderful husband and great kids. I'm very happy with my family life. My kids are older, and I feel I can detach a bit and focus on work and other personal aspects of my life. I have been burying some insecurity issues that recently erupted.

My life is pretty unconventional: I'm not career-minded. I moved around a lot by choice. I love to travel. In my 20s, I met a woman through work. We became friends, but her confident, cool and magnetic personality made me envious. I eventually broke off the friendship due to a combination of her high-maintenance personality and my jealousy.

Recently, I saw her name mentioned in a book written by a famous person. I instantly felt pangs of jealousy. Since then, I often think of her success and what is most likely a pretty glamorous life. She is involved in an industry I would like to get back into.

I hate my reaction. I'm happy for other friends' successes. I'm trying to be level-headed and rational. I'm lucky and grateful for my life.

I called my insurance regarding therapy sessions and was told that I don't have immediate coverage. I know I need to do some self-examining, but I plummet deeper because I don't know where to start. I'm ashamed to talk to my husband or friends about this. Feel free to tell me to JUST GET OVER IT!

— Insecure

Dear Insecure: GET OVER IT! There, feel better?

I suspect that a perfectly natural midlife crisis has collided with, or has been triggered by, this random reminder of someone who brings out the worst in you.

Most of us have someone on the edge of our lives who irrationally solicits strong feelings of jealousy or schadenfreude. Social media can more or less "weaponize" these glancing encounters because of the filtered way some people present their story.

Yes, talk to your most empathetic friend about it. You might feel embarrassed, but you shouldn't feel ashamed. Other adults who love you will affirm your good choices and listen as you unravel the mystery of what you should do next. And therapy would help; if you live near a university, check with its psychology department to see if you could see someone for a few sessions for less money.

You should also read Po Bronson's inspiring book "What Should I Do with My Life?: The True Story of People Who Answered the Ultimate Question" (2003, Random House).

Dear Amy: I just received an e-vite to a wedding that I'm told will be lavish. The couple is in their 50s and 60s. They've been together for over a decade. They have requested no gifts other than monetary contributions to their honeymoon. They have traveled extensively, including to the honeymoon destination. Is their request tacky? Am I living in the past?

— Wondering

Dear Wondering: The e-vite and the request for money don't scream "lav-

ish" in my mind, so you might adjust your expectations before this wedding.

And the "no gifts, except for money" instruction is misleading. This couple, it seems, wants to have many things both ways.

Honeymoon registries are a fairly recent phenomenon. Although they present challenges for traditional people, when you think about it, you want to give the couple a gift they will use and enjoy.

If this couple had set up a honeymoon registry, guests would be invited to contribute to specific experiences, such as: "breakfast for two," "zip lining through the forest" or other aspects of their trip. It is more satisfying to fund a specific experience, versus forking over cash.

Dear Amy: "Won't Be Bullied" was threatened by her sister-in-law. I think it might be advisable for her to reach out to her brother.

If the brother's wife is willing to behave that way in the "public" setting of a family gathering, it's likely that her behavior is even worse in the privacy of her home, where the husband may be suffering in silence.

I suffered through abuse from my own wife for several years before I broke the silence. If a friend or family member had reached out to me, I may have started the healing process sooner.

— Healed

Dear Healed: Absolutely. Thank you.

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Phillips

Continued from Page 1

maze at the end of "The Shining," he got lost in hundreds of tons of salt, and some Styrofoam.

We all have our favorites. My editor favors John Carpenter's "The Thing," because that's his idea of a nice, snowy, Christmassy diversion.

I'd like to hear your picks, folks.

Meantime, here are five to get you started.

"The Revenant" Leonardo DiCaprio won an Oscar for his sufferin' portrayal of trapper Hugh Glass, a real-life historical figure fictionalized in Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu's big-budget 2015 revenge saga. Much of the film was shot in the mountains of Alberta, Canada, and the temperatures at one point crept underneath the minus 40 degree mark.

"At that point," DiCaprio later told an interviewer, "we couldn't really open our eyes. And our fingers locked together and the camera gear locked together, and I just looked at Alejandro and said, 'I'm all for enduring realism but there comes a point when nothing is op-



AP FILE PHOTO

The Coen brothers' "Fargo" looked colder than it actually was during filming.

erable." After a five-week hiatus, shooting continued and in the weeks prior to the Oscars, escalating tales of DiCaprio's real-life ordeals making "The Revenant" became the stuff of slightly suspect legend.

"Fargo." The Coen brothers' 1996 fable of greed, senseless slaughter and the peculiar twinge of Minnesota vowel sounds actually looks colder than it was during filming. The TV spinoff, however, filmed in Calgary, Alberta, met its

frozen Waterloo in late 2013, when windchill fell below minus 40 and caused a temporary production shutdown.

Wednesday in Chicago, we beat those windchill numbers by 10 degrees. We deserve a damn series!

Speaking of Chicago ... **"Planes, Trains and Automobiles."** The 1987 Steve Martin/John Candy aggravation fest, from John Hughes, had planned on filming entirely in the Chicago area. But the weather

proved uncooperative. The snow didn't snow, and the four-month production (this was back when mid-budget comedies didn't dictate a 1-2 month filming schedule) ended up chasing more favorable conditions as it traveled eastward, through Ohio all the way to New York state.

Still, Hughes and company shot several scenes in Woodstock, Wilmington and Coal City, Ill. The final sequence, Thanksgiving dinner at Neal's house, took



KIMBERLEY FRENCH/TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX

Leonardo DiCaprio as Hugh Glass in "The Revenant."

place in Kenilworth on the North Shore. The previous scene, the presumptive farewell between Neal (Martin) and Del (Candy), was filmed on the LaSalle/Van Buren CTA platform downtown, using a smattering of carefully placed snow.

Opening next Friday: **"Cold Pursuit."** The splatter Liam Neeson revenge comedy used locations in Alberta and British Columbia in March 2017, under chilly (but not record-breaking) conditions. Ne-

son recently told one interviewer about the time he and his makeup artist were in a mountainside trailer, surrounded by icy makeshift roads.

"The trailer suddenly started moving. Downhill! We found out one of the Teamsters trucks had slowly, slowly slid into our trailer. We felt this little bump ... quite terrifying. You're just at the mercy of the elements."

"Arctic," also opening next Friday. Filmed in Iceland in 19 days (!), this man-vs.-elements drama put star Mads Mikkelsen through a pretty rough shoot, though DiCaprio remains the likely champion of stary on-set ordeal endurance, early 21st century division. Mikkelsen's "Arctic" director, Brazilian YouTube sensation Joe Penna, told one interviewer recently: "I used battery-operated clothing — until this film I didn't know it was a thing. ... Mads's wife was livid at me at the end of the shoot. I was given a movie star and I returned a broken man back to her."

Michael Phillips is a freezing cold Tribune critic.

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GREGORY SMITH/SONY PICTURES

Ismael Cruz-Cordova and Gina Rodriguez star in "Miss Bala."

'MISS BALA' ★★ 1/2

Caught up in the cartel's web

BY KATIE WALSH
Tribune News Service

Mexico's 2011 Oscar entry, "Miss Bala," was a searing slice of social commentary about the raging narco wars wrapped up in a sexy, action-packed thriller. Directed by Gerardo Naranjo, the script was ripped from the headlines, basing its beauty queen-meets-drug lord story on a stranger-than-fiction 2008 scandal, when Miss Sinaloa winner Laura Zuniga was arrested in the company of the Juarez cartel. The tension inherent in the question of whether or not she was a victim or an operator was what drove "Miss Bala," a tale about how easy it is to get sucked into this underworld, and how hard it is to get out.

With the combo of gun battles and pageant girls, it's no wonder Hollywood came knocking. But achieving tonal balance between sociology and schlock is no easy task, and this film doesn't pull it off. Catherine Hardwicke helms the remake of the same name, with a script by Mexican writer Gareth Dunnet-Alcocer, starring the eminently appealing Gina Rodriguez as Gloria, a young Mexican-American makeup artist from LA who gets caught up in the swirl of corruption and cartels while visiting a friend who

MPAA rating: PG-13 (for sequences of gun violence, sexual and drug content, thematic material and language)

Running time: 1:44

is competing in the Miss Baja California pageant. "Bala" means bullet in Spanish, and therein lies the dark pun of the title.

Hardwicke is a talented director who brings an addictive verve and visual dynamism to this bombastic take, and Rodriguez has a charm so appealing it could be weaponized. You want to be her best friend, which works well, because the film is about Gloria's journey through hell and back to save her best friend, Suzu (Cristina Rodlo). The problem lies in the rather bland script, which jettisons any trenchant commentary for plot twists and turns, losing its train of thought along the way.

While hobnobbing at a nightclub with a Trumpian pageant big-wig, the friends are separated during a shooting. In an effort to locate Suzu, Gloria gets caught up with the shady local police, who hand her off to La Estrella cartel, who blackmail her into making runs across the border for them, all while the DEA are on her back to

inform. It's a Catch-22 that becomes increasingly complex but somehow less compelling.

The focus is largely on the relationship with Lino (Ismael Cruz-Cordova), the head of the Estrellas, who takes a shine to Gloria even as he is using her. Both grew up in California and relate to each other's identity struggles. Their shared experience humanizes Lino, despite his violent criminal acts. But it's hard to gain an emotional foothold in "Miss Bala" because the film seems unsure of itself in terms of what it wants to express about violence, exploitation and morality.

"Miss Bala" is a story about a good girl who has to do bad things to survive. But instead of a bleak tale about a place hopelessly paralyzed in the grip of crime and corruption, the American "Miss Bala" tries to twist it into something empowering. It's seemingly reverse-engineered for the slow-motion shot of Rodriguez grabbing an AR-15 in a red satin gown — how very American of her. Ultimately, Gloria is rewarded, not haunted, by her violent turn, and the film ends on a conservative, pro-government note. It's a Hollywood ending that completely misses the point of what "Miss Bala" was and should be.

'PIERCING' ★★★ 1/2

Wasikowska, Abbott play a game of kinky chicken

1970s horror twisted into daring genre fare

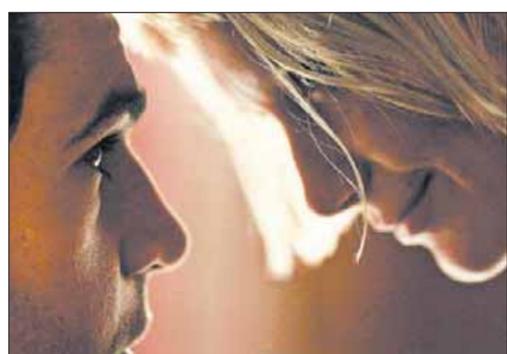
BY KATIE WALSH
Tribune News Service

What a deliciously demented and disturbing drama Nicolas Pesce's "Piercing" is, dripping with gore and laden with forbidden innuendo. If one has any familiarity with his directorial debut, "The Eyes of My Mother" — another deeply troubling horror film made with so much style and flair one can almost forgive its violently soul-rattling content — this comes as no surprise.

In "Piercing," Pesce is working in a different stylistic mode and sub-genre. While "The Eyes of My Mother" is a black-and-white, gender-flipped riff on classic '60s horror films like "Psycho," "Piercing" is pure '70s, right from the introductory grindhouse-inspired "Feature Presentation" bumper. The sumptuous production design and saturated color palette, all deep pinks and blood reds, is right out of a Dario Argento giallo film, and his liberal use of split-screen is right out of Brian De Palma's '70s playbook.

"Piercing," which Pesce adapted from a Ryu Murakami novel, sits right at the juncture of De Palma and Argento in that it's an erotic thriller with a whole lot of blood-letting. But Pesce has put his own hallucinatory, surreal and bizarre spin on things. While the film works within a specific stylistic reference point, it's unlike anything you've ever seen.

Christopher Abbott stars as Reid, a young



SUNDANCE INSTITUTE

Christopher Abbott and Mia Wasikowska star in "Piercing," which was adapted from a Ryu Murakami novel.

MPAA rating: R (for aberrant violent and sexual content, nudity and language)

Running time: 1:21

married father hearing voices commanding him to do terrible things. One comes from his chubby infant baby, over whom he's been hovering an ice pick. In a basso profundo voice, his baby tells him, "You know what to do." If he's not going to pierce his own progeny, he must displace the urge elsewhere. So he checks into a hotel and calls up an escort service, with his S&M murder kit in tow, like a wannabe Patrick Bateman. Jackie (Mia Wasikowska) arrives at his door shortly thereafter.

Reid's carefully laid, rehearsed plans are thrown into chaos when the unpredictable Jackie shows up, and the rather short duration of "Piercing" is spent nestled within the bosom of the rapidly shifting psychosexual power play between them. While Reid is cold and calculating, the seemingly innocent and impulsive Jackie can maneuver

the upper hand with her all-too-common human needs — to be cared for, to love and be loved, to eat.

Pesce employs the style of the '70s giallo films and erotic exploitation thrillers — the colors, sounds and wardrobe — to signal our expectations, which he then subverts. He constantly flips the idea of victim and killer, and like these characters do to each other, he lulls the audience into a trusting, vulnerable state before yanking the rug right out. If you think you know what will happen in "Piercing," Pesce makes sure you don't. Its absurd, nightmarish surrealism is inspired, as well as its gestures toward a psychoanalytic backstory that will never be explored.

With his sophomore effort, Pesce has proven himself to be one of the stars of the new class of horror filmmaking. The gory crimson depths of "Piercing" are definitely not for everyone. But for those audiences who crave daring, intellectual and challenging genre fare, it's destined to be a cult classic, which is exactly the tradition from which it springs.

Metz

Continued from Page 1

gher, he was quietly intelligent, dryly funny and impossible to shock. Messed up, like all the rest. But always confident in his queerness and sure of his place in the reliably bizarre Gallagher universe.

Going forward, Monaghan will have more time to devote to "Gotham" and his character Jeremiah's latest evolution.

I talked with him about what's next for Jeremiah — who as of last week seemed not long for this world — and his decision to leave "Shameless."

Note: If you are not caught up on either show, bookmark this interview for later: Spoilers abound.

The following is an edited transcript.

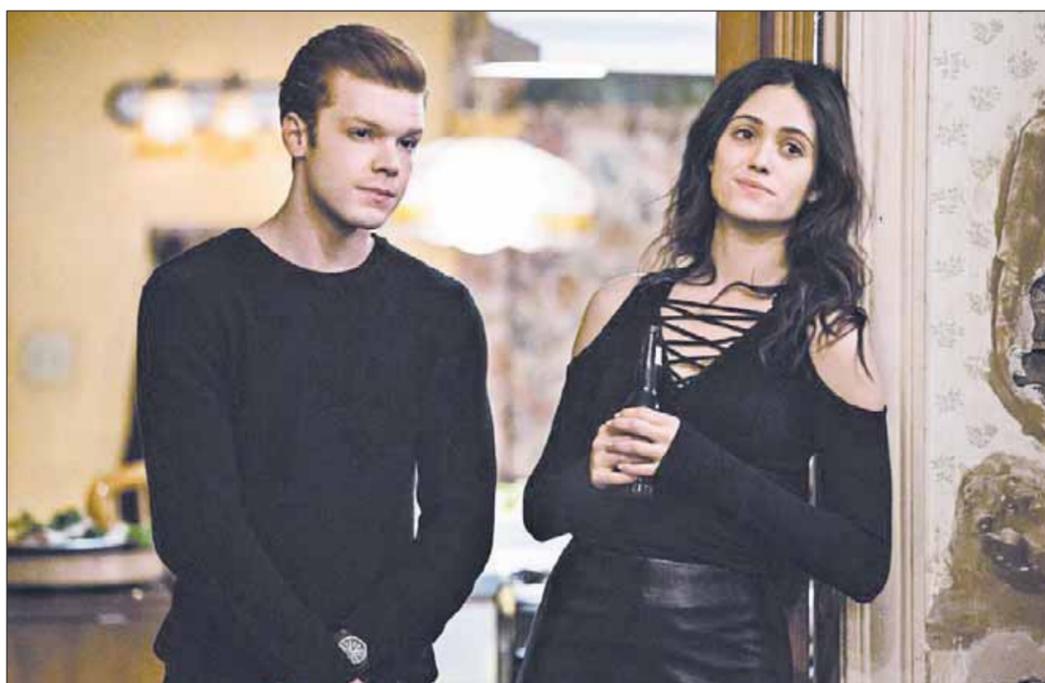
Q: We have to start with "Gotham" because I'm talking to you just after the episode aired where it looks like Jeremiah's a goner. What does this mean for your character?

A: As was revealed in (the most current) episode, he does not die — even though he fakes his death as a little bit of a psychological play. So the next episode we'll see what he's up to and his grand scheme, which is really fun. Now we're sort of getting the actual mechanisms in place that will set up the rest of the season for Jeremiah.

Q: There was a recap that made the hilarious observation that as Jeremiah was being stabbed, Selina got "extra stabby" when you started bantering with her as she was trying to kill you. That's emblematic of the show: dark, funny, over-the-top, super dramatic. Is that what initially drew you to the show?

A: When I was offered the role of Jerome I hadn't really heard of it, I think it had just started airing, so I said, "Send over the script, it sounds interesting and I like Batman stuff."

I was coming out of an audition for something else when I stopped to look at



PAUL SARKIS/SHOWTIME

The heart and soul of the Gallagher family in "Shameless": Ian (Cameron Monaghan) and Fiona (Emmy Rossum).

the script in the car and when I got to that last interrogation scene I was like: OK, I know exactly what this is! That scene is a Joker reference and it's such a fun power play, that shift in dynamic where he owns the room.

And I called my agent and my manager right then and was like, "Forget about this audition I just went on, don't worry about it — I want to do this. This is awesome." So I did that one episode. And I didn't know if I was going to be back to do more.

Q: For all you knew, it could have been a one-off.

A: I'm pretty sure it originally was planned to be just a one-off. But that scene ended up going kind of viral and people really responded to it.

Q: I think that happened in part because the Joker is such an iconic character, and since "Gotham" is really the origin story of Batman and all the characters in his world, how fun is to see the hint of what's to come with the Joker.

A: Absolutely. He's considered one of the greatest

villains of the 20th and 21st centuries and for very good reason. He's one of the most iconic antagonists in all of American fiction.

I think initially the plan for "Gotham" was to dance around that a little bit more. They were going to just have a lot of different hints of who was going to end up becoming "this" but never really getting to into it. But the fans reacted strongly and everyone desires this story. If you're going to tell a story that's ancillary or surrounding Batman, you kind of have to explore something with the Joker as well.

I think that's part of the fun. It's such a convoluted way to tell the story and I think that actually ends up kind of working for what the Joker is. The Joker's background should be confusing and absurd and weird and ridiculous. If any of the citizens of Gotham were trying to piece together what the hell has been happening with this guy, it would be like: Wait, what's going on?!

Q: Let's contrast that with your role as Ian on "Shameless." Talk about your decision to leave the



FOX

Monaghan plays twins Jeremiah and Jerome, both of whom are tied to the Joker's origins in "Gotham."

show.

A: It's something I had been mulling over for about three years. It's a show that I deeply enjoy working on, not only because of my co-workers but also because of the challenge of the material itself, which combines this level of comedy and drama and absurdity but also this real-world commentary on what it means to be a person. That stuff is so intoxicating to be a part of.

When you're doing something for that many years, you get to a point where you want to leave it

later that she was going to leave the show, too.

It's one of those decisions that's hard but bittersweet. I know that all these co-workers are going to be a part of my life regardless.

And it's not that I'd be opposed to going back and being part of the show in some context in the future. It's just, I wanted to step away and put a period on to that character and the arc that he's experienced over the past nine seasons.

Q: I mean, that ending! I don't know if you had any say in it — it was totally fan service but who cares, it was such a perfect way to say goodbye to Ian. Your chemistry with Noel Fisher, who plays Mickey, has always been lightning in a bottle.

A: It was obviously a storybook moment on a show that very rarely has anything like that. It's still bittersweet obviously, you know (*laughs*)? It's prison. It's not all cotton candy and rainbows. But if they're going to be in a place like that, at least they're together. So I think that's the question, too: If I was to return back, it would be to do more Mickey and Ian stuff.

Q: Was there a memento or costume that you grabbed as a keepsake from "Shameless"?

I think with clothes or anything like that, because you wear them so much for these characters for an absurd amount of time, you never want to have to wear them again (*laughs*)!

Actually there's this one scene where Mickey and Ian get into a bar fight after Mickey comes out to his father about being gay. It's this huge fight. And I had an idea that they should share a drink, so I brought a flask from home to set for that scene, of Ian and Mickey both covered in blood. So I ended up taking that flask home because it did belong to me, but the character's blood is completely covering it. So I have this bloody flask that I keep in my house now.

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Old

Continued from Page 1

distance shots of dozens of anonymous soldiers here become probing, intimate, screen-filling close-ups. On the soundtrack, the WWI veterans recorded decades later recall the general chin-up, get-on-with-it spirit so many brought with them to war. But the costs ran high. By the end, after Armistice Day, many were shattered, bereft, dreading a return to civilian life. And many returned to England only to be met with “help wanted” signs stipulating “no servicemen need apply.”

If there's a drawback with Jackson's film, it's an understandable one, coming from a commercial genius intent on never boring his audience for a second. The pace of “They Shall Not Grow Old” sticks to the same tempo and rhythm throughout. Even in the down-time passages, built on footage shot between shellings when the soldiers got a reprieve from the horrors, the film offers no time or space for true reflection. Jackson's approach probably would've been twice as effective with half as many separate voices on the soundtrack, and some breathing room in between the memories. (When one veteran recalls seeing what “the animal instinct of killing” can lead to, the moment's all but disregarded.)

There's a lot to debate here, and a lot to admire. Jackson started with a simple improvement: changing the frame rate from 13-per-second (which has the effect of herky-jerky, sped-up imagery) to 24 frames per second, i.e., normal, realistic movement. The 3-D conversion adds a compelling depth and perspective to shots of endless troop movements or, strikingly, men on horseback crossing a stream, heading straight for the camera. Sometimes Jackson pushes his camera too close to the faces of the newly digitized and eerily smoothed-out features of the men, and the result lands somewhere in the uncanny valley. Yet you search every shot in “They Shall Not Grow Old” for information and clues and fragments of what was. And what you haven't seen before.

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How cold is it in Chicago? Ask Woolf, or Dickinson

BY CHRISTOPHER BORRELLI

Chicago Tribune

You step outside and your eyes water and the water freezes into the folds of your sockets and you wish you had booked that trip to Miami (or even Virginia) this week, yet the wind whips into your face and your skin tightens and so you run back inside and, short of breath and cursing climate change, you stare wide-eyed at your family and say:

“It's cold.”

Yeah, they shrug, they know.

“Like, really cold.”

They yawn and turn to their phones.

Sorry to say this, but you, Mr. or Ms. Frosty, are a disappointment. If you live in the Midwest and are watching images on social media of Chicago city workers setting fire to train tracks (to ensure that “L” tracks keep humming) or you see steam erupting off Lake Michigan as if Illinois were suddenly a polar cousin of Mordor — if you have been unfortunate enough to stand outside — you are at a loss for words. One lesser problem about cold weather is that, other than ice and steam and teeth chattering and people bundled into scarves, it's hard getting across what brutal cold really feels like. Indeed, describing cold as “brutal” itself is as obvious as it may be true.

Noting it's “negative 20 degrees” does no justice to experiencing 20 degrees below zero.

Fortunately, for the next time you have trouble describing what being in Chicago feels like right now, there is a fine literary tradition of describing extreme cold to help you out.

Here are some favorites.

“He walked open-mouthed through a blizzard, again and again stumbling off the sidewalk. The wind, according to St. Petersburg custom, blew at him from all sides at once, out of every side street.”

— Nikolai Gogol, “The Overcoat” (1842)

“It burns, it does. Nothing burns like the cold. But



FRANK HURLEY PHOTO

In “South,” Ernest Shackleton's memoir of his expedition to the Antarctic, shown here, he muses on frozen facial hair.



BOB ADELMAN/AP

James Baldwin was a poet as well as a novelist; “Munich, Winter 1973” is one of his lesser-known works.

only for awhile. Then it gets inside you and starts to fill you up, and after a while you don't have the strength to fight it.”

— George R. R. Martin, “A Game of Thrones” (1996)

“The world outside was dangerously cold, and the big snow held the houses down and people in.”

— Annie Dillard, “An American Childhood” (1987)

“Our beards and moustaches are masses of ice. I will take care I am clean

shaven next time I come out. The frozen moustache makes the lobes of the nose freeze more easily than they would if there were no ice alongside them. I ask myself why on earth one comes to these parts of the earth.”

— Ernest Shackleton, “South” (1919)

“And snow may fall / Enough to freeze our tongues / And scald our eyes / We may never be found again!”

— James Baldwin, from his poem “Munich, Winter

1973,” collected in “Jimmy's Blues” (1983)

“Winter is not a season, it's an occupation.”

— Sinclair Lewis, “The Job” (1917)

“The sight of the dog put a wild idea into his head. He remembered the tale of the man caught in a blizzard who killed a steer and crawled into the carcass, and so was saved.”

— Jack London, “To Build a Fire” (1908)

“The water lies broken, cracked from the wind.”

— James Salter, “Light Years” (1975)

“Coming awkwardly down a scree slope of frost-riven limestone you make a glass-tinkling clatter.”

— Barry Lopez, “Arctic Dreams” (1986)

“A young countrywoman started to cross the road in usual robust health and was seen by the onlookers to turn visibly to powder and be blown in a puff of dust over the roofs as the icy blast struck her at the street corner.”

— Virginia Woolf, “Orlando” (1928)

“The low whistle of the wind cranking up to a womanish shriek that made the old hotel rock and groan alarmingly even in its deep cradle of snow.”

— Stephen King, “The Shining” (1977)

“First — Chill — then Stupor — then the letting go ...”

— Emily Dickinson, from her poem “After great pain, a formal feeling comes” (1862)

“His soul swooned slowly as he heard the snow falling faintly through the universe and faintly falling, like the descent of their last end, upon all the living and the dead.”

— James Joyce, “The Dead” (1914)

“Winter. Time to eat fat and watch hockey.”

— Margaret Atwood, from her poem “February” (1995)

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Kondo takes tidying to new level

Organizing guru a global sensation

BY YVONNE VILLARREAL
Los Angeles Times

Marie Kondo has seen your efforts. The Mt. Everest-sized heap of clothes that's taken over your bed, the drawers of T-shirts neatly folded and lined upright, that once-chaotic kitchen pantry that now looks ready for the pages of Real Simple magazine.

The decluttering guru, whose organizational philosophy has drawn global attention since 2011 with her bestselling books, including “The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up,” has reached a new level of influence and notoriety since the launch of her home makeover show for Netflix.

With the debut of “Tidying Up With Marie Kondo,” cleverly released on Jan. 1 for those seeking a reset in the new year, she has quickly emerged as a cultural and social media sensation. Good luck trying to evade the before-and-after Instagram photos of newly organized sock drawers. The buzz has lifted Kondo to meme-level celebrity, the modern marker of relevancy.

“My team has shared a great many photos and memes with me,” Kondo, 34, says through her interpreter, Marie Iida, who has become a celebrity in her own right since appearing on the show.

“I'm very surprised by



GARY GERSHOFF/WIREIMAGE

Kondo, author of “The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up,” debuted her Netflix show Jan. 1.

the very huge reaction,” Kondo adds, “but what makes me especially happy is that so many people who watch the show have implemented the KonMari method of tidying.”

Her method's hallmark can be summed up as such: Keep items that “spark joy” when held — a concept she designed to help determine which things to carry into your future. Items that don't spark joy should be thanked and discarded. It's a concept repeated time and again in the series as Kondo helps American families find the joy in tidying.

By now, everyone wants to roam the aisles of the Container Store with Kondo or peek inside her

Los Angeles home, which she moved into last fall and shares with her husband and two daughters. Instead, we are, in a minimalist West Hollywood residence that serves as the office of KonMari's creative agency, the Outset. Kondo stands out in a black-and-white gingham dress, looking even more petite and dainty than she appears on TV.

She speaks softly but quickly, with graceful hand movements for emphasis, while Iida listens carefully and scribbles onto a notepad to serve up a translation. Kondo says that, when tidying at home, she wears hoodies just like us. She doesn't have a junk drawer or a secret messy

closet, but admits she sometimes lets the laundry pile up.

“I think one of the reasons tidying and cleaning are considered tedious is it's imposed upon us as a duty. But that's the mindset I would like to change. By tidying, we're allowed to reorient ourselves; we're able to discover our sense of value. I'd like to pinpoint the positive aspects of tidying.”

It's an undertaking she's been preparing for since she was a kid.

Kondo grew up in Tokyo. Her father was a physician, her mother a homemaker. While other kids enjoyed recess, Kondo preferred to clean up lockers. The middle child of three, Kondo

willingly took on her siblings' chores.

Her early ideas of tidying focused on elimination — “I would come home from school and even before I took off my uniform, I would start rummaging for things to throw out. There was never peace in my heart. I was always just stressed out until one day I just completely passed out.”

The episode brought her to shift her philosophy — to focus on retaining “things that spark joy.”

She never thought she could turn her hobby into a career. But when she was in college at Tokyo Woman's Christian University, she started an organizational consulting business as a side gig to her full-time job at an HR company. Within a few years, as word-of-mouth spread, Kondo quit her job. Then came the books, which have sold more than 11 million copies in 40 countries and helped fashion her name into a verb.

TV was a logical next step.

Last spring, Kondo visited eight Los Angeles-area families looking to reduce their domestic chaos. In this makeover show, the participants do the work. Kondo sets each family on their journey before leaving them on their own — checking in roughly seven times throughout the process.

Kondo's technique can be jarring to those who feel overwhelmed, or bound, by their possessions. It's why the chatter about the show

is so fervent. While Kondo's methods led to criticism and analysis long before the show premiered, a new wave of think pieces has trickled in. Some focus on the way the show reveals a gender imbalance on domestic expectations.

And then there was the book controversy. Word spread over social media that the Kondo method allowed you to keep just 30 books.

“I do think there are misconceptions,” Kondo says. “I was quite surprised because some things that I've never said before are being talked about as part of my method. I think this occurred because in one of my books I said that when I was going through my books I had about 30 books left. Maybe misreading there.”

Kondo clarifies her stance, in case there remains any confusion.

“The important concept of my method is that you focus not on what you want to discard but what you want to retain, what you want to keep in your life. So if you love books, if you're passionate about books, go ahead and keep them with every confidence.”

Will that spark of joy stay strong beyond these initial eight episodes?

“If a great many people express that hope,” she says, “and if I am given the amazing opportunity, then yes, that is a challenge I'd love to welcome.”

Closets and pantries everywhere are bracing for impact.

WATCH THIS: FRIDAY



Tim Allen

"Last Man Standing" (7 p.m., FOX): A new episode called "Cabin Pressure" finds Mike and Vanessa (Tim Allen, Nancy Travis) taking the girls for a weekend at the family cabin, where Mike challenges them to unplug and stay off their phones for the duration of their stay. Meanwhile, Jen (guest star Krista Marie Yu) shadows Kyle (Christoph Sanders) at work for a school assignment. Hector Elizondo, Amanda Fuller and Molly McCook star.

"MacGyver" (7 p.m., CBS): An international crime boss (guest star Roberto Sanchez) offers an irresistible deal to Matty (Meredith Eaton): He'll surrender himself into her custody, if she allows him to return to the United States and attend his daughter's wedding. She accepts, but dispatches Mac (Lucas Till) and the team to attend the event and make sure the father of the bride doesn't do a runner. Once there, they discover they're not the only ones quietly embedded at the nuptials.

"Dynasty" (7 p.m., CW): Reeling from a devastating rejection, Fallon (Elizabeth Gillies) fights to prove she is still very much on top of her game in the new episode "Filthy Games." Back to her usual tricks, Alexis (Nicollette Sheridan) schemes to drive a wedge between Blake (Grant Show) and Cristal (Ana Brenda Contreras), while Sam (Rafael de la Fuente) tries to become a better person, hoping to save his faltering relationship with Steven (James Mackay).

"Mary Shelley" (7 p.m., Showtime): Elle Fanning, who turned in a splendid period performance in last season's TV adaptation of "The Alienist," shines again in the title role of this handsome period drama from Haifaa al-Mansour, which mainly follows her passionate romance with poet Percy Bysshe Shelley, which helped inspire her to write her own masterpiece, "Frankenstein."

"Upgrade" (7:20 p.m., 1:40 a.m., Cinemax): After mechanic Grey Trace (Logan Marshall-Green) is left paralyzed by an assault, tech innovator Eron Keen (Harrison Gilbertson) persuades him to allow the inventor to install his latest creation — a highly sophisticated AI chip — in Grey's spine to restore mobility in writer-director Leigh Whannell's 2018 cyberpunk action horror film.

"Strike Back: Revolution" (9 p.m., 10 p.m., 12:50 a.m., Cinemax): Hoping to track down that stolen nuclear warhead in Kuala Lumpur, the members of Section 20 form a tenuous alliance with covert Russian operative Katrina Zarkova (Yasemin Allen) in the new "Episode 2." The team is frustrated when Police Inspector Amy Leong (Ann Truong) — who has ties to Triad leader Godfather Kim (Lim Teik Leong) and his henchman Laoshu (Tom Wu) — abruptly pulls them off the job after a false alarm. Novin (Alin Sumarwata) defies Coltrane's (Jamie Bamber) orders to settle a score.

TALK SHOWS

"The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon" (10:34 p.m., NBC): Actor Anthony Mackie; TV personality Tim Gunn; comic Matthew Broussard.*

"The Late Show With Stephen Colbert" (10:35 p.m., CBS): Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-N.Y.); rapper Method Man.*

"Jimmy Kimmel Live" (10:35 p.m., ABC): Celebrity guests and comedy skits.*

* Subject to change

Hey, TV lovers: Looking for detailed show listings? TV Weekly is an ideal companion. To subscribe, go to www.tvweekly.com or call 1-877-580-4159



HELEN SLOAN/BLEECKER STREET

Mads Mikkelsen in the frozen survivor tale "Arctic."

PARENTS GUIDE

Advice about films kids may want to see — whatever the rating — in theaters or opening soon

BY KATIE WALSH | Tribune News Service

'ARCTIC' ▲
PG-13

What it's about: A man struggles to survive and save a female helicopter pilot in a harsh, frozen environment.

The kid attractor factor: Not much — this is a drama for adults.

Violence: Some scary moments — a helicopter crash with injuries and deaths, bloody wounds, a bear attack, bad falls, etc.

Language: Some, but the film is almost entirely without dialogue.

Sexuality: None.

Drugs: None.

Parents advisory: This survival story is inspiring and appropriate for older kids and teens if they are interested.

'THE KID WHO WOULD BE KING'
PG

What it's about: A young boy pulls a sword from a stone and finds himself living out Arthurian legend in modern-day England.

The kid attractor factor: The kid-scaled adventure, humor, heart and young cast.

Violence: Some scenes where kids have to fight off fiery zombie knights and a massive battle at the end requiring a whole army of kids. Some bullying.

Language: None.

Sexuality: None.

Drugs: None.

Parents advisory: The action might make this too scary for the littlest ones.

'GLASS'
PG-13

What it's about: A sequel to "Unbreakable" and "Split," "Glass" unites three M. Night Shyamalan characters in a mental hospital to understand the realities and dark side of super-powers.

The kid attractor factor: Teens will be drawn to the genre and familiarity with the characters.

Violence: Some extreme fighting, references to terrorist attacks, abuse, etc.

Language: Some swearing.

Sexuality: None.

Drugs: None.

Parents advisory: Fine for teens and possibly for older kids if they are interested.

FRIDAY EVENING, FEB. 1

	PM	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00
BROADCAST	CBS 2	MacGyver: "Father & Bride & Betrayal." (N) ©	Hawaii Five-0: "Ikiiki I Ka La O Keawalua." (N) ©	Blue Bloods: "Ripple Effect." (N) ©	News (N) ♦			
	NBC 5	Blindspot: "Careless Whisper." (N) ©	The Blacklist: "Alter Ego." (N) ©	Dateline NBC (N) ©	NBC 5 News (N) ♦			
	ABC 7	Fresh Off the Boat (N)	Speechless (N) ©	20/20 (N) ©	News at 10pm (N) ♦			
	WGN 9	blackish ©	blackish: "30 Something." ©	Last Man Standing ©	Last Man Standing ©	WGN News at Nine (N) (Live) ©	WGN News at Ten (N)	
	Antenna 9.2	Alice ©	Alice ©	B. Miller	B. Miller	Johnny Carson ©	3's Comp.	
	This TV 9.3	For Us, the Living (NR,'83) ***	Howard E. Rollins Jr.			The Defiant Ones (NR,'58) ***	© ♦	
	PBS 11	Chi. Tonight: Review (N)	Washington Week (N)	Check, Please! (N)	Jay's Chicago (N)	Great Performances at the Met: "Marie." (N) ©	♦	
	The U 26.1	7 Eyewitness News (N)	The Game	Engagement	Broke Girl	Broke Girl	Seinfeld ©	
	MeTV 26.3	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Gomer Pyle	WKRP Cincinnati	Hogan Hero	Hogan Hero	C. Burnett
	H&I 26.4	Star Trek ©		Star Trek: Next		Star Trek: Deep Space 9	Star Trek ♦	
Bounce 26.5	Living Single	Living Single	Passenger 57 (R,'92) **	Wesley Snipes, Bruce Payne.		Drop Zone ♦		
FOX 32	Last Man Standing (N)	The Cool Kids (N) ©	Hell's Kitchen: "What's Your Motto?" (N) ©		Fox 32 News (N)	Flannery Fired Up	Modern Family ©	
Ion 38	CSI: Crime Scene	CSI: Crime Scene	CSI: Crime Scene	CSI: Crime Scene	CSI: Crime Scene	CSI: Crime Scene	CSI: Crime Scene	
Telem 44	Exatlon EE. UU. (N)	Jugar con fuego (N) ©	Jugar con fuego (N) ©	El barón (N) ©	El barón (N) ©	Chicago (N)	Chicago (N)	
CW 50	Dynasty (N) ©	Crazy Ex-Girlfriend (N)	CSI: Miami: "Last Stand."			Chicago ♦		
UniMas 60	La gran sorpresa	Atrapada		Rosario Tijeras		Tiro de ♦		
WJYS 62	Kenneth Cox Ministries	Joyce Meyer	Robison	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Monument		
Univ 66	Jesús (N)	Mi marido (N)		Amar a muerte (N)		Noticias (N)		
CABLE	AE	Live PD: Rewind (N) ©	Live PD: "Live PD -- 02.01.19." (N) © ♦					
	AMC	Jurassic Park (PG-13,'93) ***	Sam Neill, Laura Dern. ©			Angels ♦		
	ANIM	Tanked	Tanked	Hendersons (N)	(9:01) Tanked: Supersized (N) © ♦			
	BBCA	Apocalpto (R,'06) ***	Rudy Youngblood, Raoul Trujillo. ©			Norton (N) ♦		
	BET	blackish	blackish	A Madea Christmas (PG-13,'13) *	Tyler Perry, Kathy Najimy.			
	BIGTEN	College Wrestling (N)	College Wrestling: Ohio State at Illinois. (N) (Live) ©			Basketball		
	BRAVO	(6:10) The Green Mile (R,'99) ***	Tom Hanks, David Morse. ©					
	CLTV	News at 7	News (N)	News at 8	News (N)	Chic.Best	Weekend	Politics
	CNBC	Shark Tank ©		Shark Tank ©		Shark Tank ©		Shark ♦
	CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)	CNN Tonight (N)			Tonight (N) ♦	
	COM	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	This Is (N)	
	DISC	Gold Rush: The Dirt (N)		Gold Rush: "Broken Bones." (N) ©			Moonshine ♦	
	DISN	Andi Mack	Sydney (N)	Coop	Bizaardvark	Sydney-Max	Andi Mack	Andi Mack
	E!	Just Go With It (PG-13,'11) **	Adam Sandler, Jennifer Aniston. ©			Talladega Nights: ♦		
	ESPN	NBA Basketball: Boston Celtics at New York Knicks. (N)	NBA Basketball (N) ♦					
	ESPN2	College Basketball (N)	College Football: All-Star Challenge. (Tape)				SportCtr (N)	
	FNC	Tucker Carlson (N)	Hannity (N) ©			The Ingraham Angle (N)		Fox News
	FOOD	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive
	FREE	Charlie	Tarzan (G,'99) ***	Voices of Tony Goldwyn. © (SAP)			gown-ish	700 Club ♦
	FX	Deadpool (R,'16) ***	Ryan Reynolds, Morena Baccarin. ©			Deadpool (R,'16) *** ♦		
	HALL	Christmas Under Wraps (NR,'14) ©				Autumn in the Vineyard (NR,'16) © ♦		
	HGTV	Dream	Dream	Dream (N)	Dream	Dream	Dream	Dream
	HIST	Ancient Aliens: Declassified: "The Alien Legacy." (N) © ♦						
	HLN	How It Really Happened	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic
	IFC	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men
	LIFE	Dirty Dancing (PG-13,'87) ***	Jennifer Grey. ©			(9:03) The Bucket List ('07) **	© ♦	
	MSNBC	All In With (N)		Rachel Maddow Show (N)		The Last Word (N)		11th Hour (N)
	MTV	Wild/Out (N)	Wild/Out (N)	Wild/Out (N)	Wild 'n Out	Wild 'n Out	Wild 'n Out	Wild/Out ♦
	NBCSCH	NHL Hockey: Blackhawks at Sabres (N)	Blackhawks	Postgame (N)			Best of Dan Patrick	
	NICK	Henry	Cousins	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	The Office	The Office	Friends ©
OVATION	(6) Marty (NR,'55) ****	Schindler's List (R,'93) ****	Liam Neeson, Ben Kingsley. © ♦					
OWN	20/20 on OWN ©		48 Hours: Hard Evidence		48 Hours: Hard Evidence		20/20 ♦	
ODY	Dateline: Secrets (N)		Smiley Face Killers		Smiley Face Killers			
PARMT	Dumb & Dumber (PG-13,'94) ***	Jim Carrey, Jeff Daniels. ©			Ace Ventura ♦			
SYFY	The Magicians ©		The Magicians ©		Life of Pi (PG,'12) ***	Suraj Sharma. ♦		
TBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	The LEGO Movie (PG,'14) ***	Voices of Chris Pratt. ©		Step Bro ♦		
TCM	Sunrise (NR,'27) ****	George O'Brien. ©			Street Angel (NR,'28) **	© ♦		
TLC	Dr. Pimple Popper (N) ©		I Am Jazz: "Rebirth."			Dr. Pimple ♦		
TLN	Camp Meeting				Life Today	Camp	Chicago ♦	
TNT	(7:03) Rogue One: A Star Wars Story (PG-13,'16) ***	Felicity Jones. ©					Am/Night ♦	
TOON	Samur. Jack	Venture	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Burgers	Family Guy	Family Guy	
TRAV	Ghost Adventures ©		Ghost Adventures: "Ghosts of Mississippi." (N) ©				Ghost ♦	
TVL	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Two Men	Two Men	King	
USA	Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them (PG-13,'16) ***					Harry Potter ♦		
VH1	RuPaul's Drag Race: All Stars (N) ©		Bad Boys (R,'95) **	Martin Lawrence. © ♦				
WE	Love After Lockup ©		Love After Lockup (N) ©		Extreme Love (N) ©		Love- Loc. ♦	
WGN America	(6) XXX (PG-13,'02) **	Vin Diesel. ©	XXX (PG-13,'02) **	Vin Diesel, Asia Argento. © ♦				
PREMIUM	HBO	(6:40) Logan (R,'17) ***	Hugh Jackman. ©		Real Time, Bill (N)		High Main. ♦	
	HBO2	True Detective ©		Crashing	(8:45) Pacific Rim Uprising (PG-13,'18) **			
	MAX	Steve Jobs (7:20) Upgrade (R,'18) ***	©		Strike (N)		Strike ♦	
	SHO	Mary Shelley (PG-13,'17)	Elle Fanning. ©			Boxing (N) ♦		
	STARZ	Counterpart ©		(7:56) Outlander ©		(8:59) Backdraft (R,'91) ***	♦	
STZENC	(6:04) Rudy (PG,'93) ***		The Gauntlet (R,'77) **	Clint Eastwood. ©		Broadcast ♦		

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Horoscopes



Today's birthday (Feb. 1): Friends are your true wealth, especially this year. Meditate, plan and strengthen your infrastructures. Expect domestic surprises. Summer energizes physical action, before time to balance and recharge. Winter brings an epiphany leading to new work and health practices.

Aries (March 21-April 19): Today is an 8. A professional dream beckons. Don't venture far; it's not a good time for travel. An uncomfortable situation could arise. Provide impeccable work. Make an important connection.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): 8. Make travel or study plans, but don't dash off. Avoid gambles or risk. Resist the temptation to splurge. Stay flexible, and adapt as you go.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): 8. Review the budget with your partner. Discipline with the numbers serves you well. Avoid arguments by sticking to basics. Find new ways to save resources.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): 8. Romantic dreams can come true, especially if you do the homework. Actions may not go as planned; get expert advice where useful.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): 9. Focus on your work and healthy routines. Balance between action and rest. Reaffirm a commitment. You can outsmart the competition. Don't fund a fantasy. Stick to basics.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): 7. Look for love, and find it. Use finesse rather than force to referee a family quarrel. Work with what you have. Play by the rules.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): 7. Home and family take priority. Something you try doesn't work. Avoid a conflict of interests. Clarify misunderstandings, and talk it over. Listen carefully.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): 8. You're especially clever, although a joke could backfire. Don't share unfinished work. Watch for hidden expenses. Keep your word.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): 9. Extra profits are available, although unpredictable hurdles could arise. You're testing the limits. Follow your budget. Don't burn any bridges. Investigate options and possibilities.

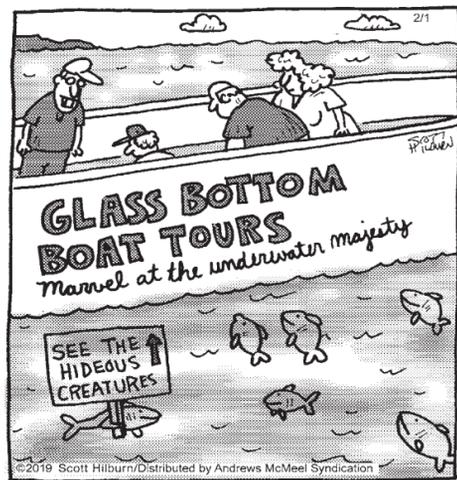
Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): 9. Take charge without stepping on anyone. Old beliefs get challenged. Don't forget to do something you promised. Adapt to a surprising development.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): 6. Get into thoughtful planning mode. Hide out if necessary. Avoid travel or wasted energy. Consider long-term ramifications before committing.

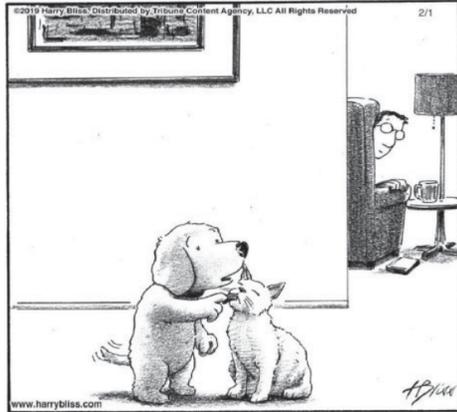
Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): 8. Hold meetings and coordinate efforts to realize a shared dream. Avoid impetuous decisions. Go for consensus, or postpone the discussion.

— Nancy Black, Tribune Content Agency

The Argyle Sweater By Scott Hilburn



Bliss By Harry Bliss



"Oh, my, you weren't kidding — it's just like sandpaper."

Bridge

East-West vulnerable, West deals

North
 ♠ 62
 ♥ QJ4
 ♦ KQ64
 ♣ AK109

West
 ♠ A10985
 ♥ K87
 ♦ A
 ♣ QJ53

East
 ♠ J7
 ♥ 1095
 ♦ 10832
 ♣ 8764

South
 ♠ KQ43
 ♥ A632
 ♦ J975
 ♣ 2

What would you bid with the North hand over South's jump to three hearts? We like three spades, which should be interpreted as either a heart raise too good to just bid four hearts, or a good hand with only three hearts that might be better off in a contract other than hearts. South would have bid three no trump over three spades and the superior contract would have been reached.

West shifted to a low club at trick two, which declarer won with dummy's ace and then ruffed a club. A low heart to dummy's queen was ducked by West, who would have done better to rise with his king and play another heart. This was not easy to see and West's duck was a reasonable play. South ruffed another club with his remaining low heart, cashed the ace of hearts, and led a diamond.

West had no answer. He couldn't hurt declarer by ruffing with his king, so he discarded a spade. South won the diamond in dummy and led the queen of hearts. West won with the king, but the defense had no trumps remaining and South couldn't be prevented from building a spade trick for his tenth trick. Well done!

The play in three no trump would have been interesting. We leave it to readers to work out the play after a spade lead to South's king and a diamond toward the dummy. The contract cannot be defeated.

— Bob Jones
 tcaeditors@tribpub.com

Dilbert By Scott Adams



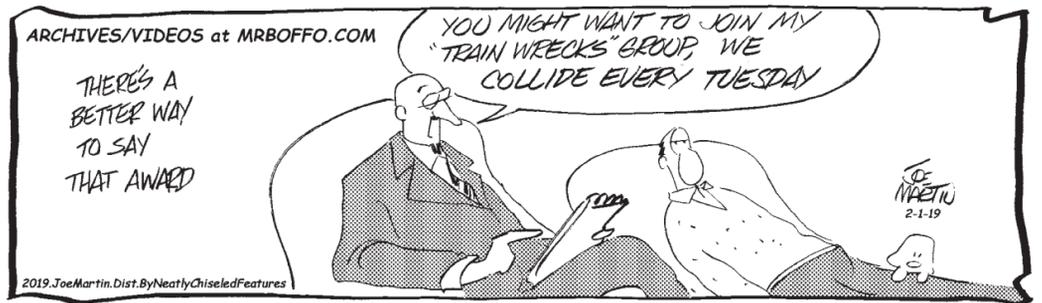
Baby Blues By Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott



Zits By Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman



Mr. Boffo By Joe Martin



Frazz By Jef Mallett



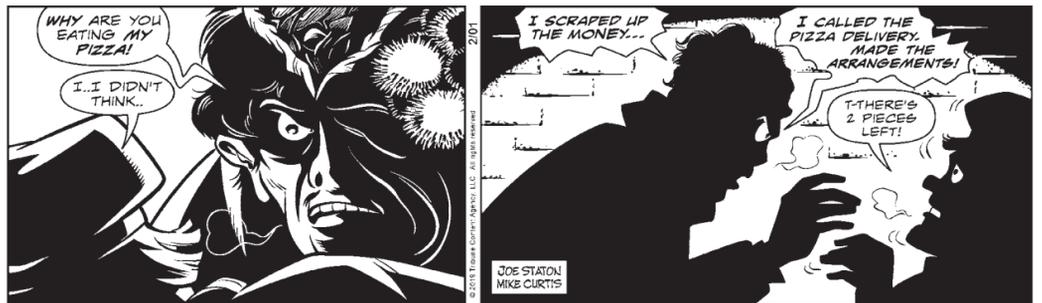
Classic Peanuts By Charles Schulz



Pickles By Brian Crane



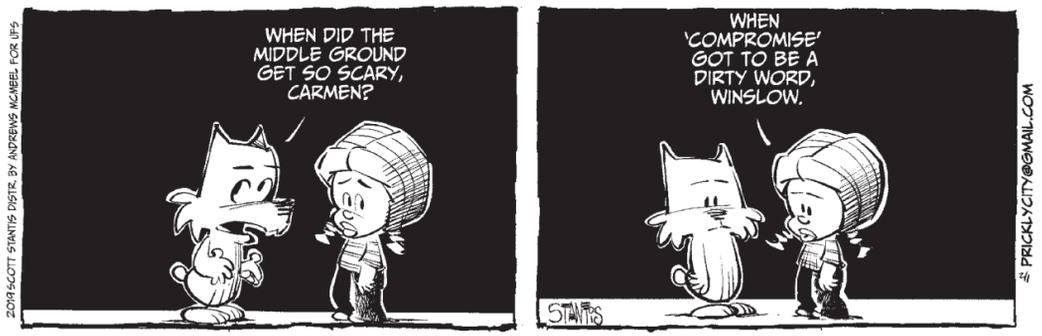
Dick Tracy By Joe Staton and Mike Curtis



Animal Crackers By Mike Osburn



Prickly City By Scott Stantis



Chicago Tribune

ON THE TOWN

left of center

Singer-songwriter Sharon Van Etten hits the reset button on her career

By GREG KOT | Chicago Tribune

All the traditional barometers of success — a series of acclaimed albums leading to bigger tours in front of larger audiences — were pointing up for Sharon Van Etten in 2015. That's when she decided to take a break from her music career, with no immediate plans to record another album or play another show.

Some people might think that's crazy. Why pull the plug just when you're starting to achieve the kind of recognition and rewards for which many talented artists work their whole lives? For Van Etten, jumping off just as she was moving up was a necessity.

Turn to Van Etten, Page 2

TAKE 10

By ADAM LUKACH
Chicago Tribune

1. Wanda is funny: Wanda Sykes will be returning to her stand-up comedy roots for her "Oh Well" tour. 8 p.m. Friday at the Chicago Theater. \$79-\$689. chicago-theater.com

2. Mmmm, whiskey: Find a liquid warmup at the Chicago Whiskey Festival, 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday at Old Crow Smokehouse (149 W. Kinzie St.). \$20-\$30. eventbrite.com

3. Bart art: A lineup of Chicago artists takes a whack at America's most famous cartoon family. The Art of Bort: A Bootleg (b)Art Show features creations from different local artists, each channeling the spirit of Bart Simpson and the rest of the family. Through February at Toy de Jour, (2064 N. Western Ave.). Details: toydejour.com

4. Fete the Pig: Enjoy a Chinese New Year celebration at the Art Institute of Chicago (111 S. Michigan Ave.), which will welcome the Year of the Pig with festivities from 1 to 4:30 p.m. Saturday for adults and kids. Details: artic.edu

5. Chinese New Year eats: Head to Lao Sze Chuan (520 N. Michigan Ave.) for a 12-course lunch/dinner menu, traditional lion dance and a dumpling-making workshop. Four sessions: 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Sunday, 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. Tuesday and 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Feb. 10. Tickets: \$58.88-\$68.88. eventbrite.com

6. Surprise grub: Chicago Magazine invites you to dinner — somewhere — for its Secret Supper 2019 event. The annual dining experience takes place in a "secret" restaurant, with the location revealed on the day of the dinner. Drinks, tax and gratuity all are included in the ticket price. Tickets: \$560 four-person VIP package. eventbrite.com

7. Nina Simone in song: Northlight Theatre's "Nina Simone: Four Women" musical celebrates Simone's evolution as a songwriter and an activist. Various times Wed.-Mon. until March 2 at Northlight Theatre (9501 Skokie Boulevard, Skokie). Tickets: \$30-\$78. northshorecenter.venue.net

8. Get your vinyl on: Smashed Plastic is a vinyl pressing plant opening this weekend in Hermosa (4200 W. Diversey St.) with proper fanfare: Starting at 7 p.m. Saturday, Plastic will host a free grand opening party at its new location, featuring live music and album-inspired artwork. Details: facebook.com/smashedplastic

9. Flying bull: Come on down to see some wranglin' cowboys ridin' some buckin' bulls at the Professional Championship Bull Riders World Tour Finale XIII this weekend. 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Sears Centre (5333 Prairie Stone Parkway, Hoffman Estates). \$18-\$63. searscentre.com

10. Hops 'n' bird: Enjoy your bird with a different kind of bubbles at the second annual Chicken and Beer Dance. The event offers country-style cuisine, craft beer and plenty of dancing. 6 to 10 p.m. Friday at 2112 Chicago (4245 N. Knox Ave.). \$20 food only, \$40 food and drink. sixcorners.com/chickenandbeer

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TURN IT UP

BY GREG KOT



Van Etten

Continued from Page 1

“The biggest reason I wanted to take a break is I wanted to live my life,” says Van Etten, who released “Remind Me Tomorrow” (Jagjaguwar), her first album since 2014, on Jan. 18. “My life was becoming this self-fulfilling prophecy.”

The singer saw that her increasingly less-fulfilling life as a touring musician was tied in with some of her personal issues, the romantic break-ups that provided subtext for many of her songs.

“I was heartbroken singing and living through these songs night after night,” she says. “Some people can separate themselves from their songs, but I can’t. They aren’t just moments in time that are in the past for me. It’s really easy to get dark on the road when you’re away from family and just about everyone you care about, that knows you really well, that would have your back. My band was amazing through all of this, and as soon as I said I needed a break from all this, they were supportive.”

“It was not an easy decision, but in making it I was able to nurture my relationship with my partner, my friends, my family, and finally settle in to New York. Before, I was out on the road or recording all the time and never really here. I went to more shows, more galleries, I read more, I was inspired by positive things. It was a new chapter in my life.”

While on hiatus from the music-business cycle, Van Etten was able to recharge personally and professionally. She accepted an acting role in the Netflix science-fiction drama “The OA” and also appeared in the Showtime series “Twin Peaks.” She wrote the score for Katherine Dieckmann’s “Strange Weather,” and began taking college courses in mental-health counseling, a profession she hopes to pursue full-time at some point. In addition, she and musician-manager Zeke Hutchins became romantic partners, and the couple had a child in 2017. In many ways, Van Etten found a sense of contentment that had eluded her since she was a kid. But she never quit writing songs.

“Around the fall of 2017, I had the creative drive to think about music for a minute,” she says. “It wasn’t at the forefront for two years, but then I sat down and went through this folder of demos, and I realized I had 40, 50 I had written since being off the road in 2015. I didn’t realize that many had stacked up. There is a country record in that folder that I don’t think the world needs right now, some piano ballads that are not ready to be released, and then there



RYAN PFLUGER

Sharon Van Etten released “Remind Me Tomorrow,” her first album since 2014, last month.

were these left-of-center tracks.”

While working on the “Strange Weather” soundtrack, Van Etten was drawn to some of the keyboards in the rehearsal space she shared with actor Michael Cera. Of particular interest was an analog synthesizer, a Roland Jupiter-4, a centerpiece of countless new-wave albums in the ‘80s by the likes of Gary Numan, Depeche Mode and Soft Cell.

The synth pushed Van Etten out of her guitar-bass-drums comfort zone and into something that felt fresh, timely. “I played one of the demos for my partner and he got

excited,” she says. “I played him another, then another. He just laughed, held my hand and said, ‘I think it’s time to make a record.’”

The singer had been immersing herself in albums by Suicide and Portishead, as well as Nick Cave’s haunted 2016 release “Skeleton Tree.” Some of their sonic virtues crept into her own songwriting. “A lot of what I like about the demos was the darkness, the drone, the beats with almost spoken word over it,” she says. “I sing, obviously, but there is something rhythmic about the phrasing.”

When: 7:30 p.m. Feb. 14-15

Where: Thalia Hall, 1807 S. Allport St.

Tickets: \$30-\$45; thaliahallchicago.com.

The first line on the new album acknowledges her past (“I told you everything”) and then the music pushes her forward.

“I wanted to ease people in, I wanted them to hear my voice, me talking to them, stripped down, but also give notice that things were about to change,” she says of the emotional ambiguity that makes the album so riveting. With producer John Congleton, she forged a mix of optimism — a new relationship, a child — with dark, often disorienting or disruptive instrumental textures that have no precedent in her discography.

“Personally, I’m in a good place, but I also had this conflicting feeling because of what’s going on in the world,” she says. “The sound of the album is like this personal acknowledgment that I’m living in this little bubble, but the world around me is in chaos. We have dance parties that I deejay where I play this darker-edged (electronic) music that I’ve always been drawn to. I never felt I was hiding that side of myself, I just wasn’t ready to make a record like that. I went from playing solo guitar, to playing with other people, to learning how to direct a band. Every time I go in to make a record I try to challenge myself to do something new.”

The new direction doesn’t diminish Van Etten’s feel for hooks or melody. She hits a career peak with the wrenching yet somehow cathartic “Seventeen,” in which the 37-year-old Van Etten imagines a conversation with her younger self. They both have misgivings about what they once were or what they would become.

“It’s not like one of them is ‘right’ and the other one ‘wrong,’” she says. “It’s more like, man, I wish I could give myself a hug back then. There’s a period in my life that I would never revisit because of the hardship, but I wouldn’t change a damn thing. I think I am still that person, and the song is more about questioning what that means. Have I changed? Have I grown? Does it matter? I’m the person I am because of what I’ve been through, and part of dealing with your past is letting yourself move on.”

Greg Kot co-hosts “Sound Opinions” at 8 p.m. Friday, 7 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday on WBEZ-FM 91.5.

Greg Kot is a Tribune critic.

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Photo by Lois Greenfield.



BLAKE SMOLENSKY

Jesse Cryderman, Nicole Cox, John Geary, Libby Pederson and Ian Watkins

LOCAL SOUNDS

Wintercamp fest allows music fans to ‘pretend it’s summer’

BY BRITT JULIOUS
Chicago Tribune

When: 7 p.m. Friday

Where: Logan Square Auditorium, 2539 N. Kedzie Blvd.

Tickets: \$25-\$40 (21+); www.eventbrite.com

“I think Chicago’s music scene is the best in the country, and it’s often overlooked,” said John Geary, a co-founder of the Wintercamp Music Festival.

Wintercamp, presented by Inside Straight and Wavelength Productions, distinguishes itself from the many other local music festivals by taking place during the brutal winter months.

“We had been talking about doing a festival together that occurred during a nonfestival time,” said Jesse Cryderman, a festival co-founder. “We wanted to make it affordable and ancillary to the things in the summer.”

In a city full of festival-loving, music obsessed fans, it only makes sense for event producers to take advantage of the “off-season.” Artists are less booked, prices are competitive, and audiences — at least after a few weeks of hibernation — are eager to do something, anything, in the city.

Such festivals are gaining traction in Chicago. Tomorrow Never Knows, which began at such mainstay venues as Metro and Schubas, has expanded to venues including the new Sleeping Village in Avondale. And recently the Empty Bottle implemented Music, Frozen, Dancing — the rare wintertime outdoor music festival.

Now the organizers of Wintercamp, in its third year, are eager to unleash their biggest festival yet. Each new year brings a desire to push themselves and the festival. Last year, the two began booking more national talents, though still with Chicago roots. And this year, Geary claimed they’re “blowing it up.”

The two-day festival, which kicks off Feb. 16, will include local phenoms such as

Sir the Baptist and soul vocalist Adam Ness. Geary and Cryderman describe Day One as more “band-focused,” while Day Two will have more of an electronic vibe.

“What’s the best thing we can do for the audience to represent the different facets of Chicago music?” Geary asked. “We curated it so if you wanted to only do one night and focus on one vibe, you could do that.”

In addition to the music, each year’s festival includes a charitable component. This year, the festival is working with the Merit School of Music, an idea the two say has had great appeal to the booked musical acts.

“There’s a deficit in arts and music programming, just funding-wise,” Cryderman said. “When we talk to a lot of these artists, it’s a big plus one that a lot of their ticket sales aren’t just going to pay them, but to something that’s good for the city. Specifically, youth who might turn into them in the future.”

And hopefully, those same good vibes will translate to this year’s festival. “We’re trying to create this thing where we can all warm up in this big room and pretend it’s summer,” Cryderman said. “There’s a real community feeling here at this festival.”

Britt Julious is a freelance writer.

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Collaboration a sonic effort for clarinet soloist Anat Cohen



HOWARD REICH
On Music

When the Anat Cohen Tentet played the University of Chicago's Logan Center in 2017, listeners had to be struck not only by the band's range of repertoire but its breadth of instrumental color.

Cohen's buoyant clarinet lines soared above and among the plush tones of flugelhorn, vibraphone, accordion, drums and whatnot. To hear a soloist of Cohen's stature surrounded by so much glowing, shimmering sound was to encounter her music in a welcome new light.

All of that — and more — should emerge in Orchestra Hall on Friday evening, when Cohen plays just the second performance of "Triple Helix," a concerto written for her and the Tentet by longtime collaborator Oded Lev-Ari. Co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall and Symphony Center, the three-movement work had its world premiere Jan. 12 in Carnegie's Zankel Hall and appears to have stretched the talents of both soloist and composer.

"I have to practice this," says Cohen. "It was not something I could just go, 'Ah, just sight-read it, it will be fine.' I took it upon myself to take out the clarinet classical etudes to have the sound" that certain portions of the work required.

Which was exactly the

idea, says Lev-Ari.

"She's such a great player, there's not much anyone can do to make her sweat," observes the composer. "But there are specific things that I hoped for that would happen."

Specifically, Lev-Ari wanted "to take her to different places on her instrument, maybe methods of playing that she doesn't necessarily utilize all the time. It's definitely more challenging and demanding than other things I have written for her."

Considering that Lev-Ari was commissioned to write a concert work specifically for Cohen — a jazz clarinetist who embraces related genres — perhaps it's not surprising that George Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue" served as his original model. Like that jazz-meets-the-classics work, "Triple Helix" begins with solo clarinet and soon ranges far afield.

After the opening, "It has some abstract moments, with hints of impressionist music and the classical world," says the clarinetist. "Then it goes into a whole other world, like rock music, and goes into free jazz and into a taste of Middle Eastern."

"There's a whole second movement that is all romantic. The first time we played it, in December, when we got together with the band, I was standing there, and in the middle of the second movement he wrote such a beautiful piano part, and the band was playing, there was a moment of accelerando and crescendo — I started crying.

"I got so emotional lis-



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Anat Cohen will play the Chicago premiere of "Triple Helix," written for her by Oded Lev-Ari, Friday night in Orchestra Hall.

"The connection to DNA might be a convoluted point, but I feel that a lot of what Anat (Cohen) and I do together musically, I feel like it touches a core of musicality between us."

— Oded Lev-Ari, composer

tening to it. My whole friendship with Oded came through that moment. I saw him as a 16-year-old in high school," adds Cohen. "And I saw our progress and tons of musical and business collaboration."

In a way, that's what the enigmatic title, "Triple Helix," refers to: the deep-seated connection between these two musicians, like the double helix that defines our DNA.

"The connection to DNA might be a convoluted point, but I feel that a lot of what Anat and I do together musically, I feel like it touches a core of musicality between us," says Lev-Ari, who plays the aforementioned, second-move-

ment piano solo that moved Cohen so visibly.

"We've known each other since we were in high school in Israel," adds Lev-Ari, "went through musical experiences together and separately, but there's something that has remained unchanged from that initial encounter. And it's unchanged regardless of the style or genre or the setting we work in, whether a (recorded) live performance or if we just play in her living room."

So with "Triple Helix," "I'm chasing that idea a little bit, as I'm trying to figure out what it is that is that connection."

The connection of course, is music, but its

specific character perhaps can be fully expressed not through words or gesture but only through sound.

All of which places ample responsibility on Cohen, which she felt acutely in preparing to perform and recently record the concerto for release later this year.

"I was telling Oded, I do so many things in my travels, many times I rush, I fly, I land, I go to the stage — not much time for preparation," says Cohen.

"Here I had a whole month to practice and prepare for Carnegie Hall, and the more time I had to prepare, the more nervous I got."

Lev-Ari says the work

runs about 17 to 18 minutes, but because of its improvised features can go several minutes longer, if the musicians are so inclined.

"It depends on the day," says the composer. "We can let out material, like a suit."

One that Cohen likely will wear a bit differently on every occasion. In Chicago, where the clarinetist has built a large and loyal following through the years, it seems quite possible that she'll stretch out, if all goes well.

Regardless, she now has a concerto tailor-made for her technique and the ensemble that bears her name.

"I feel very privileged to be working with a person like Oded," she says. "He's a brilliant person that I really think ought to get more recognition for all his brilliance."

Howard Reich is a Tribune critic.

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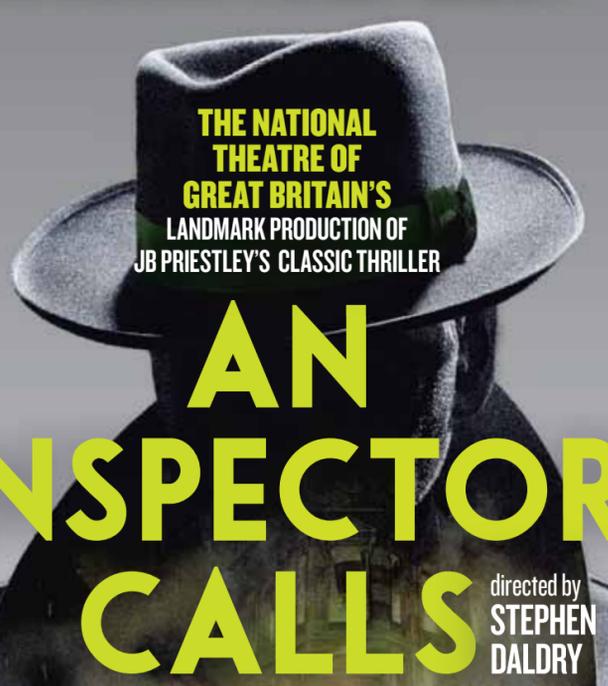
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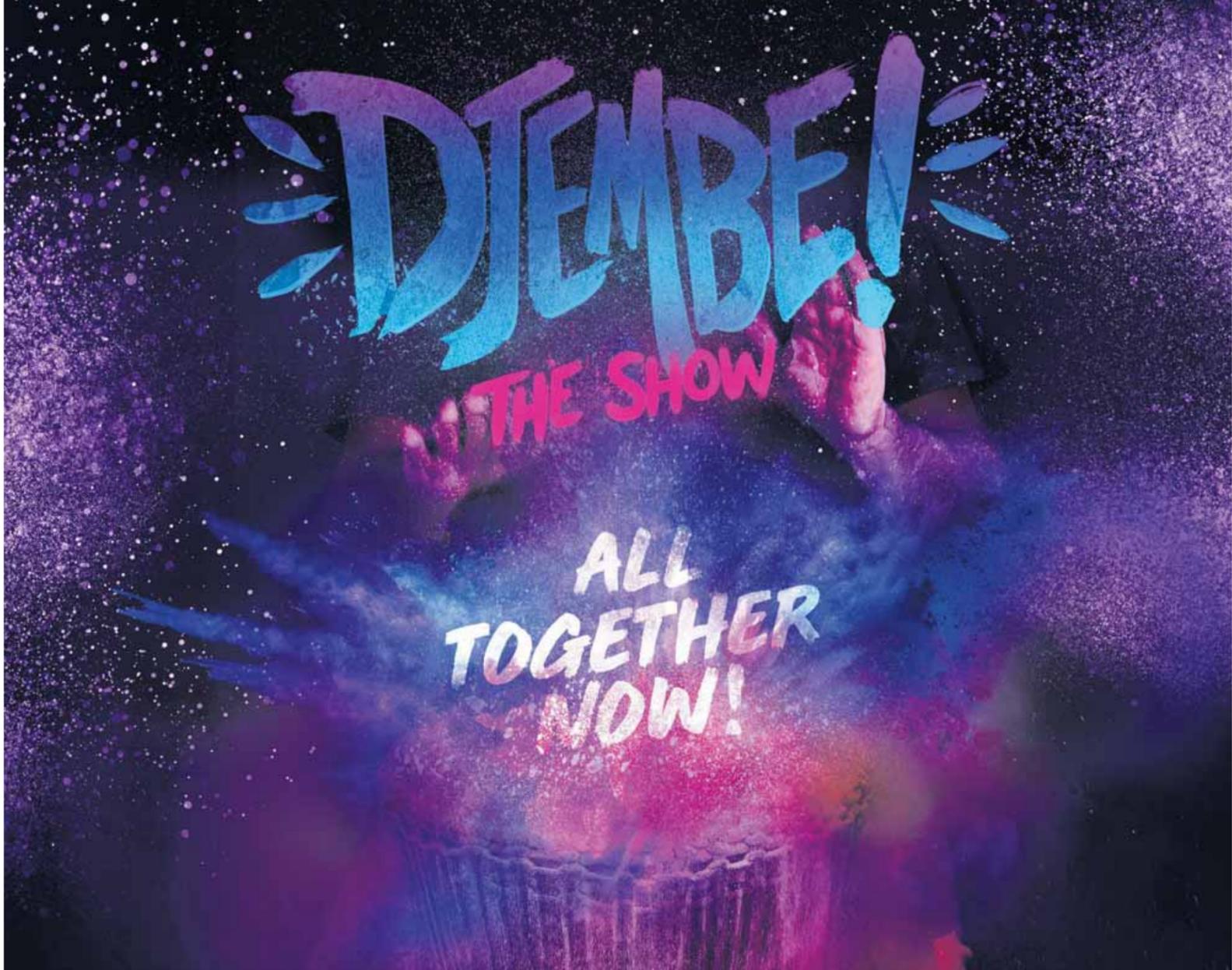
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POP MUSIC PREVIEW

Taking a career-risking shot

Bring Me the Horizon is betting the farm on a pop-informed sound

BY ALLISON STEWART
Chicago Tribune

During its 15 years on earth, English hard rock band Bring Me the Horizon has consistently made adventurous albums, boundary-pushing works that have incorporated everything from metalcore to EDM.

But the group's new album, "amo," is staggeringly different, an almost-pop album that is a career-risking moon shot. Reaction from fans has been mixed. One writer compared it to something the Backstreet Boys might have done.

"Sometimes people overreact," frontman Oli Sykes says, mildly. "Amo" might transform his band from cultishly beloved mid-level rock stars to arena-filling superstars, but it's still too soon to tell. On the day of this phone interview, the band is launching its American tour (coming to the Aragon Ballroom on Tuesday night), and getting measured for Grammy night suits. The single, "Mantra," has been nominated for Best Rock Song.

More excerpts from that conversation:

It's really about the journey

It took us 15 years to get to where we are now. We're still not the biggest band in the world, but we got to experience every little detail, from getting driven to gigs by our mom to touring in a van to tour buses to traveling the world and going on private jets. We've had our ups and downs, we've been through everything. We never blew up overnight. We never put out one song and then we were massive. It means we've been everywhere, we've experienced everything, and we've still got room to grow. As much as you think, I'd like to be the biggest band in the world, I'd like to be where this (rival) band is, it can be quite lonely at the top. ... Why rush? Why try to cheat your way to the top? You've gotta enjoy every aspect of it.

Now, they wait

As we're releasing (this album), we're like, "Oh my God, what are people going to think?" I didn't have that feeling with our last record, because the music was quite similar throughout, I could see it appealing to our fanbase. This record is a lot more challenging. If you just like one type of music, and you're really against other types of music, you're probably not going to like this record, it kind of bounces all over the



PRETTY PUKE

Matt Kean, from left, Oli Sykes, Lee Malia, Mat Nicholls and Jordan Fish of Bring Me the Horizon.

place. Every song just switches it up. We knew that some people, they like to be in their tribe, so to speak. It's definitely scary, but at the same time it's the only record we could have wrote, because we have to be true to ourselves.

They didn't make this album to become superstars

I think people have the misinterpretation that we want to write a really poppy album because we

want to become this massive band. We like poppy hooks as much as we like aggression and screaming and passion. It's all there on this record.

That would be fine if it happened, though

We quite unashamedly talk about how, if there's any goal for this band, it's to be the band that's a gateway into rock for people who thought they'd never like

rock music. Rock music changed my life. Before I got into rock music, I didn't have any friends, I didn't have any passions, really. It changed all that for me, because of bands that made it accessible. There's no way I would have listened to Cannibal Corpse and just liked it, but there were bands that spoke to you straightaway, and you got it. ... A lot of people get stuck on: "It used to be heavy and now it's not." I think it's a

When: 6 p.m. Tuesday

Where: Aragon Ballroom, 1106 W. Lawrence Ave.

Tickets: \$49.50; 800-745-3000 or www.ticketmaster.com

thing people say and don't really mean.

Even if they do become rock stars, don't expect too much

If you meet us, we're not the coolest people. We haven't got that kind of charisma. Some people walk into a room and make it come alive straightaway. ... I'm a very ordinary person doing a very extraordinary thing, and there is this internal battle: "Should I be out partying?" I like not having to be me. I like doing the mundane things, like staying at home sometimes. Just the plain boring nothingness of life is something I can enjoy.

On collaborating with Grimes on the new song "Nihilist Blues"

We wanted to bring some artists in that you wouldn't associate with our band, or our scene. Grimes was at the top of our list, because I really liked her. We overheard an interview (with her) saying she liked our band. She was really, really cool, just open. You don't want to make any preconceived judgments, but I kind of thought of her (as a) cool kid, that she'd be kind of super restrained, but she was amazing. The reference points she was making — the song is kind of like '90s rave or dark trance music, and she was like, "It sounds like this crossed with this and this." I was like, oh my God, she gets it.

On writing about his divorce, and new marriage

I fought with myself for quite a while, because I didn't really want to write about past relationships. I'd just been through a divorce, I'd met someone else. I was looking at it like, "No, I'm happy. It doesn't matter that this person did something horrible to me, and I've been through this divorce and I've had a really rough time, because I'm happy. I'm glad that it happened." After a while, I realized, just because I'm happy now doesn't mean you don't have to deal with what happened. Even if you're like, thank God that's over, you still have to work out all the reasons it fell apart.

Allison Stewart is a freelance writer.

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POP MUSIC PREVIEW

Emily King's LP as wild and free as her Catskills home

BY DAN HYMAN
Chicago Tribune

On a recent morning, Emily King informed her Uber driver she was a Grammy-nominated singer. The man turned around, looked at her and, in rather blunt fashion, asked her, "So, is you, like, famous?" The 33-year old laughed at the memory.

"Obviously, if he had to ask, the answer is no," King said with a laugh when calling from Eugene, Oregon, between tour stops. Still, living in our celebrity-centric times, this driver wasn't taking any chances. "He was impressed that I was going to be performing at Coachella so then of course he wanted to take a picture with me," she recalled. A veteran of the music industry, having toured with John Legend and Nas and performed for Prince, she naturally obliged. Frankly, the singer said, it's all amusing to her. Because more than a decade into her career, King, who this month emerges with "Scenery," an expansive new album of soulful R&B, said she's simply happy to still be doing what she loves for a living. "I'm just so grateful to have an audience."

And yet when she began contemplating how best to begin writing and recording what eventually became her new album, the singer decided she needed to be alone — or at least as close to it as possible. A native of New York City, and having lived her entire life on the same Lower East Side block, King, whose voice pos-

When: 8 p.m., Feb. 1

Where: Lincoln Hall, 2424 N. Lincoln Ave.

Tickets: \$25; 773-525-2501 or www.lh-st.com

esses a wiry wisdom and smoky sensuality, said in the fall of 2017 she began feeling suffocated by the one city she'd called home. "Growing up in (New York City) is great for inspiration because there's so many talented people that come there," she said. "And you have access to all these incredible musicians. But then there's the living part of it. You can start to feel trapped."

Feeling financially burdened by the city and, more importantly, starting to deal with intense bouts of anxiety and depression, King made the major decision to upend her life and move two hours north to the far more desolate Catskills, New York. Almost overnight, she said, when she arrived at her new home, the singer began to breathe more easily.

"Once I did that I started having fun again and the music started writing itself," King, who was joined by her longtime producing partner Jeremy Most, explained. "It really did help my creativity. (Living in New York City) you feel like you always have to be on the move. And I'd never had that experience of being outdoors and there being no one else around. It was a huge revelation."



BAO NGO

Emily King decided that she needed to escape her native New York City to record her new album, "Scenery."

Much like her new surroundings, "Scenery" (due on Feb. 1 via ATO Records), is wide and expansive and embraces all manners of genre befitting a child of '90s hip-hop and pop music who also adored traditional soul music. "That was the hope for it," King says when it's posited that this might be her most sonically diverse LP yet. "Me and Jeremy (Most) both love a lot of different kinds of music so then it become about not repeating ourselves. That's the goal and the challenge."

On the album's opening track, "Remind Me," King lays plain her additional intention to make this an intensely personal album: a synth and soulful pop cut that finds her stretching her voice to rarely seen heights, the song is King lifting the proverbial weight

off her chest. "It just really sums up how I felt about the start of that process of making the record and having something new," she said. "I was finally free."

Hearing King describe her current creative life in such glowing terms makes it evident that she believes she's a far different artist now than her younger self. Her 2007 debut album "East Side Story" earned her a Grammy nomination for "Best Contemporary R&B Album of the Year," but King said she looks back at that time with discomfort. "I was so young that I didn't realize I could put my foot down and say, 'This is what I want to do,'" she recalled of being stuck in a creatively stifling record deal with J Records. "I was just being diplomatic to a fault. I was lost." An eternal optimist, King said she's

come to believe "it all happened the way it should have because then I realized no award or fame is worth anything unless you can sleep at night and say, 'I did my best and I love what I put out.'"

And now, with an album she's immensely proud of, winding her way across the country on a headline tour, King said she's nothing but grateful for her long-winding musical journey to the present.

"There's been painful moments and growing pains," she said. "But I'm glad that I was able to start from scratch and build this thing rather than having a massive hit and not knowing what it's really like to rough it."

Dan Hyman is a freelance writer.

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WEEKEND DINING

JUST OPENED



ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Middle Brow Beer Co. co-founder Pete Ternes pours a beer Jan. 21 at Bungalow, the brewery's new brick-and-mortar space in Logan Square.

Middle Brow finds its home

BY JOSH NOEL
Chicago Tribune

After eight years, stops at six breweries and countless miles driven between them, Middle Brow Beer Co. finally has a home of its own.

"It's been a logistical nightmare," Middle Brow co-founder Pete Ternes said with a laugh.

The nightmare ends this week, or at least abates, with the opening of Bungalow, Middle Brow's brewpub in Logan Square. It is the brewery's first brick-and-mortar space.

Middle Brow was founded in 2011 by three partners who figured they'd open a physical space within a year or two. Instead, they spent the next eight years trying to make brewery ownership work.

"We started early in this (craft beer) boom, when people were buying everything you made," Ternes said. "Everyone was buying everything. We were so stupid, so innocent."



The Bungalow beer is a bright, accessible, low-alcohol lager.

As Chicago's beer landscape grew increasingly competitive, that was no longer the case.

Middle Brow wound up stitching together its existence by making beer under contract at six breweries in and around Chicago.

Middle Brow will continue to make most of its packaged beer under contract, but with Bungalow, it has a place to make and

sell its own beer too, operating as a bread bakery and coffee shop early in the day and a pizza place thereafter.

Beer-wise, Middle Brow has mostly focused on, as Ternes said, "fermentation and playing with yeast." The brewery only made its first India pale ale last year.

"We've always been yeast guys," Ternes said. "And there

are already so many good IPAs in the city."

Middle Brow makes just two year-round beers: White Light (an apricot cardamom Belgian-style wit) and Robyn (a saison featuring two yeast strains). With the opening of Bungalow, a third will be added, a bright, accessible, low-alcohol lager.

At Bungalow, the taps will rotate among beers hop-forward, dark, sour or funky. The opening tap list includes a session IPA, a brut IPA (a style Middle Brow has fully embraced), a dry hopped beer made with spelt and *Brettanomyces* yeast, a berry Berliner weiss and a barrel-aged milk stout made with cacao nibs, cinnamon, vanilla, orange zest and peppers.

2840 W. Armitage Ave.,

middlebrowbeer.com

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GALDO PHOTO

Feast of fried chicken dishes.

EAT!

Some of Chicago's most acclaimed chefs will pitch in for the third annual edition of Kendall College's Fried Chicken and Champagne Fest. Boka's Lee Wolen, Parachute's Beverly Kim and many more will prepare a feast of fried chicken to benefit the Kendall College Trust, a 501(c)(3) organization that raises scholarship funds for students, as well as the college's high school outreach programs in underserved communities. Tickets include tastings, drinks and dessert. Upgrade for early entry and access to premium Champagnes. \$90 general, \$195 upgrade. 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at The Dining Room (900 N. North Branch St.); kendallcollegetrust.org



NICK FOCHTMAN PHOTO

Taps at Eris Brewery & Cider.

DRINK!

Eris, Chicago's only brewery and cidery, will celebrate its first birthday with a celebration Saturday at its taproom in Irving Park. The festivities include a tapping of a throwback release, special pours of experimental efforts, birthday food and drink specials, plus a birthday song and cake-cutting at 6 p.m. sharp. Free entry; food and drink a la carte. 2-6 p.m. Saturday, 4240 W. Irving Park Road, erischicago.com

— Adam Lukach

WHERE TO EAT NOW

Restaurant reviews and profiles from Tribune food critic Phil Vettel, staff reporters and freelance writers. Reviewers make every effort to remain anonymous. Meals are paid for by the Tribune.

Boka Chef Lee Wolen brings an exciting menu to a restaurant that's been a Chicago mainstay for more than a decade. While the ingredients he uses are familiar, the execution is beautifully complex. Cocktails are first-rate, too. Open: Dinner daily. Prices: Entrees \$22-\$33. 1729 N. Halsted St., 312-337-6070. — Phil Vettel

Booth One Helmed by veteran chef Doug Psaltis, Booth One is something of a resurrection of the famed Pump Room. Scan through the menu, and you'll find several nods to the past. But you'll also spot dishes the old Pump Room never would have touched — snapper ceviche and tuna sashimi, for instance — and modern updates (the crab Louie salad is now a lobster Louie and comes with jalapeno crema) that might have been viewed as sacrilege years ago. Open: Dinner daily, lunch Monday-Friday. Prices: Entrees \$22-\$49. 1301 N. State Parkway, 312-649-0535. — Phil Vettel

Cafe Marie-Jeanne Run by husband-wife partners Michael Simmons (chef) and Val Szafranski (front-of-house), Cafe Marie-Jeanne is an intensely personal operation, one whose easygoing attitude and excellent kitchen work make the Humboldt Park spot a neighborhood treasure. Open: Breakfast, lunch and dinner Wednesday-Monday. Prices: Main courses \$12-\$35. 1001 N. California Ave., 773-904-7660. — Phil Vettel

Cafe Spiaggia The less-expensive sister restaurant to Spiaggia has food that is rustic yet sophisticated. Starters and pastas are scaled for one but can certainly be split if you order a couple. Do. All dinner entrees save the steak are meant for sharing, and the assort-

ment of gelatos for dessert dazzles. Open: Lunch, dinner daily. Prices: Small plates \$9-\$21; entrees \$28-\$48. 980 N. Michigan Ave., 312-280-2750. — Bill Daley

Ceres' Table This accomplished restaurant is respectful of Italian regional cuisine without being tradition-bound. The all-Italian wine list is budget-sensitive when it needs to be; that and the reasonably priced cocktails make this an attractive place to imbibe. Open: Dinner daily, brunch Sunday. Prices: Entrees \$15-\$32. 3124 N. Broadway, 773-922-4020. — Phil Vettel

Che Figata Tucked into the Hotel Arista in Naperville, Che Figata encompasses a spacious dining room, kitchen-view horseshoe bar and a long outdoor patio with fire pits. The menu lists more than a dozen cicchetti (which means "small dishes" everywhere but here; chef and founder Mark Grimes doesn't do small) and a large variety of salads and soups, pizzas, pastas and meat and fish entrees. If you can't find something to like here, you're not even trying. The pizzas — Roman al taglio-style ovals, made with proofed-for-days dough that results in an airy, foccicalike base with well-crisped edges — are terrific. In-house pastas are also good, particularly the short-rib ravioli with black truffle and Gorgonzola in a Parmesan brodo. Open: Lunch and dinner daily. Prices: Pastas and main courses \$17-\$44. 2155 City Gate Lane, Naperville, 630-579-3210. — Phil Vettel

Cherry Circle Room A quiet alternative to the Chicago Athletic Association hotel's relentlessly crowded rooftop bar, Cherry Circle Room is also one of the most handsome dining spaces in the city, with leather, wood and clubby good looks. Executive chef Peter Coenen's menu recalls steakhouse classics in his refined takes on Caesar salad and beef tartare. Roasted leg of lamb for two and duck for



ABEL URIBE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Bonci This Roman import serves pizza with a light-as-air crust, above, topped with hundreds of different high-quality toppings, from traditional tomato sauce and cheese to 'nduja, burrata, potato and fresh mint. This is mostly a to-go operation, with no tables and only a few counter seats. Open: Lunch and dinner daily. Prices: sold by weight, about \$10/person. 161 N. Sangamon St., 312-243-4016. — Nick Kindelsperger

one are highlights, and Kristine Antonian's superb desserts deliver an exciting finish. Open: Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily. Prices: Entrees \$16-\$45. 12 S. Michigan Ave., 312-792-3515. — Phil Vettel

Chopo Chicken Chopo Chicken in Lincoln Park looks similar to dozens of other quick-service joints popping up around town that hope to mimic the success of Chipotle (at least before all the health scares). The shtick: a short menu of four or five proteins that you can endlessly customize with toppings to your liking. Open: Lunch and dinner daily. Prices: \$11-\$13. 2460 N. Clark St., 773-666-5925. — Nick Kindelsperger

City Mouse From the team behind Logan Square's Giant comes

this Fulton Market District restaurant in the Ace Hotel. Executive chef Patrick Sheerin oversees the casual, eclectic menu, ranging from seriously good pastas to offbeat dishes such as fried artichokes buried under pork ragu and fried cheddar bites topped with caviar. During daytime hours, the brunch menu features griddle cakes, a double-patty burger and a "gas station" breakfast sandwich. Open brunch and dinner daily. Prices: Entrees \$16-\$34. 311 N. Morgan St., 312-764-1908. — Phil Vettel

Cochon Volant For a restaurant whose name translates to "flying pig," this boisterous brasserie in the Hyatt Centric Hotel is pleasingly down to earth. Can't-miss signatures include the silky chicken-liver mousse. Open:

Dinner and breakfast daily; lunch Monday-Friday. Prices: Entrees \$14.95-\$24.95. 100 W. Monroe St., 312-754-6560. — Phil Vettel

Craft Urban Owner Bernie Laskowski worked at Everest, Marche, mk, Bin 36 and Park Grill before opening this restaurant. The compact menu features snacks like tempura-fried cheese curds, gourmet "breads and spreads," seafood, porchetta, beef and desserts. The restaurant also has cocktails, wine and a late-night ramen offering. Open: Lunch and dinner daily. Entrees: \$19-\$34. 211 James St., Geneva, 331-248-8161. — Phil Vettel

Cruz Blanca Cooks heap freshly grilled meat and tortillas on a paper-covered platter for DIY assembly at Rick Bayless's long-awaited taqueria. The spot is also a brewery with food-friendly beers. Open: Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Sunday. Prices: Entrees \$13. 904 W. Randolph St., 312-733-1975. — Nick Kindelsperger

The Delta Chicago abounds with tamales, but The Delta manages to set itself apart by serving Mississippi Delta tamales. They differ from ubiquitous Mexican tamales in that they are constructed from cornmeal instead of masa (nixtamalized corn), and cooked in a liquid instead of being steamed. Open dinner and late night daily. Prices: Entrees \$5 to \$18. 1745 W. North Ave., 773-360-1793. — Nick Kindelsperger

Dos Urban Cantina In a 100-seat brick-and-oak space, Topolobampo alums Brian Enyart and Jennifer Jones crank out irresistible Mexican-inspired dishes that aren't afraid of a little influence from Italy, the American South or Eastern Europe. Desserts are terrific, there's a budget-conscious wine list and cocktails include a first-rate margarita. Open: Dinner daily. Prices: Entrees \$16-\$21. 2829 W. Armitage Ave., 773-661-6452. — Phil Vettel

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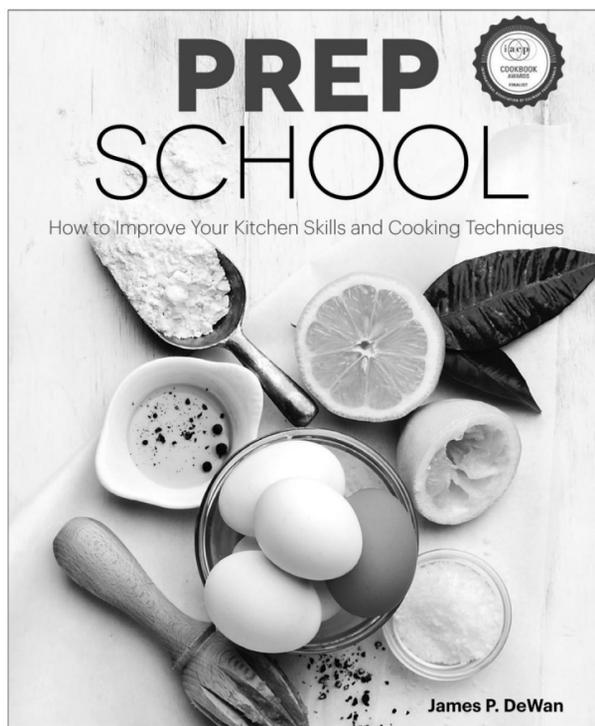
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Chicago Tribune

THE THEATER LOOP

BY CHRIS JONES



Astoundingly diverse body of work

Steven Dietz, who has been producing in this town for decades, has a new thriller

You can make a killing in the theater, but not a living, goes the theatrical cliché. The playwright Steven Dietz, whose work never has been seen on Broadway, has achieved precisely the reverse.

Especially in Chicago. A town that Dietz, who lives in Austin, Texas, calls “my New York.”

Dietz, 60, has been writing plays for decades — by his own estimation, he has penned something like 40 scripts. When I heard that American Blues Theater will premiere one of his latest, a noir-style thriller called “On Clover Road,” I went looking for just how many years Dietz has been seeing his plays produced by a Chicago theater.

You have to go back at least to 1987 and the Wisdom Bridge Theatre’s premiere of Dietz’s “Ten November,” a play about the 1975 sinking of the SS Edmund Fitzgerald on Lake Superior. Dietz has outlasted Wisdom Bridge, as he has the Coronet Theatre in Evanston, where “Lonely Planet,” a beautiful drama about the owner of a map store penned during the heights of the AIDS crisis was staged by the Northlight Theatre. The Coronet, alas, was torn down and replaced by condos, but “Lonely Planet,” an inestimably beautiful piece of writing, lingers in many memories.

“People have told me that was my first-paragraph play,” Dietz said over the phone this week from his home in Austin, “meaning that will be the play featured in the first paragraph of my obit-



MICHAEL BROSILOW PHOTO

Playwright Steven Dietz at an American Blues Theater rehearsal for “On Clover Road.”

uary.”

Should I still be alive to write one, “Lonely Planet” would indeed be in the first paragraph of my Dietz obituary, but let us return to the living.

Dietz was produced at the Steppenwolf Theatre Company in 2005 — that was his Vietnam-era drama “Last of the Boys,” an experience he still describes as the highlight of his career, not least because the cast included Amy Morton and Tracy Letts. But, like me, you may also have seen “Private Lives” at the old Apple Tree Theatre in Highland Park; “Paragon Springs” at Time-Line Theatre; the sweet baseball

plays “Honus and Me” and “Jackie and Me” at Chicago Children’s Theatre; “Fiction” at the Remy Bumppo Theatre Company; “Yankee Tavern” at American Blues Theater and, no, this is not intended to be a complete list.

It’s an astoundingly diverse body of work — and it doesn’t include either “Silence” or “Force of Nature,” both of which I watched premiere at the Milwaukee Repertory Theater in the 1990s.

I hadn’t talked to Dietz since 2005, so I asked him how he feels like his work has changed. He’s been teaching at the University of Texas at Austin, a school that just

significantly amped up its playwrighting program by also hiring the scribes Annie Baker and Branden Jacobs-Jenkins, a direct shot across the bow of Ivy League playwrighting programs. The hires were announced by the school this week.

But back to Dietz.

At first he demurred: “I wish I had an answer to your question,” he said. “But I can only just write the play in front of me.”

I pushed a little more — it was a tough line of inquiry because all of the plays listed above are diverse in style, theme and subject matter. Dietz has written thrillers, adapted novels for kids, probed

the core of collapsing marriages, translated the work of other dramatists.

“I guess I am more interested now in narrative experimentation,” he said, “and this has led to me to write several thrillers. I like playing with form. I’d also say that my plays are not as overtly political, or, at least, I think they come at politics from a quieter and more personal angle. I also write more about doubt and ache and loss. I’ve had more loss in my life. Structurally speaking, the recent plays might be more complicated, but the feelings I’m after now are quiet, grief, compassion. The early plays were showier.”

Maybe. Most of that, of course, is about the progression of age on a writer. You could say the same about Shakespeare, for that matter. It’s just Chicago has enjoyed this long-open window into Dietz, surely the most produced writer in the city of whom few outside the business have heard. He doesn’t seem to care much.

“I’ve been the stubborn hedgehog that just pushes forward,” he said, mostly kissing off the idea of writing for television, a world that sucked away so many of his peers. “Honestly, there are so many different careers for an American playwright. I still feel like I’m serving this lucky apprenticeship in the theater, even 30 years later.”

Trust me, Dietz is no apprentice. Just a hard-working writer with some staying power.

“On Clover Road” opens Thursday by American Blues Theater and runs through March 16 at Stage 773; 773-327-5252 and www.americanbluestheater.com

Chris Jones is a Tribune critic.

cjones5@chicagotribune.com

CHRIS JONES RECOMMENDS

“Blue Man Group”

★★★★½
“Blue Man Group” has been playing at Briar Street since 1997, a remarkable run of 20-plus years. If you’ve never had the pleasure, go. Open run at the Briar Street Theatre, 3133 N. Halsted St.; \$49-\$69 at www.ticketmaster.com

“Gaslight District”

★★★★
The best work in the new Second City e.t.c. Stage revue “Gaslight District” engages at an equal level with the paying customers in the seats. For example, cast member Jasbir Singh Vazquez plays a guy who shows up at the offices of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, requesting his own deportation. Open run on the Second City e.t.c. Stage, 1608 N. Wells St. in Piper’s Alley; \$21-\$48 at 312-337-3992 and www.secondcity.com

“Hamilton”

★★★★★
This heartland “Hamilton” is more in touch with the fundamental scrappiness of the early years of a rebel colony turned into a spectacular democratic experiment. Open run at CIBC Theatre, 18 W. Monroe St.; \$65-\$400 at 800-775-2000 or www.broadwayinchicago.com

“How to Catch Creation”

★★★★
The ambition inherent in Christina Anderson’s heady new play at the Goodman Theatre is right there in its title: “How to Catch Creation.” That’s quite a challenge. Moreover, Anderson is defining the creative act in very broad terms — we’re in the realm of African-American intellectuals and artists from San Francisco, and, in this telling, having a child is the very essence of creativity, and so is falling in love. You have to look hard for what the play really wants to say. It certainly works as a celebration of creativity, and I found its depictions of what we all have to go through to be frequently moving, especially given the quality of some of the actors in this production. Through Feb. 24 at the Goodman Theatre, 170 N. Dearborn St.; \$20-\$70 at 312-443-3800 and www.goodmantheatre.org

“I Call My Brothers”

★★★★
This potent and compelling new play by Swedish playwright Jonas Hassen Khemiri produced in Chicago by the Interrobang Theatre Project, focuses on the tendency to suspect any person whose features suggest an origin in the Middle East. The 90-minute drama is about an Arab-Swedish man named Amor, whose personal problems multiply when a car bomb is set off, causing widespread panic in Stockholm. Through Saturday by Interrobang Theatre Project at Rivendell Theatre, 5779 N. Ridge Ave.; \$32 at www.interrobangtheatre.org

“Noises Off”

★★★★
Now 37 years old, Michael Frayn’s “Noises Off” is not only one of the funniest English-language farces of the 20th century but far and away the best comedy ever written about the perils of putting on a show. In the first act, you watch the dress rehearsal of a dreary bedroom farce. In Act Two, you watch part of a performance from a backstage perspective, only by now the fragile relationships between cast members has deteriorated. By Act Three, it’s an all-out war. At the Windy City Playhouse, the audience at director Scott Weinstein’s production actually heads to different seats backstage. Judging by all the smiles on peoples’ faces on a Friday night, it’s a fine idea. Through March 31 at Windy City Playhouse, 3014 W. Irving Park Road; \$45-\$85 at 773-891-8985 or www.windycityplayhouse.com

“Photograph 51”

★★★★★
In playwright Anna Ziegler’s terrific new play at Court Theatre, hypothesizing is a whole lot sexier than offering proof. Speculators get all the spoils but the unsung souls testing the evidence are the only people who can save us from ourselves. “Photograph 51,” which is directed at Court by the talented Vanessa Stalling, is about the search in the early 1950s for the double-helical structure of DNA. The first model was built by the British-American team of James Watson and Francis Crick, but this play is all about another



MURDO MCLEOD PHOTO

Gytha Parmentier and Roman Van Houtven in Carly Wijs’ “Us/Them” Upstairs at Chicago Shakespeare Theater as part of the WorldStage Series.

HOT TICKET

“Us/Them”

★★★★½
In 2004, a group of terrorists descended upon a school in Beslan, Russia; by the time the so-called Beslan Massacre was over, at least 330 people had lost their lives, including many children. It’s impossible to watch Carly Wijs’ “Us/Them,” an unsettling but somehow hopeful 60-minute theater piece from Belgium, without thinking about stateside school shootings. But terror in a classroom knows no borders. Part of Chicago Shakespeare’s indispensable World Stage series, “Us/Them” is, at its core, an exploration of how kids deals with trauma. Through Sunday Upstairs at Chicago Shakespeare Theater on Navy Pier; \$38-\$56 at 312-595-5600 or www.chicago-shakes.org

scientist, Rosalind Franklin, who worked in Wilkins’ lab at Kings College, London, and according to Ziegler’s play was the true brains behind this race and yet lost out on most of the glory because she was a woman. It’s a role that has allowed the actress Chaon Cross to do the best work of her career. Through Feb. 17 at Court Theatre, 5535 S. Ellis Ave.; \$50-74 at 773-753-4472 or www.courttheatre.org

“The Realistic Joneses”

★★★★
Everyone is named Jones in Will Eno’s “The Realistic Joneses,” which is now enjoying a Chicago premiere with a hefty dose of Chicago acting talent in a co-production between Shattered Globe Theatre and Theater Wit. In essence, “Realistic Joneses” is a portrait of two stages of a marriage. The older couple, played by Linda Reiter and H.B. Ward, are in that twilight zone between middle and old age, still working for a living but also staring emptiness in the face. Through March 9 at Theater Wit, 1229 W. Belmont Ave.; \$24-\$74 at 773-975-8150 or www.shatteredglobe.org

“Red Rex”

★★★★½
Chicago playwright Ike Holter’s “Red Rex” is the dynamic sixth entry in his Rightlynd Cycle of seven plays about a fictional Chicago ward undergoing gentrification. As the story of a fictional Chicago theater, it surely is the most self-critical show the Chicago storefront movement ever has produced. “Red Rex” is premiering at Steep Theatre under the simpatico direction of Jonathan Berry and is a riveting show, especially once we meet Trevor, an emissary from the neighborhood played by Debo Balogun. Truth is Holter’s strength and in Balogun, Holter has an interpreter. Through March 2 at Steep Theatre, 1115 W. Berwyn Ave.; \$27-\$38 at 773-649-3186 or www.steeptheatre.com

“Small Jokes About Monsters”

★★★
“Small Jokes About Monsters,” a new play by the Chicago-based actor-writer Steven Stratford now at the small 16th Street Theater in Berwyn, is a sweet-and-sour meditation on whether or not it’s healthy to laugh at really terrible

things. For the first half hour, you feel like you are getting the most conventional of family dramas, involving three very different brothers (played by Esteban Andres Cruz, Eric Slater and Christopher Wayland Jones), gathered in a rented room for their father’s funeral, drinking, airing their fraternal differences, recalling their difficult relationship with their father. But the play’s exploration of its title (the monsters here involve abuse, not dinosaurs) pushes plenty of boundaries. Through Feb. 16 at 16th Street Theater, 6420 16th St., Berwyn; \$18-\$22 at 708-795-6704 or www.16thstreettheater.org

“The Woman in Black”

★★★★½
“The Woman in Black,” now at the Royal George Theatre, is an old-school gothic ghost story, adapted by Stephen Mallatrat from the novel by Susan Hill about a young lawyer sent to a remote English house to deal with a dead woman’s affairs. With low

OPENING NIGHTS

Friday

“Nina Simone: Four Women”: This musical homage digs into Nina Simone’s evocative, political work. Through March 2 at Northlight Theatre, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie; 847-673-6300 and www.northlight.org

“The Roommate”:

Sharon, recently divorced, needs a roommate to share her Iowa home. Robyn, also in her mid-50s, needs a place to hide — making for dark comedy when worlds collide. Through March 3 at Citadel Theatre Company, 300 South Waukegan Road, Lake Forest; 847-735-8554 and www.citadeltheatre.org

Monday

“Girl in the Red Corner”: From Broken Nose Theatre, Halo, a survivor of domestic violence, embarks on life-changing martial arts routine. Through March 2 at The Den Theatre, 1333 N. Milwaukee Ave.; 773-697-3830 and www.brokennosetheatre.com

Tuesday

“The Father”: From Remy Bumppo, Florian Zeller’s tragi-comic mystery looks at love, the limits of patience and the unsettling process of mental decay. Through March 3 at Theater Wit, 1229 W. Belmont Ave.; 773-975-8150 and www.remybumppo.org

Thursday

“On Clover Road”: From American Blues Theater, a mother meets with a cult deprogrammer, believing she will be reunited with her runaway daughter. Through March 16 at Stage 773, 1225 W. Belmont Ave.; 773-327-5252 and www.americanblues-theater.com

levels of lighting, amplified sound effects and no digital trickery, this Chicago production is most certainly the scariest show in town. Through Feb. 17 at the Royal George Theatre, 1641 N. Halsted St.; \$49-\$69 at 312-988-9000 or [theroyalgeorgetheatre.com](http://www.theroyalgeorgetheatre.com)



"Fascinating ... there is no better 90 minutes in town."

"The role of Franklin has allowed the actress Chaon Cross to do the best work of her career. If this were a movie, there would be Oscar chatter."

-Chris Jones, *Chicago Tribune*

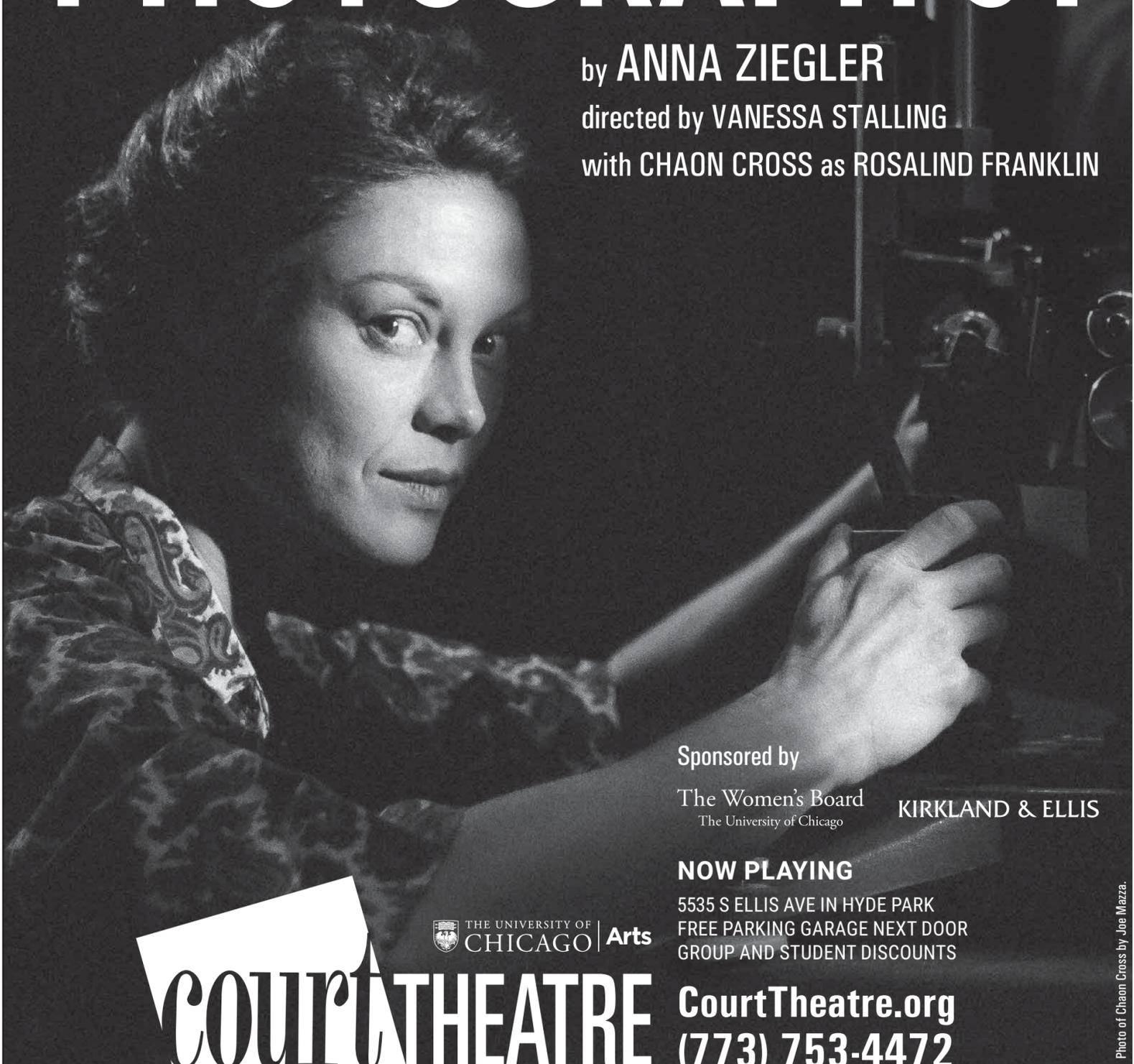
See Her Story.

PHOTOGRAPH 51

by ANNA ZIEGLER

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Photo of Chaon Cross by Joe Mazza.

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All interested and qualified disadvantaged businesses should contact, IN WRITING, (certified letter, return receipt requested), Jim Holzapel, Project Manager, to discuss the subcontracting opportunities. All negotiations must be completed prior to the bid opening date of 2:00 pm, February 19, 2019.

LEGAL NOTICES GOVERNMENT/EDUCATION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF
Ahset Castro Heru Castro

MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF **Kecia Castro (Mother)**

JUVENILE NO.: **19JA00006 19JA00007**

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, **Kenyal Hill (Father)** Any And All Unknown Fathers , respondents, and to **All Whom It May Concern**, that on **January 4, 2019**, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by **KIM FOXK** in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge **Robert Balanoff** in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, ON **02/25/2019**, at **11:00 AM** in CALENDAR **12** COURTROOM **L**, or as soon thereafter as this case may be heard, an adjudicatory hearing will be held upon the petition to have the minor declared to be a ward of the court and for other relief under the Act.

THE COURT HAS AUTHORITY IN THIS CASE TO TAKE FROM YOU THE CUSTODY AND GUARDIANSHIP OF THE MINOR, TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND TO APPOINT A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION. YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD. IF THE PETITION REQUESTS THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION, YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO THE CHILD.

UNLESS YOU appear, you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

UNLESS YOU appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and each of you, and an order or judgment entered.

DOROTHY BROWN, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
February 1, 2019

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF
Dynasty Hicks

MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF **Dana Evans (Mother)**

JUVENILE NO.: **18JA00988**

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, **Derrick Hicks (Father)**, respondents, and to **All Whom It May Concern**, that on **October 3, 2018**, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by **KIM FOXK** in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge **Maxwell Griffin** in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, ON **02/15/2019**, at **1:30 PM** in CALENDAR **12** COURTROOM **A**, or as soon thereafter as this case may be heard, an adjudicatory hearing will be held upon the petition to have the minor declared to be a ward of the court and for other relief under the Act.

THE COURT HAS AUTHORITY IN THIS CASE TO TAKE FROM YOU THE CUSTODY AND GUARDIANSHIP OF THE MINOR, TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND TO APPOINT A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION. YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD. IF THE PETITION REQUESTS THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION, YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO THE CHILD.

UNLESS YOU appear, you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

UNLESS YOU appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and each of you, and an order or judgment entered.

DOROTHY BROWN, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
February 1, 2019

LEGAL NOTICES GOVERNMENT/EDUCATION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF
Francisco Salgado

MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF **Rosemarie Salgado (Mother)**

JUVENILE NO.: **18JA00981**

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, **Rosemarie Salgado (Mother)** Unknown (Father) Any And All Unknown Fathers Any, respondents, and to **All Whom It May Concern**, that on **October 2, 2018**, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by **KIM FOXK** in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge **Andrea Buford** in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, ON **02/25/2019**, at **10:30 AM** in CALENDAR **4** COURTROOM **D**, or as soon thereafter as this case may be heard, an adjudicatory hearing will be held upon the petition to have the minor declared to be a ward of the court and for other relief under the Act.

THE COURT HAS AUTHORITY IN THIS CASE TO TAKE FROM YOU THE CUSTODY AND GUARDIANSHIP OF THE MINOR, TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND TO APPOINT A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION. YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD. IF THE PETITION REQUESTS THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION, YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO THE CHILD.

UNLESS YOU appear, you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

UNLESS YOU appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and each of you, and an order or judgment entered.

DOROTHY BROWN, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
February 1, 2019

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT - February 1, 2019

CPS RFP FOR PROGRAM MANAGEMENT SERVICES
DUE: March 1, 2019 AT 2 p.m.
See: www.cps.edu/purchasing

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF
Jasmine Ruelh

MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF **Danielle Marie Ruelh (Mother)** AKA **Danielle Ruelh**

JUVENILE NO.: **16JA00945**

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, **Jose Gonzales Sr. (Father)**, AKA **Jose Gonzales Sr.**, respondents, and to **All Whom It May Concern**, that on **April 12, 2018**, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by **KIM FOXK** in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge **Robert Balanoff** in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, ON **02/25/2019**, at **9:30 AM** in CALENDAR **12** COURTROOM **L**, or as soon thereafter as this case may be heard, a hearing will be held upon the petition to terminate your parental rights and appoint a guardian with power to consent to adoption.

THE COURT HAS AUTHORITY IN THIS CASE TO TAKE FROM YOU THE CUSTODY AND GUARDIANSHIP OF THE MINOR, TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND TO APPOINT A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION. YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD. IF THE PETITION REQUESTS THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION, YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO THE CHILD.

UNLESS YOU appear, you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

UNLESS YOU appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and each of you, and an order or judgment entered.

DOROTHY BROWN, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
February 1, 2019

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF
Myah Franklin

MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF **Jalee Franklin (Mother)**

JUVENILE NO.: **15JA00176**

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, **Unknown (Father)**, respondents, and to **All Whom It May Concern**, that on **October 22, 2018**, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by **KIM FOXK** in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge **Patrick Murphy** in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, ON **02/20/2019**, at **1:30 PM** in CALENDAR **1** COURTROOM **A**, or as soon thereafter as this case may be heard, a hearing will be held upon the petition to terminate your parental rights and appoint a guardian with power to consent to adoption.

THE COURT HAS AUTHORITY IN THIS CASE TO TAKE FROM YOU THE CUSTODY AND GUARDIANSHIP OF THE MINOR, TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND TO APPOINT A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION. YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD. IF THE PETITION REQUESTS THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION, YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO THE CHILD.

UNLESS YOU appear, you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

UNLESS YOU appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and each of you, and an order or judgment entered.

DOROTHY BROWN, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
February 1, 2019

LEGAL NOTICES

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago will be accepting applications for the following classification(s):

Electrical Operator I (Original)

Application Filing Period: January 25, 2019 through February 22, 2019. **Examination Date:** March 16, 2019 at Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences (CHAS), 3857 West 111th Street, Chicago, IL. **Scope of Examination:** Knowledge of Electrical Operator I practices. **Nature of Position and Duties:** Attends, operates, and cleans electrical control equipment at a sewage treatment plant, in a pumping station, or a lock, during an assigned rotating shift. **Pay:** \$46.86 per hour

Electrical Operator II (Original & Promotional)

Application Filing Period: January 25, 2019 through February 22, 2019. **Examination Date:** March 16, 2019 at Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences (CHAS), 3857 West 111th Street, Chicago, IL. **Scope of Examination:** Knowledge of Electrical Operator II practices. **Nature of Position and Duties:** Has charge of, attends to, operates and cleans electrical control equipment at a sewage treatment plant or pumping station. May supervise lower level Electrical Operators. **Pay:** \$49.20 per hour

Legal Assistant (Original & Promotional)

Application Filing Period: February 1, 2019 through March 1, 2019. **Examination Date:** March 23, 2019 at Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences (CHAS), 3857 West 111th Street, Chicago, IL. **Scope of Examination:** Knowledge of legal assistant practices. **Nature of Position and Duties:** Under general supervision of attorneys and/or a Senior Legal Assistant, performs entry-level paralegal work in support of District activities. **Pay:** \$67,032.16 per year

Senior Legal Assistant (Promotional)

Application Filing Period: February 1, 2019 through March 1, 2019. **Examination Date:** March 23, 2019 at Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences (CHAS), 3857 West 111th Street, Chicago, IL. **Scope of Examination:** Knowledge of senior legal assistant practices. **Nature of Position and Duties:** Under general supervision of attorneys, performs more advanced paralegal work in support of District activities. **Pay:** \$79,107.08 per year

Stores Specialist (Original)

Application Filing Period: January 25, 2019 through February 22, 2019. **Examination Date:** March 23, 2019 at Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences (CHAS), 3857 West 111th Street, Chicago, IL. **Scope of Examination:** Knowledge of stores specialist practices. **Nature of Position and Duties:** Under general supervision, conducts physical inventories of a wide variety of stocked items and performs related procedures involving the identification, cataloging and general inventory management of materials and equipment. **Pay:** \$59,237.62 per year

Applications can be submitted online only at www.districtjobs.org.

Additional information may be found at www.mwrd.org or call 312-751-5100.

Mailed, Emailed, Hand delivered or Faxed Applications Will Not Be Accepted. Resumes Will Not Be Accepted In Place of Application Forms. An Equal Opportunity Employer - M/F/D
Pub: 2/1-2/15/2019 6114072

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago will be accepting applications for the following classification(s):

Machinist (Original)

Application Filing Period: January 25, 2019 through February 8, 2019. **Examination Date:** February 23, 2019. Location: To be announced. **Scope of Examination:** Knowledge of machinist practices. **Nature of Position and Duties:** Under supervision, performs skilled manual work in connection with the operation of precision machine tools used in fabricating metal parts. Installs, repairs and maintains mechanical equipment in the shop and in the field. **Pay:** \$48.38 per hour

Master Mechanic (Promotional)

Application Filing Period: January 25, 2019 through February 8, 2019. **Examination Date:** February 22, 2019 at MWRD Main Office Building Annex, 111 E. Erie Street, Chicago, IL. **Scope of Examination:** Knowledge of master mechanic practices. **Nature of Position and Duties:** Under direction, coordinates and directs the repair, maintenance and installation of mechanical equipment and the repair and alteration of structures at sewage treatment and disposal plants, pumping plants and related facilities. **Pay:** \$124,882.16 per year

Pollution Control Technician I (Original)

Application Filing Period: February 1, 2019 through February 8, 2019. **Examination Date:** March 9, 2019 at Northside College Preparatory High School, 5501 North Kedzie Street, Chicago, IL. **Scope of Examination:** Knowledge of Pollution Control Technician I practices. **Nature of Position and Duties:** Under supervision gathers samples of water from streams, waterways, and industrial waste discharges for use in laboratory analysis and performs related duties as required. **Pay:** \$29.07 per hour

Applications can be submitted online only at www.districtjobs.org.

Additional information may be found at www.mwrd.org or call 312-751-5100.

Mailed, Emailed, Hand delivered or Faxed Applications Will Not Be Accepted. Resumes Will Not Be Accepted In Place of Application Forms. An Equal Opportunity Employer - M/F/D
Pub: 1/25-2/8 6102289

FORECLOSURES

F18110198 CPN IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT, CHANCERY DIVISION Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Champion Mortgage Company Plaintiff, vs. Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Thelma Terrell; Secretary Housing and Urban Development; Sheila Terrell aka Sheila M. Terrell; Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants Defendants. CASE NO. 18 CH 15659 11037 South Morgan Street, Chicago, Illinois 60643 Sullivan Calendar 60 NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given you, Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Thelma Terrell, and UNKNOWN OWNERS and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, defendants in the above entitled cause, that suit has been commenced against you and other defendants in the Circuit Court for the Judicial Circuit by said plaintiff praying for the foreclosure of a certain mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to wit: LOT 275 (EXCEPT THE NORTH 10 FEET THEREOF) TOGETHER WITH THE NORTH 15 FEET OF LOT 276 IN SHELDON HEIGHTS NORTH WEST THIRD ADDITION, BEING A SUBDIVISION OF THE WEST 5/8 OF THE EAST 1/2 OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4, OF SECTION 17 (EXCEPT THE SOUTH 174 FEET THEREOF) IN TOWNSHIP 37 NORTH, RANGE 14 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS. P.L.N. 25-17-420-059-0000 Said property is commonly known as 11037 South Morgan Street, Chicago, Illinois 60643, and which said mortgage(s) was/were made by Thelma Terrell and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds as Document Number 0725640021 and for other relief; that Summons was duly issued out of the above court against you as provided by law and that said suit is now pending. NOW THEREFORE, unless you, the said above named defendants, file your answer to the complaint in the said suit or otherwise make your appearance therein, in the Office of the Clerk of the Court at Cook County on or before February 18, 2019, a default may be taken against you at any time after that date and a Judgment entered in accordance with the prayer of said complaint. E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp. This communication is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Steven C. Lindberg ANSELMO LINDBERG & ASSOCIATES LLC 1771 W. Diehl Rd., Ste 120 Naperville, IL 60563-4947 630-453-6960 | 866-402-8661 | 630-428-4620 (fax) Attorney No. Cook 58852, DuPage 293191, Kane 031-26104, Peoria 1794, Winnebago 3802, IL 03126232 ipledadings@anselmolindberg.com THIS LAW FIRM IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR. Pub: 1/18, 2/5, 2/12/2019 6093998

FORECLOSURES

F18100248 PNC IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT, CHANCERY DIVISION PNC Bank, National Association Plaintiff, vs. Dennis Allen; PNC Bank, N.A. sbm to National City Bank; City of Chicago; Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants Defendants. CASE NO. 18 CH 15902 10730 South Langley Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60628 Sirkko Calendar 58 NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given you, Dennis Allen, and UNKNOWN OWNERS and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, defendants in the above entitled cause, that suit has been commenced against you and other defendants in the Circuit Court for the Judicial Circuit by said plaintiff praying for the foreclosure of a certain mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to wit: LOT 15 IN BLOCK 2 IN P.L.A. ADDITION TO PULLMAN, BEING A SUBDIVISION IN THE EAST 1/2 OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 AND IN THE EAST 1/2 OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 15, TOWNSHIP 37 NORTH, RANGE 14, EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS. P.L.N. 25-15-405-044-0000 Said property is commonly known as 10730 South Langley Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60628, and which said mortgage(s) was/were made by Dennis Allen and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds as Document Number 0518642223 and for other relief; that Summons was duly issued out of the above court against you as provided by law and that said suit is now pending. NOW THEREFORE, unless you, the said above named defendants, file your answer to the complaint in the said suit or otherwise make your appearance therein, in the Office of the Clerk of the Court at Cook County on or before March 4, 2019, a default may be taken against you at any time after that date and a Judgment entered in accordance with the prayer of said complaint. E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit

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<p>2010 FORD EDGE SEL</p>  <p>BUY FOR \$8,100 #091246AT</p>	<p>2009 JEEP WRANGLER X</p>  <p>BUY FOR \$8,900 #091321AT</p>	<p>2008 TOYOTA TACOMA BASE</p>  <p>BUY FOR \$9,400 #090790AT</p>	<p>2015 HYUNDAI ELANTRA SE</p>  <p>BUY FOR \$10,200 #P6487</p>
<p>2013 VOLKSWAGEN TIGUAN SE</p>  <p>BUY FOR \$12,000 #P6397AT</p>	<p>2017 HYUNDAI SONATA 2.4L</p>  <p>BUY FOR \$13,000 #P6519</p>	<p>2013 FORD ESCAPE SEL</p>  <p>BUY FOR \$13,000 #0P6465AT</p>	<p>2016 FORD ESCAPE SE</p>  <p>BUY FOR \$13,000 #090175AT</p>
<p>2016 FORD FUSION SE</p>  <p>BUY FOR \$13,000 #0090286A</p>	<p>2015 FORD FUSION SE</p>  <p>BUY FOR \$13,200 #0091011A</p>	<p>2015 CHEVY MALIBU LT</p>  <p>BUY FOR \$13,300 #P6521</p>	<p>2014 FORD ESCAPE TITANIUM</p>  <p>BUY FOR \$13,300 #010180BT</p>



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