



Senate Dems accuse Barr of lying

AG calls Mueller's letter over report's handling 'a bit snitty'

BY ERIC TUCKER AND MARY CLARE JALONICK
 Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Private tensions between Justice Department leaders and special counsel Robert Mueller's team broke into public view Wednesday as Attorney General William Barr pushed back at the special counsel's "snitty" complaints over his han-

dling of the Trump-Russia investigation report.

Testifying for the first time since releasing Mueller's report, Barr faced sharp questioning from Senate Democrats who accused him of making misleading comments and seeming at times to be President Donald Trump's protector as much as the country's top law enforcement official.

The rift fueled allegations that Barr has spun Mueller's findings in Trump's favor and understated the gravity of

Trump's behavior. The dispute is certain to persist, as Democrats push to give Mueller a chance to answer Barr's testimony with his own later this month.

Barr separately informed the House Judiciary Committee that he would not appear for its scheduled hearing Thursday because of the panel's insistence that he be questioned by committee lawyers as well as lawmakers. That refusal sets the stage for Barr to possibly be held in contempt of Congress.

At Wednesday's Senate

Judiciary Committee session, Barr said he had been surprised Mueller did not reach a conclusion on whether Trump had tried to obstruct justice, and that he had felt compelled to step in with his own judgment that the president had committed no crime.

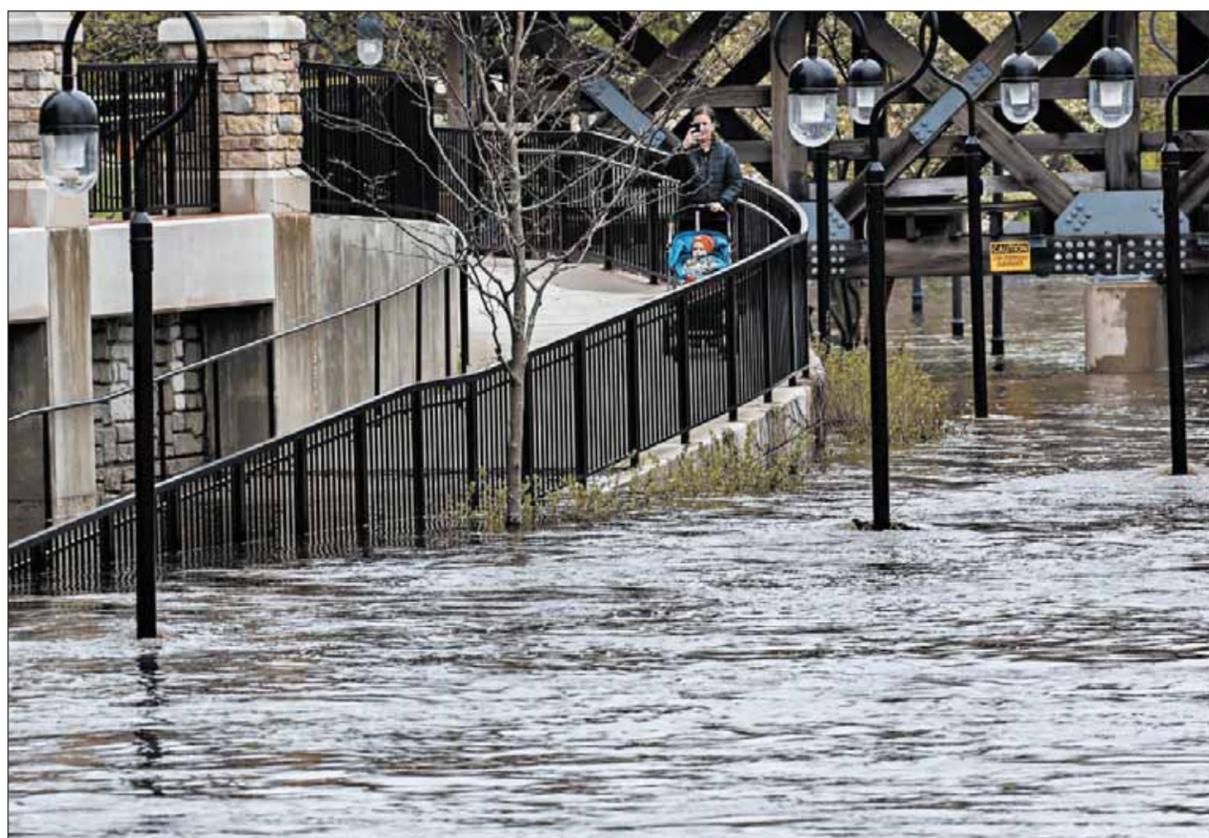
"I'm not really sure of his reasoning," Barr said of Mueller's obstruction analysis, which neither accused the president of a crime nor exonerated him. If Mueller felt he shouldn't make a



WIN MCNAMEE/GETTY

Attorney General William Barr, who testified to senators, refuses to do so Thursday before a House committee.

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ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Chicago area braces for flooding

As rain soaked northern Illinois, flood warnings hit Chicago-area rivers on Wednesday morning and residents might have to deal with another bout of flash flooding Thursday. The Des Plaines River was at or close to flood levels Wednesday at Des Plaines and Riverside, while the DuPage River at Plainfield and the Fox River in McHenry and Kane counties were flooding. Above, Natalie Kaciulis takes pictures with her son Nicholas, 2, as recent heavy rains swell the DuPage River at the Naperville Riverwalk on Wednesday. **Chicagoland**, Page 4

Ill. Senate passes Pritzker's tax plan

Democrats help move proposal over to House

BY DAN PETRELLA
 Chicago Tribune

Democrats in the Illinois Senate used their supermajority to push forward legislation Wednesday paving the way for a graduated-rate state income tax — Democratic Gov. J.B. Pritzker's top legislative priority — but the plan faces an uncertain future in the House.

With a 40-19 straight party-line vote, Senate Democrats exceeded the three-fifths majority required to approve a proposed amendment that would eliminate the Illinois Constitution's flat tax requirement and allow for a structure that charges higher rates on higher incomes. That measure must be approved by the same margin in the Democrat-controlled House and then would go before voters in the November 2020 election.

Again without any Republican votes, Senate Democrats passed a package of bills that would take effect only if voters approve the constitutional amendment. The first establishes a new graduated rate structure that would bring in an estimated \$3.3 billion in new state revenue by raising taxes on people earning more than \$250,000 a year while giving a modest break to the other 97 percent of taxpayers.

The other bills — aimed at winning over reluctant Democrats and appeasing angry taxpayers — would freeze school district property tax rates if the state meets its education funding obligations and eliminate the estate tax, a long-held Republican priority. While Democrats were united in support of the proposed

Turn to **Tax**, Page 9

Local terror plot suspect: 'I laugh at my stupidity'

Hillside man faces sentencing in plan to blast Loop bar

BY JASON MEISNER
 Chicago Tribune

A man who attempted to detonate a 1,000-pound car bomb outside a crowded Loop bar in 2012 apologized Wednesday to his family, the judge and the United States for what he called a stupid mistake when he was a naive teen "trying to make friends."

"At the time I thought it was too late to turn back," Adel Daoud, dressed in an orange jail jumpsuit and shackled at the ankles, told U.S. District Judge Sharon Johnson Coleman about the night he pressed the detonator on the bomb, all part of a ruse by the FBI. "Sometimes I laugh at my stupidity. Was that really me?"

Reading rapidly from written remarks, Daoud, 25, said he's a different person now. In the nearly seven years since his arrest, Daoud said he realized he was "crazy" for God knows how long but has found clarity with treatment and medication

while in jail. He has also come to realize that his beliefs were terribly misguided on what the Islamic faith teaches about violence.

"I was naive, gullible and confused," he said about his life in 2012. "I thought jihad could only mean war."

Unlike previous court appearances when Daoud rambled incoherently about Freemasons and lizard people, his remarks Wednesday were lucid, his voice deeper and steadier. He ended by asking for leniency.

"Please don't make my sentence a payback for events or to people around the world that have nothing to do with me," he said. "I'm sorry for

taking the court's time, for making my parents cry, for making a bad name for the Muslim community, and I'm sorry to the United States of America. God bless you."

The three-day sentencing hearing has punctuated what has been one of the strangest and longest-running terrorism cases in Chicago history.

Coleman won't impose

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Daoud



STACEY WESCOTT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Jodie Segal, director of education with Elyssa's Mission, leads a suicide awareness workshop with sixth- and seventh-graders at Bannockburn School last month.

'THIS SHOULD BE A CALL TO MOBILIZE RESOURCES'

Suicide bids by overdose on rise in young people

BY KATE THAYER
 Chicago Tribune

A new study that shows adolescents are attempting suicide by overdose at increasing rates is further evidence that the pervasive public health problem needs more conversation and money, experts say.

In the report, published Wednesday in *The Journal of Pediatrics*, researchers at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus,

Ohio, and the Central Ohio Poison Center found medication overdose suicide attempts have more than doubled since 2000, and more than tripled for girls.

"I think this all adds up to an opportunity to educate and build awareness and find out what solutions are out there for this," said John Ackerman, suicide prevention coordinator and clinical psychologist at Nationwide Children's Hospital and one of

the authors of the new study. "We have so many opportunities across our system to do better. This should be a call to mobilize resources."

The stakes are high. Joanne Meyers, of Northfield, knows firsthand — her daughter Elyssa died by suicide at age 16 in 2004. In 2006, Meyers formed Elyssa's Mission, a Northbrook-based non-

Turn to **Suicide**, Page 9

Sox's Anderson: 'They don't want me to have fun'

White Sox shortstop Tim Anderson didn't invent bat flipping or home run celebrations, but in his mind, it's up to him to start a revolution. **Chicago Sports**

Developer seeks state funds for transit center

The developer proposing skyscrapers on a platform over train tracks near Soldier Field seeks state funds for a \$3.8 billion transit center. **Ryan Ori in Business**



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UNSCRIPTED: AN INTIMATE CONVERSATION WITH JOHN WATERS

When: Tuesday, May 28 from 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m. (Doors open at 6:15 p.m.), Studebaker Theater, 410 S. Michigan Ave.

■ Film critic Michael Phillips will talk to director and celebrity John Waters about his upcoming book, "Mr. Know-It-All." As auteur of the transgressive movie classics "Pink Flamingos," "Polyester," the original "Hairspray," "Cry-Baby," and "A Dirty Shame," is one of the world's great sophisticates, and in his new book, he serves it up raw. Through it all, Waters swears by one thing "Whatever you might have heard, there is absolutely no downside to being famous. None at all." Following their conversation, Waters will stay to sign copies of his book and take photos with fans. All tickets come with a copy of "Mr. Know-It-All." Additional copies are available for purchase on site.

Tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/chicago-tribunes-unscripted-presents-john-waters-tickets-60008409769>

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"The Best of Royko: The Tribune Years" For more than 30 years, Mike Royko was a part of the daily fabric of Chicagoans' lives, penning often humorous and always honest columns first for the Chicago Daily News, then the Sun-Times, and finally the Tribune. Culled from thousands of his Tribune columns and edited by his son David Royko, this collection offers up his best material from the last stage in his career, which was cut short by his death in 1997.

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MARGARET HOLT, standards editor

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Corrections and clarifications: Publishing information quickly and accurately is a central part of the Chicago Tribune's news responsibility.

■ An article Tuesday about a new group of Obama Fellows had incorrect information about fellow Aimee Eubanks Davis. The correct details are that she returned to Chicago in 2002 after leading a nonprofit in New Orleans for four years. The Tribune regrets the error.

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PETROS GIANNAKOURIS/AP 2015



JOHN KASS

Should Greek government win moutza for latest 'horta' outrage?

Good reporters know there is no such thing as a dumb question because it is often the so-called "dumb" questions that produce amazing and devastating responses.

Such as one asked of a Democratic presidential candidate who was destined to take the White House: "Why do you want to be president?" Ted Kennedy's fumbling response left him a senator for life.

Nevertheless, reader Tony Flip asked me a dumb question.

"What the heck is the Moutza?" asked Tony.

That he asked it under a Facebook post where readers nominate their candidates for the coveted Golden Moutza of the Month Award made it truly strange. I believe "Mr. Flip" was provoking me. And the only proper response?

Nah!

The naked palm of the righteous extended, fingers spread wide, aimed at the offender, in the way of the ancients. And each month provides a cornucopia of moutza candidates: like the government of Greece, the inventors of the moutza, which charged an 82-year-old woman for selling wild dandelion greens without a license.

Or those ridiculous dancers in pink pajamas in the Pepto-Bismol commercial; or the Brazilian drug dealer-protecting parrot; or the Night King. SPOILER ALERT. For those foolish enough not to have seen the "Battle of Winterfell," avoid the next two paragraphs.

Yeah, the Night King. A former human turned ice demon, controlling a vast army of the dead who run in fast zombie fashion. He was about to take over the entire world. But then he got cocky and ran into the daughter I never had, Arya Stark, and she gave him something he'll never forget.

She gave him an open left-handed moutza, right in his icy blue face. But her right hand was busy with Valyrian steel.

Nah!

End Spoiler Alert.

Many wanted the Golden Moutza for Mother Nature. Snow at the end of April?

"Mother Nature can bite me," said Ann MacIntosh Baker. "Nah!"

So, who wins April's Golden Moutza of the Month?

"Kim Foxx again," said reader Irene Johnson. Foxx won the Golden Moutza of March for inexplicably dropping all charges against Hollywood actor Jussie Smollett — a favorite of the Obama clique — for allegedly fabricating a racial hate crime.

"Personally, I think Kim Foxx deserves a second month," said Robert D. Packham. "Nah!"

Wait. It's May. Let's see what Judge LeRoy Martin Jr., chief of the Cook County Criminal Division, decides. Will he bring a special prosecutor to investigate this steaming Smollett political mess? And will he watch that Obama White House video I wrote about in Wednesday's column?

Or will Judge Martin protect Foxx the Chicago Way?

In the meantime, what of other worthies?

Conservative Republicans will not be spared. The Golden Moutza of the Month is quite ecumenical.

Matthew Latourette nominated former U.S. Rep. Michele Bachmann, the Minnesota Republican.

"My moutza is to Michele Bachmann for saying (President Donald Trump) is 'highly biblical and that we will in all likelihood never see a more godly, biblical president again in our lifetime.'"

Trump has accomplished remarkable things against great odds. He put two conservatives on the Supreme Court, cut taxes and reduced regulation, leading to a booming U.S. economy once considered impossible by smirking liberal economists.

But a godly man? A godly man, Michele Bachmann? Are you crazy?

Trump doesn't turn the other cheek. He'll tear your other cheek off and eat it. Let's not gild the lily, madam.

Michele Bachmann?

Nah!

Linda Vitale Turner nominated Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle, who last month was whopped in the race for mayor. Toni Taxwinkle promised she had returned all campaign funds raised for her by Ald. Edward Burke, 14th.

But the Tribune's Gregory Pratt found she kept a good chunk of the Burke bucks.

"I nominate Toni for stating during her campaign that she had returned Burke's bucks but not really," said

Turner. "Nah!"

And that parrot?

"I don't know if it should be the parrot or the investigators, but I feel like there's a moutza in there somewhere," wrote Martha Supp Strawberry.

A parrot in Piaui, Brazil, owned by a suspected drug dealer squawked loudly as police approached. According to local news reports, police shipped it off "to the environmental protection resources of Brazil."

Yeah, right.

Nah!

So, who wins the prize? We can't give it to Kim Foxx two months in a row, even if she did tell a series of "untruths" about "recusing" herself from the Jussie Smollett case after admitting she had been contacted by Obama celebrity friends.

Let's see what Judge Martin does. And the Night King can't get it. He's fictional.

But what of Greece, the land of my ancestors?

An elderly woman, Parthena Alhazidou, was arrested in the town of Katerini and charged with selling wild horta (greens) without a license.

Old women often sell delicious wild oregano and horta from the side of the road. Selling horta without a license? That's socialism for you.

"She can't believe she will face justice for selling six kilos of horta," said her son, according to The Greek Reporter. Alhazidou was ordered to report for trial June 7.

I love horta, boiled then drizzled with olive oil, lemon and salt. And I love freedom. Both are essential.

Socialism doesn't only destroy South America and the Democratic Party. Now it's ruining horta in Greece.

Greek government?

It hurts me to do this. But arrest an 82-year-old woman for selling horta, and you must win the Moutza of the Month.

Nah!

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ANDREW HARNIK/AP

William Barr arrives to testify at a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing on the Mueller report on Wednesday.

Barr didn't lie to Congress. He was just Trumpastically on-brand



REX W. HUPPKE

As a passionate supporter of President Donald Trump and his administration, I've just about had it with the fact-obsessed liberal elite truth-huggers out there not believing everything the president and his people say.

The latest complaint from radical left-wingers is that Attorney General William Barr lied to Congress when he testified April 9 about his four-page memo summarizing the 448-page Mueller (Witch Hunt!) report.

The assertion that Barr lied is based on a predictably flimsy detail: a specific example showing that Barr clearly lied. I mean, c'mon! Is that the best they can do?

The Washington Post and The New York Times (FAKE NEWS!) reported Tuesday night that special counsel Robert Mueller sent a letter to Barr in late March complaining that Barr's four-page memo — which gloriously cleared Trump of all wrongdoing — “did not fully capture the context, nature, and substance of this office's work and conclusions.”

The letter continued: “There is now public confusion about critical aspects of the results of our investigation. This threatens to undermine a central purpose for which the Department appointed the Special Counsel: to assure full public confidence in

the outcome of the investigations.”

Whatever. #MAGA!

On April 9, Democratic Rep. Charlie Crist said to Barr: “Reports have emerged recently ... that members of the special counsel's team are frustrated at some level with the limited information included in your March 24th (memo). ... Do you know what they are referencing with that?”

And Barr responded: “No, I don't.”

Only a deranged liberal would conclude that Barr getting a letter from Mueller in March complaining about limited information in the four-page memo and Barr saying, “No, I don't” in April when asked whether he knew there were Mueller team complaints about limited information in that memo constitutes a lie.

For starters, which comes first, March or April? I have no idea. How can we establish that conclusively? If Congress tried to subpoena a calendar, I'm confident the Trump administration would do the right thing and ignore the subpoena while calling calendars a “Gregorian hoax,” because that's what you do when you're super innocent.

Barr testified Wednesday before the Senate Judiciary Committee and further clarified the idiot liberal confusion over his April testimony, noting that he “talked directly to Bob Mueller — not members of his team.” Crist's question in April asked if Barr knew “members of the special counsel's team” were frustrated. You see? Mueller wasn't part of Mueller's

team — for proof, read the classic team-building textbook “If You Run the Team, You Aren't on the Team” — so Barr's previous response was not a lie. HUM A FEW BARS OF THAT ONE, HIPPIES!

Furthermore, if the nation's top law enforcement official did engage in strategic truth evasion, that's not called “lying” under the Trump administration. It's called “being on-brand.”

Everyone knows Trump is the best president ever AND a branding mastermind. Since becoming president, he has been all-in on dishonesty, boldly proving to the libs that you can lie constantly and still be the greatest president since Abraham Lincoln.

The Washington Post's fact checker recently celebrated Trump's branding feat with news that on April 26, the president hit a remarkable milestone: 10,000 false or misleading claims told since he took office. HE DID IT!! MAGA for life!

So any suggestions that Barr lied to Congress — which is technically a “crime,” if you believe in such liberal concepts — is utter nonsense. Barr was just managing the presidential brand, which is the attorney general's sworn duty, according to this copy of the Constitution that I'm not going to show you even if you subpoena it.

Why wouldn't I show you a genuine copy of a document that would prove I'm telling the truth? Simple: I don't want to.

It's just like Trump's refusal to turn over his tax returns, which without question would prove 100

percent that he's just as rich as he says he is, donates generously to charities and has no foreign investments or businesses interests that would influence how he governs the country. Releasing his tax returns would be a huge waste of time because the president has already said there's nothing bad in them. Who are you going to trust, a brilliant president who has successfully lied more than any president in history or a bunch of stupid numbers on paper?

Duh. You trust the man who broke the 10,000-false-and-misleading-claims mark in record time without any of his supporters caring. He's never going to deceive you, as long as you never stop believing everything he says is true.

It's the same with Barr.

Mueller might say the attorney general “did not fully capture the context, nature, and substance of this office's work and conclusions.” Others who've read all of the redacted Mueller report might say Barr's claim that the report exonerates Trump is willfully misleading, legally laughable and an example of a bespectacled toady doing the bidding of a corrupt megalomaniac who wouldn't know honesty if an adult film star spanked him on the butt with it.

And some loser Democrats might go so far as to say Barr lied.

But he didn't. He was just being marvelously, perfectly, Trumpastically on-brand.

rhuppke@chicagotribune.com

Trans women fight state's name change restriction

Suit: Ban due to criminal record unconstitutional

By ANGIE LEVENTIS LOURGOS
Chicago Tribune

Eight transgender women are challenging an Illinois law that restricts name changes due to prior criminal convictions, claiming the rules violate their right to free speech, self-expression and due process.

The lawsuit, which was filed in federal court in Chicago on Wednesday, seeks to stop the state law from being enforced and have it declared unconstitutional.

Illinois law prohibits anyone with a felony conviction from changing their legal name until 10 years after completion and discharge of their sentence; individuals convicted of certain felonies or misdemeanors — including identity theft and some sexual offenses — are precluded from ever filing petitions for name changes unless pardoned, according to the lawsuit.

“There really is no more fundamental means of expressing ourselves than choosing a name,” said attorney Lark Mulligan with the Transformative Justice Law Project of Illinois, who represents the plaintiffs. “There's hundreds of times we have to present our IDs throughout the course of a week. Every time, they're forced to utter or respond to a name that doesn't reflect their gender identity.”

Mulligan said the state's name change policy is among the most restrictive in the nation in terms of wait times and range of criminal offenses. She added that denying a legal name change can expose transgender individuals to physical harm and discrimination.

The eight plaintiffs are all Chicago transgender women who have been restricted from changing their names due to criminal convictions in the last decade. Offenses range from prostitution to identity theft to aggravated discharge of a firearm; one of the plaintiffs pleaded guilty in 1994 to a sexual offense requiring registration, and is banned from ever filing a name change petition under state law, according to the lawsuit.

A 30-year-old from the Chicago area who has gone by the name Eisha Love since her teens has been restricted from legally changing her name because of a 2015 conviction

for aggravated battery in a public place; she will not be eligible to change her name until 2026, according to the lawsuit.

In a telephone interview, she said her government-issued identification bears the male name given to her at birth, and she often feels unsafe when presenting it at public places like nightclubs because it singles her out as transgender. She also has faced discrimination on numerous occasions after it was discovered she was transgender, including once when a public transportation employee allegedly denied her disability transit benefits, according to the lawsuit.

“As trans women, this is something we face on a daily basis,” Love said, adding that a legal name change would be the final step in her gender transition. “This is going to complete my whole life. I can be Eisha Love and feel confident in my skin. I feel like I can't be Eisha Love until I can be her legally.”

The lawsuit names as defendants Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx, Cook County Chief Judge Timothy Evans and Cook County Judge Sharon M. Sullivan. The officials were named because their offices are responsible for applying the state's name change restrictions in Cook County, according to attorney Greg Ostfeld of Greenberg Traurig, which also represents the transgender women.

Sullivan did not return calls for comment. A spokeswoman for Foxx said her office had not received the lawsuit but would not comment on pending litigation. A spokesman for Evans declined to comment, citing Illinois Supreme Court rules requiring a judge abstain from public comment on court proceedings.

A similar lawsuit was filed Wednesday by a trans woman in Wisconsin challenging the constitutionality of name change restrictions in her state as well.

eleventis@chicagotribune.com
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Chicago Tribune

CHICAGOLAND

Storm clouds, flash floods loom on horizon

2nd round of rain to come as counties brace for flooding

BY KATHERINE ROSENBERG-DOUGLAS
Chicago Tribune

Chicago-area residents may have to deal with another bout of flash flooding Thursday after flood warnings hit Chicago-area rivers Wednesday morning as rain soaked northern Illinois, forecasters said.

A flash flood watch will be in effect from Thursday morning into Thursday afternoon, as another round of moderate to heavy rainfall is expected to hit the area.

"Showers and thunderstorms may produce localized totals of an inch to an inch and a half," the National Weather Service said in a watch bulletin. "Given that the ground is saturated from the previous heavy rainfall, any additional rainfall may cause flash flooding."

The flash flood watch

covers Cook, Lake, DuPage, Will, McHenry, Kendall and other northern Illinois counties, as well as Lake County in northwest Indiana, for Thursday morning through Thursday afternoon, according to the weather service.

A flash flood watch — the precursor to a more serious "warning" — means conditions could lead to dangerous flooding. The weather service urged residents to monitor forecasts and be ready to take action should a flash flood warning be issued.

The Des Plaines River was at or close to flood levels Wednesday at Des Plaines and Riverside, while the DuPage River at Plainfield and the Fox River in McHenry and Kane counties were flooding, prompting flood warnings through Friday in some areas.

Showers and a few thunderstorms, with highs ranging from the 70s inland to the low 50s near Lake Michigan, were forecast for Thursday. The weather

should dry out Friday.

But the 109 miles of tunnels and three reservoirs that make up the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District's tunnel and reservoir system, commonly known as the Deep Tunnel system, were near capacity Wednesday, according to Allison Fore, a spokeswoman for the district. That's after an average of 3.83 inches of rain fell across Cook County in the previous three days, with nearly 2 inches falling in the previous 30 hours, Fore said Wednesday afternoon.

Brian Perkovich, executive director of the MWRD, at a midday news conference said there have been some instances of basement backups, but no widespread flooding in Chicago.

Sometimes leaks in sewer structures can cause holes in roads, Perkovich said.

"If there's a leak in a manhole structure or sewer itself it will start washing out the ground around it," Perkovich said. "If it gets washed out you get a big

hole in the street and that hole will eventually get bigger." He added that the street won't have support and may potentially collapse due to the damage.

Residents can help avoid widespread flooding by minimizing water use before and during storms with significant rainfall, to reduce the amount of water flowing into the sewer system, Fore said.

Hardest hit by rain in the Chicago area have been suburbs in DuPage and Will counties, according to the weather service. As of before 8 a.m., Burr Ridge had seen 2.81 inches of rain in 24 hours, with 2.79 inches in Darien, and more than 2.5 inches in Naperville and Aurora. Parts of LaGrange Park, Chicago, Oak Park, Joliet and Crete all saw more than 2 inches.

The Cook County and Illinois transportation departments said numerous roads were closed Wednesday because of flooding, including in Palos Hills, Orland Park, Matteson, Des Plaines, Glen Ellyn and

New Lenox. Flooding also was reported in farther-out suburbs including Wheaton. Standing water also was reported on roads from Palatine to Rich Township to Niles.

Susan Hofer, a spokeswoman for the Chicago Department of Transportation, outlined some weather-related issues but also championed the success of the Albany Park Stormwater Diversion Tunnel.

Hofer said sections of the Chicago Riverwalk were closed to the public Wednesday because of the high volume of rain. Steel barriers and caution tape lined some entrances to Riverwalk to obstruct pedestrians.

"The Riverwalk actually was designed to be perfectly fine if there's flooding. The materials are designed either to absorb water, where appropriate, or slough it off, where appropriate," Hofer said. "But look at how much rain we've had."

She said to keep the river accessible to people who

want to use it, the Riverwalk needed to be close enough to the river's normal level that when the river level goes up, the walk occasionally floods.

Topped-over trash bins and debris were on the Riverwalk on Wednesday.

At the news conference in Albany Park, Hofer said her agency also was on hand to discuss how well the tunnel 150-feet below Foster Avenue has worked. Gompers Park and other areas that have been flood-prone during two recent "100-year flood" events, weren't underwater Wednesday, despite all the rain, she said.

"It actually holds as much water as the river holds, so it's like we've built a second river to collect what would be floodwaters," she said. "The tunnel is working as anticipated."

Chicago Tribune's Jessica Villagomez and Javonte Anderson contributed.

kdouglas@chicagotribune.com
Twitter @312BreakingNews

City Colleges of Chicago staffers launch a strike

As talks fail, 450 clerical, technical staff latest to walk

BY DAWN RHODES
Chicago Tribune

Hundreds of staff members at City Colleges of Chicago went on strike Wednesday, following through on their pledge to walk off the job amid prolonged and unsuccessful contract negotiations with the administration.

Full- and part-time clerical and technical workers formed picket lines at the seven City Colleges campuses Wednesday morning, then staged a short march and rally outside the district office in the Loop.

Union leaders said the two sides have hit a breaking point after nearly three years of contract talks.

The contract for full-time workers expired in June 2016 and the agreement for part-timers expired in June 2017, according to documents on the City Colleges website.

The 450 workers are represented by the Federation of College Clerical and Technical Personnel. The group has pledged to continue its walkout until a

contract is finalized.

"Enough is enough," said Dolores Withers, president of the City Colleges union. "We are not going to take not having a fair contract any longer."

A last-ditch effort Tuesday to break the impasse at City Colleges broke down, with union members calling the administration's latest proposal "unfair."

Brent Michalak, a lab assistant at Harold Washington College who is part of the union's bargaining team, said he had been optimistic the two sides were close to an agreement but said college representatives walked away from negotiations.

Michalak said this is the union's first strike since at least the mid-1980s.

"We want to work and provide support for our students and staff, but the administration is making that impossible," Withers said in a statement. "We've been given no choice but to strike."

Specifics of the opposing contract proposals were not provided, but Michalak said the workers are seeking pay increases to ensure that all workers make at least the city's minimum wage, set to rise to \$13 per



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Clerical workers walked from Harold Washington Library to the nearby City Colleges of Chicago offices on Wednesday.

hour in July, as well as health care for part-time workers.

Under the most recent contract, minimum salaries for part-time hourly employees were raised to \$9 per hour. The six-year contract then provided for annual hourly wage increases of 25 to 35 cents. For example, those who were earning \$9 per hour at the start of the contract saw their pay rise to \$10.80 per hour by the end of the contract.

The union also wants to

ensure that vacant positions are filled, saying the thinning of the ranks has meant current workers are assuming the responsibilities of multiple jobs.

"We are the frontline workers for the City Colleges," Michalak said. "From registration all the way to graduation, our members are the ones who get that done. We support, students, faculty and administration. We're the oil in the machine."

Leaders from the affiliated American Federation of

Teachers, the Illinois Federation of Teachers, the City Colleges faculty union and the Chicago Federation of Labor also joined the demonstrations to lend their support.

"Three years to get a contract in the public sector — and this isn't a first contract — it's completely insane," said Bob Reiter, president of the Chicago Federation of Labor. "The fact that they're not making the city's minimum wage is embarrassing."

Leaders of City Colleges

put out a statement saying the network of schools "values our faculty and staff who dedicate themselves to providing our students with the high-quality education they deserve. City Colleges is committed to reaching a contract that recognizes the work of our clerical and technical staff."

"In the meantime, we will do all that we can to minimize the impact of a strike on our students."

drhodes@chicagotribune.com
Twitter @rhodes_dawn

Educators plan to strike Thursday at 4 charter schools in Chicago

BY JUAN PEREZ JR.
Chicago Tribune

Unionized educators planned to halt classes and hit picket lines at four Chicago schools Thursday morning, as part of a coordinated strike that marks the latest phase in a city-wide wave of labor unrest at taxpayer-funded campuses.

Workers affiliated with the Chicago Teachers Union called a strike as of 5 p.m. Wednesday, though negotiating teams expected to huddle as late as midnight in an effort to keep the South and West Side charter schools open the following morning.

About 1,600 students at the Chicago High School for the Arts and two schools operated by the nonprofit Instituto del Progreso Latino, as well as the Latino Youth High School, won't see regular classes without a deal.

"This is an issue with the industry, where the industry spends more on the boardroom than it does on the classroom," said Randi Weingarten, president of the American Federation of



JON J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Students from Chicago High School for the Arts, 2714 W. Augusta Blvd., cheer on people protesting at street level.

Teachers. "There is something wrong with the charter industry model in Chicago, which is why you have seen a set of rolling strikes from winter and spring this year."

Gema Gaete, a worker at Instituto's Justice and Leadership Academy, railed against layoffs and inadequate staffing at her school.

"If you're going to open up a school, you have a fiscal responsibility," she said during a rally outside ChiArts on Wednesday. "Don't just take public funds. Put it

back. Put it back into the classrooms."

"Our demands are simple: Fair wages, fair contract, better resources for our students including mental health services and funded after-school programs," said Carlene Carpenter, an educator at Latino Youth High School. "We serve students that experience trauma at higher-than-normal rates, and they need these resources."

Officials at a fifth school whose teachers had threatened to strike Wednesday,

the Youth Connection Leadership Academy, said they reached a last-minute agreement with 11 teachers. Staff at all five schools voted to authorize strikes last month.

Some of the walkouts, however, came despite requests from Chicago Public Schools CEO Janice Jackson to forestall a potential strike in the interest of student safety.

CPS has offered few public statements on labor strife at the taxpayer-funded but independently operated campuses, since a group of charter school educators merged with the CTU in 2018.

But in a Tuesday letter to CTU and school officials, Jackson said CPS was "very concerned" about a work stoppage at three campuses, citing "potentially lifesaving opportunities" the schools offer students who are more likely to have dropped out of a traditional high school or tangled with the criminal justice system.

Three students at the Youth Connection Leadership Academy in the Bronzeville neighborhood

were killed by gun violence in the past year, charter officials said this week. The Latino Youth High School in Little Village and the Instituto Justice and Leadership Academy for 17- to 21-year-olds serve a similar at-risk population.

"Without access to a safe and supportive learning environment, CPS believes these students will be at increased risk of a range of potential negative outcomes," Jackson's letter said.

In response to Jackson's letter, union Vice President Stacy Davis Gates said: "What's clear and particularly cynical about post-Rahm Chicago is that his hand-picked bureaucrats are suddenly concerned with the traumas that plague the lives of the students who live in neighborhoods and attend school communities that have been disinvested in for generations."

Compensation, benefits and staffing are primary concerns as the CTU tries to standardize working conditions at the city's independently operated public

schools to align more closely with those at traditional CPS schools.

"A strike will be particularly devastating to YCLA because our school provides a critical safety net for some of Chicago's most at-risk young people," Leadership Academy Principal Lorraine Cruz said.

Then, as teachers rallied to announce their strikes on Wednesday evening, Cruz announced her school had reached a "fair multiyear contract agreement" without providing details.

ChiArts executive Jose Ochoa said the school agreed to spend \$400,000 in reserve funds to pay for teacher salary increases, and limit special education teacher caseloads.

ChiArts is a "contract" school, a publicly funded and independently operated program with more flexibility than regular charter schools. Both sides disagree on whether the school must contribute to the Chicago Teachers Pension Fund.

jjperez@chicagotribune.com
Twitter @PerezJr

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Anti-Semitism — and a salve — on Holocaust Remembrance Day



RON GROSSMAN

Twice during the recent Passover holiday I was doubled over by news that hit me like the low blow I once suffered in a boxing ring. Though I'm still reeling from one bulletin, I knew a psychological salve for the second one, the report of a murderous assault on a Southern California synagogue. I needed tactile contact with my children and grandchildren.

So I caught up with one set at a Lake Forest middle school, where Noa, a 9-year-old granddaughter, participated in a ceremony marking her Girl Scout troop's promotion from Brownies to Juniors. As similar milestones were being marked by other troops, white, African-American, Asian-American and Latina Girl Scouts raised a rainbow of right hands and promised "to help other people at all times."

"Am Yisrael Chai," I whispered. It's a defiant cry Jews have long evoked, a proclamation that, despite all the pogroms, massacres and exiles, "The people of Israel live!"

Last Sunday, I added a phrase: "Now we are blessed to live in a country where decency and brotherhood outweigh hatred and prejudice."

My spirits were lifted for half the ride home. Then I reverted to obsessing over the other piece of disturbing news: The New York Times published an anti-Semitic cartoon in its international edition.

It showed a blind President Donald Trump being led by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu depicted as a guide dog. Trump's head is covered by a *keppah*, the skullcap worn by observant Jews. Netanyahu had a large nose, and a Star of David

dangled from his dog collar.

In my mind and in the pit of my stomach that ugly image is indelibly linked with Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day. It began at sundown Wednesday and will end at sundown Thursday.

Of all the lessons that can be drawn from the murder of 6 million Jews, the most difficult for me to come to grips with is that the genocide wasn't sponsored by some despot in Eastern Europe, where poverty and anti-Semitism were endemic.

It was conceived in Germany, a prosperous and highly cultured nation, the homeland of musical geniuses like Beethoven and Bach and eminent philosophers like Hegel and Kant. Before Hitler, Jews weren't despised outsiders but integrated into the German mainstream. It was not just street ruffians who supported the Nazis, but professors, doctors and clergy.

Given that, could any nation be truly free of deathly religious prejudice?

Almost in answer to that question, a vile cartoon like those that once appeared in Nazi Party newspapers was published in America, and not by some neo-Nazi fringe group. The New York Times has long been regarded as the voice of reason, a venue for enlightened discourse.

Belatedly responding to a wave of criticism, the Times apologized for the cartoon. It blamed one editor's poor judgment. Yet this wasn't the first time the paper published anti-Semitic material thinly disguised as legitimate criticism of Israel.

In 2015, it printed an op-ed piece that echoed the Palestinians' argument that the Israelis have no right to Jerusalem because their claim that it was the site of an ancient Jewish Temple is false.

"The question, which many books and scholarly treatises have never definitively answered, is whether

the 37-acre site, home to Islam's sacred Dome of the Rock shrine and Al Aqsa Mosque, was also the precise location of two ancient Jewish temples," wrote the author of "Historical Certainty Proves Elusive at Jerusalem's Holiest Place."

How did that get past the Times' editors? Had none gone to Sunday school? The New Testament reports several visits of Jesus to the Jerusalem Temple.

While apologizing for its Passover-season cartoon, the Times promised editorial reforms to inoculate its pages against anti-Semitism. Let me suggest one:

Avoiding phrases like "the Israelis captured" or "seized" the West Bank, Gaza, or the Golan Heights. Without a bit of context, they imply that, right out of the blue, Israeli troops marched into Palestinian territories.

In a recent variation on that theme the Times wrote: "The Six-Day War of June 1967 ended in decisive victories for Israel, which seized the Golan Heights from Syria."

The article made no mention of how the war started: In 1967, the Egyptian dictator Gamal Abdel Nasser announced that his army would wipe Israel off the map. Syria and Jordan, which ruled the West Bank, signed on for that ill-fated project. Israel survived, and the three conspirators were ousted from their Palestinian territories.

But how will I react if the Times doesn't heed my advice? Or if anti-Semitism surfaces elsewhere in newsprint or another episode of violence?

At least I'll have a new layer of protection against the despair that leads to sleepless nights. Putting my head upon a pillow, I'll recall that Sunday in a middle-school gymnasium when Girl Scouts of different races and creeds joined my granddaughter in vowing not to hurt but to help other people at all times.

rgrossman@chicagotribune.com



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Raydell Lacey started Not Before My Parents in 2012 after her own daughter was slain.

Englewood woman is hailed for healing gun victims' kin

By JESSICA VILLAGOMEZ
Chicago Tribune

It took Raydell Lacey more than 10 years to smile again after the 1994 slaying of her daughter, Elonda Lacey.

The Englewood native was living in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, at the time and moved back to Chicago to be with her family after the murder. Once in Chicago, Lacey spent years suffering from grief and trauma. She remembers spending entire days not eating and having trouble going to sleep, often feeling isolated in her grief as a parent.

"I was suffering from a broken heart from the loss of my child," she said of the years following her daughter's death. "I just wanted to close my eyes and not wake up, it is that overwhelming to lose a child."

To support other parents experiencing grief from losing a child, Lacey started the organization Not Before My Parents in 2012. Lacey was honored Wednesday morning as a community impact hero at the American Red Cross of Chicago and Northern Illinois Annual Heroes Breakfast for her community work in

Englewood.

The Heroes Breakfast honors people nominated by the public who have committed heroic acts or have contributed to the community, said Joy Squier, a spokeswoman for the Chicago-area Red Cross. The breakfast is the largest fundraising event for the Chicago and Northern Illinois division and honored heroes in 11 categories this year.

Not Before My Parents first began to support parents in Englewood who have lost children in acts of violence by encouraging them to seek counseling and attend grief support groups. Lacey also sells T-shirts with the organization's logo and an illustration of two parents reaching into a grave, to aid families with funeral expenses.

Lacey said she began the organization after seeing the violence in her community increase in 2012.

"A lot of my friends' kids were dying. I wanted to help these parents and talk to them and let them know it will be OK," Lacey said.

In spite of the work she was doing in the community, Lacey said her world was shattered once again in

2016 after her grandson Erick Lacey was killed in a shooting in Back of the Yards.

"I thought to myself, 'I've got to do something other than sell T-shirts,'" she said.

After seeing her oldest son playing chess at a local McDonald's, she got an idea.

"I was looking at him and I noticed he was so calm, he was smiling and having fun and I just thought that's a tool that could be a solution to some of the violence," she said. "We may not be able to get rid of all of it, but some of it."

Lacey started the first chess club in September 2016 and has since expanded it to two other locations. The club meets monthly at the Englewood District police station, and participants play against police officers. Lacey said she wanted to collaborate with the Police Department so that younger children can begin to build a positive relationship with officers.

"I feel like this is what we are supposed to be doing, we're supposed to love our children and create a safe environment for our community," she said.

jvilagomez@chicagotribune.com

State workers seek to recoup 'fair share' union fees in proposed class-action suit

By HANNAH LEONE
Chicago Tribune

Continuing a fight against public employee unions initially spearheaded by former Gov. Bruce Rauner, nine state workers who say they have opted out of union membership are asking to be repaid for past "fair share" fees in a proposed class-action lawsuit.

The lawsuit filed Wednesday argues that more than 2,700 state employees are entitled to money they paid to the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Council 31 from May 1, 2017 — the furthest back they can demand the money under a state statute of limitations — through June 28, 2018, when the U.S. Supreme Court ruled it unconstitutional to make public employees pay union dues. Attorneys for the plaintiffs say they're seeking close to \$2 million from the union.

The lawsuit that led to the Supreme Court decision was championed by Rauner and brought by Mark Janus, a former child support specialist with the Department of Healthcare and Family Services who was represented by the Liberty Justice Center and the National Right to Work Legal Defense Foundation. Those same groups are behind Wednesday's lawsuit. The plaintiffs worked for a range of departments, including the Illinois State Police and the Department of Children and Family Services, and say they were wrongfully forced to give money to the union.

Janus was the plaintiff in a similar lawsuit that was thrown out earlier this year by U.S. District Judge Robert Gettleman, who ruled that AFSCME had followed the law in collecting fair share fees and couldn't have reasonably



TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Liberty Justice Center President and co-founder Patrick Hughes, left, and former state employee Mark Janus.

"We are making the same legal argument and we are appealing the legal argument that was rejected."

— Patrick Hughes, president and co-founder of the Liberty Justice Center, saying the lawsuit filed Wednesday makes a similar argument to one that was unsuccessful

anticipated those fees becoming illegal.

"That ruling echoes what more than a dozen other federal and state courts have decided in similar cases," AFSCME spokesman Anders Lindall said in an email. "The anti-worker, corporate-funded front groups prolonging this failed litigation want to use the courts to further their political attack on working people and our union. Their repeated lawsuits are nothing but a greedy grab for more."

Workers who weren't part of the union still got

pay increases and benefits the union negotiated, Lindall said.

Patrick Hughes, president and co-founder of the Liberty Justice Center, acknowledged the lawsuit filed Wednesday makes a similar argument to the one that was unsuccessful.

"We are making the same legal argument and we are appealing the legal argument that was rejected," Hughes said. "The district judge is not the final say on these issues. We'll appeal that decision. ... Ultimately if we are successful, we'll see what the unions do. If we are unsuccessful, we'll appeal that decision to the U.S. Supreme Court and let the justices that decided the Janus decision ultimately decide that case as well."

A successful appeal would set precedent for the latest suit "to recover the money that we feel is owed," Hughes said.

Though he is not named as a plaintiff in the suit filed Wednesday, Janus is part of the class the "fair share" lawsuit seeks to define, and he spoke at the news conference.

"We just want our money back," Janus said.

hleone@chicagotribune.com

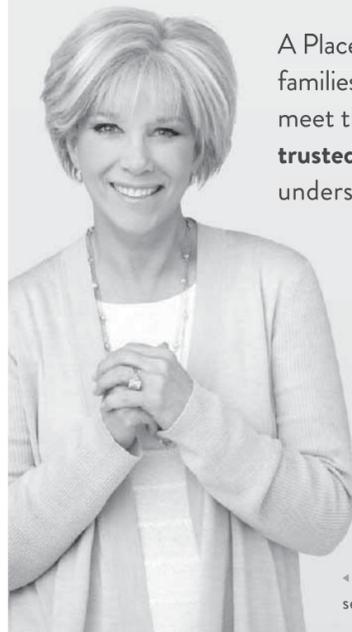
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Spotlight on state's endangered sites

Advocacy group lists significant spots at risk of demolition



BLAIR KAMIN
Cityscapes

Illinois historic preservationists on Wednesday turned a spotlight on a dozen sites, including several in Chicago and its suburbs, that they say are architecturally and culturally significant — and are at risk of demolition.

In announcing its annual list of the state's most endangered historic places at a Springfield news conference, the Chicago-based advocacy group Landmarks Illinois cited the political headwinds it faces in trying to save the sites from being wrecked.

"A troubling trend with this year's most endangered sites is the number of historic places that face demolition despite strong and active community support for preservation," Bonnie McDonald, the group's president, said in a news release.

No one should be surprised that the James R. Thompson Center made this list for a third straight year, especially because pressure on the building is ratcheting up. Gov. J.B. Pritzker just cleared the way for Illinois to sell the Helmut Jahn-designed state office building in downtown Chicago.

But lesser-known sites are also on the list of 12. In the Chicago area, new listings include a Frank Lloyd Wright-designed cottage in north suburban Glencoe; a Tudor Revival estate, also in Glencoe and once owned by a vacuum cleaner magnate; and a neoclassical bank building a mile west of the planned Obama Presidential Center.

Here's a rundown of the Chicago-area sites:

Thompson Center, 100 W. Randolph St., 1985: Even though Pritzker signed a bill laying out a two-year process for selling the 17-story building, numerous obstacles remain to demolition.

Pritzker and Mayor-elect Lori Lightfoot would have to agree to zoning changes needed to attract a developer as well as a plan to keep the center's busy CTA station running during demolition and construction.

In a news release, Landmarks Illinois said it supports a sale only if the "irreplaceable" building, which it calls "Chicago's best example of grandly-scaled, Postmodern architecture," is reused.

The building's many detractors, who fault both its form and its function, are sure to disagree.

Booth Cottage, 239 Franklin St., Glencoe, 1913: Wright designed this



STACEY WESCOTT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Homes in the Sheffield National Register Historic District in Chicago's Lincoln Park, are on Landmarks Illinois' 2019 list of endangered historic places.



STACEY WESCOTT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

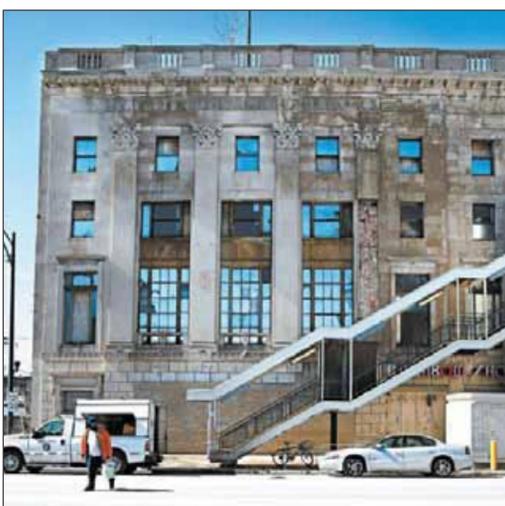
The Booth Cottage, a modest, originally temporary house by Frank Lloyd Wright in Glencoe is considered significant because it anticipates Wright's later, low-cost Usonian houses.

flat-roofed, one-story frame house as a temporary home for Sherman Booth, who developed the architect's Ravine Bluffs neighborhood, including Booth's permanent home, in the northern suburb.

The humble cottage is considered significant because it anticipates Wright's later, low-cost Usonian houses. But it sits on a large lot, is surrounded by much larger homes, and is now up for sale.

Unless the cottage is bought by someone who wants to preserve it, it's at "serious risk for demolition to make way for a larger new house," Landmarks Illinois said.

Hoover Estate, 1801 Green Bay Road, Glencoe, 1920s: The gated Tudor Revival estate, which includes a mansion, carriage house and stable, was built for H. Earl Hoover, a nephew of the Hoover vacuum company's founder



TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES/CHICAGO TRIBUNE 2016

The former Washington Park National Bank is a neoclassical commercial building that is a legacy of the prosperous 1920s.

and later the business's chief. The architect was William Furst.

After Hoover's third wife died last year, the 12.2-acre property was bought by a

developer who wants to tear it down and build single-family homes.

Sheffield National Register Historic District, Lincoln Park, mid- to late-19th century: Located south of Fullerton Avenue and west of Lincoln Avenue and Larabee Street, this district is a trove of Italianate, Queen Anne and Romanesque homes. But its listing on the National Register is only honorific and cannot prevent demolitions.

A Chicago landmark designation can stop the teardowns, but the city has only protected some areas of the National Register district, leaving most of it vulnerable to an influx of new mansions.

As a result, about 350 properties, one-third of the district's building stock, have been torn down, Landmarks Illinois estimates. It is urging new city policies to prevent more demolitions.

Washington Park National Bank, 6300 S. Cottage Grove Ave., 1924: Sheathed in limestone, this five-story neoclassical commercial building is a legacy of the prosperous 1920s, when its neighborhood thrived.

Designed by Albert Schwartz, the long-vacant structure is now owned by the Cook County Land Bank Authority, which recently opted for a developer's plan to tear down the building and replace it with a new one that includes retail and office space.

But Landmarks Illinois says there is strong community support for saving the building, citing newly elected 20th Ward Ald. Jeanette Taylor, who has said she opposes demolition.

Hill Motor Sales Co. building (also known as the Foley-Rice Building), 644 Madison St., Oak Park, 1920s: Once a crown jewel of Oak Park's "Motor Row," this building was home to a dealer who sold luxury Packard cars. In keeping with the status of that brand, its brick facade was trimmed with sometimes-fanciful terra-cotta decoration, including wrench-wielding car mechanics. The architects were E.E. and E.C. Roberts.

But the building has been vacant for years and demolition to make way for a grocery store is possible after the Oak Park Village Board recently voted down landmark status.

Landmarks Illinois is urging that the building be reused and incorporate the grocery. Preserving Oak Park's commercial structures, it believes, is as important as saving the village's homes by Wright and other notable architects.

Other buildings on the statewide list are the St. Mary's School in Galena, the Millstadt Milling & Feed Co. in Millstadt, the Chancery & Piety Hill properties in Rockford, the Rock Island County Courthouse in Rock Island, the Ray House in Rushville, and fraternity and sorority buildings at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Blair Kamin is a Tribune critic.

bkamin@chicagotribune.com
Twitter @BlairKamin

Plot

Continued from Page 1

sentence until Monday afternoon, saying she would be "remiss" if she didn't take some time to mull over her decision with so much at stake.

Prosecutors are seeking a 40-year prison sentence followed by a lifetime of court supervision, while the defense wants Daoud to be released in time to enroll in college in fall 2021. He has been incarcerated since his arrest some 6 1/2 years ago.

Since Monday, the hearing played out in federal court more like a mini-trial since Daoud was allowed to enter his guilty plea in November without actually admitting he did anything wrong — an unusual arrangement known in federal court as an Alford plea.

In addition to terrorism charges stemming from the plot to bomb the Cactus Bar & Grill in September 2012, Daoud also pleaded guilty to separate indictments accusing him of soliciting the

murder of the undercover FBI agent at the center of the sting operation and attacking a fellow inmate with a jailhouse shank while awaiting trial in 2015.

In arguing Wednesday for a lenient sentence, Daoud's lead attorney, Thomas Anthony Durkin, called the prosecution another example of government overreach in an ineffective and seemingly never-ending war on terror.

Once someone gets on law enforcement's radar, it "becomes a game of 'Not On My Watch' where the only alternative is to seek to lock them up forever," Durkin said. "I think we are really beginning to lose our way in this country because that is the only way they know to treat any act of terrorism, any thought of terrorism. They have a national security state that listens in on everything."

Durkin said that while Daoud was a "troubled kid" from west suburban Hillside who clearly needed some kind of intervention, the FBI and U.S. attorney's office could have chosen to

go to Daoud's parents or use its sting operation to convince him that violence was wrong. Instead, the government played off his mental instability and coaxed him to do something he never would have succeeded at on his own, he said.

"I'm not advocating that we don't try to stop terrorists, but is anyone paying attention to what's happening here?" Durkin said in a booming voice. "They want you to sentence this kid to 40 years on mass murder based on something they created. ... He was a young kid trying to get an identity."

Durkin also criticized the undercover FBI agent in the case, who posed as a jihadist and used a phony sheikh purportedly from Saudi Arabia to help convince Daoud that Islam allowed the killing scores of innocent civilians.

In conversations with the agent, Daoud expressed interest in committing a large-scale terrorist attack but seemed clueless on how to do it, at one point talking about using "flying cars" to bomb tar-

gets.

"They don't all have to be turned into terrorists," Durkin said of FBI sting operations like the one that ensnared Daoud. "Maybe some of them are terrorists, I don't know. But if this guy (Daoud) sounded like a real terrorist on some of those tapes, then I'm in another universe."

"This kid, this American kid who was lost at sea deserves a chance to have a life," he said.

Before Durkin spoke, Daoud's father, Ahmed, broke down in tears on the witness stand as he described for the judge the anguish his family has been through since his son's arrest. He said he lost his car dealership because customers stopped coming and he endured severe health issues, including several heart surgeries.

The elder Daoud sobbed as he pleaded with the judge to let his son come home, saying he had no idea at the time that his son was "sick" and needed help.

"Get a chance to get his mind back," the father said

as his son looked on with his elbows propped up on the defense table. "Not just for him but for me. I need him very bad."

In his argument, Assistant U.S. Attorney Barry Jonas said Daoud was a dangerous person who made up his mind to murder in the name of Islam "based upon his own research," not anything the government made up for him.

"(Daoud) was desperate to commit an attack," Jonas said. "These were incredibly serious ... plans he was making, and even at the age of 18 he should know — and he did know — that killing people should not be taken lightly."

Jonas noted that while Daoud may not have had the capability to construct a large car bomb at the time, he had been researching online how to plan an attack with an AK-47, even chemical weapons, and viewed videos depicting someone building a bomb out of a pen.

Before the planned attack on the Cactus Bar,

Daoud was told that the powerful car bomb would level a quarter of a city block and cause catastrophic casualties, Jonas said. The bomb itself, though inert, was made to look real, with "bags and bags of fertilizer" and wires sticking out of it and "a strong smell of diesel," Jonas said.

"I saw it a few days before, and it scared me," Jonas said. "It made it real. ... (Daoud) was told people are going to die and instead of backing down he got happy and excited."

Near the end of his argument, Jonas played a snippet of undercover video showing Daoud and the undercover agent traveling to the Loop on the night of the attack.

As dusk fell, Daoud could be heard praying for success in killing many people and garnering "international news." He also prayed that the attack would not be their last.

"I think that is very chilling," Jonas said.

jmeisner@chicagotribune.com
Twitter @jmetr22b

Suicide

Continued from Page 1

profit that works with about 200 schools in Illinois. It trains staff and teaches students about the warning signs of suicide and how to get help for themselves or their friends. Students are then screened at the end of the program and referred for help.

"It's important to me that we talk about it because talking about suicide is the only way we'll save lives," Meyers said. "We didn't know back then."

In the past few years, Meyers said more schools seem interested in suicide awareness, and last year the group added 50 new schools.

Suicide prevention in schools is an important part of a public health solution to this increasing problem, said Ackerman. Suicide screenings should also be commonplace at primary care physicians' offices, he said, and parents should know what resources are available.

"We need a public health approach ... like we've had with cancer, with HIV, with motor vehicle accidents," he said. "There's a clear gap in how often we directly confront the issue of suicidal influence and behavior. It's an uncomfortable topic that demands adults and young people to become comfortable."

In the latest study, Ackerman and other researchers analyzed data reported to the poison center from 2000 through last November, finding more than 1.6 million suspected suicide attempts by self-poisoning



STACEY WESCOTT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Students at Bannockburn School in April fill out a questionnaire following a presentation by Jodie Segal, director of education with Elyssa's Mission, who says similar screenings last year identified 2,700 students needing help.

in children and young adults, ages 10 to 24. They found that from 2000 to 2010 there was a decrease in suicide attempts by overdose among 10- to 15-year-olds, but then a "dramatic and persistent" increase from 2011 to 2018, ranging from more than 120 percent to nearly 300 percent. The increase was driven mostly by females, who experts say tend to attempt suicide more often than males — using overdose most often as a method — but do not die from suicide attempts as often as males.

The study also showed an increase in suicide attempts by overdose among 16- to

18-year-olds during the 19-year period, but no significant difference for those 19 and older.

While researchers could not explain why these suicide attempts are increasing in young people — or why there appears to be a shift around 2011 — experts point out a rise in social media usage and the opiate crisis as possible explanations. Study authors also say more research is needed, and that reasons for suicide are often complex and multifaceted. In another recent study, also from Nationwide Children's Hospital, researchers noted a spike in suicide deaths among 10- to 17-

year-olds in the month following the March 31, 2017, release of the Netflix series "13 Reasons Why." The series was widely panned by suicide prevention experts as glorifying suicide.

The research is the latest in a string of evidence in recent years showing suicide is on an upward trend, including last year's report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that showed suicide was a leading cause of death across the U.S., with increasing rates in nearly every state.

Even with improved mental health awareness in recent years, Ackerman

said, "we need more hands on deck, more investment in policy."

"The infrastructure on how we support at-risk kids is pretty weak," he added. "There's a lot of stigma and a lot of shame. We make people who are vulnerable jump through a lot of hoops to get help."

Funding is a barrier, he pointed out, with local nonprofits doing much of the suicide prevention work in their communities.

"There has to be more money put into this," said Jonathan Singer, associate professor of social work at Loyola University Chicago and the president-elect of

the Washington, D.C.-based American Association of Suicidology. The funding should match the need, he said, noting that research shows suicide is the second highest leading cause of death among young people, ages 10-24.

"If we had a billion for suicide prevention research and intervention efforts, then what we could do is actually fund research that answers some of the questions like, is this really a social media thing or not," Singer said. "We could pay to have somebody dedicated in each school district ... who is a suicide prevention coordinator."

But if suicide prevention efforts and screenings are amped up in schools, communities will need more services to treat children identified as needing help, he added.

At Elyssa's Mission, educators reached about 43,000 students last school year, said Jodie Segal, director of education. Of those students, 2,700 were identified as needing help through the screening test given at the completion of the group's presentation. And Segal said 74 of those students were hospitalized for an imminent risk for suicide.

"There's been a big shift in schools recognizing that this is a big issue. Potentially, those 74 kids' lives were saved ... and that's just last school year," she said. "We want to be proactive. If they can get support and treatment, they're not going to get to the place where they have a suicide attempt."

ktaylor@chicagotribune.com
Twitter @kntaylor

Tax

Continued from Page 1

amendment, a handful joined Republicans in opposing the three other measures.

Pritzker is pressing the General Assembly to have his graduated income tax plan in place by the session's May 31 adjournment. It's not clear when the House will take up the Senate proposals, which the House Democratic leader said are still being studied.

GOP senators opposing the tax package said they were standing up for the middle class by trying to preserve the flat tax, which they contend makes it more difficult to increase taxes. State Sen. Don Harmon, the Oak Park Democrat who sponsored the proposed constitutional amendment, called that "a canard."

"You are protecting the uber-rich, not the middle class, because we can't raise taxes on anyone without raising taxes on everyone, and that's a protection for the richest among us," said Harmon, who's been pushing for a graduated income tax for a decade.

Pritzker, a billionaire heir to the Hyatt Hotel fortune, made the graduated tax a centerpiece of his campaign for governor and his first months in office. The governor and many of his fellow Democrats believe raising taxes on the wealthy is the best way to fill an estimated



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Gov. J.B. Pritzker on Wednesday applauded the Senate for "taking a major step forward" to fix the state finances.

"This will make it easier ... to reach into your constituents' pockets and get more money."

— Republican Sen. Dale Righter of Mattoon

\$3.2 billion budget hole and stabilize state finances.

The governor issued a statement Wednesday applauding the Senate for "taking a major step forward to create a fair income tax system in Illinois, ensuring that 97 percent of taxpayers will pay the same or less and only those making \$250,000 will pay more."

"I look forward to continuing our conversations

with stakeholders in the House as we take action on the fair tax," Pritzker said.

Democratic Sen. Toi Hutchinson of Olympia Fields, who sponsored the legislation that would set the tax rates, said bringing in new revenue would help solve many problems after years of cuts and the two-year budget standoff under former Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner.

"We destroyed our higher education system. We have decimated our social service safety net, and we've stopped investing in all the things that every single one of us that comes to this chamber decides to run on," Hutchinson said. "We have hollowed out state government in a way that makes it heartbreaking to have a conversation about taxes without talking about what taxes pay for."

Republicans continued

to argue that doing away with the flat tax requirement would open the door for tax increases on people earning less than \$250,000.

"There are a handful who believe that the answer to government's problems is simply to raise taxes," Republican Sen. Dale Righter of Mattoon said. "This will make it easier for those who believe that to reach into your constituents' pockets and get more money. We should not make it easier."

Senate GOP leader Bill Brady of Bloomington said he believes voters will reject the constitutional amendment at the ballot box in 2020. He said that in the meantime, competing states could wield the specter of a tax increase to lure businesses out of Illinois.

"In order to compete to recruit and retain jobs, we need to have stability, not uncertainty," Brady said.

Before voters can have their say, the House must approve the proposed constitutional amendment. Democrats also hold a supermajority in that chamber, and powerful House Speaker Michael Madigan has expressed support for a graduated income tax.

With House Republicans vowing unified opposition, Democrats will need all but three of their 74 members to approve the proposed amendment. Some members are pushing for greater property tax relief, and for those representing more conservative districts, vowing to allow a tax increase

could be politically perilous. Keeping enough members in line to get a three-fifths majority for the proposed amendment could prove to be a challenge.

Pritzker has been pushing his graduated tax plan for months, but the legislation passed in the Senate varies slightly from the governor's proposal, raising the top tax rate to 7.99 percent compared with the governor's proposed 7.95 percent. The current rate is 4.95 percent for all taxpayers.

The governor proposed applying the top rate to the total incomes of people making more than \$1 million, but critics argued that would penalize married couples who file joint re-

turns. To address those concerns, the Senate plan would instead apply the top rate to the full income of single filers earning more than \$750,000 and joint filers earning more than \$1 million.

House Democratic leader Greg Harris of Chicago said the concept of a graduated tax has broad support among his caucus, but before the House votes, Democratic leaders need to "carefully analyze" the Senate's changes to Pritzker's original proposal.

"We need to review them," Harris said. "It's very complicated legislation. It has a lot of moving parts."

dpetrella@chicagotribune.com
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Chicago Tribune

NATION & WORLD

Power struggle grips Caracas amid protests

Guaido supporters strive to ratchet up pressure on Maduro

By SCOTT SMITH AND CHRISTOPHER TORCHIA
Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela — Wary Venezuelans emerged on the streets of the nation's capital Wednesday waving their nation's tricolor flag and banging pots and pans, hoping to drum up momentum after opposition leader Juan Guaido's bold attempt to spark a military uprising that has thus far failed to tilt the balance of power.

Thousands gathered to demand President Nicolas Maduro's ouster in what could be another critical day in the nation's struggle between Maduro's widely detested socialist government and Guaido's opposition movement, backed by powerful allies like the United States but unable to secure the loyalty of key factors, including the military.

The dramatic events that led to violent clashes Tuesday between protesters and troops loyal to the embattled president seemed to indicate that there was no quick end in sight to the nation's protracted power struggle.

Guaido's plans largely appeared to have floundered as high-ranking defections failed to materialize.

"I don't want to say it was a disaster, but it's wasn't a success," Marilina Carillo, 54, said, standing in a crowd of people blowing horns and whistles.

As the protests got underway Wednesday, security forces launched tear gas at a small group of protesters in the western Caracas neighborhood of El Paraiso. National Guards-



EDILZON GAMEZ/GETTY

Supporters of opposition leader Juan Guaido wave tricolor Venezuelan flags Wednesday at a demonstration in Caracas.

men dismounted from motorcycles to disperse the crowd, firing rubber bullets. Demonstrators, some covering their faces against the tear gas fumes, grabbed the gas canisters and tossed them back.

"Assassins!" one woman cried out.

Guaido, speaking before a crowd of supporters elsewhere in the capital, urged Venezuelans to remain on the streets and begin taking steps toward a general strike to ramp up pressure on Maduro.

"It's totally clear now the usurper has lost," he declared, despite the lack of mass military defections.

The upheaval marks the

most serious challenge to Maduro's rule, though he has succeeded in keeping his grip on power. While he may be weakened as cracks within his inner circle begin to emerge — the director of the feared SEBIN intelligence agency broke with Maduro on Tuesday — he could also escape from the latest threat to his contested rule more empowered.

A defiant Maduro, who had been absent throughout most of Tuesday, emerged on state television late at night surrounded by his closest advisers and blasting Guaido's move as a U.S.-backed coup attempt.

"This cannot go unpunished," he said.

Guaido, who is recognized by more than 50 nations as Venezuela's rightful president, is likely to force Maduro to make a decision on whether to let his adversary remain a free man.

Giancarlo Morelli of the British analysis group Economist Intelligence Unit said Maduro faces peril whatever path he takes. "Failing to arrest Mr. Guaido would be perceived as an important sign for weakness from Mr. Maduro," Morelli said. "But arresting Mr. Guaido risks a strong counter-reaction from the U.S.," which has been ratcheting up sanctions.

Maduro supporters were also called to rally Wednesday in another round of dueling protests between both sides. While Maduro maintains a devout core of fervent supporters first inspired by his late predecessor, Hugo Chavez, attendance at such shows of support is viewed as a requirement of their jobs.

Tuesday's turmoil began with the dawn release of a video Guaido shot near the Carlotia air base.

In a surprise, Leopoldo Lopez, Guaido's political mentor and the nation's most prominent opposition activist, stood alongside him. Detained in 2014 for leading a previous round of

anti-government unrest, Lopez said he had been released from house arrest by security forces following an order from Guaido.

However, by late Tuesday Lopez and his family had sought refuge in the Chilean ambassador's residence and later moved to the Spanish Embassy.

Amid the unrest, Maduro's military commanders went on state television to proclaim their loyalty. But in a possible sign that Maduro's inner circle could be fracturing, the head of Venezuela's intelligence agency wrote an open letter breaking ranks.

Manuel Ricardo Cristopher Figuera said he had always been loyal to Maduro, but it was now time to "rebuild the country."

He said corruption has become so rampant that "many high-ranking public servants practice it like a sport."

"The hour has arrived for us to look for other ways of doing politics," Figuera wrote.

Still, like past attempts to oust Maduro, the opposition seemed outmaneuvered Tuesday. The hoped for split in the military didn't emerge and a plane that the United States claimed was standing by to ferry Maduro into exile never took off.

U.S. national security adviser John Bolton said Wednesday that Maduro was surrounded by "scorpions in a bottle" and it was only a matter of time before he leaves power.

He said key figures in Maduro's leadership, including the defense minister and head of the presidential guard, had been "outed" as dealing with the opposition.

Slain student hailed as hero for tackling gunman in N.C.

By TOM FOREMAN JR. AND SARAH BLAKE MORGAN
Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — A North Carolina college student tackled a gunman who opened fire in a classroom, saving others' lives but losing his own in the process, the police chief said Wednesday.

Riley Howell, 21, was among the students gathered for end-of-year presentations in an anthropology class at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte when a gunman began shooting students with a pistol.

Howell and another student were killed; four others were wounded.

Charlotte-Mecklenburg police Chief Kerr Putney said Howell "took the assailant off his feet," but was fatally wounded while doing so. He said Howell did what police train people to do in active shooter situations.

"You're either going to run, you're going to hide and shield, or you're going to take the fight to the assailant. Having no place to run and hide, he did the last. But for his work, the assail-

ant may not have been disarmed," Putney said. "Unfortunately, he gave his life in the process. But his sacrifice saved lives."

The father of Howell's longtime girlfriend said news that the 21-year-old tackled the shooter wasn't surprising.

Kevin Westmoreland, whose daughter Lauren dated Howell for nearly six years, said Howell was athletic and compassionate.

"If Lauren was with Riley, he would step in front of a train for her if he had to," Westmoreland said.

The shooting took place during a class on the anthropology and philosophy of science, according to a message on what appeared to be the Twitter account of the instructor who witnessed the attack. Adam Johnson wrote that teams of students were delivering their presentations when the gunman opened fire.

"Yes, there was a shooting in my class today," Johnson wrote. "My students are so special to me and I am devastated."

UNC-Charlotte spokeswoman Buffy Stephens said suspect Trystan Andrew Terrell had been enrolled at the school but withdrew

during the current semester. Campus police Chief Jeff Baker said Terrell had not appeared on their radar as a potential threat.

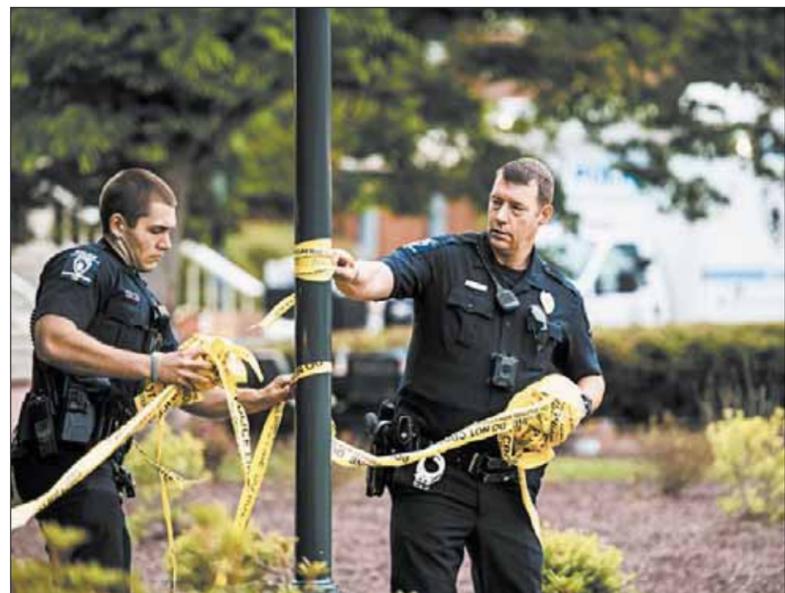
The motive remains unclear. "I just went into a classroom and shot the guys," Terrell told reporters Tuesday as officers led him in handcuffs into a law enforcement building.

Terrell, 22, was booked into the Mecklenburg County jail on two counts of murder, four counts of attempted murder, possessing and firing a weapon on educational property, and assault with a deadly weapon.

The shooting prompted a lockdown and caused panic across the campus with more than 26,500 students and 3,000 faculty and staff.

In a class a few rooms away from where the shooting happened, Krysta Dean was about to present a senior research project when she heard someone scream "shooter." She huddled behind a table with classmates.

"The only thing that was going through my head was, one, I could very well die today. I was mentally preparing myself for what it would be like to get shot and



SEAN RAYFORD/GETTY

Officers remove crime scene tape Wednesday at UNC-Charlotte.

just kind of bracing myself for if it did happen," she said.

Dean didn't sleep much Tuesday night because she couldn't get the noises out of her head. Now, she says she feels guilty for surviving.

"When I was sitting there on the floor, thinking that I might get a bullet in my head, my biggest fear was somebody's reality. And there are parents that are never going to be able to hug their children again," she said.

A campus vigil for the victims was planned for Wednesday evening, and the governor vowed a hard look to see what can be done to prevent future attacks.

In a news release, UNC-Charlotte said all the victims were students, five from North Carolina and one international. Howell, of Waynesville, and Ellis R. Parlier, 19, of Midland, were killed in the attack. Those injured were Sean Dehart, 20, and Drew Pescaro, 19, both of Apex; Emily Houpt,

23, of Charlotte; and Rami Alramadhan, 20, of Saihat, Saudi Arabia.

The suspect's grandfather, Paul Rold, of Arlington, Texas, said Terrell and his father moved to Charlotte from the Dallas area about two years ago after his mother died. Terrell taught himself French and Portuguese and was attending UNC-Charlotte, Rold said.

But Terrell never showed any interest in guns, and news that he may have been involved in a mass shooting was stunning, Rold said.



STEVE CANNON/AP

Rep. Jennifer Sullivan sponsored the bill allowing more teachers to carry guns.

Fla. lawmakers pass bill allowing more armed teachers

By CURT ANDERSON
Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — More Florida classroom teachers could carry guns in school under a bill passed Wednesday by state lawmakers, the latest response to last year's mass shooting at a Parkland high school.

The Republican-led House voted 65-47 on Wednesday to send the bill to GOP Gov. Ron DeSantis, who is expected to sign it. The measure expands an existing school "guardian"

program to allow any teacher to volunteer to carry a weapon if their local school district approves.

"It allows the good guys to stop the bad. The bad guys will never know when the good guys are there to shoot back," said Republican Rep. Chuck Brannan of Lake City, a retired law enforcement officer. "The guardian is the last line of defense. He or she will be there when a police officer is not."

Teachers who want to carry guns in districts that

choose to join the program would have to undergo police-style training, psychiatric evaluation and drug screening. Under a law passed last year immediately after the Parkland shooting, only teachers who also have another role, such as sports coach, are eligible to carry weapons on campus.

The bill comes after 17 people were killed by a rifle-toting shooter at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in February 2018. Nikolas Cruz, 20, faces

the death penalty if convicted of those slayings.

Most Democrats voted against the bill, contending that introducing more weapons into schools would place children at risk, raise the dangers of mistaken shootings and even lead to more violence against African-American students because of inherent biases.

"We see accidents happen every day," said Rep. Susan Valdes, a Tampa Democrat. "This is not the answer. Don't put more guns in our schools."

The bill was strongly opposed by teachers unions, and school boards in some of Florida's most populous counties have voted against joining the guardian program, preferring instead to leave the security job to trained police officers. But the bill's sponsor, Republican Rep. Jennifer Sullivan of Eustis, said it was the best opportunity to protect schoolchildren from future shooters — and noted it was purely voluntary for teachers to become armed guardians.

Choose a woman for top of ticket?

Some female Dems are wary, creating paradox for party

BY ALEXANDRA JAFFE, JULIE PACE AND HUNTER WOODALL
Associated Press

TIPTON, Iowa — Iowa voters sent a record number of women to the Legislature during last year's midterms. Women won two of the state's most competitive U.S. House races, and a woman was elected governor for the first time.

Yet across Iowa, there's palpable anxiety among some Democratic women about nominating a female candidate to face off against President Donald Trump next year.

"I want to be for a woman, but it's just hard when you see a lot of other people not supporting women yet. I feel that America's just not there yet," said Wendy McVey, a 20-year-old junior at Iowa State University who is most interested in Beto O'Rourke, a former Texas congressman.

And it's not just Iowa. Across Iowa, New Hampshire and South Carolina, three of the first states to hold 2020 nominating contests, dozens of women told The Associated Press that they are worried about whether the country is ready to elect a woman as president. Their concerns are political and personal, rooted as much in fear of repeating Hillary Clinton's 2016 loss to Trump as in their own experiences with sexism and discrimination.

These worries have created a paradox for Democrats.

Women are among the party's most energized and engaged voters, accounting for more than half the electorate in the 2018 midterms. Democrats sent a historic number of women to Congress last year and have a record number of women running for president, including Sens. Kamala Harris



CHARLIE NEIBERGALL/AP

Sen. Elizabeth Warren campaigning in March. Women are among the most energized voters in the Democratic coalition.

of California, Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts, Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota and Kirsten Gillibrand of New York.

But the Oval Office has been elusive, and given Democrats' deep desire to oust Trump, some don't want to take any chances with their nominee.

"I think a lot of people voted for him because they didn't want to vote for her," Katrina Riley, a 69-year-old from Summerville, S.C., said of the 2016 contest between Trump and Clinton. "And I don't want that to happen again."

Helen Holden Slottje, a 52-year-old New Hampshire attorney, noted the irony in women raising concerns about nominating a

woman. "I fear for that with women, that it's, 'Well, we had our chance. We had Hillary. Hillary didn't pan out. Best to just pick another 65-year-old plus white guy who has the best chance of winning,'" Slottje said.

Older white men do sit atop most early polls: former Vice President Joe Biden, 76, and Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, 77. Two younger white men, O'Rourke and Mayor Pete Buttigieg of South Bend, Ind., have become media darlings despite having less political experience than many of the women in the White House race.

Amanda Hunter, research and communications director at the Barbara Lee

Foundation, which studies how female candidates are perceived in politics, said women face particular challenges when running for president that they don't at the local level.

"We know that it's one thing to support women as a decision-maker as part of a legislative body, but if she's the decision-maker, voters need to be that much more convinced that she's up to the job," she said. "Men can put out their resume. Women have to justify over and over what they've accomplished."

A Pew Research Center report from 2018 backs up that assessment. According to the survey, 76% of women said a major reason why there are fewer women in

office is that women have to do more to prove themselves. About 60% of women said they believe gender discrimination is an obstacle, and 57% of women said they didn't believe Americans were ready to elect a woman to higher office.

"I feel like we ourselves have lived in a country where women's power and leadership has been so absent," said Cecile Richards, the former president of Planned Parenthood. "I think it's hard even for women to imagine a future of real equity but I think that time has come."

Advisers to some of the women in the crowded Democratic field said early polling and focus groups have revealed similar con-

cerns among voters about electing a woman. "A Hillary hangover," one said.

In focus groups, women have said they want a candidate who can go toe-to-toe with Trump on a debate stage. Despite the fact that Clinton was broadly seen as the better prepared candidate in her three debates with Trump, some women have said the moment they remember most was Trump looming over Clinton and following her as she walked across the stage.

Jennifer Palmieri, who advised Clinton's 2016 campaign, urged women to "not be scared of the 2016 phantoms."

"Women voters who want to support a woman candidate should not overthink this but have courage of their convictions and believe in their power to make a difference," Palmieri said. "That's what women did in 2018 and look what happened."

In the aftermath of the 2016 election, Clinton has said she believes sexism and misogyny contributed to her loss. Some of the women in the 2020 race haven't shied away from those issues.

"If you ask the question, is there gender bias in America today? Absolutely," said Gillibrand. "Is there gender bias in every industry? Absolutely. But I think for each of us, we can overcome it."

Warren recounts becoming a teacher but not being "asked back" to work the next year by the principal after she became pregnant. She makes subtle references to some of the sexism she's faced on Capitol Hill.

At an event in Tipton, Iowa, she told the crowd that when she talks to colleagues in the Senate, they tell her "you're asking for too much" with her campaign platform.

"Don't ask for such hard things. Smile more," she said she's been told, using language familiar to many women.

The crowd erupted in boos and groans.

California couple 1st to plead guilty in admissions scandal

BY MATTHEW ORMSETH
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — A Northern California couple who secured their daughters' spots at UCLA and the University of Southern California with bribes and rigged tests pleaded guilty Wednesday to fraud and money laundering offenses, the first parents to admit their guilt before a judge in the investigation.

Davina Isackson, of Hillsborough, Calif., pleaded guilty to one count of fraud conspiracy. Her husband, real estate developer Bruce Isackson, pleaded guilty to one count of fraud conspiracy, one count of money laundering conspiracy and one count of conspiracy to defraud the United States. They will be sentenced July 31.

In her plea agreement, prosecutors recommended a sentence for Davina Isackson at the low end of federal guidelines that call for 27 to 33 months in prison. For Bruce Isackson, they suggested a sentence at the low end of 37 to 46 months in prison.

Of the 33 parents charged in the investigation, the Isacksons are the only ones to have signed cooperation deals with prosecutors. If they decide the couple provided useful and credible information, they can recommend that a judge sentence them below the federal guidelines.

Investigators want to learn from the couple who at UCLA and USC knew of an alleged recruiting scheme they used to slip their two daughters into the universities as sham athletes, the Los Angeles Times has reported.

The Isacksons' older daughter, Lauren, was admitted to UCLA as a recruited soccer player, given a jersey number and was listed on the team roster as a midfielder for an entire season, despite never hav-



MICHAEL DWYER/AP

Bruce Isackson and his wife, Davina Isackson, pleaded guilty to multiple charges and will be sentenced July 31.

ing played the sport competitively, prosecutors alleged.

To ensure she got in, they said, her parents transferred \$250,000 in Facebook stock to the foundation of Newport Beach college consultant William "Rick" Singer, which Bruce Isackson later wrote off on the couple's taxes as a charitable gift.

Singer paid \$100,000 to the UCLA men's soccer coach, Jorge Salcedo, who in exchange helped submit an athletic profile for Lauren Isackson brimming with bogus accolades, prosecutors allege.

Singer has admitted to masterminding the scheme and pleaded guilty to four felonies. Salcedo was indicted on a racketeering charge; he has pleaded not guilty.

The Isacksons tapped Singer's "side door" the following year to have their younger daughter admitted to USC as a recruited rower, prosecutors alleged. The couple also availed themselves of Singer's test-rigging scheme, prosecutors said, in which he bribed SAT and ACT administrators to turn a blind eye to his 36-year-old, Harvard-educated accomplice.

With the help of the accomplice, Mark Riddell, the Isacksons' younger daughter scored a 31 out of

36 on the ACT, prosecutors said. Her father paid Singer's foundation \$100,000 and wrote it off on taxes as a charitable gift.

With the help of a USC official Singer allegedly kept on his payroll, their daughter was presented to a student-athlete admission committee as a recruited rower, despite the fact she competed not in crew, but in equestrian, prosecutors say. She was admitted as a student athlete in December 2017.

Four months later, the Isacksons transferred \$250,000 in stock to Singer's foundation.

In a case involving what is believed to be the largest sum linked to the scandal, the family of a Chinese student admitted to Stanford paid \$6.5 million to Singer, people familiar with the matter said.

Most of the parents ensnared in the case are accused of paying \$15,000 to \$50,000 to have their children's test scores rigged; those who wanted to access Singer's "side door" — his term for using bribes to secure admission slots reserved for recruited athletes — typically paid about \$250,000.

The family of Sherry Guo paid \$1.2 million to help get their daughter into Yale, Guo's attorney has said.

Assange sentence: 50 weeks in prison for jumping bail

BY GREGORY KATZ
Associated Press

LONDON — A British judge sentenced WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange on Wednesday to 50 weeks in prison for skipping bail seven years ago and holing up in the Ecuadorian Embassy in London.

Judge Deborah Taylor appeared unimpressed by Assange's written apology and his lawyer's argument that he sought refuge in the embassy because of overwhelming fear of being taken from Sweden, where he faced sexual misconduct allegations, to the U.S. to face separate charges related to his WikiLeaks activity.

"It is essential to the rule of law that nobody is above or beyond the reach of the law," Taylor said. "Orders of the court are to be obeyed."

The judge said it was hard to imagine a more serious version of the offense as she gave the 47-year-old hacker a sentence close to the maximum of a year in custody. She pointed out that he had not surrendered "willingly" and was only facing the court because the government of Ecuador withdrew its protection last month.

Assange had lived in the South American country's London embassy since June 2012 to avoid extradition to Sweden, where he was wanted for questioning over rape and sexual assault allegations made by two women.

He was arrested by British police April 11 after Ecuador revoked his political asylum, accusing him of everything from meddling in the poor's foreign affairs to poor hygiene.

Assange faces a separate court hearing Thursday on a U.S. extradition request. American authorities have charged Assange with conspiring to break into a Pentagon computer system.

Taylor said Assange's



DANIEL LEAL-OLIVAS/GETTY-APP

Julian Assange gestures from inside a prison van as he is driven out of Southwark Crown Court on Wednesday.

seven years in the embassy had cost British taxpayers \$21 million, and said he sought asylum as a "deliberate attempt to delay justice."

Assange stood impassively with his hands clasped while the sentence was read. His supporters in the public gallery at Southwark Crown Court cheered for him as he left and chanted "Shame on you" at the judge as Assange was led away. He raised his fist in a show of defiance.

Assange looked much more youthful and healthier than when he was dragged out of the Ecuadorian Embassy by British police.

At the time, sporting an unkempt beard and long hair, he seemed wild-eyed and angry. This time he was composed and for the most part polite, although he did interrupt the judge to challenge her on her characterization of the sexual misconduct allegations he faced in Sweden.

His lawyer read out a brief letter from Assange to the judge in which he apologized "unreservedly" to anyone who felt his actions had been disrespectful.

"I found myself struggling with terrifying circumstances for which neither I nor those from whom I sought advice

could work out any remedy," he said in the letter. "I did what I thought at the time was the best and perhaps the only thing that could be done."

Sweden suspended its investigation into possible sexual misconduct against Assange two years ago because he was beyond their reach while he was living in the embassy. Prosecutors have said that investigation could be revived if his situation changed.

Assange's lawyer Mark Summers told a courtroom packed with journalists and WikiLeaks supporters that his client sought refuge in the Ecuadorian Embassy because "he was living with overwhelming fear of being rendered to the U.S." over his WikiLeaks activities.

He said Assange had a "well-founded" fear that he would be mistreated and possibly sent to the U.S. detention camp for terrorism suspects at Guantanamo Bay.

WikiLeaks editor-in-chief Kristinn Hrafnsson said after the sentencing that the extradition battle with the U.S. is now the "big fight" facing Assange.

"It will be a question of life and death for Mr. Assange," he said.

There was a small gathering of Assange supporters outside the courthouse demanding he be freed.

Some buck at plan to save wild mustangs

Herds could be cut to extinction levels, advocates argue

By SCOTT SONNER
Associated Press

RENO, Nev. — Animal welfare groups have reached a milestone agreement with ranching interests they say would save wild mustangs from slaughter but the compromise has opened a nasty split among horse protection advocates.

The Humane Society of the United States and the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals say their proposal backed by the National Cattlemen's Beef Association and the American Farm Bureau Federation would eliminate the threat of slaughter for thousands of free-roaming horses primarily by spending millions of dollars on expanding fertility controls on the range.

As part of the deal presented to the Bureau of Land Management, they're willing to drop long-held opposition to controversial roundups of the horses — fighting words for the largest mustang advocacy

groups that have been in court for years defending the animals' ability to forage with cattle and sheep in 10 western states.

The unprecedented alliance unveiled in April has ignited fierce opposition from the American Wild Horse Campaign and Friends of Animals, which currently is leading a legal challenge to Forest Service efforts that could for the first time make mustangs recently rounded up along the California-Nevada border available for purchase for slaughter.

"The groups promoting this plan have been co-opted into supporting the livestock industry's agenda for wild horses by the BLM's vague promise to utilize undefined 'population growth suppression' methods," including surgical sterilization, the Campaign said. "By mandating the removal of a startling 15,000 to 20,000 wild horses a year, the plan will result in the reduction of America's wild herds to extinction levels."

"It's a sellout," added Laura Leigh, who has monitored roundups for nearly 20 years and heads the Nevada-based Wild Horse

Education.

Nancy Perry, ASPCA's senior vice president, acknowledges they're in "frightening territory" with a "bold approach that no one has taken so far."

"Not every advocate wants to engage with or work with those that they have been in battle with over the years," she told The Associated Press. "But BLM's current policies are ineffective. If they continue on the road they're on now, it means disaster."

In addition to the cattlemen's powerful lobbying arm, the package has the support of the Society for Range Management, Utah's governor and rural county commissions in Utah and Nevada.

"After years of all of us being in our bunkers on this issue, this proposal represents some real common ground among stakeholders that have never appeared on the same document before," said Ethan Lane, senior executive director of federal lands for the National Cattlemen's Beef Association.

"The Humane Society and ASPCA have a view that what my members do to put food on their tables is inher-



SUE OGRICK/AP 2017

Animal welfare groups and those with ranching interests have an agreement to save wild horses from slaughter. The agreement has opened a split among horse advocates.

ently bad. For us to be able to come together and find some common ground on this is significant," he said.

Others who've bought in include the American Mustang Foundation and the California-based Return to Freedom Wild Horse Conservation.

"We need to work together with other stakeholders who have diverse interests," Return to Freedom President Neda DeMayo said.

Rebecca Goldrick of the APSCA said they're seeking a \$50 million increase in BLM's \$80 million annual horse budget but that it

ultimately would save money as herds shrink.

BLM estimated 83,000 wild horses and burros were roaming public rangelands last year, more than three times what the agency says the land can support. Another 50,000 that have been removed from the range in recent years were in holding facilities at an annual cost of about \$50 million.

BLM spokesman Derrick Henry said the development was encouraging.

Horse advocates have argued the animals must be permitted to roam the range in federally protected man-

agement areas established under the Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act of 1971. They say BLM's population quotas are often outdated and lack scientific data to support roundups to cull herd sizes.

The new proposal advocates roundups in densely populated areas that cannot sustain large numbers of animals. It also would move horses currently in short-term holding pens to larger "cost effective, humane" pastures with a "free-roaming environment," and provide new handling and training of horses they say would boost adoption rates.



JOHN BAZEMORE/AP

U.S. Army Capt. Michael Rose, of the 101st Airborne, front, and teammate Capt. John Bergman crawl under barbed wire while competing for the title of Best Ranger.

Military's toughest face off for Best Ranger title

By JOHN BAZEMORE
Associated Press

FORT BENNING, Ga. — There's tough, there's Army Ranger tough and then there's the toughest of the tough, the handful named Best Ranger.

Earlier this month, 106 elite members of the U.S. military spent 60 grueling hours competing as two-member teams for the title. Sleep-deprived and sometimes soaking wet and loaded down with gear, they marched, ran, swam, rappelled and swung hand over hand on ropes across a wilderness area while firing rifles and machine guns, performing simulated combat rescues, navigating at night and tackling other daunting, back-to-back challenges.

In the end, Capt. John Bergman and Michael Rose of the Army's 101st Airborne Division crossed the finish line with rifles raised over their heads — Rose for his third time winning the endurance challenge and Bergman for his second.

Fort Benning, host of the annual competition, is home to the Army's elite 75th Ranger Regiment as well as the demanding Army Ranger School. Just to become a Ranger entails some of the Army's toughest training in a 61-day

course that weeds out roughly half of those who enter.

Rose, 28, from Roswell, Ga., was among the soldiers who didn't graduate from Ranger training on his first try. Undaunted, he tried again, passed and returned less than a year later with Bergman to compete for Best Ranger.

Rose said he wanted to prove that a soldier can spring back into fighting form just months after completing Ranger training.

"We managed to win," he said.

The Best Ranger Competition began in 1982 as a contest reserved for Army troops serving in elite special operations units. It aims to put "extreme demands on each buddy team's physical, mental, technical and tactical skills as Rangers."

Changes over more than three decades have opened up the competition to others across all branches of the U.S. military who meet Ranger standards.

This year's competition kicked off with a 5-mile run, an obstacle course, a challenge carrying a weighted down stretcher, a swim, a run wearing body armor, an urban assault course, a shooting test at a firing range and a nighttime foot march.

And that was just the first day out of three.

The next day saw the teams narrowed by half. Competitors tested their skills at climbing and rappelling off towers, as well as rescuing and treating an injured comrade from a downed helicopter. After dark they were airlifted into the mountains to compete in wilderness navigation.

Some events were canceled in the final round on the third day as heavy thunderstorms with a chance of tornadoes moved into the Fort Benning area. Teams were still able to face off in a 2-mile run dotted with barbed wire and other obstacles, plus a combat water skills challenge involving tower climbing, crawling along a rope and zip-lining into a pond.

In a telephone interview the day after it all ended, the two winners said they had been training for months, building up to where they were going 100 miles a week on foot, running or marching, plus weightlifting. Their military units gave them plenty of leeway. So did the families of the two young fathers.

"The families have a lot of sacrifices as well," said Bergman, 29, who grew up in Lawrence, Kan.

'Medicare for All' could be problematic, CBO report says

By RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR AND ALAN FRAM
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Congressional budget experts said Wednesday that moving to a government-run health care system like "Medicare for All" could be complicated and potentially disruptive for Americans.

The report from the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office was a high-level look at the pros and cons of changing the current mix of public and private health care financing to a system paid for entirely by the government. It did not include cost estimates of Sen. Bernie Sanders' Medicare for All legislation or its House counterpart, but raised dozens of issues lawmakers would confront.

"The transition toward a single-payer system could be complicated, challenging and potentially disruptive," the report said. "Policymakers would need to consider how quickly people with private insurance would switch their coverage to a new public plan, what would happen to workers in the health insurance industry if private insurance was banned or its role was limited, and how quickly provider payment rates under the single-payer system would be phased in from current levels."

One unintended consequence could be increased wait times and reduced access to care if there are not enough medical providers to meet an expected increased demand for services as some 29 million currently uninsured people get coverage and as deductibles and copayments are reduced or eliminated for everyone else.

"An expansion of insurance coverage under a single-payer system would increase the demand for care



WIN MCNAMEE/GETTY

Protesters supporting "Medicare for All" rally this week outside PhRMA headquarters in Washington.

and put pressure on the available supply of care," the report said.

Sanders, I-Vt., pushed back, telling reporters that what's really disruptive is that millions of Americans remain uninsured while others can't afford high co-pays and drug prices. "That is disruptive," Sanders said. "What is not disruptive is expanding Medicare, which is a very popular and cost-effective program to guarantee health care for every man, woman and child."

The Democratic presidential candidate's single-payer proposal is coloring the nomination fight and is likely to be a significant theme in the 2020 elections. President Donald Trump derides it as "socialism."

Employers now cover more than 160 million people, roughly half the U.S. population. Medicare covers seniors and disabled people. Medicaid covers low-income people and many nursing home residents. Other government programs serve children or military veterans.

Proponents of Medicare for All say the complexity of the U.S. system wastes billions in administrative costs and enables hospitals and drugmakers to charge much higher prices than providers get in other eco-

nomically advanced countries. Critics acknowledge the U.S. has a serious cost problem, but they point out that patients don't usually have to wait for treatment and that new drugs are generally available much more rapidly than in other countries.

While a government-run system could improve the overall health profile of the U.S., pressure on providers to curb costs could reduce the quality of care by "by causing providers to supply less care to patients covered by the public plan."

Other potentially difficult choices flagged in the report included:

■ Coverage for people living in the country without legal permission, which CBO called "a key design issue." Sanders' bill and its House counterpart would cover all U.S. residents, leaving it to a future administration to define that term.

■ Payment for long-term care services, which CBO said could substantially increase government costs. Sanders and House counterparts would cover long-term care.

■ Use of a government-set "global budget" to control cost, a strategy CBO said is "barely used" in the U.S. Programs like Medicare and Medicaid rely on other approaches.

Mystery deepens over tame whale Norwegian locals can pet

By JAN M. OLSEN
Associated Press

COPENHAGEN, Denmark — A beluga whale found in Arctic Norway wearing a harness that suggests links to a military facility in Russia is so tame that residents can pet the mammal on its nose.

The whale found frolicking in the frigid harbor of Tufjord, a hamlet near Norway's northernmost point, has become "a huge attraction" for locals, one resident said this week.

The whale is so comfortable with people that it

swims to the dock and retrieves plastic rings thrown into the sea.

"The whale is so tame that when you call it, it comes to you," said Linn Saether, adding the whale also reacts to yells and when humans splash their hands in the water.

She said when she throws out a plastic ring, the beluga whale brings it back to her as she sits on the dock.

"It is a fantastic experience, but we also see it as a tragedy. We can see that it has been trained to bring back stuff that is thrown at

sea," Saether, 37, said.

The whale was found with a tight harness reading "Equipment St. Petersburg" in English.

The hamlet has a dozen permanent residents and less than 100 people in the warmer season.

"The talk in this hamlet is that it could have escaped from a Russian military facility or even have swam from St. Petersburg, Fla., because of the English-language text," Saether said.

It was not known whether any of the dolphin and whale facilities in St. Petersburg, Fla., were miss-

ing a beluga whale.

On Friday, a fisherman jumped into the Arctic water to remove the harness.

It wasn't clear why the strap was attached to the mammal.

Audun Rikardsen, a professor at the Department of Arctic and Marine Biology at the Arctic University of Norway in Tromsø, northwestern Norway, said he believes "it is most likely that Russian Navy in Murmansk" was involved.

Murmansk is the headquarters for Russia's Northern Fleet, the single most powerful fleet in the Rus-

sian navy. The city is close to the Norwegian border.

Russian authorities did not respond to requests for comment on the whale.

But Mikhail Barabanov, a Russian naval analyst at the Moscow-based Center for the Analysis of Strategies and Technologies think tank, downplayed any links to the Russian military.

"Even if there are military programs for using marine animals for navy purposes, they are unlikely to (be) belugas, and such animals are unlikely to be released into the open ocean," said in an email.



LINN SAETHER/AP

Linn Saether poses with the friendly beluga whale in Tufjord, Norway.

ANALYSIS

Republicans close ranks around Barr at hearing

BY LISA MASCARO
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — “For me, it is over.”

With those few words, Sen. Lindsey Graham, the Republican chairman of the Judiciary Committee, set the tone for his party at an extraordinary hearing with Attorney General William Barr over special counsel Robert Mueller’s investigation into Russian election interference and possible obstruction of justice by President Donald Trump.

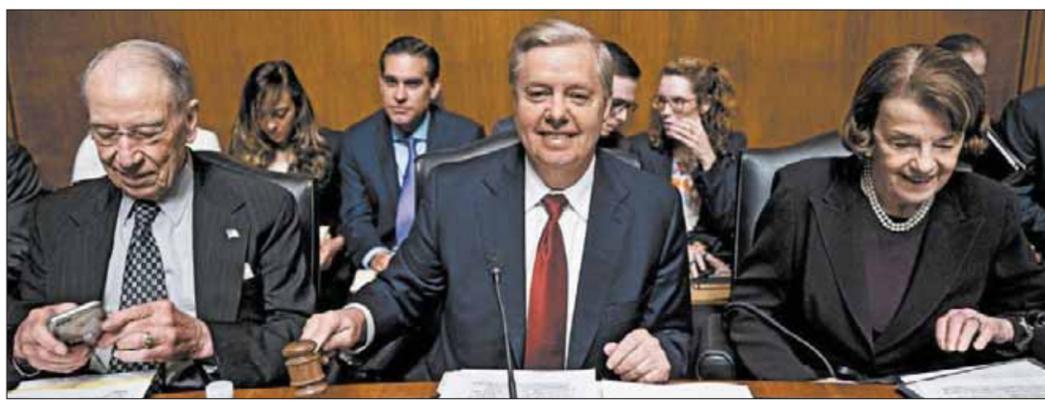
Gaveling open the Wednesday session, Graham outlined the scope of Mueller’s nearly two-year probe, with its 2,000 subpoenas and million-plus documents turned over by the White House, and gave his take on the findings.

“So, no collusion, no coordination, no conspiracy,” Graham said.

Trump couldn’t have said it better. In fact, he didn’t. The president tweeted ahead of the session, “NO COLLUSION, NO OBSTRUCTION.”

For two years now, Republican senators have been reluctant to publicly criticize the president, and they weren’t about to break ranks now.

Even though Mueller made clear he was not exonerating Trump on ob-



Chairman Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., center, accompanied by Sens. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, and Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif.

struction of justice — detailing 10 possible instances related to that crime — Republicans showed little interest in asking Barr about that open question. Instead, they spent much of the day revisiting the role of Hillary Clinton and Democrats in the 2016 election.

One by one, the Republican senators took turns questioning Barr not about Trump’s actions, but about whether any officials in the Justice Department used their positions to try to help Clinton over Trump.

First, Chuck Grassley, the most senior Republican in the Senate, opened with questions about Peter Strzok and Lisa Page, the former FBI agents who ex-

changed text messages expressing opposition to Trump. The Iowa senator then turned to the Steele dossier, a document damaging to Trump that was compiled first for his GOP opponents, then financed by Democrats.

Grassley wondered if it, too, was part of the Russia campaign to sow doubt in the election.

“Here’s the irony,” Grassley said. “The Mueller report spent millions investigating and found no collusion between Trump and Russia, but the Democrats paid for a document created by a foreign national with reported foreign government sources. That’s the definition of collusion.”

Sen. John Cornyn of Texas, a member of GOP leadership, weighed in next. He wanted to talk about the Obama years and whether the White House did enough to counter Russian interference, starting back in 2014.

A top Democrat, Sen. Dick Durbin of Illinois, was all but flabbergasted.

“I have been listening carefully to my Republican colleagues on the other side and it appears that they’re going to work together and coordinate the so-called ‘Lock Her Up’ defense,” Durbin said, repurposing the Trump campaign rally chant against Clinton.

Republicans are “totally unresponsive to the reality

of what the American public wants to know,” Durbin said.

And so it went.

Mueller’s report concluded the Trump campaign did not conspire with Russia, but the special counsel punted on whether the president obstructed justice during the investigation, leaving more questions than answers for Congress. Many went unasked.

In many ways Graham, a one-time Trump critic who has become perhaps the most unlikely of Trump allies, reprised his role from the confirmation of Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court last year. During that hearing, Graham wasn’t yet the committee chairman,

but he swooped in with a defense of Kavanaugh, whose nomination was in grave jeopardy amid sexual assault allegations. Many credit Graham with shifting the debate to secure Kavanaugh’s confirmation.

As Graham wielded the gavel Wednesday, he took a more deliberate approach. He steered Barr toward the conclusion that Trump was cleared of wrongdoing and the Justice Department should turn its attention elsewhere.

“Do you share my concerns about the counterintelligence investigation and how it was opened?” Graham asked.

“Yes,” Barr replied.

“Do you share my concerns about the lack of professionalism in the Clinton email investigation?”

“Yes.”

The exchange had the familiarity of colleagues who have had parried these questions before and, if pressed, could finish each other’s sentences.

“Do you think the president’s campaign in 2016 was thoroughly looked at in terms of whether or not they colluded with the Russians?”

“Yes.”

“You feel good about your decision?”

“Absolutely.”

“Thank you very much.”

Barr

Continued from Page 1

decision on whether to bring charges, Barr added, “then he shouldn’t have investigated.”

Barr was also perturbed by a private letter Mueller, a longtime friend, sent him last month complaining that the attorney general had not properly portrayed the special counsel’s findings in a four-page letter summarizing the report’s main conclusions. The attorney general called the note “a bit snitty.”

“I said ‘Bob, what’s with the letter? Just pick up the phone and call me if there is an issue,’” Barr said.

The airing of disagreements was all the more striking since the Justice Department leadership and Mueller’s team had appeared unified in approach for most of the two-year investigation into potential coordination between the Trump campaign and Russia during the 2016 election.

The revelation that Mueller, who had been publicly silent for the entire investigation, was agitated enough to send a letter to Barr — which could, and did, become public — lent his words extra credibility with Democrats, who accused Barr of lying under oath last month when he denied that Mueller’s team was unhappy with how their work had been characterized.

Barr downplayed Mueller’s complaints, saying they were mostly about process, not substance, while raising a few objections of his own in the other direction. He said that Mueller did not, as requested, identify grand jury material in his report when he submitted it, slowing the public release of the report as the Justice Department worked to black out sensitive information.

“His concern was he wanted more out,” Barr said.

He said Mueller did not say that Barr had inaccurately characterized the investigation.



Attorney General William Barr arrives to testify Wednesday before the Senate Judiciary Committee. He faced sharp questioning from Senate Democrats.

“Mr. Barr, I feel your answer was purposefully misleading, and I think others do too.”

— Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt.

Barr also insisted that once Mueller submitted his report, his work was done and the document became “my baby.”

Wednesday’s Senate hearing gave Barr his most extensive opportunity to date to defend recent Justice Department actions, including a news conference before the report’s release and his decision to release a brief summary letter two days after getting the report.

But the hearing also laid bare the partisan divide over the handling of Mueller’s report.

Some Republicans, in ad-

dition to defending Trump, focused on the president’s 2016 Democratic opponent Hillary Clinton’s email and campaign practices and what they argued has been a lack of investigation of them.

Though Mueller reached no conclusion on obstruction, he did report that his probe established no criminal conspiracy between the Trump team and Russia. Barr asserted that Trump was “falsely accused” during the investigation; therefore, lacked the criminal intent required to commit obstruction.

“I didn’t exonerate. I said that we did not believe that there was sufficient evidence to establish an obstruction offense which is the job of the Justice Department, and the job of the Justice Department is now over,” Barr said.

Democrats moved to exploit the daylight between Barr and Mueller to impugn the attorney general’s credibility. Some also called for Barr to resign, or to recuse himself from Justice Department investigations that have been spun off from Mueller’s probe.

They also pressed him on whether he had misled Congress last month when, at an unrelated hearing, he professed ignorance about complaints from the special counsel’s team.

Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., said, “Mr. Barr, I feel your answer was purposefully

misleading, and I think others do too.”

Hawaii Sen. Mazie Hirono also called on Barr to resign. Hirono launched an aggressive line of questioning, asserting he hadn’t been honest with Congress.

Hirono also asked Barr if it was OK for a president to ask one of his aides to lie, referencing the report’s examination of whether Trump obstructed justice.

When Barr equivocated, Hirono grew angry, saying, “Mr. attorney general, please give us some credit for knowing what the hell is going on right now.”

Senate Judiciary Chairman Lindsey Graham shot back: “You have slandered this man from top to bottom.”

Neither side broke much new ground on the specifics of Mueller’s investigation, though Barr did articulate a

robust defense of Trump as he made clear his firm conviction that there was no prosecutable case against the president for obstruction of justice.

He was asked by Sen. Dianne Feinstein, the committee’s top Democrat, about an episode recounted in Mueller’s report in which Trump pressed White House Counsel Don McGahn to seek the removal of Mueller on conflict-of-interest grounds. Trump then asked McGahn to deny a news report that such a directive had been given.

Barr responded, “There’s something very different firing a special counsel outright, which suggests ending an investigation, and having a special counsel removed for conflict — which suggests you’re going to have another special counsel.”

Dispute erupts at White House refusal to furnish clearance info

BY TOM HAMBURGER
AND JOSH DAWSEY
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The White House said Wednesday that it will not authorize any executive branch officials to disclose to Congress information about individual security clearances, a move that House Oversight Committee Chairman Elijah Cummings, D-Md., called “the latest example of the president’s widespread and growing obstruction of Congress.”

The Oversight panel has been examining the administration’s handling of security clearances and allegations that officials, including the president’s son-in-law and senior adviser Jared Kushner, were granted access to sensitive information over the objections of career staff.

The investigation has led to an angry and escalating standoff between the House committee and the White House, which accused the panel in a letter Wednesday of “advancing a partisan

political agenda.”

Among other things, White House counsel Pat Cipollone wrote, “the committee appears to be putting public servants at risk” as it seeks information on the way in which the White House granted security clearances to Kushner and others in the top echelons of the Trump White House.

In a statement, Cummings rejected Cipollone’s arguments and accused the administration of taking on the trappings of monarchy. “The American people

do not want a king in the White House — they want a President who adheres to the Constitution, who follows the law, and who recognizes Congress’ legitimate role as a check and balance on the Executive Branch,” he said.

Meanwhile, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi suggested that the possibility of impeachment might help Democrats win more White House cooperation in congressional investigations into whether Trump obstructed justice.

Pelosi has tapped the brakes on impeachment. But asked Wednesday about some Democrats saying impeachment was the best way to reduce White House resistance, Pelosi said, “The threat of impeachment is always there.”

Pelosi has cautioned fellow Democrats to see where their investigations lead, warning that trying to remove Trump cannot succeed without substantial Republican support.

The back-and-forth came as former White House

personnel security director Carl Kline testified in a closed-door deposition Wednesday morning.

The White House had originally instructed Kline, a career federal employee now working at the Defense Department, not to show up for an earlier subpoenaed deposition, leading Cummings to announce he would hold Kline in contempt for ignoring a compulsory Hill summons.

Associated Press contributed.

NEWS BRIEFING

Staff and news services

On 1st day as Japan's emperor, Naruhito vows to pursue peace

TOKYO — Emperor Naruhito inherited the sacred sword and jewel that signaled his succession and pledged in his first address Wednesday to follow his father's example by devoting himself to peace and sharing the people's joys and sorrows.

Naruhito, the first modern emperor to have studied abroad and the first born after Japan's defeat in World War II, formally acceded to the Chrysanthemum Throne at mid-

night after his father Akihito abdicated Tuesday.

Naruhito is considered a new breed of royal, his outlook forged by the tradition-defying choices of his parents. Emperor Emeritus Akihito devoted his three-decade career to making amends for a war fought in his father's name while bringing the aloof monarchy closer to the people. Naruhito's mother, Michiko, was born a commoner and was Catholic educated.

U.K. defense chief fired over Huawei leaks, denies role

LONDON — British Prime Minister Theresa May summarily fired Defense Secretary Gavin Williamson Wednesday after an investigation into leaks from a secret government meeting about the Chinese telecommunications giant Huawei. He denied any involvement in the leak.

An investigation was launched last week after newspapers reported that Britain's National Security

Council, which meets in private, had agreed to let Huawei participate in some aspects of Britain's new 5G wireless communications network.

The U.S. is lobbying allies to bar Huawei from all 5G networks, noting that China's government can force the company to give it backdoor access to data on its networks. May's government insists that no decision has been made about Huawei.

Ex-CIA officer pleads guilty to conspiring to spy for China

WASHINGTON — A former CIA case officer long suspected in the intelligence community of being a devastating mole for the Chinese government admitted Wednesday he conspired to commit espionage in that country. But no evidence was produced that Jerry Chun Shing Lee shared any information.

Lee, a 54-year-old Hong Kong native and U.S. Army veteran who served in the

CIA for 13 years, faces up to life in prison. But because the guilty plea he entered describes the information involved as "secret" rather than "top secret," his recommended sentence will be significantly lower.

Intelligence officials still suspect Lee is responsible for compromising CIA sources in China, some of whom were killed, according to former U.S. officials.



ZAKARIA ABDELKAFI/GETTY-AFP

Protesters hurl stones from behind a makeshift barricade as they square off against anti-riot police in Paris on Wednesday. The clashes between law enforcement and hard-line demonstrators erupted on the sidelines of the annual May Day rally.

Sri Lanka identifies 9 bombers behind Easter suicide attacks

COLOMBO Sri Lanka — Sri Lankan authorities on Wednesday released for the first time the names and photos of the nine suicide bombers who detonated explosives on Easter and killed more than 250 people at hotels, churches and a private residence across three cities.

They included Mohamed Azam Mohammed Mubarak, who detonated a bomb at the Kingsbury Hotel; Alauvdeen Ahmed Muwath, who attacked the historic St. Anthony's Shrine in Colombo; and Achchi Mohamadhu Mohamadhu Hasthun, who

targeted St. Sebastian's Church in Negombo, Sri Lankan authorities said.

Inshaf Ibrahim, the son of a prosperous merchant who made his fortune trading spices like pepper and cinnamon, carried out a suicide attack at the luxury Cinnamon Grand Hotel.

At almost exactly the same time, his brother Ilham targeted the nearby Shangri-La Hotel. Later in the afternoon, as police closed in on the family home in Colombo, Ilham's wife Fatima detonated a bomb, killing three police officers and several children.

The alleged mastermind of the attacks, Zahran Hashim, a radical preacher from the eastern town of Kattankudy, also carried out a suicide attack at the Shangri-La Hotel.

Mohamed Nazar Mohamed Azad, the eighth bomber, was also from Kattankudy.

The ninth bomber was Abdul Latheef Jameel Mohammed, who authorities said had traveled to Britain and Australia to pursue higher education.

Investigators are still working to determine how much help the perpetrators had from outside Sri Lanka.

Prospects downgraded for potential Fed nominee

WASHINGTON — Stephen Moore's prospects of getting confirmed to the Federal Reserve Board grew dimmer Wednesday as Trump administration officials began to acknowledge privately that he does not have the votes and as Republican senators indicated that the ensuing

drama over Moore's pending nomination would end soon.

Moore, whose name President Donald Trump has floated for an open seat at the powerful U.S. central bank, has faced escalating criticism from Senate Republicans this week, primarily because of his past

writings disparaging women.

Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, has already said she would likely oppose him, while several other GOP senators have expressed concerns and have privately indicated that they prefer he never be officially nominated.

Migrant, 16, dies in custody of government in Texas

WASHINGTON — A 16-year-old unaccompanied migrant boy from Guatemala fell ill after he was transferred to a government shelter in Texas and later died, officials said Wednesday.

The boy crossed the border near El Paso, Texas, on April 19, and was taken to a shelter in Brownsville a day later.

He did not appear ill when he was transferred to the care of the Department of Health and Human Services, according to an agency statement. But the next morning, he had fever, chills and a headache and was taken to a hospital, where he was treated and released that day.

When the teen didn't recover, he was transferred to a children's hospital. Guatemalan officials said he had a severe brain infection and underwent surgery, but never stabilized and died Tuesday.

In Washington: The White House asked Congress on Wednesday for \$4.5 billion more in emergency funding to address a surge of migrants at the southern border.

In doing so, the administration acknowledged that President Donald Trump's emergency declaration to divert taxpayer money for a yet-to-be-built border wall cannot address the growing humanitarian challenge on the ground.

Trump and his aides previously insisted the February declaration was needed to address a "humanitarian and national security crisis." But administration officials said Wednesday those funds were never intended to — and could not — be used for anything other than barrier construction.

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EDITORIALS

Mr. Pritzker, Ms. Lightfoot, let Bob Dunn tell you about One Central

It's hard to find land in and near downtown Chicago that's available for megadevelopments. The Loop's canyons of high-rises — and bumper-to-bumper bottlenecks of resulting traffic — vividly display the existing density. Leave it to developers, however, to conjure up new spaces on which to build.

Gov. J.B. Pritzker, Mayor-elect Lori Lightfoot, you're about to enter a new zone of imagination. A proposal for a massive project is headed your way — a mixed-use neighborhood that would cost some \$20 billion — triple that of the big Lincoln Yards project planned for the city's North Side. We don't yet know enough to vote yea or nay.

But the aspirations of the developer, and his extensive track record, should earn him your time and attention. If what he calls One Central ever comes to fruition, it would be a huge investment in Chicago and Illinois. It also would enliven a big and now-moribund

expanse near Chicago's lakefront. The catch, if you want to call it that, is that Wisconsin developer Bob Dunn wants Illinois lawmakers to create a financing tool that would enable a huge transit hub at the heart of the project. And he wants that action in Springfield this month, in order, he says, to take advantage of federal and free-market financing options.

Dunn envisions inventing a new construction environment atop already occupied but underused real estate: the vertical void above Metra train tracks that run west of Lake Shore Drive, from roughly the Field Museum south to McCormick Place. His plan is to use air rights above what's now a rail yard to build a 34-acre cluster of skyscrapers, along with a transit hub that would serve Metra, Amtrak and CTA train service.

A Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce study says One Central would produce for the Chi-

cago area as many as 210,000 direct and indirect jobs. Dunn projects \$120 billion in new state, county and city tax revenues over the next third of a century.

Dunn, who met Wednesday with the Tribune Editorial Board to discuss his project, has built or revamped stadiums for NFL teams, including the Green Bay Packers, Detroit Lions and Minnesota Vikings.

His vision for One Central includes a mix of homes, offices and hotels — with everything predicated on building that transit hub: A big part of his thinking is to make it easier for tourists, conventioners and Chicagoans to easily get to and from McCormick Place, the Museum Campus, Navy Pier and other lakefront attractions.

Dunn is ambitious, and we like ambitious projects that deliver economic growth to metro Chicago. One reason: The exodus of jobs and people from the Chicago region hasn't waned. According to

the latest data from the U.S. Census Bureau, more than 24,000 residents left Cook County from 2017 to 2018. That's the fourth year in a row that Cook has lost population. Projects that promise an infusion of people and jobs get our attention.

The project would be the ultimate embodiment of the transit-oriented development principle — housing, retail and jobs clustered around a node of mass transit. The transit center's price tag is \$3.8 billion. Dunn's company, Landmark Development, would front that investment. Under his proposal, state government would, over time, help pay for the transit center from tax revenues the overall project generates. In Dunn's calculus, those new revenues would pay for the state's contribution to the transit center, which the state eventually would own.

What would be built near the transit center? Landmark has

yet to detail important aspects of One Central's size and scope: the number of housing units, building heights, open space, traffic flow ... the list goes on. The project's at its infancy, so it's unrealistic to expect those specifics at this stage.

Given the potential the project has to radically remake a 34-acre section of downtown, we expect the governor and mayor-elect to do the hard work of assessing whether Springfield — and City Hall, which would deal with myriad land use issues — should enable Dunn's financing scheme and how to his tight timetable. We're routinely skeptical of hurry-up dealmaking in order to meet artificial deadlines.

Chicago has never shied away from big, bold endeavors. They keep the city growing and thriving.

We're eager to keep learning more about One Central. Governor Pritzker, Mayor-elect Lightfoot, we look forward to your reactions.

Keep up the pace on making the Pedway a point of pride

There's still a long way to go, but there has been progress in the Pedway, Chicago's underground walkway that sees 2 million annual visitors, since the Tribune wrote about its poor conditions this winter.

The Chicago Department of Transportation has submitted a request for a \$10 million federal grant for structural repairs and better signage. The City Council paved the way for public and private owners to make deals on funding and maintenance. The Macy's State Street section got fresh coats of paint.

Covering 40 blocks around the Loop, the Pedway allows indoor walks from CTA, Metra and South Shore Line trains to more than 50 downtown buildings, including Willis Tower, the Civic Opera House, City Hall and the Art Institute of Chicago. Users can enter the Pedway at transit stops, through building lobbies and by stairs from aboveground sidewalks — if they can find them.

For commuters, the passageways provide a speedy path free from busy crosswalks, and shelter from bitter cold in winter and wilting humidity in summer. A safe, well-lit, easier-to-navigate warren could further allay



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The Pedway could get a boost if the Chicago Department of Transportation can land a \$10 million federal grant that would pay for, among other things, repairs and better wayfinding signs.

sidewalk congestion by drawing more pedestrians below ground. A vibrant Pedway would be a more compelling selling point for commercial buildings trying to attract office and retail tenants. And its long walls and tunnels could provide a creative canvas for artists and advertisers.

But neglect by government agencies and some private building owners has suppressed the potential of this maze of downtown real estate. Some stretches of the Pedway are best avoided, the lure of a quick escape from a downpour outweighed by the risk of getting lost or worse. There

is general disrepair and dirtiness in some areas. The sketchiest-looking spots have crumbling walls, leaky ceilings and rusted window frames.

There's now hope in sight if the Pedway doesn't fall from public attention again. The potential \$10 million Con-

gestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement grant would pay for repairs, easier access for strollers and wheelchairs and better wayfinding, in the form of maps, signs and phone apps.

That would be a boon not just for commuters but for visitors to Chicago too. The Palmer House, Swissotel, Hyatt Regency Chicago and Fairmont hotels all have Pedway access, as do Block 37, Millennium Park, the Chicago Cultural Center and other attractions. Pedway-accessible CTA stations serve O'Hare and Midway airports.

State and local government and private building owners will be asked to contribute money to reach a local matching grant amount of \$2.5 million. Private companies and public agencies must collaborate on design and maintenance and commit to making improvements last.

"There has been more progress on the Pedway in the last six months than there has been in the last six years," says Howard Learner, executive director of the Environmental Law and Policy Center, which is working with the city on revitalizing the Pedway.

A plan for a better Pedway has been mapped out. Now let's keep it moving forward.

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

On the surface, one result from a new Washington Post-ABC News poll seems like unequivocally bad news for President Trump. Of the registered voters we surveyed, more than half indicated that there was no chance they would vote for Trump in his 2020 re-election bid. That's the ballgame, right? If half the country refuses to vote for a candidate in what's essentially a two-person race, how can that candidate win? But, of course, it's not that simple. ...

The people who said they were most likely to vote next year evinced much more support for Trump than less likely voters. That's one warning sign for those seeking to remove him from office. Consider, too, that 59 percent of Republican voters in May 2015 told Fox News that they would never vote for Trump. Things change. ...

In only a handful of demographic groups are people more likely to say they would definitely vote for the Democrat than that they would definitely vote for Trump. ... Many nonwhite voters indicated that they weren't yet sure whether they would back the Democrat. About a fifth said they would definitely vote for the Democrat — but half said they were waiting to see what happened, significantly more than the quarter of white Trump opponents who said the same thing.

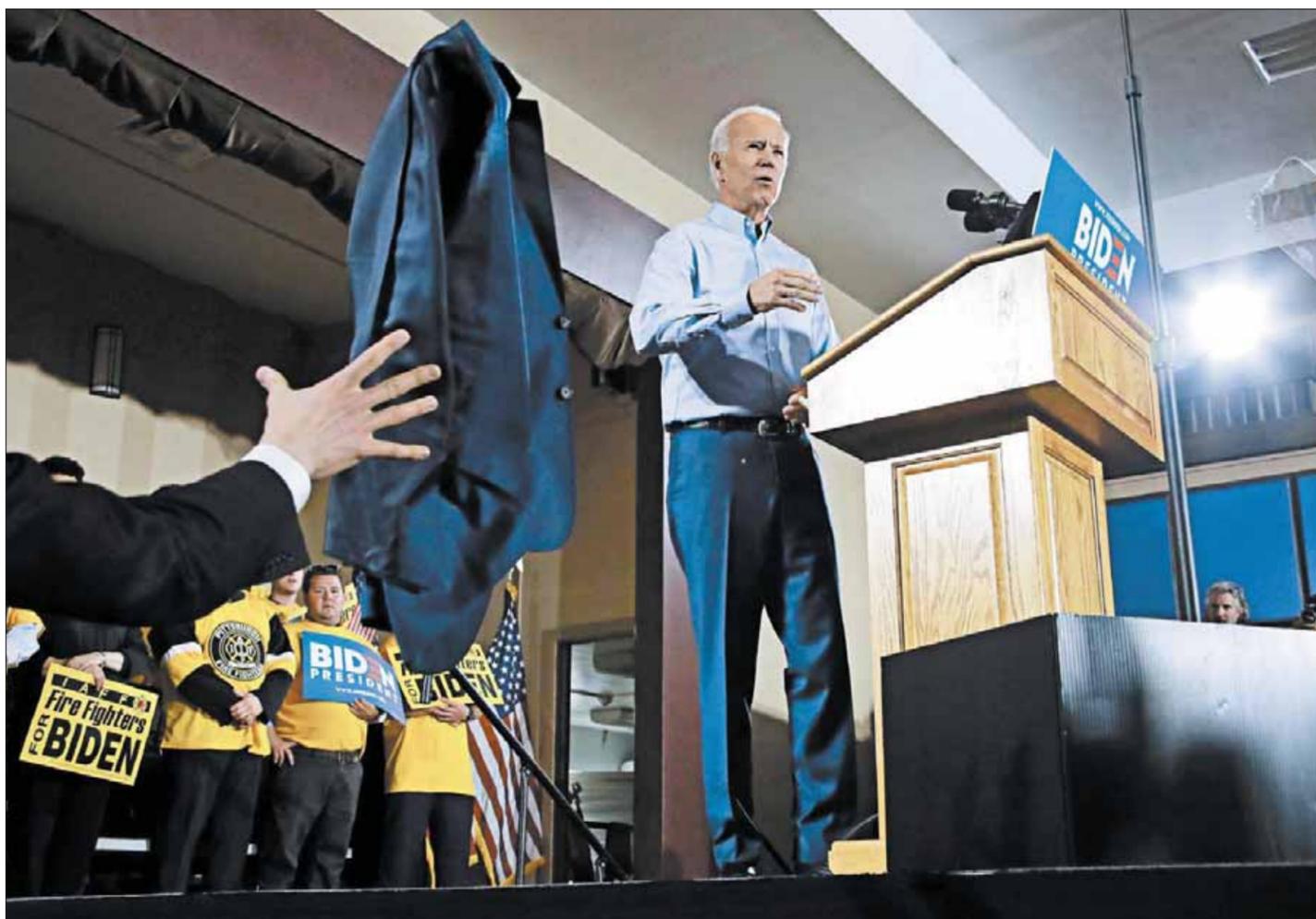
If the Democrats want to win in 2020, it's not enough that most Americans don't really like Trump. They need to get those iffy voters to pull the lever for the Democrat — something to which most Trump opponents aren't yet committed.

Philip Bump, The Washington Post

SCOTT STANTIS



Chicago Tribune PERSPECTIVE



GENE J. PUSKAR/AP

Joe Biden, former vice president and Democratic presidential candidate, tosses his jacket at a rally in front of Teamsters in Pittsburgh on Monday.

The evolution of Joe Biden



STEVE CHAPMAN

In 2007, the economy was humming along in the sixth year of an expansion, with unemployment and inflation pleasantly low. But America was mired in two major wars, Osama bin Laden was at large, and the threat of terrorism hung like a thunderhead over the nation. All this gave Joe Biden the idea that the climate was perfect for him to run for president.

He had been chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. He had pushed to end the Balkan wars. He had a partition plan to bring peace to Iraq. He could talk about international problems as long as anyone would listen, and then some.

Noting the oft-heard suggestion that he'd make a good secretary of state, Biden urged audiences to ponder his qualifications. "If you're not capable of being secretary of state," he asked pointedly, "are you capable of being president in 2008?"

What he didn't have to say is that no one would have considered rivals Barack Obama and John Edwards for the world's most important diplomatic job. Even Hillary Clinton's credentials were inferior to Biden's. His argument rested on the assumption that for voters in 2008, national security and

foreign policy were of overriding importance.

But they weren't. Democrats nominated Obama, despite his inexperience in global affairs. By the time the election arrived, the economy was in the throes of a severe recession. Americans were too busy worrying about losing their jobs and homes to worry much about terrorists. John McCain, with his prodigious knowledge of foreign relations, lost to Obama, and it wasn't close.

The international environment doesn't look much safer today. We are still at war in Afghanistan and Iraq, with the addition of Syria. Russia is expanding its nuclear arsenal and interfering in our elections.

Islamic State is fomenting terrorism around the world, including a horrific April attack in Sri Lanka. North Korea is defiantly holding on to its nuclear weapons. Venezuela is on the brink of civil war.

But when Biden spoke at his first campaign rally in Pittsburgh on Monday, this is what he had to say about the dangers from foreign enemies: nothing. He apparently has concluded that if Americans didn't value foreign policy expertise in 2008, they never will.

At his rally, the guardian of national security and international order gave way to the champion of the American worker. Globe-trotting Joe was replaced with lunch-bucket Joe, who wants to talk about labor unions, not the European Union. "The major moral obligation of our time," he de-

So far, that mood has worked to the advantage of Biden, who is unusually skilled at addressing economic anxiety.

clared with convincing conviction, "is to restore, rebuild and respect the backbone of America, the middle class."

The surprising thing is that the public apathy about our security challenges, which was fatal to Biden in 2008, is helping him today. Though the Great Recession is a decade behind us, the economic and psychological damage is not.

Millions of Americans got laid off from their jobs, lost their homes to foreclosure, saw their retirement savings shrink or took out big student loans that they strain to repay. Even during a period of unstoppable economic growth, the anxiety is never far below the surface. And the feeling that the super-rich have prospered at the expense of everyone else continues to simmer.

So far, that mood has worked to the advantage of Biden, who is unusually skilled at addressing economic anxiety. In the latest CNN poll, he has 39 percent support among Democratic and Democratic-leaning voters, com-

pared with 15 percent for Bernie Sanders and single digits for everyone else. His favorable rating in this group is 81 percent.

Despite being an old white guy known for getting handsy, Biden is the first choice of both white women and black women.

While his rivals may get diverted into defending voting rights for prison inmates, abolishing Immigration and Customs Enforcement or racial reparations, he intends to put a tireless emphasis on matters that affect the mundane economic fortunes of ordinary people.

That makes sense. In the latest Pew Research Center survey, more Americans named the economy as their main priority than any other issue.

Terrorism was fourth in the rankings, after health care costs and education. Other Democratic contenders can address economic issues with fluency and fervor, notably Sanders, Elizabeth Warren and Amy Klobuchar. But when they do, they are playing into Biden's strength.

There is always the chance, of course, that between now and Election Day, unforeseen events will turn voter attention to urgent foreign concerns. If that happens, well, Biden will be ready.

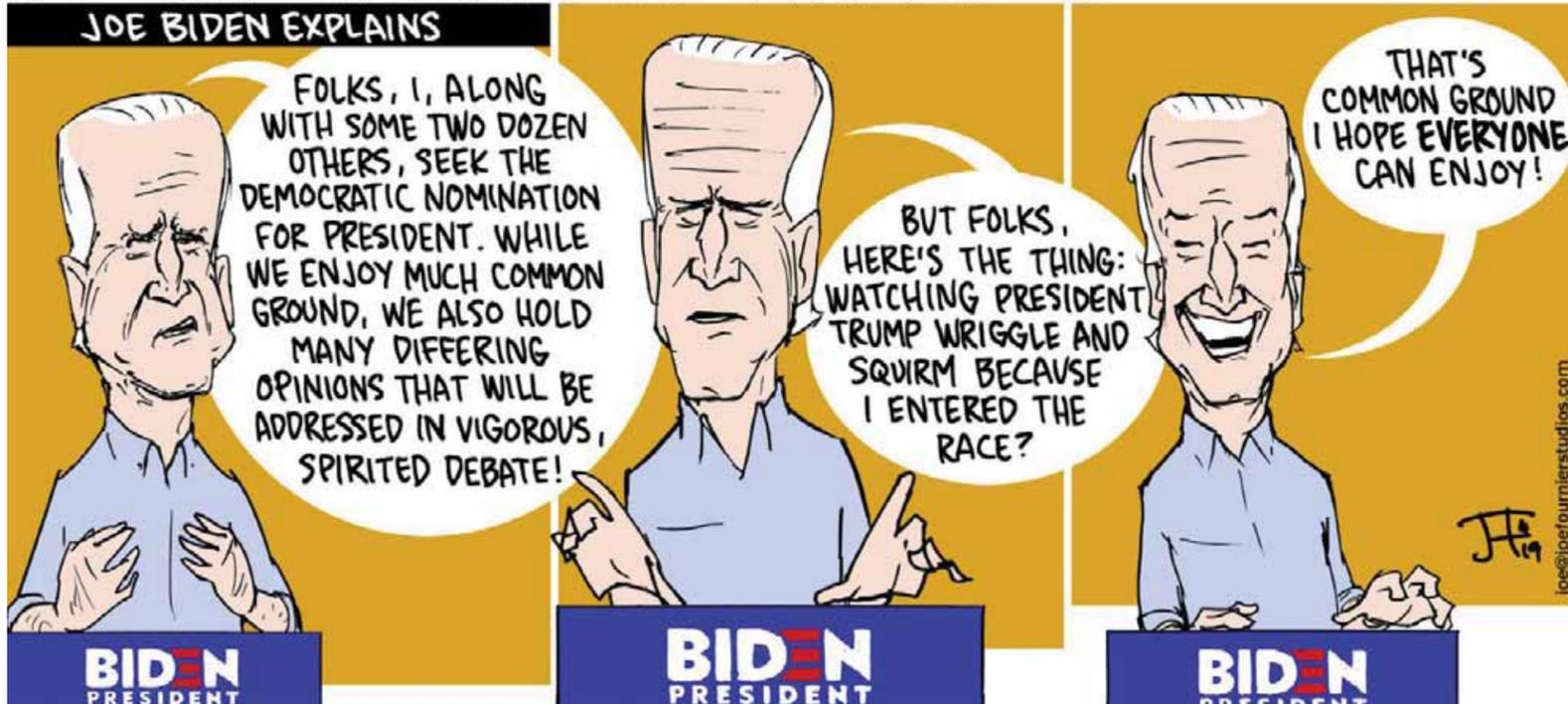
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PERSPECTIVE



SPENCER PLATT/GETTY

Hillary Clinton has a history of behavior that might have invited indictment if not for the positions of power she has held.

Beware of Clinton projection syndrome



VICTOR DAVIS HANSON

Hillary Clinton recently editorialized about the second volume of special counsel Robert Mueller's massive report. She concluded of the report's assorted testimonies and inside White House gossip concerning President Trump's words and actions that "any other person engaged in those acts would certainly have been indicted."

Psychologists might call her claims "projection." That is the well-known psychological malady of attributing bad behavior to others as a means of exonerating one's own similar, if not often even worse, sins.

After 22 months of investigation and \$34 million spent, the Mueller report concluded that there was no Trump-Russia collusion — the main focus of the investigation — even though that unfounded allegation dominated print and televised media's speculative headlines for the past two years.

While Mueller's report addressed various allegations of Trump's other roguery, the special counsel did not recommend that the president be indicted for obstruction of justice in what Mueller had just concluded was not a crime of collusion.

What Mueller strangely did do — and what most federal prosecutors do not do — was cite all the allegedly questionable behavior of a target who has just been de facto exonerated by not being indicted.

What Mueller did not do was explain that much of the evidence he found useful was clearly a product of unethical and illegal behavior. In the case of the false charge of "collusion," the irony was rich.

Russians likely fed salacious but untrue

allegations about Trump to ex-British spy Christopher Steele, who was being paid in part by the Clinton campaign and the Democratic National Committee to find dirt on Trump.

The Russians rightly assumed that Steele would lap up their fantasies, seed them among Trump-hating officials in the Barack Obama administration and thereby cause hysteria during the election, the transition and, eventually, the Trump presidency.

Russia succeeded in sowing such chaos, thanks ultimately to Clinton, who likely had broken federal laws by using a British national and, by extension, Russian sources to warp an election. Without the fallacious Steele dossier, the entire Russian collusion hoax never would have taken off.

Without Steele's skulduggery, there likely would have been no Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court-approved surveillance of Trump aide Carter Page. There might have been no FBI plants inserted into the Trump campaign. There might have been no subsequent leaking to the media of classified documents to prompt a Trump collusion investigation.

Given the Steele travesty and other past scandals, it is inexplicable that Clinton has not been indicted.

Her lawlessness first made headlines 25 years ago, when she admitted that her cattle futures broker had defied odds of 1 in 31 trillion by investing \$1,000 from her trading account and returning a profit of nearly \$100,000. Clinton failed to report about \$6,500 in profits to the IRS. She initially lied about her investment windfall by claiming she made the wagers herself. She even fantastically alleged that she mastered cattle futures trading by reading financial newspapers.

To paraphrase Clinton herself, anyone else would have been indicted for far less.

The reason that foreign oligarchs are no longer donating millions of dollars to the Clinton Foundation, and that Bill Clinton is not being offered \$500,000 for speaking

appearances in Moscow, is simply that Hillary Clinton is not secretary of state. She is no longer in a public position to hector her colleagues into approving pro-Russian commercial deals, such as the one that gave Russian interests access to North American uranium.

As secretary of state, Clinton also sidestepped the law by setting up a home-brewed email server. She transmitted classified documents over this insecure route and lied about it. And she destroyed some 30,000 emails that were in effect under subpoena. Anyone else would have been indicted for far less.

In truth, Clinton was at the heart of the entire Russian collusion hoax. Even after the election, she kept fueling it to blame Russia-Trump conspiracies for her stunning defeat in 2016. Unable to acknowledge her own culpability as a weak and uninspiring candidate, Clinton formally joined the postelection "resistance" and began whining about collusion. That excuse seemed preferable to explaining why she blew a huge lead and lost despite favorable media coverage and superior funding.

For much of her professional life, Clinton had acted above and beyond the law on the assumption that as the wife of a governor, as first lady of the United States, as a senator from New York, as secretary of state and as a two-time candidate for the presidency, she could ignore the law without worry over the consequences.

For Clinton now to project that the president should be indicted suggests she is worried about her own potential indictment. And she is rightly concerned that for the first time in 40 years, neither she nor her husband is serving in government or running for some office, and therefore could be held accountable.

Tribune Content Agency

Victor Davis Hanson is a classicist and historian at the Hoover Institution, Stanford University.

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Slow the push for legal pot

The Chicago Tribune Editorial Board rightly advised lawmakers to slow down on marijuana ("Should Illinois legalize marijuana? Not so fast," April 14). As the sponsor of a bipartisan House resolution (H.R. 157) advising lawmakers to slow down on their push for legal weed, I couldn't agree more. Both the editorial board and I also agree it's imperative that policymakers learn from other states. But I would argue it's been a failed experiment in every other state that has made the move to legalize marijuana — and for those reasons, we must not bring legal recreational marijuana to Illinois too.

One of the main reasons many lawmakers are even considering legalization is revenue. With a significant budget deficit, it's easy to think marijuana is a quick answer, but marijuana will cost our state and taxpayers far more than it will bring in.

A recent study found that for every dollar of revenue taken in from the sale of marijuana in Colorado, it cost taxpayers \$4.50 through increased regulatory burdens, more hospitalizations, dramatic increases in drugged driving, and the need for more mental health and addiction services. The Tribune's editorial board rightly notes that expected revenue would be a small percentage of our state budget and the "sum should not dazzle legislators into hasty action."

Furthermore, marijuana is causing serious and deadly problems in other states. Since legalization, marijuana-related traffic fatalities have jumped 151 percent, and overall traffic deaths have increased 35 percent in Colorado. That's no coincidence.

And contrary to what supporters predict, legalized marijuana has not curbed large black markets in California, Colorado and Oregon. Plus, numerous studies strongly link marijuana to problems with youth brain development, psychosis and poor educational attainment.

Finally, as policymakers, it's our job to dive into the details of how law changes will affect the communities and people we serve. In the push for marijuana, there has been very little talk about the very real impacts legalization will have in numerous policy areas from increased insurance costs to pot shops being densely located in low-income neighborhoods to issues with employers being able to find workers who can pass a drug test.

With only weeks left to go in the 2019 legislative session, more support lies with my bipartisan resolution to slow down the push for legal marijuana.

Let's learn from the mistakes of other states. Illinois must not join them.

— *Rep. Marty Moylan, D-Des Plaines*

Endless Trump bashing

As an American and an Army veteran, I am saddened to witness the vitriol and animus being directed at President Donald Trump. It has become routine for his political opponents to refer to him as a racist and a bigot and a homophobe and an inveterate liar.

"Impeach the mother----," screams a Michigan congresswoman, and progressives applaud and rally around that cry. Progressives and unprofessional Democrats continue their hate-filled rhetoric as though that, in itself, makes the accusations true.

I believe that history will record these years under President Trump as the "era of hate." But for Civil War days, America has never been so divided.

President Trump and his large base of supporters are pushing for a wall on the nation's southern border to control illegal immigration. He points to the fact that Congress has enacted laws making illegal immigration a crime, and as president, he exercises his duty to enforce federal law. Even New York Times columnist Thomas Friedman, a hero to liberal Democrats, has come out in favor of a border wall.

Trump's political opponents should do what they can to defeat the president in 2020. That is how a great country works in a democracy and how it has worked in the U.S. for more than 200 years. The name-calling and animus and disrespect of the 45th president are politically over the top in this country.

— *William Juneau, Huntley*

The karma of politics

Republicans complain that Democrats in Congress are unfairly attacking President Donald Trump. But when Republicans regained control of Congress, they used their power to attack and try to hobble Presidents Bill Clinton and Barack Obama and candidate Hillary Clinton. If anything, they were even more unfair and biased in their treatment of Democrats.

Republicans should not complain that Democrats are investigating the president. As they say, what goes around comes around. Republicans have only themselves to blame for the present situation.

— *Frank L. Schneider, Chicago*

Stephen Moore wants people to pay more attention to his economic policies. Challenge accepted.

BY CATHERINE RAMPPELL

Stephen Moore wants the media to pay less attention to his idiotic comments about gender and more attention to his idiotic comments about the economy.

Sure thing, bro. Happy to help out. Moore, whom President Donald Trump wants to appoint to the Federal Reserve Board, has been complaining about a "sleaze campaign" against him. The alleged "sleaze" involves simply repeating the sexist things Moore has publicly said in columns and speeches and on national TV. Such statements include: Women shouldn't be allowed to report on sports unless they're hot and wear revealing clothes; it would destabilize society if women became "economically self-sufficient"; and a powerful man should never take a meeting alone with any woman because she might falsely accuse him of sexual harassment.

Moore, who has enlisted the PR firm that helped save Brett Kavanaugh's Supreme Court nomination, argues that his opponents are "pulling a Kavanaugh against me." Which is odd, because Kavanaugh at least could claim he faced an ultimately unprovable he-said-she-said situation.

Moore's situation is more like he-said-and-then-he-said-it-again-and-again-ad-nauseam-in-public-for-decades.

In any case, Moore claims that critics focus on the "spoofs" he made about the second sex because they don't want to grapple with his awesome economic views.

"No one wants to talk about my economic ideas," Moore told Politico. "They have not attacked me on my economic ideas," he crowed to a right-wing radio host.

These contentions are laughably false,

as readers know. Even high-profile conservative economists — including experts at the American Enterprise Institute, Hoover Institution, Cato Institute and Mercatus Center — have criticized Moore for his wrong, intellectually dishonest and politically malleable economic positions.

But for those who (understandably) haven't been following along, here are the non-gender-related highlights:

1. Moore can't tell whether prices are going up or down. This is an important thing to know if you're on the Fed, half of whose dual mandate is stable prices.

Moore has repeatedly, and falsely, said the country is experiencing "deflation." That means prices are falling, which they are not. But claiming this gives him cover to argue that the Fed should pump more stimulus into the economy just as Trump begins running for re-election.

Conversely, when we were in the depths of the financial crisis and prices were falling, Moore claimed we were on the brink of Weimar-style hyperinflation. He therefore called on the Fed to tighten monetary policy, which would have crippled the economy — and just coincidentally maimed President Barack Obama.

2. Relatedly, Moore claims official government economic statistics are phony when they don't suit his preferred political narrative.

3. Moore advocates — at least when politically convenient — crank economic ideas, including returning to the gold standard. This idea is roundly rejected by actual economists and would result in much more price volatility.

When called on such nonsense, Moore has claimed he never said such things, even after being presented with video evidence.

4. He cheered the failure of Lehman Brothers, an event that (foreseeably) set

off a worldwide financial panic and nearly plunged the entire global economy into another Great Depression. This doesn't inspire confidence in Moore's instincts next time the Fed has to handle a financial crisis.

5. Moore lies and lies and lies.

About his own record, and about easily Google-able facts. Now I realize the word "lie" implies knowing intent to mislead, as opposed to possibly ingenious misstatement of fact. But note that, even after being corrected on his various falsehoods — including about the Volcker Rule, Canadian tariff rates, whether tax cuts have paid for themselves — he has often repeated the exact same falsehood.

So either he's deliberately misinforming the public, or he's like the goldfish who forgets everything immediately after swimming a lap around the bowl.

6. More broadly, Moore prioritizes what's good for his party above what's good for the economy. Which is toxic to an institution that must be politically independent in both practice and perception to function.

You can see this tendency of Moore's in his monetary policy flip-flops, as well as his calls for Trump to fire everyone at the Fed who doesn't do Trump's bidding. Most recently you can see it in Moore's explanation of the one concern that could persuade him to withdraw his Fed candidacy: if he concluded that sticking around might hurt the GOP.

Fortunately, if he cares about what's good for the economy and what's good for his party, there might just be a way to kill two birds with one stone.

Washington Post Writers Group

Catherine Rampell is an opinion columnist at The Washington Post.

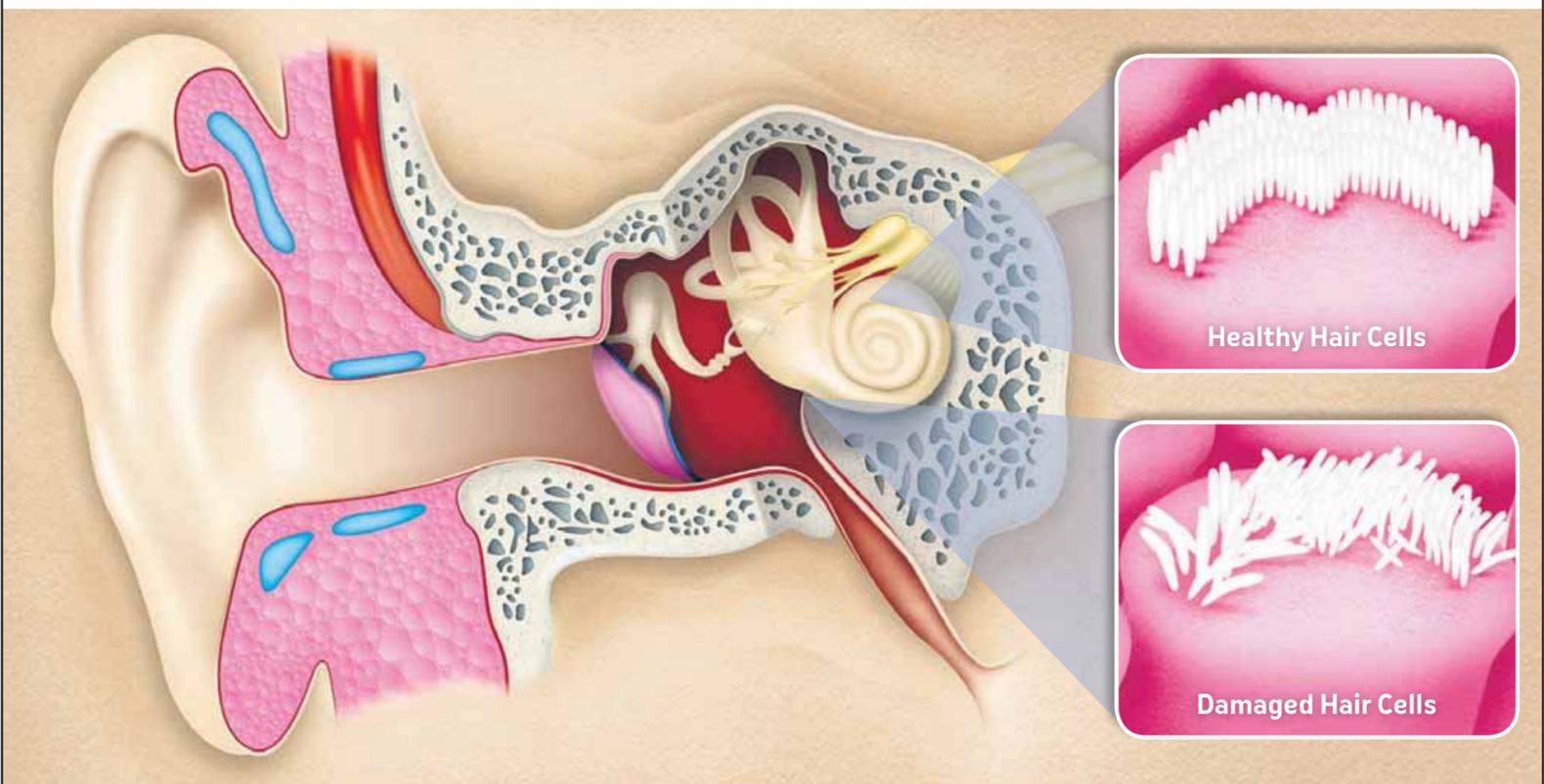
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Chicago Tribune BUSINESS



RYAN ORI
On Real Estate

Developer is seeking \$3.8B in state funds

Money would help pay for transit center in megadevelopment

The developer proposing a row of skyscrapers on a platform over train tracks near Soldier Field wants Illinois taxpayers to help pay for, and eventually own, a \$3.8 billion transit center that would anchor the proposed megadevelopment.

But winning approval in the state legislature won't be so easy, and that is just one of many hurdles that the ambitious project faces. Adding urgency is that the developer sees a narrow window for all the facets of the project — legislative approval, financing, economic conditions, not to mention support of the local alderman — to line up.

Already, Landmark Development has talked with the office of Gov. J.B. Pritzker and other state officials about a public-private agreement to pay for the huge transit station that would be part of a 34-acre platform over train tracks between McCormick Place and the Field Museum, Landmark president Bob Dunn said Wednesday.

Under the proposed financing plan, the developer and investors would pay the upfront construction costs for the transit center, which is expected to take three years to build.

Afterward, the developer and the state would together pay off the cost of the station using new

Turn to Ori, Page 2

Loyola Medicine, Palos Health end talks

Representatives declined to say why merger was called off

BY LISA SCHENCKER
Chicago Tribune

Loyola Medicine and Palos Health have called off talks about a possible merger, the health systems announced Wednesday.

The two organizations signed a non-binding letter of intent in January.

Representatives of the systems declined to say Wednesday why they changed course, and declined to make officials available for interviews.

Loyola Medicine includes the 547-bed Loyola University Medical Center in Maywood, Gottlieb Memorial Hospital in Melrose Park and MacNeal Hospital in Berwyn. Loyola is part of Trinity Health, one of the nation's largest Catholic hospital systems. Palos Health runs the 425-bed Palos Hospital.

Turn to Merger, Page 2



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Family and friends hold photographs of Boeing crash victims on the south side of the Field Museum on Monday in Chicago.

Boeing would rather face lawsuits in Indonesia

737 Max aircraft maker wants to avoid Chicago federal courts

BY JANAN HANNA
Bloomberg News

Faced with lawsuits over a plane crash half a world away, Boeing is arguing it shouldn't have to defend itself in a courtroom a short walk from its corporate headquarters.

The world's largest plane-maker has indicated in court filings that it's likely to request that cases on behalf of victims in the October crash of a 737 Max plane be moved from the federal courthouse in Chicago to Indonesia, where the plane went down and where most of the victims lived.

On Tuesday, a federal judge

told the company it must make the request within 45 days, according to plaintiffs lawyers. They say Boeing — if it can shift the U.S. cases 10,000 miles away — would skirt responsibility and lessen its financial liability.

"They don't want them to have justice," said Steven Hart, a Chicago lawyer representing some of the plaintiffs from the Lion Air crash into the Java Sea on Oct. 29, killing all 189 people aboard.

Boeing said there's precedent for such cases to be heard in the country where the incident took place.

"The disputes relating to the Lion Air Flight JT 610 accident should be heard and resolved by the courts of the nation with the greatest interest in the matter," the company said when it disclosed its plan in a legal filing

"Our justice system is based on the free flow of information — depositions, pre-trial discovery and due process on both sides. All these issues either don't exist in Indonesia or are murky."

— Brian Kabateck, lawyer

late last year. "That means the Indonesian courts, just as other cases arising out of Indonesian aviation accidents have been resolved by the Indonesian courts."

One of the lawyers representing Boeing, Bates McIntyre Larson, said she could not comment on pending litigation.

Another lawyer involved in

the cases, Brian Kabateck, said it makes no sense to move the litigation to Indonesia because the 737 Max was designed, manufactured and sold in the U.S. The Indonesian judicial system doesn't offer the same protections as the U.S. system, he said, including no jury trials

Turn to Boeing, Page 2

Illinois' richest man sticking with Chicago

Ken Griffin staying put despite 'corruption, cronyism and crime'

Chicago Tribune staff

Citadel CEO Ken Griffin bought a \$238 million penthouse condo in New York City earlier this year and is expanding his Park Avenue offices, but Illinois' richest man says he's staying put in Chicago.

Earlier this week during the Milken Institute Global Conference in Beverly Hills, Calif., the hedge fund leader sat for a wide-ranging interview with Bloomberg TV that touched on education, free trade, socialism versus capitalism and millennials.

Here are a few Chicago-area highlights:

On using taxes as a short-term fix to state problems:

It's always appealing as a

populist card: 'Let's soak the rich.' That's an easy throwaway solution to problems, except it doesn't work.

I live in Cook County. One of the richest counties in the country in terms of cultural institutions or great universities, the University of Chicago and in nearby Evanston, Northwestern. And yet we've lost more college-educated students, sorry, graduates, than any county in the country over the last several years as people flee the corruption, cronyism and crime that has become part of the Illinois political landscape.

On whether he's thought about leaving Illinois:

How do you not? I have three little kids. They go to one of the best schools of Chicago. But there have been repeated incidences of actual, like, gang battles with guns three blocks from where they go to school.



DAVID PAUL MORRIS/BLOOMBERG NEWS

Ken Griffin speaks at a 2016 Conference in Las Vegas. Griffin, Illinois' wealthiest resident, sat for an interview with Bloomberg TV in April.

On what it would take for him, his children and Citadel to move to another state:

I have three children and we were talking about tax policies. My 8-year-old is delightfully pre-

cocious and she says, "Dad, why won't we just move?" And I said, "Because we are going to stand and fight. We're going to stand and fight for the policies and changes that will make this state better."

LOVE YOUR JOB? NOMINATE IT AS A TOP WORKPLACE

The Chicago Tribune is seeking nominations for our annual Top Workplaces special report, in which we explore how organizations create and sustain a positive and productive culture. We'll also compile a list of this year's top workplaces in Chicago.

This is the 10th year that the Tribune has produced this report, and every year we hear about novel ways in which companies and their managers are engaging, motivating and rewarding employees.

A lot has changed in 10 years, and

the discussion of what makes a top workplace has particular relevance today. The economy is strong, unemployment is low and more than ever, employees are looking for a better job if they don't like the one they have. Consider this: The number of people who voluntarily left their jobs has been on the upswing for years, and last year 40.1 million workers quit, according to the Labor Department. That's 2.4 million more people who quit than the year before.

A top workplace can be described

this way: It's an organization that is successful because its employees enjoy their work, embrace their mission and feel like valued teammates. Compensation and perks are factors, but the more important components include opportunities for professional growth and being treated with respect.

To qualify, a workplace must have at least 100 employees in the Chicago area. Nominations are open to all employers, including nonprofits. Nominated companies that agree to

TOP
WORK
PLACES
2019

Chicago Tribune

participate will distribute to employees between April and July an easy-to-complete, confidential survey developed by the Tribune's research partner, Energage, which will calculate the list of top workplaces.

Top performers will be recognized in the report, in an online directory and at a Tribune-sponsored event. There is no fee to participate.

To nominate a company, go to www.chicagotribune.com/nominate or call 312-878-7356. The deadline is May 10.

Fed leaves key interest rate unchanged

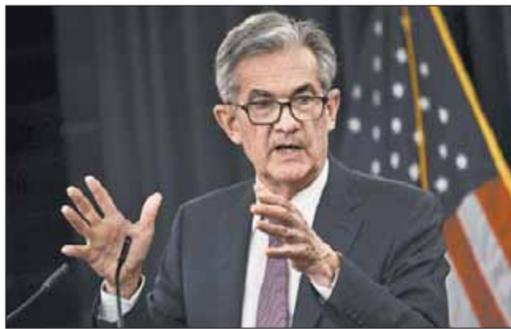
Central bank signals no hikes or cuts in the coming months

BY MARTIN CRUTSINGER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Federal Reserve left its key interest rate unchanged Wednesday and signaled that it's unlikely to either raise or cut rates in coming months amid signs of renewed economic health but unusually low inflation.

The Fed left its benchmark rate, which influences many consumer and business loans, in a range of 2.25% to 2.5%. Its low-rate policy has helped boost stock prices and supported a steadily growing economy.

A statement from the Fed spotlighted its continuing failure to lift annual inflation to at least its 2% target rate. The Fed's preferred 12-month inflation barometer is running at about



MANDEL NGAN/GETTY-APF

Fed Chair Jerome Powell said Wednesday that "the committee is comfortable with our current policy stance."

1.5%. In pointing to persistently low inflation, the statement might have raised expectations that the Fed's next rate change, whenever it happens, could be a rate cut. The Fed cuts rates when it's trying to stimulate inflation or growth.

But at a news conference later, Chairman Jerome Powell declined to hint of any potential coming rate cut. He suggested the cur-

rent too-low inflation readings may be transitory or might not be fully capturing real-world price increases.

"The committee is comfortable with our current policy stance," Powell said.

Too-low inflation is seen as an obstacle because it tends to depress consumer spending, the economy's main fuel, as people delay purchases in anticipation of flat or even lower prices. It

also raises the inflation-adjusted cost of a loan.

Powell's comments appeared to deflate a modest stock market rally that occurred after the Fed issued its statement, with its mention of unusually low inflation. Stock losses deepened later in the afternoon.

The Fed made a technical adjustment Wednesday to reduce the interest it pays banks on reserves as a way to keep its benchmark rate inside its approved range, rather than at the upper end of that range.

The central bank's decision to make no change in its rate policy — approved on a 10-0 vote — had been expected despite renewed pressure from President Donald Trump for the Fed to cut rates to help accelerate economic growth.

The Fed expressed a more upbeat view of the economy, saying "economic activity rose at a solid rate." In March, the Fed had said it appeared that growth had

slowed from the fourth quarter of last year.

The generally brighter outlook for the economy and the stock market represents a sharp rebound from the final months of 2018, when concerns about a possible global recession and fear of further Fed rate increases had darkened the economic picture. Stock prices tumbled late last year, especially after the Fed in December not only raised rates for the fourth time in 2018 but suggested that it was likely to keep tightening credit this year.

Yet starting in January, the Fed engineered an abrupt reversal, suggesting that it was finished raising rates for now and might even act this year to support rather than restrain the economy. Its watchword became "patient." And investors have responded by delivering a major stock market rally.

The market gains have also been fed by improved

growth prospects in China and some other major economies and by the view that a trade war between the world's two biggest economies, the United States and China, is nearing a resolution.

Last week, the government reported that the U.S. economy grew at a 3.2% annual rate in the January-March quarter. It was the best performance for a first quarter in four years.

Trump has attacked Powell's leadership as being too restrictive toward rates and has pressed the Fed to cut rates — something few mainstream economists favor.

On Tuesday, Trump tweeted that the economy has "the potential to go up like a rocket" if the Fed would slash rates and resume the emergency bond buying programs it unveiled after the Great Recession to ease long-term loan rates to stimulate spending and growth.



PERKINS + WILL

Landmark Development plans a 34-acre project built on a platform near Soldier Field and McCormick Place.

Ori

Continued from Page 1

tax revenues and income generated from leases of restaurant, retail and entertainment spaces in the multi-level center, as well as parking revenue and other funds. After 20 years, the state would assume ownership of the transit center and would keep all revenues generated, Dunn said.

Creation of the transit center would bring together CTA, Metra and Amtrak trains, while also creating the platform on which Landmark would build up to 20 million square feet of new office, residential and hotel high-rises, as well as other buildings.

The development, called One Central, could take about 15 years to complete at a cost of about \$20 billion, not including the transit center costs, Dunn said. "It's the civic build that creates the opportunity to do the vertical development," said Dunn, who is based in Wisconsin.

The One Central plan is preliminary, and it still requires the support of the local alderman and zoning approval from the city — soon to be headed by a new mayor — as well as a sponsor of a state bill to create the new financing mechanism. Landmark also plans to seek federal funding that could reduce the state's financial obligation by more than \$1 billion over 20 years, Dunn said.

Those hurdles aside, Dunn said he is looking to move quickly, and would like to see a state bill as soon as this month, despite the fact that he hasn't secured a sponsor. Landmark wants to start building the transit center by mid- to late 2020.

Dunn's reasons for the urgency: capital markets are interested in backing such projects right now, some potential federal funding sources will dry up later this year and there remain questions about how long the current economic good times will continue.

Landmark will have a "subject matter hearing" with the Illinois General Assembly in Springfield



ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Landmark president Bob Dunn talks with Chicago Tribune Editorial Board on Wednesday about the proposed megadevelopment.

next week, the firm said.

Dunn said he has interested investors and lenders, which he declined to identify. He also declined to name potential tenants, but said, "I'm really intrigued by the discussions that we're having. We've been approached about some really impactful, destination-type ideas."

One Central would generate more than \$57 billion in new state tax revenue over the next four decades, according to a recent study conducted by engineering firm AECOM. The study was commissioned by the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce, which last month publicly threw its support behind One Central, saying it could generate \$120 billion in jobs, taxes and other economic benefits over 40 years.

Revenue from the transit station and tenants within would total about \$6 billion over the next 20 years, as the construction cost is being paid off, Dunn said. After that, the state would own the facility and collect all of its revenues.

Before Wednesday, Landmark hadn't disclosed how it plans to finance One Central, other than to say it wouldn't seek tax-increment financing from the city.

Landmark Development first disclosed its ambitious plans in March, when it unveiled conceptual renderings showing a row of skyscrapers atop a plat-

form built along Lake Shore Drive and across the street from Soldier Field.

The proposed transit center would bring together city, regional and national trains, buses and a tram running on an existing — but rarely used — bus way alongside train tracks between McCormick Place and the Loop.

The platform and new walkways over Lake Shore Drive have the potential to fill the gap between museums, Soldier Field and other cultural attractions along the lakefront and neighborhoods east of the major roadway. The transit center also would provide a new connection point between South Side neighborhoods and the rest of the city, Dunn said.

"That transit mobility does not occur in South Side neighborhoods today," Dunn said. "That opens up the opportunity for jobs in a way that doesn't exist today, centered on transit. "I don't believe there's a better growth corridor in the city, or the state. It needs a catalyst."

Landmark has met with early opposition from 3rd Ward Ald. Pat Dowell and some neighbors, who are worried about existing buildings' lake views being blocked by new towers. Neighbors also have expressed concerns about the impact an influx of new residents, workers and transit passengers would have on area schools, parks, roads and other resources.

Last month, Dowell said she planned to seek major changes to the One Central plan. On Wednesday, Dowell said workshops are being scheduled for the developer to meet with neighbors. It's unclear how Mayor-elect Lori Lightfoot will approach megadevelopments such as One Central.

Landmark has yet to meet with Lightfoot, Dunn said.

One Central stands out as an especially ambitious project, even after recent city zoning approvals for two other megaprojects in Chicago that have been years in the works: Sterling Bay's \$6 billion Lincoln Yards project drawn up for 55 acres on the North Side; and The 78, developer Related Midwest's \$7 billion plan for 62 riverfront acres between the South Loop and Chinatown.

The project would be Dunn's first in Chicago. He has helped build or redevelop NFL stadiums for teams including three Chicago Bears divisional rivals — the Green Bay Packers, Detroit Lions and Minnesota Vikings.

Another executive at Landmark is Chicago-based developer Gerald Fogelson, who acquired air rights over the tracks while previously developing the nearby Central Station residential community.

nori@chicagotribune.com
Twitter @Ryan_Ori

Boeing names former federal judge to oversee crash cases

Associated Press

Boeing is assigning its top lawyer to a new position in which he will handle legal issues stemming from two deadly crashes involving its 737 Max airliner.

The Chicago-based company said Wednesday that general counsel and executive vice president J. Michael Luttig was named counselor and senior adviser to CEO Dennis Muilenburg and the board.

Luttig, 64, is a former prosecutor and assistant U.S. attorney general who was named to a federal appeals court in 1991 by President George H.W. Bush. He joined Boeing in 2006.

Boeing named Brett Gerry its new general counsel.

Boeing faces a growing stack of lawsuits over 737



PHIL VELASQUEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Boeing General Counsel J. Michael Luttig has been named counselor and senior adviser to the company's CEO and its board.

Max crashes that killed 346 people in Indonesia and Ethiopia. Investigators are examining the role of flight-control software that pushed the planes' noses down based on faulty sensor readings.

Boeing

Continued from Page 1

or punitive-damage awards.

"This is not like other airline crashes," Kabateck said. "I've never had a case in which everything related to the aircraft happened here. So why shouldn't Boeing be held accountable where they designed and sold the plane?"

"Our justice system is based on the free flow of information — depositions, pre-trial discovery and due process on both sides," he added. "All these issues either don't exist in Indonesia or are murky."

Lawyers for the Lion Air families said in an April 24 filing that Boeing should be forced as soon as possible to seek a formal request to move the cases so the litigation can proceed. Boeing lawyers made their intentions known about moving the cases in a filing that seeks to place the Chicago

litigation on hold.

Victims' lawyers said they have a strong argument to keep the cases in the U.S. because there's an indication the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration contributed to the accidents by giving Boeing the right to certify its own product.

The issue is particularly important given the second crash on March 10 that killed 157 people in Ethiopia. New evidence is emerging about the aircraft's flight worthiness, including information from whistle-blowers that problems were identified before the crashes, Kabateck said, and that Boeing failed to correct.

In the company's first-quarter earnings call last week, CEO Dennis Muilenburg didn't admit Boeing made any mistakes but in effect acknowledged it hadn't done enough. Referring to efforts to address the problems raised by the two crashes, he said: "We own it."

Merger

Continued from Page 1

The potential merger was expected to be finalized by late spring or early summer, said Shawn Vincent, president and CEO of Loyola Medicine and president of Trinity Health's Illinois region, earlier this year. He said, at the time, that a merger would give Loyola faculty and students more opportunities to learn, teach and provide care at the community level.

For Palos Health, the merger was intended to bring more advanced care and accessibility to patients, Terrence Moisan, president and CEO of Palos Health, told the Tribune in January.

The two systems already partner in a number of other areas, and those partnerships will continue, according to a news release

from the systems.

In recent years, a number of academic medical systems have been working to expand their reach farther into the suburbs. Loyola acquired MacNeal Hospital in Berwyn last year. University of Chicago Medicine finalized a merger in 2016 with Ingalls Health System, snapping up a community hospital in Harvey. And Northwestern Medicine acquired Centegra Health System in the northwest suburbs last year.

Rush had planned to acquire Little Company of Mary Hospital and Health Care Centers, which operates a hospital in Evergreen Park, but called off those plans last year, saying the systems "mutually agreed" to end talks, but declining to elaborate further.

lschencker@chicagotribune.com
Twitter @lschencker

U.S. digital searches soar at airports

Federal suit calls warrantless action unconstitutional

BY DEB RIECHMANN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — U.S. government searches of travelers' cellphones and laptops at airports and border crossings nearly quadrupled since 2015 and were being done for reasons beyond customs and immigration enforcement, according to papers filed this week in a federal lawsuit that claims scouring the electronic devices without a warrant is unconstitutional.

The government has vigorously defended the searches, which rose to 33,295 in fiscal 2018, as a critical tool to protect America. But the newly filed documents claim the scope of the warrantless searches has expanded to assist in enforcement of tax, bankruptcy, environmental and consumer protection laws, gather intelligence and advance criminal investigations.

Agents with U.S. Customs and Border Protection and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement consider requests from other government agencies in determining whether to search travelers' electronic devices, the court papers said. They added that agents are searching the electronic devices of not only targeted individuals but their associates, friends and relatives.

The new information about the searches was included in a motion the Electronic Frontier Foundation and the American Civil Liberties Union filed Tuesday in U.S. District Court in Massachusetts.

"The evidence we have presented the court shows that the scope of ICE and CBP border searches is unconstitutionally broad," said Adam Schwartz, senior staff



CLIFF OWEN/AP

U.S. searches of travelers' cellphones and laptops at airports and border crossings rose to 33,295 in fiscal 2018.

attorney for the EFF, based in San Francisco.

"ICE and CBP policies and practices allow unfettered, warrantless searches of travelers' digital devices and empower officers to dodge the Fourth Amendment when rifling through highly personal information contained on laptops and phones," he said.

The Department of Homeland Security did not respond to a request for comment. Both ICE and CBP said they did not comment on pending litigation.

When the suit was filed against the government in 2017, DHS officials said U.S. citizens and everyone else are subject to examination and search by customs officials, unless exempted by diplomatic status. The department has contended that no court has concluded that border searches of electronic devices require a

warrant. Searches, some random, have uncovered evidence of human trafficking, terrorism, child pornography, visa fraud, export control breaches and intellectual property rights violations, according to the department.

The original case was filed on behalf of 10 American citizens and a lawful permanent resident from



CAROLYN KASTER/AP 2016

The original suit against the government was filed in 2017.

seven states — including two journalists, a NASA engineer and a former Air Force captain — who alleged the searches violated their constitutional rights. They asked the court to rule that the government must have a warrant based on probable cause before searching electronic devices at U.S. ports of entry.

The plaintiffs also are

demanding the government expunge from investigatory databases information obtained in past searches. ICE and CBP share information taken from travelers' electronic devices with other agencies and there is control to prevent them from impermissibly retaining it, they argue.

A year ago, U.S. District Judge Denise Casper in Boston rejected the government's request to dismiss the lawsuit, allowing the case to move forward. The ACLU and the foundation began gathering documents and deposition testimony. Based on the new information, they filed a motion Tuesday asking the judge to rule in their favor without a trial.

"Travelers' devices contain an extraordinary amount of highly personal information that the government can easily search,

"Travelers' devices contain an extraordinary amount of highly personal information that the government can easily search, retain, and share."

— From lawsuit

retain, and share," it argues. "This new evidence reveals that the government agencies are using the pretext of the border to make an end run around the First and Fourth Amendments," said ACLU attorney Esha Bhandari. "The border is not a lawless place. ICE and CBP are not exempt from the Constitution and the information on our electronic devices is not devoid of Fourth Amendment protections. We are asking the court to stop these unlawful searches and require the government to get a warrant."

The court documents claim that the agencies also assert the authority to search electronic devices when the subject of interest is someone other than the traveler, such as the business partner of someone under investigation. Both agencies also allow officers to retain information from travelers' electronic devices and share it with other government entities, including state, local and foreign law enforcement agencies, the court papers claim.

The plaintiffs also say that travelers who have had their electronic devices searched at the border run increased odds of being subject to future device searches as they can be flagged in government databases for additional scrutiny on that basis.



RICHARD DREW/AP

Last year, investors saved a cumulative \$5.5 billion thanks to the drop in fees from 2017.

Fees drop to record low, investors keep more dough

BY STAN CHOE
Associated Press

NEW YORK — The stock market keeps going higher, but fees to own funds keep going lower.

Investors paid less to own funds last year than ever before: about \$48 in expenses for every \$10,000 invested, according to a study by fund tracker Morningstar. That's roughly half of what investors paid in 2000, when expenses ate up \$93 of every \$10,000 invested. Last year, investors saved a cumulative \$5.5 billion thanks to the drop in fees from 2017, the second-largest decline on record since 2000.

"Every \$1 is worth fighting for," said Ben Johnson, director of global ETF research at Morningstar. "And that's \$1 today that can be many dollars down the road."

While the difference of \$1, or a few hundredths of a percentage point in expense ratios, may not sound like much, it adds up over the decades that a 401(k) account can grow compounded returns. And as those nest eggs get bigger, each sliver of a percentage

point becomes worth more and more dollars.

Index funds have played a big part in the declines in fees. Instead of hiring teams of analysts to winnow out the best stocks and bonds, index funds merely try to track the S&P 500 or another index. That allows them to keep costs low, and passive funds kept \$15 in fees on every \$10,000 invested last year.

But investors themselves are also driving the trend by voting with their dollars. They moved a net \$605 billion into the funds that rank in the bottom 20% of their category for fees last year. Among all the other funds, investors yanked out a total of \$478 billion. Much of that movement has been at the direction of financial advisers, who increasingly are charging fees for their service rather than getting commissions for buying specific funds.

The average actively managed fund still charges about 1.8 times as much as the average index fund. But these funds have a wide range of expenses, and of the select few that investors have been seeking out, it's typically been the

lowest cost ones.

With so much pressure on fees, the industry has been introducing more funds that act almost as a hybrid of index and actively managed funds.

Like an S&P 500 fund, these hybrid funds track an index. But these indexes are more fine-tuned and follow strategies that are similar to ones active managers use. Some "low volatility" funds track indexes that include only stocks with smaller swings in price than the broad market, for example. Others follow indexes that hold only stocks whose prices have the highest momentum.

The industry calls these "smart beta" funds, and last year smart beta stock funds had an expense ratio of 0.17%, meaning they kept \$17 of every \$10,000 invested. That's in between the \$8 for traditional stock index funds and the \$70 for actively managed stock funds.

Investors should be careful not to shop only by fees, though, said Morningstar's Johnson.

"Focusing too narrowly on fees can become a risk," Johnson said.

U.S., China hold new round of tariff talks

Associated Press

BELJING — American and Chinese trade negotiators met Wednesday for talks on their bruising tariff war after Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said the U.S. side might be moving toward a decision on whether to make a deal with Beijing.

Wednesday's atmosphere appeared amicable. Mnuchin and U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer, along with China's economic czar, Vice Premier Liu He, smiled for photos and shook hands after their one-day meeting.

But they said nothing to reporters and no details were announced after the talks at a Chinese government guesthouse. Both governments have said they were making progress.

In a statement, White



ANDY WONG/GETTY-AFP

Vice Premier Liu He, center, with Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, left, and Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer.

House press secretary Sarah Sanders said the discussions "remain focused toward making substantial progress on important structural issues" and the talks would continue next week in Washington.

The U.S. wants China to roll back industry development plans it says are based in part on stolen technology and that violate its market-opening commitments.

Mnuchin said earlier that Wednesday's meeting and talks next week in Washington would help American officials decide whether to recommend President Donald Trump agree to a deal.

Trump raised U.S. duties on \$250 billion of Chinese imports last year in response to complaints Beijing steals or pressures companies to hand over technology. Beijing retaliated by imposing penalties on \$110 billion of U.S. goods.

A sticking point has been American insistence on an enforcement mechanism with penalties to ensure that Beijing sticks to its commitments.

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				CD	CD	CD	CD	CD	CD		
Synchrony Bank	NA	1.20	0.75	1.00	2.70	2.75	2.80	2.85	2.90		800-869-3813 www.synchronybank.com
	NA	0	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000		

Savings Update

How to foil phone scammers trying to get your bank info

Whether or not you're familiar with the term phishing, you've most likely been a target. That's because phishing scams attempt to access the private banking info of millions of Americans every year. Fortunately, easy-to-follow rules of thumb can help you thwart phishing criminals and keep your money safe.

A common strategy of phishers is to call you directly, presenting themselves as your bank. They may suggest there's an issue regarding your account that needs your urgent attention, or they may simply say they're conducting routine account maintenance. What they'll likely ask for next is your bank account number, your banking login credentials, or your social security number.

Private information like this should never be provided over the phone to someone who has contacted you, since you have no idea who is actually on the other end of the line. No matter how official and

convincing the caller may sound, someone calling to ask for this type of information should raise a red flag.

If the scammer doesn't succeed in coaxing this information out of you in the initial phone call, they're likely to try a couple more tactics. One is to urge you to call a phone number they provide for your bank, or to visit a specific web address that they provide. These are most likely spoofed numbers and sites, with calls being answered by accomplices of the caller and the fake website siphoning your sensitive information or installing malware on your computer.

The way to thwart them is to not provide sensitive information during the initial phone call, and to avoid calling any number or visiting any website the caller provides. If you want to contact your bank, call them at the phone number listed on your statements, or type your bank's known web address directly into your browser.

Rate Criteria: Rates effective as of 04/30/19 and may change without notice. RateSeeker, LLC. does not guarantee the accuracy of the information appearing above or the availability of rates in this table. Banks, Thrifts and credit unions pay to advertise in this guide. N/A means rates are not available or not offered at the time rates were surveyed. All institutions are FDIC or NCUA insured. Yields represent annual percentage yield (APY) paid by participating institutions. Rates may change after the account is opened. Fees may reduce the earnings on the account. A penalty may be imposed for early withdrawal. To appear in this table, call 773-320-8492.

MARKET ROUNDUP

Dow High: 26,689.39 Low: 26,426.38 Previous: 26,592.91



Nasdaq -45.75 (-.57%)	S&P 500 -22.10 (-.75%)	Russell 2000 -14.83 (-.93%)
Close: 8,049.64 High: 8,146.00 Low: 8,048.23 Previous: 8,095.39	Close: 2,923.73 High: 2,954.13 Low: 2,923.36 Previous: 2,945.83	Close: 1,576.38 High: 1,595.85 Low: 1,576.13 Previous: 1,591.21

10-yr T-note +0.01 to 2.51%	Gold futures -1.40 to \$1,281.40	Yen +0.24 to 111.61/\$1	Euro +0.0021 to .8933/\$1	Crude Oil -0.31 to \$63.60
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Major market growth and decline

5-day % change			30-day % change			1-year % change		
DOW -63	NASD -65	S&P -12	DOW +81	NASD +195	S&P +175	DOW +10.47	NASD +13.36	S&P +10.93

COMMODITY	AMOUNT-PRICE	MO.	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	SETTLE	CHG.
WHEAT (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	May 19	420	426.25	420	425	+6.50
CORN (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	May 19	353.50	360.50	353.50	360	+6.75
SOYBEANS (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	May 19	841	843	831.75	839.50	-1.75
SOYBEAN OIL (CBOT)	60,000 lbs- cents per lb	May 19	27.69	27.69	27.30	27.38	-0.20
SOYBEAN MEAL (CBOT)	100 tons- dollars per ton	May 19	299.80	300.90	297.50	300.30	+0.20
LIGHT SWEET CRUDE (NYMX)	1,000 bbl.- dollars per bbl.	Jul 19	63.40	63.93	62.77	63.60	-0.31
NATURAL GAS (NYMX)	10,000 mm btu's, \$ per mm btu	Jul 19	2.572	2.626	2.561	2.620	+0.045
NY HARBOR GAS BLEND (NYMX)	42,000 gallons- dollars per gallon	Jun 19	2.0528	2.0823	2.0414	2.0642	-0.0026

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.
Abbott Labs	N	78.74	-.82	Equity Commonwith	N	31.99	+0.19
AbbVie Inc	N	78.89	-.50	Equity Lifesty Prop	N	117.30	+0.60
Allstate Corp	N	98.00	-1.06	Equity Residential	N	76.52	+0.10
Aptargroup Inc	N	112.81	+1.57	Exelon Corp	N	35.40	+0.16
Arch Dan Mid	N	44.07	-.53	First Indl RT	N	52.49	+0.13
Baxter Intl	N	75.45	-.85	Fortune Brds Hm&Sec	N	52.76	-.02
Boeing Co	N	376.80	-.89	Gallagher AJ	N	82.32	-1.30
Brunswick Corp	N	51.06	-.15	Grainger WW	N	274.86	-7.14
CB&E Global Markets	N	101.04	-.57	GrubHub Inc	N	71.41	+4.62
CDK Global Inc	O	56.73	-3.59	Hill-Rom Hldgs	N	99.43	-1.99
CDW Corp	O	107.36	+1.76	IDEX Corp	N	154.45	-2.21
CF Industries	N	43.29	-1.49	ITW	N	154.35	-1.28
CME Group	O	175.30	-3.60	Ingredion Inc	N	92.19	-2.56
CNA Financial	N	45.64	-.69	Jones Lang LaSalle	N	152.88	-1.69
Dotot Microelect	O	124.23	-2.02	Kemper Corp	N	88.09	-1.79
Caterpillar Inc	N	138.15	-1.27	Kraft Heinz Co	O	32.99	-.25
ConAgra Brands Inc	N	30.14	-.64	LKQ Corporation	O	29.64	-.46
Deere Co	N	164.54	-1.09	Littelfuse Inc	O	188.90	-12.15
Discover Fin Svcs	N	81.10	-.39	McDonalds Corp	N	194.17	-3.40
Dover Corp	N	97.33	-.71	Middleby Corp	O	131.86	-.27
				Mondelez Intl	O	51.64	+0.79
				Morningstar Inc	O	142.13	-1.32
				Motorola Solutions	N	142.73	-2.18
				NiSource Inc	O	27.40	-.39
				Nhrust Cp	O	22.14	-2.22
				Old Republic	N	97.56	-.28
				Packaging Corp Am	N	97.48	-1.68
				Paylocity Hldg	O	95.05	-1.50
				RLI Corp	N	82.09	+0.76
				Stericycle Inc	O	56.95	-1.44
				TransUnion	N	67.81	-1.84
				TreeHouse Foods	N	66.78	-0.20
				Tribune Media Co A	N	46.22	+0.02
				US Foods Holding	N	36.07	-.48
				Uita Salon Cosmetics	O	334.94	-14.04
				United Contl Hldgs	O	87.94	-.92
				Ventas Inc	N	61.12	+0.01
				Walgreen Boots Alli	O	53.68	+1.11
				Wintrust Financial	O	75.50	-0.70
				Zebra Tech	O	205.12	-6.02

MOST ACTIVE STOCKS

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

STOCK	CLOSE	CHG.
Gen Electric	10.10	-0.07
Bank of America	30.26	-0.32
Weatherford Intl Ltd	4.3	-0.12
Chesapeake Energy	2.83	-0.08
Ford Motor	10.30	-0.15
Freeport McMoRan	11.71	-0.60
EnCana Corp	6.69	-0.24
Coty Inc	10.84	+0.02
AT&T Inc	30.79	-0.17
CVS Health Corp	57.33	+0.95
Nokia Corp	5.22	-0.06
Barrick Gold	12.59	-0.13
Transocean Ltd	7.64	-0.22
Pfizer Inc	40.77	+0.16
Denbury Res	1.95	-0.28
Nabors Inds	3.63	+0.13
Brist Myr Sqb	46.58	+0.15
First Data Corp	25.56	-0.30
Vale SA	12.38	-0.40
Wells Fargo & Co	48.23	-0.18
Regions FncI	15.17	-0.36
Alibaba Group Hldg	189.31	+3.74
Square Inc	73.62	+0.80
Pitney Bowes	5.37	-1.74

LARGEST COMPANIES

Based on market capitalization

STOCK	CLOSE	CHG.
Alibaba Group Hldg	189.31	+3.74
Alphabet Inc C	1168.08	-20.40
Alphabet Inc A	1173.32	-25.64
Amazon.com Inc	1911.52	-15.00
Apple Inc	210.52	+9.85
Bank of America	30.26	-0.32
Berkshire Hath B	216.71	...
Exxon Mobil Corp	78.67	-1.61
Facebook Inc	193.03	-0.37
HSBC Holdings prA	26.02	+0.12
JPMorgan Chase	115.16	-.89
Johnson & Johnson	141.95	+0.75
MasterCard Inc	248.75	-5.49
Microsoft Corp	127.88	-2.72
Procter & Gamble	104.93	-1.55
Royal Dutch Shell B	64.00	-.89
Royal Dutch Shell A	62.72	-.81
Visa Inc	162.79	-1.64
WalMart Strs	101.36	-1.48

LARGEST MUTUAL FUNDS

Based on total assets

FUND	NAV	CHG	1-YR %RTN
American Funds AMCPA m	32.19	-0.29	+8.2
American Funds AmnBAlA m	27.17	-0.15	+7.5
American Funds CptWldGrInCA m	48.80	-0.31	+1.0
American Funds CptlncBldrA m	60.92	-0.33	+4.2
American Funds FdmTlInvsA m	60.09	-0.50	+7.7
American Funds GrfAmrCA m	50.11	-0.42	+5.8
American Funds InvCAMrCA m	22.37	-0.13	+8.5
American Funds InvCAMrCA m	38.46	-0.40	+6.5
American Funds NwPrspctVA m	44.22	-0.27	+7.4
American Funds WAMTInvsA m	46.26	-0.42	+0.2
DFA EMktCorEqL	21.08	-0.08	-7.2
DFA IntlCorEqLns	13.19	-0.09	-6.9
Dodge & Cox Inc	13.71	...	+5.4
Dodge & Cox IntlStk	41.97	-0.24	+7.5
Dodge & Cox Stk	190.69	-1.42	+0.7
DoubleLine TtRetBdl	10.50	...	+4.9
Fidelity 500DxInvsPrm	101.65	-0.76	+12.3
Fidelity Contrafund	13.00	-0.11	+11.1
Fidelity GroCo	19.62	-0.16	+10.3
Fidelity TtMktdxInvsPrm	82.68	-0.65	+11.4
Fidelity USBdldxInvsPrm	11.50	...	+5.5
Franklin Templeton IncA1 x	2.33	-0.02	+7.2
Metropolitan West TtRetBdl	10.62	...	+5.8
PIMCO IncInclStl	12.05	...	+5.3
PIMCO TtRetInvs	10.11	...	+5.2
Schwab SP500Dx	44.96	-0.34	+12.3
T. Rowe Price BCGR	115.05	-0.93	+13.0
T. Rowe Price GrStk	68.38	-0.59	+12.0
Vanguard 500DxAdmrl	270.11	-2.04	+12.3
Vanguard DivGrInv	28.39	-0.32	+16.7
Vanguard EqInAdmrl	74.83	-0.66	+10.0
Vanguard GrldxAdmrl	83.71	-0.62	+15.0
Vanguard HCAdmrl	79.40	-0.44	+6.7
Vanguard INTREAdmrl	14.20	+0.01	+5.9
Vanguard InslDxInvs	264.74	-2.00	+12.3
Vanguard InslDxInvsPlus	264.76	-2.00	+12.3
Vanguard InstSMInvsPls	63.12	-0.50	+11.6
Vanguard IntlGrAdmrl	94.77	-0.36	+1.5
Vanguard MCDpdxAdmrl	204.30	-2.21	+8.8
Vanguard PrmCpAdmrl	137.87	-1.07	+10.1
Vanguard STInvmGrAdmrl	10.59	-0.01	+4.2
Vanguard SmCpdxAdmrl	71.33	-0.74	+7.6
Vanguard TrgtRtr2020Inv	31.33	-0.11	+5.3
Vanguard TrgtRtr2025Inv	18.83	-0.08	+5.5
Vanguard TrgtRtr2030Inv	34.41	-0.16	+5.4
Vanguard TrgtRtr2035Inv	21.19	-0.11	+5.4
Vanguard TtBMDxAdmrl	10.66	...	+5.5
Vanguard TtBMDxInvs	10.66	...	+5.5
Vanguard TtInBdxdmrl	17.75	+0.01	+5.4
Vanguard TtInBdxdInvs	33.46	+0.01	+5.5
Vanguard TtInSldxAdmrl	28.50	-0.15	-3.6
Vanguard TtInSldxInvs	113.99	-0.58	-3.5
Vanguard TtInSldxInvsPlus	114.01	-0.59	-3.5
Vanguard TtInSldxInv	17.04	-0.09	-3.6
Vanguard TtSMdxdAdmrl	72.66	-0.57	+11.5
Vanguard TtSMdxdInvs	72.67	-0.58	+11.5
Vanguard TtSMdxdInx	72.63	-0.58	+11.4
Vanguard WngtAdmrl	70.56	-0.32	+8.9
Vanguard WslslyInAdmrl	63.22	-0.18	+8.3
Vanguard WndrllAdmrl	64.05	-0.49	+8.1

NASDAQ STOCK MARKET

STOCK	CLOSE	CHG.
Adv Micro Dev	26.81	-.82
Apple Inc	210.52	+9.85
ContraVir Pharma	1.16	+0.03
Zynga Inc	5.51	-0.15
Sirius XM Hldgs Inc	5.88	+0.07
Qualcomm Inc	86.37	+0.24
Microsoft Corp	127.88	-2.72
ARCA biopharma Inc	10.25	+5.09
Intel Corp	50.76	-0.28
Micron Tech	41.90	-0.16
Cisco Syst	55.58	-0.37
Caesars Entertain	9.10	-0.26
Facebook Inc	193.03	-0.37
Enphase Energy Inc	12.98	+2.94
Comcast Corp A	43.42	-1.11
Mattel Inc	12.04	-0.15
Frontier Comm	2.21	-0.64
Huntgtn Bancshs	13.77	-0.15
Mondelez Intl	51.64	+0.79
JD.com Inc	30.20	-0.07
Heron Therapeutics	17.75	-3.93
Flex Ltd	11.43	+0.39
Tesla Inc	234.01	-4.68
Staffing 360 Solu	1.81	+0.16

FOREIGN MARKETS

INDEX	CLOSE	CHG./%
Shanghai	3078.34	+15.8/+5
Stoxx600	391.09	-3/-1
Nikkei	22258.73	-48.9/-2
MSCI-EAFE	1917.50	-1.7/-1
Bovespa	96353.32	+165.6/+2
FTSE 100	7385.26	-18.5/-3
CAC-40	5586.41	+5.4/+1

TREASURY YIELDS

DURATION	CLOSE	PREV.
3-month disc	2.37	2.38
6-month disc	2.36	2.38
2-year	2.30	2.26
10-year	2.51	2.50
30-year	2.92	2.94

SPOT METALS

	CLOSE	PREV.
Gold	\$1281.40	\$1282.80
Silver	\$14.645	\$14.900
Platinum	\$877.40	\$891.70

INTEREST RATES

Prime Rate	5.50
Discount Rate Primary	3.00
Fed Funds Target	2.25-2.50
Money Mkt Overnight Avg.	0.65

OBITUARIES

GENE WOLFE 1931-2019

Science-fiction writer with a literary touch

BY HARRISON SMITH
The Washington Post

Gene Wolfe, an industrial engineer who helped devise the cooking process for Pringles, the stackable chip, then turned to fantasy and science-fiction writing to craft intricate, philosophically rich novels that explored faith, war and distant planets, died April 14 in Peoria, Illinois. He was 87.

The death was announced earlier this month by his publisher, Tor, which said Wolfe had had heart disease, but it did not specify where he died.

Although Wolfe never broke into the literary mainstream, he was among the most revered science-fiction writers of his generation, adored by critics and peers such as Neil Gaiman, who once called him “possibly the finest living American writer”; Ursula K. Le Guin, who dubbed him “our Melville”; and George R.R. Martin, who described Wolfe as “one of the best our genre has ever produced.”

Wolfe wrote hundreds of essays, poems and short stories, several of them published in Damon Knight’s influential “Orbit” anthology series. He also wrote more than 30 novels, announcing himself in the opening lines of his second — “The Fifth Head of Cerberus” (1972), a book of three interconnected stories — as a writer influenced as much by Proust as by the dime-store tales of Famous Fantastic Mysteries.

“When I was a boy my brother David and I had to go to bed early whether we were sleepy or not,” he wrote. “In summer particularly, bedtime often came before sunset; and because our dormitory was in the east wing of the house, with a broad window facing the central courtyard and thus looking west, the hard, pinkish light sometimes streamed in for hours while we lay staring out at my father’s crippled monkey perched on a flaking parapet, or telling stories, one bed to another, with soundless gestures.”

Wolfe took a circuitous path to a literary career. He had served as a combat engineer during the Korean War, an experience that left him shaken and startled by loud noises upon his return. Much of his work addressed themes of trauma, suffering and redemption, with echoes of Christian theology that reviewers linked to his conversion from Presbyterianism to Catholicism in the mid-1950s, so he could marry his fiancée in her church.

For years, he wrote occasional stories in the mornings and on weekends while

working as an industrial engineer at Procter & Gamble, where he helped develop the frying process for potato shingles that are used to make Pringles. (In time, he came to bear a striking resemblance to the cartoon figure on Pringles cans, a broad-faced man with a bushy handlebar mustache.)

Wolfe later served as the senior editor of a trade journal, Plant Engineering, but he kept his day job until 1984, just after completing his masterwork, a sweeping four-volume novel titled “The Book of the New Sun.” Set on the futuristic planet Urth, the novel revolved around an apprentice executioner, Severian, who is exiled after he grants leniency to a prisoner, allowing her to die by suicide in lieu of torture.

Presented as a document from the future, “translated” by a scholar known only as G.W., “Book of the New Sun” featured obscure words like peltast (a type of light infantry) and fuligin (a color that is blacker than black), seemingly plucked from the pages of an unabridged English dictionary.

“Thrilling adventures abound in the four volumes, but Wolfe’s prose always remains serenely, gravely measured, even if its surface smoothness is that of quicksand,” wrote Washington Post book critic Michael Dirda. “These books require an attentive reader to be not only suspicious but downright Sherlockian: Observe, remember everything, then deduce, if you can, the unspoken reality.”

In 1998, the readers of Locus magazine voted “Book of the New Sun” the third-greatest fantasy novel published before 1990, following “The Lord of the Rings” and “The Hobbit,” both by J.R.R. Tolkien. Wolfe went on to write two companion series, “The Book of the Long Sun” (1993-96) and “The Book of the Short Sun” (1999-2001).

“I tried to put in just about everything I thought important in human life,” Wolfe told The Post in 1983, describing the original novel’s origins. “You know the story about Leo Tolstoy the night after he sent the manuscript of ‘War and Peace’ to his publisher? He is supposed to have sat up in bed, slapped himself on the forehead and said: ‘My God, I forgot the yacht race.’”

“I don’t have a yacht race in ‘The Book of the New Sun,’” he continued, “but I tried to talk about children, war, love and death, God, heaven and hell and all these things that are really pivotal to the human condition. I

would like to have put in a lot more that I couldn’t manage. Music for instance.”

Gene Rodman Wolfe was born in Brooklyn on May 5, 1931, according to an obituary placed by his family. (Most biographical sources say he was born two days later.) His father was a traveling salesman, and the family moved frequently before settling in Houston, where his parents ran a diner.

Wolfe studied at the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas (now Texas A&M University) and served in Korea after dropping out of school. He was “a mess” when he returned from war; he told the MIT Technology Review in 2014, but was “saved” by reconnecting with Rosemary Dietsch, whom he had met at the age of 4 or 5 while living in Peoria.

They married in 1956, and Wolfe received a bachelor’s degree that same year from the University of Houston. He joined Procter & Gamble soon after graduation.

Wolfe’s other works include the novel “Peace” (1975), a fictional memoir with elements of a ghost story, and his three-part “Soldier” series (1986-2006), about a Roman warrior whose memory is wiped clean each time he sleeps, forcing him to chronicle the day’s events on a scroll he reads in the morning.

He received a host of literary honors, including two Nebula Awards from the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America. In 2012, the group named him a grand master, a lifetime achievement award considered one of the genre’s highest honors.

Wolfe’s wife died in 2013, and he is also predeceased by a son. Survivors include three children and three granddaughters.

Like many of his colleagues, Wolfe pushed back against critics who viewed works of science fiction and fantasy as lesser literature — the stuff of pulp mags and paperback-book shelves, unworthy of serious attention.

“The books and stories I write are what are usually called escapist, in the pejorative sense,” he once said, according to the reference work Contemporary Authors. “I have never understood what was wrong with escape. ... My work is intended to make life — however briefly — more tolerable for my readers, and to give them the feeling that change is possible, that the world need not always be as it is now, that their circumstances may be radically changed at any time, by their own act or God’s.”

Clinton agreed to allow some 20,000 Cubans into the United States after months of detention at Guantanamo Bay, but said any more Cubans who fled their country would be forcibly repatriated.

In 2000, an investigating panel concluded that Texas A&M University students cut corners in construction and school officials failed to adequately supervise them before a bonfire collapse in November 1999 that killed 12 people.

In 2004, American truck driver Thomas Hamill escaped his kidnappers in Iraq; that same day, nine U.S. servicemen were killed across the country.

In 2008, President George W. Bush sent lawmakers a \$70 billion request to fund U.S. operations in Iraq and Afghanistan into the following spring.

In 2011, al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden, the most wanted man in the world for his role in the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks and other acts of global terrorism, was shot to death by an elite team of U.S. commandos that stormed a compound in Abbottabad, Pakistan.

Chicago Tribune Death Notices

Chicago Tribune extends our condolences to the families and loved ones of those who have passed.

chicagotribune.com/deathnotice

In Memoriam

Robert McDonald (KHALIL)

I will forever remember you with your Top Hat and Cane dancing with me to your favorite Cole Porter tune.

Gloria (Fatima)

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Death Notices

Bacuros, Nick G

Nick G. Bacuros, Navy Veteran Beloved Husband of Sophie, nee Kountis for 69 years. Loving Father of Jean (Mark) Sedory, Clarise Bacuros, Patricia (Paul Nicolai) Bacuros, Dean Bacuros and Michele Bacuros. Proud Grandfather of Gregory and Michael Swan, Jean (Andrew) Pompei, Alphonso (Dominique) Linus, Nicki, Alexis and Michael Cacciato and Sophia Bacuros. Great Grandfather of Leonie and Dante Pompei and Hayley and Heavenly Linus. Dear Brother of the late Angela (John) Barkay, the late Helen Bacuros and the late Dorothy (John) Julius. Fond Brother-in-law of the late Christ Kountis, late Gus Kountis, late William (Delores) Kountis. Visitation Friday 3 PM to 9 PM at FORAN FUNERAL HOME, 7300 W. Archer Ave. (55th St. just west of Harlem). Visitation on Saturday 9 AM until time of Service at 10 AM. Interment Elmwood Cemetery. Nick was the owner of Centennial Limousine Company. Condolences may be sent to Nick’s family on his personal tribute website at www.foranfuneralhome.com 708-458-0208.

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Berkowitz, Eugene “Gene”

Eugene “Gene” Berkowitz, age 80. Beloved husband, best friend and soulmate for over 55 years of Eileen nee Unterberger. Loving father of David (Andrea) Berkowitz, Michael Berkowitz and the late Audrey Berkowitz (Ken) Gradman. Proud popple of Joshua and Emma Gradman, Ally, Adam, Dylan, Skylar Berkowitz and the late Samuel Gradman. Dear brother of Richard Berkowitz and the late Paul Berkowitz. Beloved uncle to many nieces and nephews. Service Friday 10AM at Congregation B’nai Jehosua Beth Elohim, 1201 Lake Cook Rd., Deerfield, IL 60015. Interment Shalom. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Congregation BJBE, www.bjbe.org or the Kidney Cancer Association, 1234 Sherman Ave., Evanston, IL 60202, www.kidneycancer.org would be appreciated. Arrangements by Chicago Jewish Funerals - Buffalo Grove Chapel, 847.229.8822, www.cjfiinfo.com

CHICAGO JEWISH FUNERALS

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Bobek, Augustyn

Bobek, Augustyn, 87, Beloved husband of 64 years Wladyslawa, (nee Slimak), loving Father of Stanley (Simona) Bobek, Elizabeth (Jakob) Kubacki, Proud Grandfather of Angelica Dunne, Robert (fiancé Michele) Dunne, Jessica Dunne, Friday, May 3rd from 3PM – 8PM at Zarzycki Manor Chapels 8999 South Archer Avenue, Willow Springs, IL. Funeral Saturday, May 4th Saint Camillus Church 5426 S Lockwood Ave, Chicago, IL 10:30 AM. Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries



Brongiel, Joan L.

Joan L. Brongiel (nee Stinson), age 74, beloved wife of Walter Brongiel; loving mother of Beverly Lynch, Kelly (James) Fleming, Scott (Theresa) Brongiel and the late Sherry Brongiel; cherished grandmother of Erica (Matthew) Grant, Kelly, Michael, Alex and Joseph Lynch, Jamie (Mitchell) Stevens, Jacqueline Fleming and Jeremy Brongiel; dear sister of Janet Bell and the late Jerry Stinson; dearest aunt of many nieces and nephews. Joan was a most loving and devoted wife, mother and grandmother. Secretary of Brongiel Plumbing Inc. Visitation Saturday 2-8 P.M. Funeral Service Sunday 9:30 A.M. at Lawn Funeral Home 17909 S. 94th Ave. Tinley Park. Interment Private. In lieu of flowers memorials to SIDS of Illinois, Inc. 6010 Rout 53, Suite A Lisle, IL 60532 would be appreciated. Funeral Info: 708 532-3100

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Bunnell, Jerod

Jerod Bunnell, 38, of Elmhurst. Beloved husband of Vicki nee Vasquez; loving father of Owen and Miles; dear son of Gary and Lorraine Bunnell; brother of Lisa (Sam) Foglesong, Bret (Jenn) Bunnell, Jessica (Eric) Freeland and Laura (fiancé Jeff Shullaw) Bunnell; son-in-law of Anthony and GERALYN Vasquez; brother-in-law of Gina (Dan) Grigas and Tony Vasquez; uncle of many nieces and nephews. Visitation at Ahlgrim Funeral Home, 567 S. Spring Rd., Elmhurst from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Friday, May 3, 2019. Services 11:00 a.m. Saturday, May 4, 2019 at the funeral home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery. Info 630-834-3515 or www.ahlgrim.com.

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ON MAY 2 ...

In 1519, artist Leonardo da Vinci died at Cloux, France.

In 1670, the Hudson Bay Co. was chartered by England’s King Charles II.

In 1863, Confederate Gen. Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson was accidentally wounded by his own men at Chancellorsville, Va.; he died eight days later.

In 1890, the Oklahoma Territory was organized.

In 1945, the Soviet Union announced the fall of Berlin, and the Allies announced the surrender of Nazi troops in Italy and parts of Austria.

In 1965, the “Early Bird” satellite was used to transmit television pictures across the Atlantic.

In 1994, Nelson Mandela claimed victory in the wake of South Africa’s first democratic elections; President F.W. de Klerk acknowledged defeat.

In 1995, President Bill

WINNING LOTTERY NUMBERS

ILLINOIS
May 1
Powerball 05 23 28 56 66 / 17
Powerball jackpot: \$181M
Lotto jackpot: \$4M
Pick 3 midday 509 / 5
Pick 4 midday 2319 / 1
Lucky Day Lotto midday 03 05 20 32 41
Pick 3 evening 839 / 2
Pick 4 evening 9251 / 1
Lucky Day Lotto evening 04 09 15 28 34

May 3 Mega Millions: \$252M

WISCONSIN
May 1
Megabucks 04 13 14 26 38 42
Pick 3 364
Pick 4 0522
Badger 5 02 18 19 23 31
SuperCash 08 11 13 16 23 27

INDIANA
May 1
Lotto 01 03 12 13 32 38
Daily 3 midday 971 / 9
Daily 4 midday 6193 / 9
Daily 3 evening 373 / 6
Daily 4 evening 6454 / 6
Cash 5 05 09 11 27 29

MICHIGAN
May 1
Lotto 03 06 18 23 29 34
Daily 3 midday 908
Daily 4 midday 8770
Daily 3 evening 044
Daily 4 evening 1897
Fantasy 5 15 23 25 33 34
Keno 03 11 12 13 21 24
36 42 45 46 48 50 51 53
59 67 69 73 74 75 78 80

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Chicago Tribune Death Notices

Chicago Tribune extends our condolences to the families and loved ones of those who have passed.

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Ciezadlo, Mildred Marie

Mildred M. Ciezadlo, nee Manski, age 98, passed away on April 25, 2019. Mildred was the beloved wife of the late Eugene F.; loving mother of Gene F. (Sheila) Ciezadlo, Betty A. (the late Burt) Wiese and Greg Ciezadlo; dearest daughter of the late Anne and Adam Manski; cherished grandmother of Frank (Shannon) Ciezadlo, Jennifer (Tom) Hastings, Todd, Lauren, Erin and Grant Ciezadlo; great grandmother of Tommy, Brooke, Lucas and Wren; dear sister of the late Ernest (the late Mary) Manski and the late Dolores (the late Joe) Augustyn; fond aunt of many. Mildred was a member of the Harwood Heights Senior Club and an active member of St. Monica Parish. Visitation Saturday May 4, 2019 from 9:30 a.m. until the time of a 10:30 a.m. Service at **Cumberland Chapels** 8300 W. Lawrence Ave., Norridge, IL. Entombment will follow at Maryhill Mausoleum. Info www.cumberlandchapels.com or 708-456-8300.



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Gentile, Marilyn E.

(nee Landgraf), Longtime employee for over 39 years at Walgreens. Loving mother of Steve (Maggie) Gentile, Mike (Robin) Gentile & Gina (Randy) Bucki. Cherished grandmother of David (Barb), Ashley (Ramiz), Marc & Samantha. Dear great grandmother of Kendall, Abby, Emilia & Baby Fakhouri. Visitation Friday, May 3rd from 3 until 8 p.m. Chapel Service Saturday, May 4th, 10:00 a.m. at the **KERRY FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION CARE CENTER**, 7020 W. 127th Street, Palos Heights. Interment Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. www.kerryfh.com ~ (708) 361.4235 ~ www.facebook.com/kerryfuneral



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Gully, Jean Grace

Jean Grace Gully (nee Edwards) passed away peacefully on April 26, 2019 at the age of 90. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Harold W. Gully, and mother, Gertrude Groth Edwards Mowat. She is survived by her son, David Gully, and her sisters Lynette Gertrude Edwards Wilde and Joan Louise Edwards Walsh. She is also survived by her grandchild, Gabrielle Gully, as well as many nieces and nephews. Jean was born in Chicago, IL on May 17, 1928. She was a graduate of Morton High School, in Berwyn, IL. A memorial service and celebration of life will be held from 3:00pm to 4:45pm Sunday, May 5, 2019, at Redeemer Lutheran Church, 139 East 1st St, Hinsdale. Arrangements entrusted to **Hallowell & James Funeral Home**, Countryside. Info: (708) 352-6500 or hjfunerals.com

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Kazieczko-Kuszek, Krystyna

Krystyna Kazieczko-Kuszek, 68, of Oak Park. Beloved wife of Jer, who preceded her in death. Loving mother of Adam (Kristin) and Beth (Tom) Mannix. Cherished grandmother of Keira, Peter, J.J., and Jimmy. Adored daughter of the late Ewdokia and Tadeusz. Dear sister of Sue and the late Irene. Fond aunt of Joshua, Meredith, and Annamaria. Visitation Friday 3:00—8:00pm at **Zimmerman-Harnett Funeral Home** 7319 W. Madison St. Forest Park, IL. Funeral 9:45am Saturday processing to St. Giles Catholic Church where Mass will be held at 10:30am. Interment private. Info: 708-366-2200 or www.ZimmermanHarnett.com

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Koenig, Harry J.

Harry J. Koenig, age 61, of Lincolnwood, IL passed away Friday, April 26, 2019. He grew up in Palatine, IL and attended Palatine High School. President of Advanced Plastic Corporation in Lincolnwood, IL founded in 1980. His dynamic spirit drove him to develop materials that exceeded supposition. He implemented his vision through design innovation. Reinforcing his position with the outstanding support of his Advanced Plastic team. He previously served on the Lincolnwood Park & Recreational Board and supported many other charitable endeavors. Beloved ex-husband of Sandra Kovacic. Devoted father of Krista. Loving son of Joseph Koenig Sr., Anna (Nickel), and step-mom Penny Koenig. Dearest brother of Evelyn (Remedi), Joe Jr., and Linda (Slaten). Kind uncle of many nieces and nephews. Visitation Friday May 3, from 2-9 PM with a service at 8 PM at **Smith-Corcoran Funeral Home** 6150 N. Cicero Ave. Chicago, IL 60646. Interment private. Info 773-736-3833 or www.smithcorcoran.com



Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

LaJeunesse, Lois M.

Lois M. LaJeunesse nee Duffy age 92; beloved wife of the late James; loving mother of Dan (Marcia), Larry, Jeanne (the late Jerry) Bartolini, Jim (Sandy), Joe (Colleen), Mike, George (Valerie), Peg (Bill) Hammer and Dave (Eileen); cherished Grandmother of seventeen and Great Grandmother of seventeen; fond sister of the late Joan Laschober, Jeannette (late Ron) Drwiega and Carol (Ed) Conroy; also survived by many nieces and nephews. In lieu of flowers, memorials to St. Jude or the charity of your choice appreciated. Visitation Friday May 3, 2019; 3 pm to 8 pm at **Kosary Funeral Home** 9837 S. Kedzie, Evergreen Park. Funeral Saturday May 4th 8:45 am from chapel to St. Bernadette Church for Mass of Christian Burial 9:30 am Interment Holy Sepulchre Cemetery (708) 499-3223 or www.kosaryfuneral-home.com

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Presti, Barbara Joan

Barbara Joan Presti our beloved free spirit passed away peacefully February 12 2019. Always ready for adventure. Barbara loved singing, dancing, art, and traveling. Generous with her family, friends and strangers she is loved for her joyous spark. Proceeded in death by her husband John A. Presti survived by her sister Betty Jane Hamill also by her children Carolyn Becker, Cybelle Presti, RobertPresti, Barbara Frances Presti, grandchildren Jaclyn Becker, Danielle Becker and much loved son in law Mike Becker. A celebration of life of Barbara's life will be held May18th 2019 at Chicago Botanic Garden 1000 Lake Cook rd. Glencoe IL 60022 at McGinley Pavilion 11 am - 2 pm please RSVP by May 7 th if you plan to attend at barbcelebrate@yahoo.com if you wish to make a donation make it to Alzheimer's Foundation www.alzdn.org/ or to Chicago Botanic Garden thank you . We request no flowers be sent to the Garden.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Smith, Veronica

Veronica Smith, nee Dolan, age 96, Longtime resident of Bellwood and Elmhurst, active former member with AT&T Pioneers; beloved wife of the late John P.; loving mother of Robert (Patricia) and Kevin (Jalonn) Smith; proud grandmother of Caitlin (Ryan) O'Connell, Brendan, Andrew, Conor, Colin and Kevin (Melissa) Smith and great-grandmother of Sullivan Smith; fond aunt and great-aunt of many nieces and nephews. Visitation Friday, 9:00 a.m. until time of funeral service 11:00 a.m. at **Gibbons Funeral Home**, 134 South York Road, (1/2 mile North of Saint Charles Road), Elmhurst. Interment Queen of Heaven Catholic Cemetery, Hillside. Please omit flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105. For funeral information please call 630-832-0018 or www.gibbonsfuneralhome.com

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Supple, Francis D. "Frank"

Francis D. "Frank" Supple lived the first 79 of his 93 years in Chicago, then moved to Minneapolis to be near family. He died peacefully on April 28, 2019 in his recliner. Preceded in death by the love of his life, Mary Patricia, parents John and Bridget, siblings John, Thomas, James, Charles, Sister Mary Supple, and two infant siblings, Joseph and Eileen. He is survived by his beloved children John (Justine), Eileen Supple (John Byom), Therese Kincade (Robert), and Robert (Kathleen); grandchildren Genevieve Morgan (Todd), Vanessa Thornton (Charles), Matthew Byom (Chelsea), Kathryn Byom (Keenan Marshall), Anne Kincade (Christopher Howard), Laura Kincade, Ryan (Mallory), Kevin (Ashley) and Colin, and great grandchildren Henry, George, Nolan and Fiona. Corporal in WWII U.S. Army Air Force, graduate of St. Leo High School and Illinois Institute of Technology; retired as Vice President of Sales, Alexander & Alexander. Loved golf, the Sox and the Bears. Family and friends will meet at St. Barnabas Church, 10134 S. Longwood Dr., Chicago, IL 60643 on Friday, May 3, 2019 for visitation 10:00am-11:00am. Mass of Christian Burial at 11:00 am. Interment Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials to The Little Theatre on the Square, 16 E. Harrison St., P.O. Box 288, Sullivan, IL 61951 or online at www.thelittletheatre.org are most appreciated. Funeral Info: **Heeney-Laughlin Funeral Directors** 708-636-5500 or heeneyfh.com



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Swiderek, Thomas

MINERAL POINT-Thomas Victor Swiderek, age 75, of Mineral Point, Wis. passed away in Fitchburg, Wis. on March 31, 2019. Tom married the love of his life on July 7, 2016, after a courtship of 42 years - after all, you need to make sure it's going to last, right?

Tom is survived by the wife who adored him, Lori (Lorelei Lane); his daughter, Heidi (Shawn) Kirkpatrick; his son, Dwight (Donna); grandchildren; Lindsay, Tawnya, Marcus and Madison; and great-grandchildren, Chloe, Sophia and Andrew; and his puppy dog, Charlotte. A huge void is left in Lori's family and Tom will forever be missed by brother-in-law and best friend, Michael E. (the late Candy) Connelly; nieces and nephews, Amy and Robert Zima and Michael and Jaime Connelly. He was the best GUT (Great Uncle Tom) to Emmett and Hayden Zima and Georgia Connelly.

Thank you to Dr. Gordon Grieshaber for many years of great care and to the compassionate angels at Agrace Hospice; Carey, Taryn, Brian, Beth and Bri, as well as those who cared for him his last few days. Tom received tender care from the wonderful CNAs he grew so fond of, but most especially Sweet Judy who provided kindness, friendship and love during a most frightening journey.

Visitation will be held at **GUNDERSON CAMACHO FUNERAL AND CREMATION CARE**, 500 N. Eighth Street, Mount Horeb, Wis. from 3 p.m. until 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 2, 2019. A Memorial Service will be held at **COONEY FUNERAL HOME**, 625 Busse Highway, Park Ridge, Ill. at 12:00 pm on Saturday May 4, 2019 with visitation at 10 a.m. until the time of the service.

Tom was a kind and generous man. Contributions may be made to Levy Body Dementia Association, 912 Killian Hill Road, S.W. Lilburn, GA, 30047, or Agrace Hospice, 5395 E. Cheryl Parkway, Madison, WI, 53711, and would be most appreciated. Buying a cup of coffee or a snack for a complete stranger would also bring a smile to his face. Online condolences may be made at www.gundersonfh.com.

Gunderson Camacho Mount Horeb Funeral & Cremation Care
500 North 8th Street
608-437-5077

Walker, Wallis Dean

Wallis Dean Walker, 78, of Homewood, IL, went to join his beloved wife, Sandie, after passing away on April 23, 2019. He is survived by his two daughters, son-in-law, and three grandchildren. A memorial service is being held on Saturday, May 4, 2019, at 1:00 p.m., at Flossmoor Community Church, 2218 Hutchison Rd, Flossmoor, IL 60422.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Whitney, Louis A.

Louis A. Whitney, 92, of Palmyra, WI passed away on Monday, April 29, 2019 at his home on Blue Spring Lake. Gibson Family Funeral Homes of Palmyra & Eagle, WI is serving the family. To place an online-condolence, please visit gibsonfuneral.com

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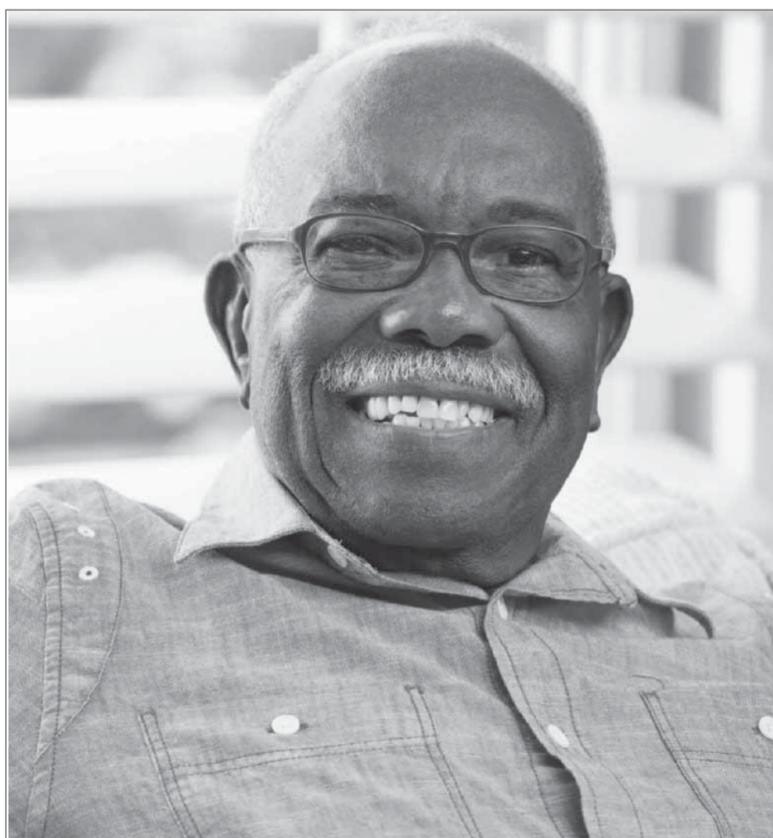


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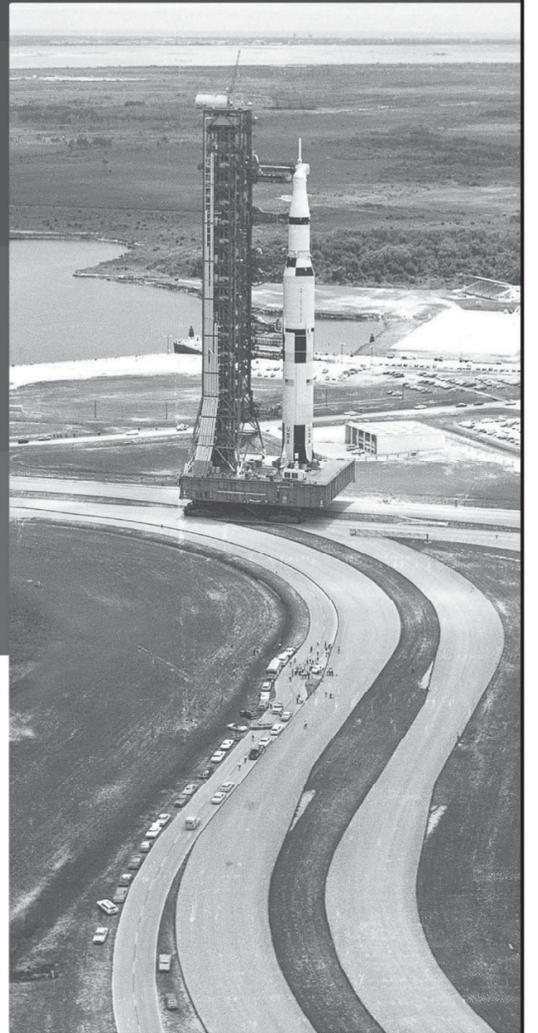
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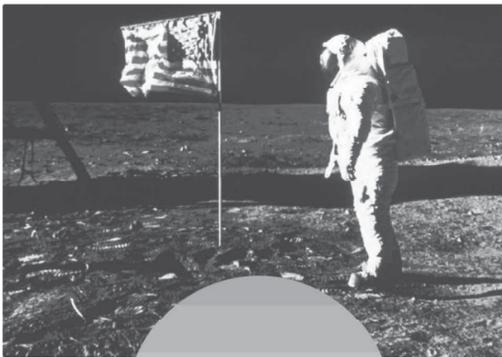


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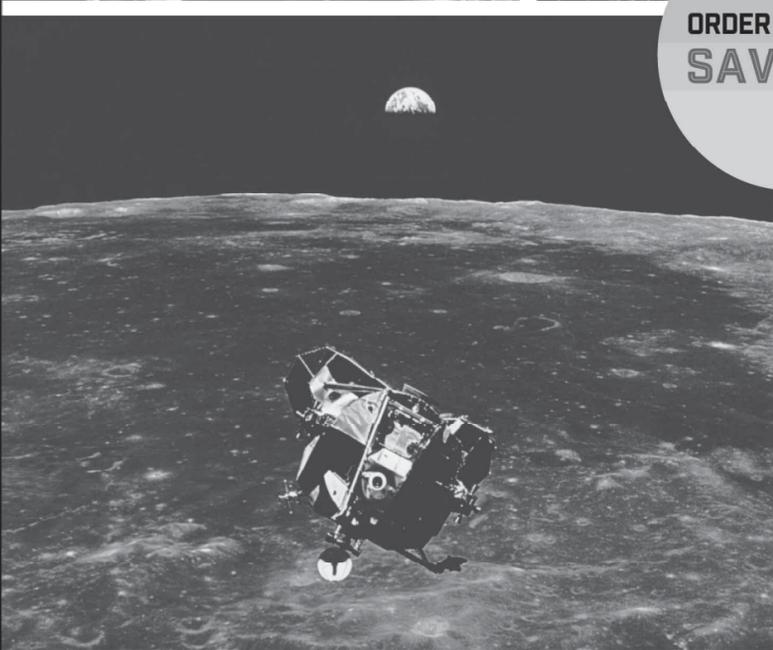
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LEGAL NOTICES GOVERNMENT/EDUCATION

PUBLIC NOTICE THE ILLINOIS STATE TOLL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY NOTICE OF CHANGE 2019 BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS SCHEDULE Thursday, May 2, 2019

Public Notice is hereby given of the REVISED 2019 Board and Committee Meeting Schedule.

REVISED 2019 BOARD/COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE BEGINNING JUNE 2019

All meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month at the Tollway Headquarters, 2700 Ogden Avenue in Downers Grove.

Finance, Administration & Operations Committee:
June 20, 2019 - 8:00 am
July 18, 2019 - 8:00 am
August 15, 2019 - 8:00 am
September 19, 2019 - 8:00 am
October 17, 2019 - 8:00 am
November 21, 2019 - 8:00 am
December 19, 2019 - 8:00 am

Diversity & Inclusion Committee:
June 20, 2019 - 8:30 am
September 19, 2019 - 8:30 am
December 19, 2019 - 8:30 am

Customer Service & Planning Committee:
June 20, 2019 - 9:00 am
September 19, 2019 - 9:00 am
December 19, 2019 - 9:00 am

Systems Review Committee:
June 20, 2019 - 9:30 am
September 19, 2019 - 9:30 am
December 19, 2019 - 9:30 am

Audit Committee:
August 15, 2019 - 8:30 am
December 19, 2019 - 10:00 am

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS:
June 20, 2019 - 10:00 am
July 18, 2019 - 8:30 am
August 15, 2019 - 9:00 am
September 19, 2019 - 10:00 am
October 17, 2019 - 8:30 am
November 21, 2019 - 8:30 am
December 19, 2019 - 10:30 am

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
Amanda Mcneil Lorenzo Donerson Aliza Mcneil

MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF Elizabeth Mcneil (Mother)

JUVENILE NO.: 15JA00533 15JA00535 15JA01327

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, **Alonzo Simmons (Father)**, respondents, and to **All Whom It May Concern**, that on **January 29, 2019**, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by **KIM FOXX** in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge **Peter Vilkelis** in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, ON **05/22/2019**, at **9:30 AM** in CALENDAR **13 COURTROOM M**, 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 of judgment entered.

DOROTHY BROWN, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
May 2, 2019

LEGAL NOTICE

South Holland School District 150 is seeking bids for a Food Service Management Contract for breakfast and lunch meals including milk, which will be prepared on site. Meals must meet the requirements of the National Lunch Program. Bid packages may be obtained from the District Office. Sealed bids must be received by June 7, 2019 at 12:59 p.m. Bids will publicly be opened and read on June 7, 2019 at 1:00 p.m.

Sealed bids are to be submitted to: South Holland School District 150 Attention: Dr. Denise Julius, Superintendent 848 E 170th St South Holland, IL 60473 708-339-4240

MANDATORY PRE-BID MEETING: All interested Food Service Managements must attend a mandatory pre-bid meeting on May 13, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. at the above address. The primary purpose will be to answer any questions and view facilities.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF
Konsuela Starks AKA Konsuela Starks AKA Baby Girl Williams

MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF Konsuela Williams (Mother) AKA Konsuela Starks

JUVENILE NO.: 17JA01133

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, **David Starks (Father)**, **Consuela Williams (Mother) AKA Consuela Starks**, respondents, and to **All Whom It May Concern**, that on **March 7, 2019**, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by **KIM FOXX** in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge **Kimberly Lewis** in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, ON **05/22/2019**, at **9:30 AM** in CALENDAR **8 COURTROOM H**, 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 of judgment entered.

DOROTHY BROWN, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
May 2, 2019

LEGAL NOTICE STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF COOK

In the matter of the revision of the assessment of Real Property for 2019:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to the provisions of Section 14-35 of the Illinois Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/14-35) that the Assessor of Cook County will sit for the purpose of reviewing the proposed 2019 assessment of Real Property located in the following township(s) or taxing district(s) in Cook County.

LAKE VIEW

Identified also as Area(s) 14, under the Permanent Real Estate Index Numbering System of Cook County.

The last date within which applications for revisions of assessment (Real Estate Assessed Valuation Appeals) may be filed for consideration at such sitting is May 30, 2019.

Such sitting will be held at the office of the Assessor of Cook County, Room 301, in the County Building, 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois 60602, and will continue thereafter from day to day as necessary until all such revisions (or appeals) or taxing district(s) have been completed.

Done by the Assessor of Cook County this 2nd day of May, 2019.

FRITZ KAEGL

ASSESSOR OF COOK COUNTY
6263176 5/2/2019

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
London Peoples

MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF Contielle Lander (Mother)

JUVENILE NO.: 17JA01224

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, **Contielle Lander (Mother)**, **Charles Peoples (Father) And All Unknown Fathers**, respondents, and to **All Whom It May Concern**, that on **February 21, 2019**, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by **KIM FOXX** 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 **05/22/2019**, at **9:30 AM** in CALENDAR **4 COURTROOM D**, 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 of judgment entered.

DOROTHY BROWN, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
May 2, 2019

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF
Rosemary Jones AKA Rosemary Jones AKA Baby Girl Williams

MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF Elnora Williams (Mother) AKA Elnora Williams

JUVENILE NO.: 15JA01059

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, **Elnora Williams (Mother) AKA Elnora Williams and MARK Bailey (Father)**, respondents, and to **All Whom It May Concern**, that on **December 28, 2018**, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by **KIM FOXX** in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge **Bernard Sarley** in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, ON **05/22/2019**, at **11:00 AM** in CALENDAR **9 COURTROOM I**, 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 of judgment entered.

DOROTHY BROWN, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
May 2, 2019

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF
Tyjuan Ewing AKA Tyjjan Ewing

MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF Mechelle Ewing (Mother)

JUVENILE NO.: 19JA00074

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, **Mechelle Ewing (Mother)**, respondents, and to **All Whom It May Concern**, that on **January 29, 2019**, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by **KIM FOXX** 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 **05/22/2019**, at **9:30 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 of judgment entered.

DOROTHY BROWN, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
May 2, 2019

LEGAL NOTICES

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago will be accepting applications for the following classification(s):

Accounting Manager (Original & Promotional)

Application Filing Period: April 26, 2019 through May 24, 2019. **Examination Date:** June 15, 2019 at Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences (CHAS), 3857 West 111th Street, Chicago, IL. **Scope of Examination:** Knowledge of accounting manager practices. **Nature of Position and Duties:** Under general supervision, directs and coordinates professional and administrative staff in the performance of a variety of accounting and/or treasury activities which may include fund accounting, contract accounting, auditing, report preparation, budget preparation, general ledger maintenance, payroll functions, accounts receivable functions, accounts payable functions, cash management and forecasting, bond sale execution and reporting requirements, policy implementation, and information systems management. **Pay:** \$109,991.70 per year

Engineering Draftsman II (Original)

Application Filing Period: April 12, 2019 through July 5, 2019. **Examination Date:** July 27, 2019 at Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences (CHAS), 3857 West 111th Street, Chicago, IL. **Scope of Examination:** Knowledge of Engineering Draftsman II practices. **Nature of Position and Duties:** Under general supervision, prepares multi-discipline engineering drawings used for contract bidding and construction using computer aided drafting and design (CADD) tools. **Pay:** \$59,237.62 per year

Senior Environmental Research Technician (Original & Promotional)

Application Filing Period: April 26, 2019 through May 31, 2019. **Examination Date:** June 15, 2019 at Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences (CHAS), 3857 West 111th Street, Chicago, IL. **Scope of Examination:** Knowledge of senior environmental research technician practices. **Nature of Position and Duties:** Under supervision, performs a variety of technical duties associated with the collection and analysis of field and laboratory data. Provides general oversight of field and lab activities related to wastewater, surface water monitoring, biosolids processing and soil science. **Pay:** \$67,032.16 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.

Mail, 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
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GARAGE SALES

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GARAGE/MOVING SALES

Aurora 5/3 8&4
2858 Hafencrichter Road 8 AM-3PM
7th Annual New Song church Garage/Bake Sale on Friday May 3rd (8AM-6PM) & Saturday May 4th (8AM-3PM). Thousands of items in many categories at LOW PRICES. Sale will be held rain or shine. No admission fee. New Song Church is located at 2858 Hafencrichter Road (1 1/2 Blks. East of Eola Rd.) in Aurora. For more info call 630-499-0542 or go to newsongchurch.net. Another Great Sale you don't want to miss!

GARAGE/MOVING SALES

LAKE FOREST, IL Saturday, May 4th
700 N Sheridan Rd 7AM-3PM
RUMMAGE SALE! 1st Presbyterian Church. Furniture, clothing for all ages, includes high end Men's and Women's clothing, Shoes, Sports, Books, Art, Toys, Housewares, Linens, Garden, Small Appliances, "Treasures," Jewelry & more!
ALL NET PROCEEDS GO TO CHARITY!
www.firstchurch.org

Park Ridge Sat, May 4
900 S Knight 8 am-3 pm
4 family sale - Tools, kitchen, household items, electronics, luggage, artwork, jewelry

GARAGE/MOVING SALES

Skokie, IL 60076 05/01/2019 - 05/05/2019
8720 Karlov Ave Skokie, IL 60076 11am-5pm
Moving Sale: Dishes, Paintings, Furniture, Area Rugs, Women Clothes, Toys, Complete Office

Wilmette, IL Saturday, May 4th
1746 Central Ave 9am-2pm
Multi family sale. Furniture, lamps, toys, Legos, sporting goods, books, jewelry, clothing.



GET TO KNOW NEWLY DRAFTED BEARS RUNNING BACK DAVID MONTGOMERY

In the first of a series of Q&As with the position coaches of Bears draft picks, we talk to Iowa State running backs coach Nate Scheelhaase. **Back Page**

NEWSPAPER
EXCLUSIVE
TWO EXTRA PAGES
OF COVERAGE INSIDE

Chicago Tribune

CHICAGO SPORTS

Chicago's best sports section, as judged by the Associated Press Sports Editors



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

White Sox shortstop Tim Anderson believes it's "cool" to bring excitement to the game. He hasn't been shy about celebrating his big hits this season.

Bringing the fun

Anderson on mission to change perceptions about levity in baseball



PAUL SULLIVAN
On the
White Sox

White Sox shortstop Tim Anderson told Sports Illustrated he feels like "today's Jackie Robinson," though instead of breaking the color barrier, he's trying to change people's perceptions about how to have fun.

He didn't invent bat flipping or home run celebrations, but in Anderson's mind, it's up to him to start a revolution.

"They don't want me to have

fun," he said Wednesday before a doubleheader with the Orioles at Guaranteed Rate Field. "I think it's cool when you bring excitement to the game and you bring something different. I think I bring something different, a lot of energy and a lot of excitement."

Anderson didn't specify who it is that doesn't want him to have fun. But based on incidents he has been associated with the last two years,

you can probably count Justin Verlander, Salvador Perez, Brad Keller, umpire Joe West and Major League Baseball disciplinarian Joe Torre among the anti-fun crowd.

Verlander and Perez criticized Anderson for being overexuberant; Keller plunked him for tossing his bat after a home run; West ejected him for calling Keller, who is white,

Turn to Sullivan, Page 3

"They don't want me to have fun. I think it's cool when you bring excitement to the game and you bring something different."

—Tim Anderson

MORE COVERAGE

■ Sloppy Sox fall to Orioles in opener but salvage split with walk-off win. **Page 3**

CUBS 11, MARINERS 0

Coming home after hitting their stride

Lester, offense dominate as Cubs cap trip with 4th straight victory

BY MARK GONZALES
Chicago Tribune

SEATTLE — After a disconcerting start, stability has engulfed a calm Cubs team confident that one aspect of their game will compensate for any deficiencies.

The biggest improvements during their 17-game stretch have come from a pitching staff that has either harnessed opponents with sharp starting pitching or imperfect but timely relief pitching.

The blend of sound pitching and a powerful offense capped a 4-1 trip Wednesday night as the Cubs cruised to an 11-0 victory

over the Mariners at T-Mobile Park to extend their winning streak to four games and plenty of confidence heading into a 10-game homestand starting Friday against the National League Central rival Cardinals.

Jon Lester put the finishing touches on the trip by pitching seven innings of one-hit ball in his second start since returning from a left hamstring strain. Lester allowed a single to Ryon Healy with one out in the second and retired the final 12 batters.

"He's in great shape moving forward," manager Joe Maddon said. "He sets the pace pitching-wise."

This was the Cubs' first one-hitter since June 9, 2018, against

Turn to Cubs, Page 5



ELAINE THOMPSON/AP

The Cubs' Anthony Rizzo rounds the bases after hitting a solo home run in the fourth inning Wednesday against the Mariners.

Back in Triple-A Iowa, what's next for Russell?

Here are key questions while shortstop is away

BY MARK GONZALES
Chicago Tribune

SEATTLE — The Cubs have informed shortstop Addison Russell they will option him to Triple-A Iowa once his 40-game suspension for violating Major League Baseball's domestic violence policy ends Thursday. What does it mean for Russell and what are the next steps?

Why did the Cubs inform Russell's decision?

Russell's minor-league assignment with Iowa was for seven days — not seven games. President Theo Epstein thought it was wise to inform Russell as soon as the assignment was to

expire after Iowa's Tuesday night game, which was postponed because of inclement weather.

What are Russell's obligations after his suspension ends?

Russell has told the Cubs he will continue to seek counseling to become a better person, especially with those close in his life. And Epstein has emphasized there is "no finish line" to becoming a better person and citizen.

How long can Russell expect to stay with Iowa?

It could be another two to three weeks before he rejoins the Cubs. The Cubs say he needs more time to simulate a normal spring training, even though he participated in spring training in

Turn to Russell, Page 5

WHITE SOX

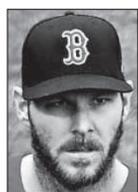
Trade of Sale not looking too bad

Struggles with Red Sox, Moncada's progress are evening things a little

BY PAUL SULLIVAN
Chicago Tribune

Chris Sale gets to feel some love this weekend when the former White Sox ace returns to the South Side with the Red Sox.

Sale is scheduled to start the second game of a four-game series Friday at Guaranteed Rate Field, seeking his first win of 2019 in a mouthwatering matchup against Reynaldo Lopez, who is coming off a 14-strikeout game against the Tigers.



Sale

Following a brutal first month in which he went 0-5 with a 6.30 ERA after signing a \$145 million contract extension in spring training, Sale probably could use a

group hug.

The Red Sox remain under .500 at 14-17 after a woeful 3-9 start, but the reigning World Series champs have won eight of 12 heading into Thursday's game. Sale hasn't been himself, which is puzzling to everyone who has seen him dominate for so many years.

"I'm sitting here like a broken record — what am I, six starts in?" Sale told the Boston media. "I've sucked every bit of every last one of them. I don't want to sit here and say the same things over and over. Like I said, this is a result-oriented game. No one cares about the hard work. No one cares about the effort."

"We've got to start winning games. I appreciate the effort. I appreciate the hard work and I know on the other end of that comes success. But we've got to find a way. We've got to keep grinding and doing what we're doing."

"(I) just hope the other end of it changes because we're doing everything we've got to do. It's just not there right now, but we'll get there."

Sale remains popular with White Sox fans, even the ones who agreed with the decision to deal him in his prime to kick-start the rebuild. Most were glad he got his money after being underpaid for so many years on the White Sox and happy for him for earning a World Series ring after enduring so much disappointment in Chicago.

The last time Sale faced the White Sox was June 8 at Fenway Park, where he allowed one run on six hits in eight innings but was outdueled by Dylan Covey in a 1-0 loss. His only other outing against the White Sox was May 30, 2017, at Sox Park, where he gave up five runs on 10 hits in five innings but got the win in a 13-7 victory.

The Sale trade will go down as one of the most important in White Sox history because it was the first of the rebuild and brought back three top prospects in Yoan Moncada, Michael Kopech and Luis Alexander Basabe.

The Red Sox can't complain because Sale helped them win a World Series and didn't flee as a free agent, as many presumed he would do after this season. But the White Sox don't regret a thing.

Moncada has drastically improved from 2018, when he led the majors in strikeouts, and looks like a mainstay at third base for years to come. Kopech seemingly was on his way to stardom until undergoing Tommy John elbow surgery in September and remains on track to return in 2020. Basabe broke the hamate bone in his left hand during spring training but is back playing at Double-A Birmingham and should be up by the end of the year or 2020 at the latest.

Certainly the trade is looking much better for the White Sox now than it did in July, when Sale was starting in the All-Star Game and Moncada was struggling in his first full season. But until the White Sox start winning consistently, it won't be deemed a success. Not a every rebuild works, and this one has a way to go.

At least White Sox fans get a chance to see Sale pitch in person Friday, and they figure to greet him warmly when he steps onto the mound at Sox Park for the first time in two years.

Everyone knows Sale loved playing for the White Sox, even if he wasn't so crazy about their throwback jerseys.



Jose Abreu gets caught in a rundown after a botched safety squeeze with Nicky Delmonico at the plate.

CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

ORIOLES 5, WHITE SOX 4; WHITE SOX 7, ORIOLES 6

Sloppy hose

White Sox drop error-fest in the opener of a doubleheader

Let's start by saying something nice: The field was immaculate.

Roger "The Sodfather" Bossard and his crew made more than 2.2 inches of rain disappear, so the players can't blame what transpired on the conditions. There was no slippage, except in the quality of play. It wasn't even windy.

The front end of Wednesday's Orioles-White Sox doubleheader — a 5-4 Sox loss that lasted 3 hours, 48 minutes — was a blooper reel minus the Benny Hill soundtrack. (Apologies for the outdated reference, millennials. Oh, wait, you're not into baseball anyway.)

Officially, the game featured five errors. Unofficially, the entire game was one giant error.

One play alone featured three miscues: Yonder Alonso grounded to first, but Renato Nunez booted it. The ball caromed to second baseman Jonathan Villar, who fumbled it. Villar still had plenty of time to nab Alonso, who was chugging down the line as if brother-in-law Manny Machado were strapped to his back. But Villar's throw bounced off Nunez's glove.

"What in the wide, wide world of sports is going on here?" Sox play-by-play man Jason Benetti asked.

That came in the third inning and already was the third error for the O's. (The E's?)

Yeah, this was a Cactus League game without the cacti.

Luckily for both teams, almost no one was watching. The make-up game after Tuesday's rainout attracted maybe 200 fans for the 3:10 first pitch.



TEDDY GREENSTEIN
On the White Sox

And it took about 2 minutes for the Orioles to commit their first error: Third baseman Hanser Alberto misfired to first on Leury Garcia's grounder. Next time up, Garcia reached on another throwing error.

Speaking of, Sox pitcher Carlos Rodon is paid to make accurate tosses. But after he corralled a comebacker in the fourth, he took his time and threw high to second, wrecking a double play that would have ended the rally.

That inning ended oddly. Villar grounded out, but first baseman Jose Abreu noticed Richie Martin motoring around third. So after recording the out, Abreu fired home. Martin slid home, but plate umpire David Rackley simply stared at him. No signal. There were already three outs.

Martin is 24 going on 12. As Orioles reliever Shawn Armstrong completed his warm-up throws in the sixth, Martin playfully flung his glove into the air. He did this at least three times, dropping one.

Yeah, it was that kind of day. The Sox were hardly exempt from the goofiness, which is a euphemism for awfulness.

Catcher James McCann misfired to third on a stolen-base try. Jace Fry entered in the seventh with the Sox ahead 4-3 and immediately walked the leadoff man on four pitches.

Nicky Delmonico overran a shallow pop in left, allowing it to fall for a "double." (How come if you drop a fly ball, it's an error, but if you misplay it even worse and can't get a glove on it, you're off the hook?)

WHITE SOX GAME 2 RECAP

Yonder Alonso's two-run, two-out single in the ninth gave the Sox a 7-6 walk-off win over the Orioles to avoid getting swept in Wednesday's doubleheader at Guaranteed Rate Field. Jose Abreu's bases-clearing single in the fourth put the Sox up 5-4, but the Orioles got an Anthony Santander home run off starter Ivan Nova in the sixth and an unearned run against Aaron Bummer in the seventh — thanks to two Tim Anderson errors in the inning — to retake the lead before the late heroics.

Delmonico was at the plate for a curious play in the third. With the slow-footed Abreu at third, Delmonico squared around. The pitch was in the dirt, naturally, and Delmonico appeared to pull back his bat, leaving Abreu stuck between third and home. But he was not at fault. Abreu was.

"It was a safety squeeze," manager Rick Renteria said, "and (Abreu) continued to go instead of letting the play develop."

D'oh! The Orioles took the lead in the eighth on a sacrifice fly. Center fielder Adam Engel fielded the medium-deep fly ball but fired well up the third-base line. Engel had entered as a defensive replacement. Perfect.

It's a tough game. We know. Those competing in the big leagues are the best in the world.

But there are also days when you wonder if someone spiked the Gatorade.

tgreenstein@chicagotribune.com
Twitter @TeddyGreenstein

WHITE SOX NOTES

Rodon unable to break out of funk

BY TEDDY GREENSTEIN
Chicago Tribune

File this under bad news — and really bad news if you're a pitcher hoping to cash in on a long-term deal (like all of them).

Carlos Rodon lasted just 3 2/3 innings against a crummy Orioles team in the opener of Wednesday's doubleheader. This came on the heels of getting rocked for eight earned runs in three innings against the Tigers.

Oh, and manager Rick Renteria said Rodon was affected by a blister on a finger, adding: "He has something he's always dealing with. ... A little blister develops on the finger. (The trainers) put something in it. Every single outing he has it."

Oh, and manager Rick Renteria said Rodon was affected by a blister on a finger, adding: "He has something he's always dealing with. ... A little blister develops on the finger. (The trainers) put something in it. Every single outing he has it."

Everyone single outing?

"He has it under control," Renteria said.

His stuff is not under control. The Sox's opening-day starter

has a bloated 5.19 ERA. He needed 89 pitches to record 11 outs Wednesday.

What's the issue? It's customary for the Game 1 starting pitchers to speak before the nightcap of a doubleheader, but Rodon declined to meet with reporters.

"I thought he looked pretty good early," Renteria said. "Fastball looked good, slider all right. I can't really tell you what transpired until I go back and look (on video) at the complete outing."

No major decision: The Sox wasted little time promoting outfielder Luis Robert to Double-A Birmingham. Nineteen games at Class A Winston-Salem, during which Robert batted .453 with 16 extra-base hits, was all they needed to see.

But Renteria was asked: Why not bring him to the majors now? (The implication is that, even at

21, Robert would give the Sox more than Adam Engel, who batted .171 with three extra-base hits in March and April.)

"He hasn't had very many at-bats, first and foremost," Renteria said. "He's going to the next level, that's the next phase. Let him get through that and let the process continue to play itself out."

"There are a lot of little nuances of playing the game that he has to experience. That's why you don't rush him."

It's very rare for prospects to skip two levels on their way to the big leagues. Albert Pujols broke camp with the Cardinals in 2001 after appearing in only three games above Class A.

The Sox signed Robert for \$26 million in May 2017, but injuries have limited him to fewer than 350 at-bats. Renteria said Robert's defense and baserunning need polish.

Anderson bringing the fun

Sullivan, from Page 1

the n-word; and Torre suspended him for the same thing.

Outside of Chicago, Anderson was hardly a blip on the baseball radar until last month. Now, after leading the American League in hitting through April and being in the middle of controversies for his bat flipping and choice of language while trash talking, he's getting national recognition and becoming the face of the Sox.

How has his life changed? "My life has been amazing before that," he said. "So nothing's changed. I'm still living my best life, I guess. Same person. Nothing has changed."

The only thing that has changed perhaps is Anderson's newfound celebrity has made him a focus of the media. His thoughts are now given more credence, and he doesn't mind speaking his mind.

Anderson admitted to Sports Illustrated that he called Keller a "weak-ass (bleeping n-word)" after Keller plunked him, and he said he didn't appeal his suspension because he thought he wouldn't get a fair hearing.

"I don't think there's a black guy that's up that high in baseball that they could drag in and be like, 'Hey, what do you think we should do to this guy?'" Anderson told SI.

Asked Wednesday if the game really needs changing, Anderson again didn't mince words.

"Yeah, I think it does because the game is boring," he replied. "A lot of fans don't watch, I admit. So you try and do something to make these fans and these kids want to come back to the ballpark."

"I'm going to do what it takes to draw these fans to the South Side. I'm going to do something different every day, whatever it is, no matter (what)."

Fewer than 1,000 fans were actually in the seating area during the makeup game Wednesday afternoon, and the Sox were averaging only 13,391 over their previous 10 home dates. It's going to take a lot more than a few bat flips to draw fans to Sox Park. Winning would help, and fortunately the Sox had the Tigers and Orioles to kick around the last six days.

Still, the Sox were 12-14 in March and April, giving fans a good reason to avoid going to games.

When I asked manager Rick Renteria if he was satisfied with where the Sox were on May 1, he threw the question back at me.

"Are you satisfied?"

Nope. "If you're not satisfied, I'm not satisfied," he said.

At least we agree on that. Before I could offer suggestions, Renteria went on a long soliloquy about the rotation not performing but the Sox still hanging in.

"We've had a lot of good things over the first month of the season, to be honest," he said. "It's very easy for me to harp on all the negativity. It's not for me to do that. My thing is to look at all the things that we have been doing well."

One thing they're doing very well is helping Anderson and Yoan Moncada develop into the kind of players the Sox thought they would be. It's only one month, but it's a start. Anderson has a good shot at being named AL Player of the Month, and if he keeps hitting like this, he could be headed to Cleveland for his first All-Star Game in July.

"I'm not worried about those numbers or Player of the Month," he said. "That's small stuff. I have bigger goals than that. But I'm going to keep working, keep having fun and keep bringing a spark to the ballpark."

The Sox have a history of outspoken players, including Frank Thomas, Jack McDowell, Tony Phillips, Ozzie Guillen and A.J. Pierzynski. Anderson seems intent on joining the club. Someone asked if he would offer advice to MLB to help brand the game and prevent fans from considering it boring.

"I don't want to help them brand the game," he replied. "I want to do it myself."

That's a lot of responsibility for one man, but it will be fun watching him try.

psullivan@chicagotribune.com
Twitter @PWSullivan

BASEBALL

American League

Table with columns: EAST, CENTRAL, WEST, W, L, PCT, GB, WCGB, L10, STR, HOME, AWAY. Lists standings for Tampa Bay, New York, Toronto, Boston, Baltimore, Minnesota, Cleveland, Chicago, Detroit, Kansas City, Houston, Seattle, Texas, Los Angeles, Oakland.

Late games noted below

PROBABLE PITCHERS THURSDAY

Table with columns: NATIONAL LEAGUE, AMERICAN LEAGUE, INTERLEAGUE, TEAM, PITCHER, TIME, W-L, ERA, TR, 2018 VS. OPP., LAST 3 STARTS. Lists probable pitchers for SD, Atl, Cin, NY, Col, Mil, STL, Was, Hou, Sea, Tex, Los, Oak.

RESULTS, SCHEDULE

Table with columns: AMERICAN LEAGUE, NATIONAL LEAGUE, FRIDAY'S GAMES, TUESDAY'S GAMES, BOX SCORES. Includes game results and schedules for Wednesday, Friday, and Tuesday.

BOX SCORES

Box scores for Diamondbacks vs Yankees, Pirates vs Rangers, Orioles vs White Sox, Cubs vs Mariners, Red Sox vs Athletics, Royals vs Rays, Tampa Bay vs Kansas City, Phillies vs Tigers, Houston Astros vs Minnesota Twins, and Detroit vs Philadelphia.

National League

Table with columns: EAST, CENTRAL, WEST, W, L, PCT, GB, WCGB, L10, STR, HOME, AWAY. Lists standings for Philadelphia, Atlanta, New York, Washington, Miami, St. Louis, Chicago, Milwaukee, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Los Angeles, Arizona, San Diego, Colorado, San Francisco.



Manager Terry Francona talks to Corey Kluber after the pitcher was hit by a line drive.

MARLINS 4, INDIANS 2

MIAMI — Corey Kluber got hit hard again, and the last line drive really hurt. The struggling Indians right-hander broke his right forearm when he was hit by a comebacker during a 4-2 loss to the Marlins on Wednesday night.

Kluber's arm broken by liner

will have a better idea at that point of how long he might be out. "It stinks, you know?" teammate Roberto Perez said. "He's our ace. We're going to miss him."

Anderson's infield hit caromed off Kluber, and the ace's arm dangled at his side as he chased down the ball. He swatted it toward first base with his glove rather than throwing it. "It happened so quick, I couldn't tell where he got hit," said Perez, the Indians' catcher. "I saw him holding his arm. It was tough."

RED SOX 7, ATHLETICS 3

OAKLAND — Boston's 2B: Chapman (8), Davis (3), Pinder (7), Lin (2). HR: Moreland (9), off Fiers; Vazquez (5), off Dull. RBIs: Davis (24), Pinder (12), Laureano (12), Benintendi (2), Betts (16), Moreland (2), Vazquez (14), Lin (1). SB: Benintendi (3). SF: Betts, Moreland, Pinder, Lin. Runners left in scoring position: Oakland 2 (Laureano, Phegley); Cleveland 1 (Kipnis); Miami 3 (Granderson, Smith). RISP: Cleveland 0 for 2; Miami 3 for 5. GDP: Gonzalez. DP: Cleveland 1 (Perez, Kipnis); Miami 1 (Castro, Rojas, Prado).

ROYALS 3, RAYS 2

TAMPA BAY — First game. B.Lowe 2b 4 0 2 0 1 .298. Pham lf 4 0 1 0 0 .292. Choi dh 4 0 0 0 1 .282. Diaz 3b 4 0 0 0 0 .286. L.Lowe dh 4 0 0 0 0 .250. Garcia rf 4 1 2 0 0 .257. Kiermaier cf 2 1 0 0 0 .260. Adames ss 4 0 2 2 0 .213. Zunino c 2 0 0 0 0 .243. Perez c 2 0 0 0 0 .217. a-Zunino ph-c 2 0 0 0 0 .438. TOTALS 34 2 8 2 5. KANSAS CITY — AB R H BI SO AVG. Merrifield 2b 4 1 1 0 1 .287. Mondesi ss 4 1 1 2 1 .286. Dozier dh 2 1 0 0 0 .295. Gordon lf 3 0 1 0 1 .348. Dozier 1b 3 0 0 0 1 .221. Soler dh 3 0 0 1 0 .286. Gutierrez 3b 3 0 0 0 0 .152. Maldonado c 3 0 1 0 1 .182. a-Castro ph 1 0 0 0 0 .438. Gallagher c 0 0 0 0 0 .154. Hamilton cf 2 0 0 0 0 .211. TOTALS 27 3 4 3 7.

PHILLIES 7, TIGERS 3

DETROIT — Candelario 3b 4 0 2 0 2 .233. Castellanos rf 5 1 1 0 2 .269. Cabrera 1b 5 0 1 0 2 .278. Goodrum lf 5 0 2 0 0 .247. R.Rodriguez 2b 4 1 2 1 1 .303. Stump lf 0 1 1 1 0 .386. Mercer ss 4 0 1 1 2 .145. Norris p 2 0 0 0 0 .000. Hoskins (2), Hernandez (10), Franco (25), Hoskins (5), CS: Goodrum (2). RISP: Detroit 3 for 12; Philadelphia 5 for 9. Runners moved up: Hicks, LIDP: McCutchen, GDP: Segura 2. DP: Detroit 3 (Candelario, R.Rodriguez, Cabrera), (Candelario, Cabrera), (Candelario, R.Rodriguez, Cabrera).

MARLINS 4, INDIANS 2

CLEVELAND — AB R H BI SO AVG. Lindor ss 2 0 0 0 2 .231. Martin cf 4 0 0 0 2 .213. Ramirez 3b 4 0 1 0 0 .183. Santana 1b 1 0 2 1 1 .323. Gonzalez lf 4 0 0 2 0 .240. Lulow rf 2 0 1 0 0 .250. C-Naguin ph 1 0 1 0 0 .268. Kipnis 2b 4 0 0 0 1 .184. Prado lf 4 0 0 0 1 0.278. Kluber p 1 0 0 0 1 .000. a-Moroff ph 1 0 0 0 0 .125. b-Bauser ph 2 0 0 0 1 .239. TOTALS 31 4 10 4 5. Cleveland Seattle 001 001 001 - 2 6 0. Miami 100 201 00x - 4 10 0.

HOUSTON ASTROS 2, MINNESOTA TWINS 1

HOUSTON — AB R H BI SO AVG. Springer rf 3 0 1 0 1 .275. Altuve 2b 4 0 2 0 0 .256. Bregman 3b 4 0 0 0 0 .260. Cruz lf 3 0 0 0 0 .231. Gurriel 1b 3 0 0 1 0 .234. Diaz lf 4 1 1 1 0 .209. White dh 4 0 1 1 2 .260. Stassi c 3 0 0 0 1 .094. Rosario lf 1 0 0 0 0 .348. Marisnick cf 3 0 1 0 2 .271. TOTALS 33 2 7 2 8. MINNESOTA — AB R H BI SO AVG. Kepler lf 4 1 1 0 0 .277. Polanco ss 4 1 2 1 0 .327. Cruz lf 4 1 2 1 0 .305. Rosario lf 3 0 0 0 0 .231. Cron 1b 3 0 0 1 0 .224. Gonzalez 3b 4 0 0 0 2 .159. Garver c 2 1 0 0 0 .333. Correa 2b 3 1 1 2 0 .269. Buxton cf 3 1 1 0 1 .253. TOTALS 30 6 7 6 4.

DETROIT vs PHILADELPHIA

DETROIT — AB R H BI SO AVG. Candelario 3b 4 0 2 0 2 .233. Castellanos rf 5 1 1 0 2 .269. Cabrera 1b 5 0 1 0 2 .278. Goodrum lf 5 0 2 0 0 .247. R.Rodriguez 2b 4 1 2 1 1 .303. Stump lf 0 1 1 1 0 .386. Mercer ss 4 0 1 1 2 .145. Norris p 2 0 0 0 0 .000. Hoskins (2), Hernandez (10), Franco (25), Hoskins (5), CS: Goodrum (2). RISP: Detroit 3 for 12; Philadelphia 5 for 9. Runners moved up: Hicks, LIDP: McCutchen, GDP: Segura 2. DP: Detroit 3 (Candelario, R.Rodriguez, Cabrera), (Candelario, Cabrera), (Candelario, R.Rodriguez, Cabrera).

AROUND THE HORN

Pirates: Rookie Bryan Reynolds is closing in on teammate Gregory Polanco for a little piece of Pirates history. Reynolds kept up his impressive start with a three-run double as the Pirates completed a two-game sweep in Texas by topping the Rangers 7-5 on Wednesday. A day after his first career home run put the Pirates ahead in the 11th inning of a 6-4 win that ended an eight-game losing streak, Reynolds extended his career-opening hitting streak to nine games with a liner over left fielder Joey Gallo's head in the fourth. A 24-year-old outfielder acquired in the trade that sent Andrew McCutchen to the Giants before the 2018 season, Reynolds joined Polanco as the only Pirates since 1900 with a hit in each of their first nine games in the big leagues. Polanco debuted with an 11-game streak in 2014. Angels: Shohei Ohtani is disappointed he won't return to the lineup this week. The AL Rookie of the Year said he's ready to play whenever the team allows it. Ohtani had Tommy John surgery Oct. 1, and he is currently taking the final rehab steps for his return. Although he won't travel with the Angels for their series in Monterrey, Mexico, this weekend, he could be ready to play when the Angels visit Detroit on Tuesday. Red Sox: Mitch Moreland homered and drove in another run on a sacrifice fly after a lucky pop off the second base bag moved the runners along, and Boston beat Oakland 7-3 to complete a three-game sweep for the previously struggling World Series champions. The Red Sox, who started last season 17-2 en route to a franchise record 108 victories and a fourth championship in 15 years, fell to 3-9 after losing the home opener and were seven games under .500 on April 16. They have won eight of 12 since. The Athletics have lost six in a row. Mets: Jose Iglesias homered off Edwin Diaz in the ninth inning to give the Reds a 1-0 victory over the Mets. Mets ace Jacob deGrom rediscovered his Cy Young form, throwing seven shutout innings of three-hit ball after losing his last three starts. But it was the second time in three nights that Diaz (0-2) gave up a tiebreaking homer to the Reds in the ninth. Jesse Winker connected against the All-Star closer in the series opener Monday to give Cincinnati a 5-4 victory. This time, the diminutive Iglesias pulled an 89 mph slider into the left field corner with two outs for his second home run this year. Extra innings: Struggling Mets reliever Jeurys Familia has been placed on the 10-day injured list because of a sore right shoulder. Manager Mickey Callaway said Familia informed the team his shoulder was bothering him Wednesday morning, one day after he coughed up a two-run lead in the ninth inning against the Reds. He had an MRI that came back "fairly clean," according to Callaway, and was given a cortisone injection. ... Giants pitching prospect Logan Webb has been suspended 80 games for testing positive for a performance-enhancing substance. Webb had a 2.00 ERA in his first five starts at Double-A Richmond this year.

CUBS

CUBS NOTES

Even without Morrow, team has options

BY MARK GONZALES | Chicago Tribune

SEATTLE — Manager Joe Maddon views any contribution by Brandon Morrow this season as a bonus, and he adds there have been no internal discussions about acquiring bullpen help.

But given the improvements made by the relievers in the last three weeks, the possible returns of Mike Montgomery, Carl Edwards Jr., Tony Barnette, Xavier Cedeno and perhaps Morrow can equate to a trade and fortify the Cubs' depth as they enter a stretch of 26 games in 27 days.

"From my perspective, yes, we want (Morrow) back," Maddon said Wednesday. Morrow hasn't pitched in a game since July 15 and won't throw for another two to three weeks after receiving an injection in his surgically repaired right elbow.

"But to count on something like that, you really can't necessarily, from my perspective. As a manager, you got to try to continually piece it together with what you have. And in the meantime, we would love to have Brandon back. He'll just go through the rehab process, listen to the docs, and then I need to listen to our guys and see how it's coming along.

"He can be a huge difference-maker for us if we had him in the second half of the season. That's large. But in the meantime, we have to prepare each day if that's what it's going to look like the rest of the year and try to nurture this group in this regard."

Maddon remains hesitant to designate a full-time closer in Morrow's absence with Steve Cishek picking up the slack Tuesday for an unavailable Pedro Strop, and Brandon Kintzler and Brad Brach capable of closing games.

"And with Strop, it gives you more options to be able to spawn them in different spots, based on the other team's lineup," Maddon said. "I just like this method."

Cedeno, recovering from a left wrist injury, is scheduled to pitch Thursday at Double-A Tennessee. Montgomery (left lat) will start Friday for Triple-A Iowa.

Edwards, who was optioned to Iowa on April 5, has a 3.00 ERA in five appearances but has pitched only twice since April 24 when he returned from the seven-day injured list due to a right hand injury.

"He's still working on things and making progress," President Theo Epstein said Tuesday. "He's building a good foundation in all aspects of the game. But there's still work to do."

No rest for the weary: After Thursday's day off, the Cubs open a stretch of 26 games in 27 days — starting with a three-game series against the Cardinals.

It also means Maddon will be hard-pressed to play catcher Willson Contreras as frequently as he has without the benefit of a plethora of days off.

But Contreras, who has started in 24 of the Cubs' first 28 games, feels fresh.

"These days off come at a really great time," Contreras said. "At one point I think I caught (12) consecutive games, and I don't think I've ever caught 14 consecutive games in my career."

Rotation update: Kyle Hendricks will open Friday's series against the Cardinals and Jack Flaherty, followed by Yu Darvish against Michael Wacha and Jose Quintana opposing Adam Wainwright.

Kaplan to stay with NBC Sports Chicago

BY PHIL ROSENTHAL
Chicago Tribune

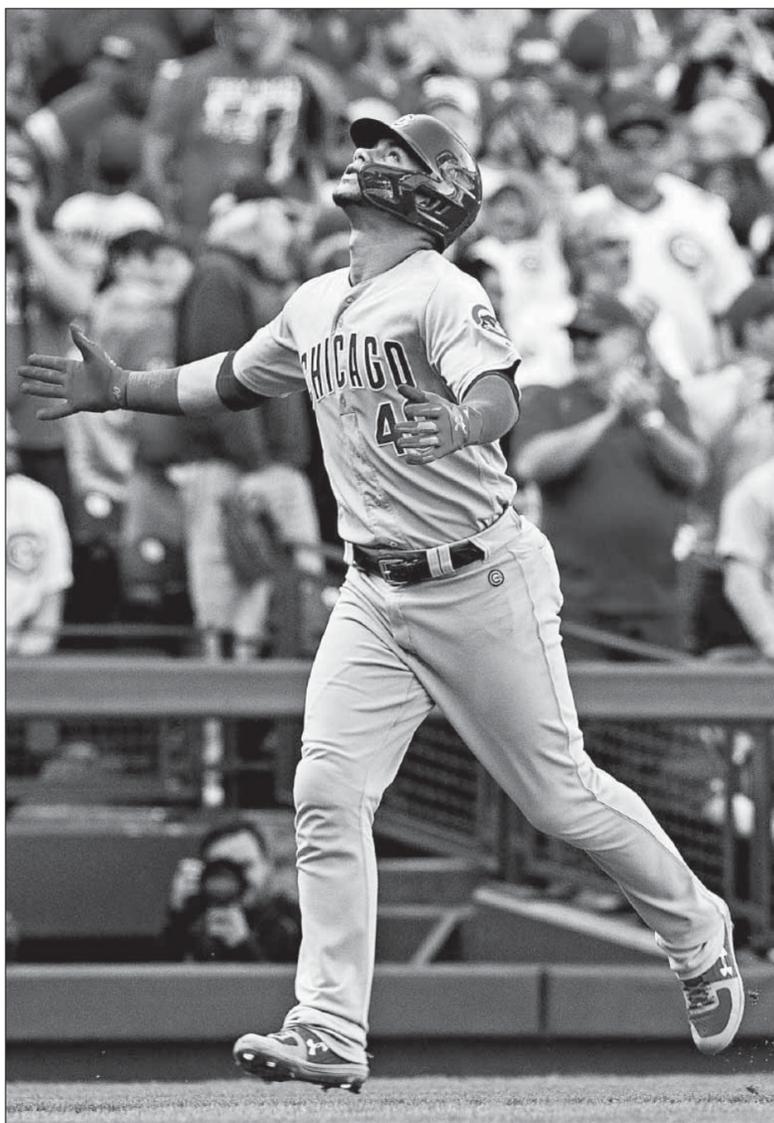
Heading off speculation he might jump to the channel the Cubs plan to launch next year, David Kaplan has signed a multiyear renewal with NBC Sports Chicago.

"My late father told me, 'Never run from happiness,'" Kaplan said Wednesday. "I wake up every day the happiest guy in the world. So if I have that happiness, why would I leave it? I love who I work with, I love where I work and who I work for, so why would I leave?"

The primary host of NBCSCH's weeknight roundtable, "SportsTalk Live," since 2008, Kaplan will continue hosting Cubs pregame and postgame shows on the channel for the remainder of this season — a role he has had since 1995, first on WGN-AM 720 and since 2011 on TV.

That run will end, however, with the Cubs bolting for Marquee Sports Network, their joint venture with Sinclair Broadcast Group set to launch in February.

NBC Sports Chicago, which will remain in business with the White Sox, Blackhawks and Bulls, said Kaplan will expand his cross-platform responsibilities when the Cubs cut ties in October.

philrosenthal@chicagotribune.com
Twitter @phil_rosenthal

LINDSEY WASSON/GETTY

Cubs catcher Willson Contreras celebrates as he runs the bases after hitting a solo home run in the fourth inning Wednesday.

Hitting their stride

Cubs, from Page 1

the Pirates, who were limited to one hit in seven innings by Lester.

"He knows what he's doing," Javier Baez said. "He goes up there with a plan."

Lester was the beneficiary of a six-run second inning sparked by a leadoff home run by Baez, who capped the rally with an RBI double.

The Cubs improved to 13-4 during their last 17 games, in which the starting pitchers have posted a 2.34 ERA. The Cubs (6-0-1) are unbeaten in their last seven series.

That's taken a huge load off an offense that has produced without a huge volume of production from sluggers Kris Bryant and Anthony Rizzo until recently.

Bryant's four-game hitting streak was snapped Wednesday, but he smacked home runs in two of his last five games. And the large lead enabled Bryant to be lifted for a pinch-hitter in the fifth and rest his sore left leg.

Maddon said Bryant would return to the field Friday after being the designated hitter the last two games.

Rizzo hit a home run to lead off the fourth, and he is batting .341 (14-for-41) with five doubles, one triple, four home runs and 10 RBIs in his last 11 games.

Those recent contributions have supplemented the production of Baez, who hit his team-leading 10th home run to snap an 0-for-11 rut.

Contreras hit a home run in the fourth, and his eight home runs are two shy of last season's total.

The Cubs continued their business-like approach with the knowledge that shortstop Addison Russell won't return soon after President Theo Epstein announced Tuesday that Russell will be optioned to Triple-A Iowa for more seasoning after his 40-game suspension for violating Major League Baseball's domestic abuse policy ended after Wednesday's game.

"To have someone like Addi and some guys at Triple-A (Iowa) barking at the door, so that's a good thing depth wise," Rizzo said before the game. "It's a good problem to have. From what I heard, Addi has accepted it well, and he'll be ready whenever he's



ELAINE THOMPSON/AP

Starting pitcher Jon Lester allowed only one hit over seven innings in Wednesday's win over the Mariners.

called up."

That likely won't happen until at least the Cubs complete their homestand, but the improvements by the bullpen have created a more confident feeling heading into the Cardinals series.

The relievers' 1.97 ERA in their last 20 games has created more options for Maddon after they posted a 9.51 ERA in their first eight games.

"It's sustainable," Maddon said of the turnaround by the pitching staff, which leads the majors with five shutouts. "We were able to get our bullpen back in order now going back home. This game helps to do that with a day off.

"We need to continue to pitch at this level because we're going to face some good pitching, and it's going to be 3-2, 2-1, 4-3 and we got to win those games."

After a 1-6 start, the Cubs now have the results to support their inner confidence.

"We know we got our work cut out for us, and that's the way the season will go," said Jason Heyward, who is batting .344 since April 5.

mgonzales@chicagotribune.com
Twitter @MDGonzales

What's next for Russell, Cubs?

Russell, from Page 1

Mesa, Ariz.

Russell will play two to three consecutive games at shortstop and then two to three games at second base in an effort to increase his versatility. Javier Baez has deftly handled shortstop since Russell was placed on administrative leave Sept. 21 after Russell's former wife, Melisa Reidy, said Russell physically harmed her. MLB opened an investigation immediately and suspended Russell less than two weeks later.

"I think (Russell) is more than capable of playing (second)," Epstein said. "If you think back to 2015 (when he began his major-league career), he was really dynamic at that position."

Russell is batting .250 in six games with Iowa. Epstein said Russell has displayed quickness in hitting the inside fastball and hitting to the opposite field, but he's "still in the process of getting his timing completely locked in."

Who benefits while Russell stays at Iowa?

Daniel Descalso, who has started 19

games at second base, will continue to get the bulk of the playing time there while Russell works at second in the minors.

Infielder/outfielder Ben Zobrist and outfielders Albert Almora Jr. and Kyle Schwarber also should benefit. If Russell returns, the crowded infield could mean more time in the outfield for Kris Bryant with David Bote at third base.

How much will the option cost Russell?

Russell will receive his \$3.4 million salary. However, he could lose money in his incentives package, which pays him \$100,000 for increments of 30, 60, 90 and 120 days on the major-league roster and \$200,000 for 150 days.

What is Russell's trade value?

It's hard to see a team immediately pursuing Russell unless it is convinced he can serve as a model citizen and productive player.

And if Baez were to suffer an injury, Russell's value to the Cubs would soar.

mgonzales@chicagotribune.com
Twitter @MDGonzales

HORSE RACING

KENTUCKY DERBY

Omaha Beach scratched

Respiratory ailment takes favorite out of running

BY CHILDS WALKER
The Baltimore Sun

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Omaha Beach, the morning-line favorite for the 145th Kentucky Derby, was scratched from the race Wednesday afternoon because of an upper respiratory problem, trainer Richard Mandella said.

Mandella said Omaha Beach is suffering from an entrapped epiglottis, a condition that can lead to labored breathing, coughing and exercise intolerance. The condition, in which cartilage covering the entrance to the larynx becomes trapped in a fold of tissue, is often correctable with surgery.

"We can't fix it this week, so we'll have to have a procedure done in a few days and probably be out of training for three weeks," Mandella said in a news release from Churchill Downs.

He said he had Omaha Beach scoped after the Derby favorite coughed several times following his morning workout. Jockey Mike Smith texted a sad emoji and hands clasped in prayer in confirming the news about Omaha Beach.

The scratch offered a stunning twist for a race that already appeared unpredictable at the top. Omaha Beach earned his status with a commanding victory in the April 13 Arkansas Derby. Rival trainer Bob Baffert described him as "definitely the horse to beat."

Two-time Derby winning trainer Todd Pletcher said Omaha Beach "built up lot of momentum over his last two starts and is justifiably the morning-line favorite."

Baffert, seeking to tie Ben Jones for the most trainer wins in Derby history at six, now has the top three remaining horses in the morning line for Saturday's race: Game Winner (4-to-1 odds), Roadster (9-2) and Improbable (5-1).

Omaha Beach had beaten Improbable in the Arkansas Derby and Game Winner, the 2018 2-year-old champion, in the March 16 Rebel Stakes.

Smith, who piloted Justify to the Triple Crown last year, chose to ride Omaha Beach over Roadster, the Santa Anita Derby champion. Baffert joked that jockeys are right 90% of the time when they make such decisions.

He had nothing but kind words Wednesday morning for Omaha Beach and Mandella, a Hall of Fame trainer who's never won a Triple Crown race.

"Richard, he doesn't need any tips from me," Baffert said. "He's very capable and when he gets a good horse, he knows what to do. I'm happy for him, because he's my neighbor (at Santa Anita Park) and he's so excited. He's been here before, but he's never had a horse like this."

The understated Mandella offered no hint of the news to come during an interview outside his barn Wednesday morning. "Good as ever," he said after watching his horse gallop 1 1/4 miles over the track at Churchill Downs.

Mandella has never emphasized reaching the Derby as much as many top trainers. "It's fun every once in a while to get through this," he said, alluding to the hubbub on the backside during Derby week. "It'll test you. I wouldn't want to do this every day."

He's expected to meet with reporters outside Omaha Beach's barn Thursday.

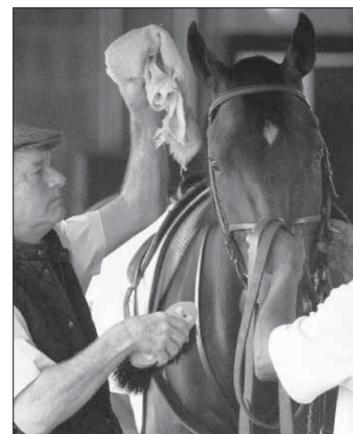
With the scratch, Bodexpress will draw into the field and break from post position No. 20. All horses outside of Omaha Beach (post positions 13 to 20) will move over one position in the starting gate.

Omaha Beach's owner, 78-year-old Rick Porter, told the Daily Racing Form that Omaha Beach first suffered inflammation in his throat last week. He said Mandella entered Omaha Beach in the Derby anyway in hopes that the condition would clear on its own.

"I can tell you it breaks my heart," he said.

childs.walker@baltsun.com
twitter.com/ChildsWalker145TH RUN FOR THE ROSES
Churchill Downs

5:50 p.m. Saturday, NBC-5



CHARLIE RIEDEL/AP

Trainer Richard Mandella was forced to scratch Kentucky Derby favorite Omaha Beach because of a respiratory problem.



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SCOREBOARD

ODDS

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL		
NATIONAL LEAGUE	THURSDAY	
at NY Mets	-161 Cincinnati	+151
at Atlanta	-120 San Diego	+110
at Milwaukee	-113 Colorado	+103
at Washington	-155 St. Louis	+145

AMERICAN LEAGUE		
THURSDAY		
Houston	-113 at Minnesota	+103
Tampa Bay	-158 at Kansas City	+148
Boston	-158 at Chi White Sox	+148
at LA Angels	-135 Toronto	+125

NBA PLAYOFFS		
pregame.com	THURSDAY	
Toronto	1½ at Philadelphia	

NHL PLAYOFFS		
THURSDAY		
at Boston	2 Milwaukee	
at Houston	4 Golden State	

2020 NFL DRAFT #1 OVERALL PICK		
Tia Tagovailoa (QB-Alabama)	1-7	
Jake Fromm (QB-Georgia)	7-1	
Justin Herbert (QB-Oregon)	7-1	
Chase Young (DE-Ohio State)	16-1	
Jerry Jeudy (WR-Alabama)	30-1	
Derrick Brown (DT-Auburn)	30-1	
Raekwon Davis (DL-Alabama)	40-1	
Andrew Thomas (OT-Georgia)	40-1	
Walker Little (OT-Stanford)	40-1	
Tee Higgins (WR-Clemson)	100-1	
Grant Delpit (S-LSU)	100-1	
A.J. Epenesa (DE-Iowa)	100-1	
Dylan Moses (LB-Alabama)	100-1	
C.J. Henderson (DB-Florida)	200-1	
Travis Etienne (RB-Clemson)	200-1	
Laviska Shenault (WR-Colorado)	200-1	
J.K. Dobbins (RB-Ohio State)	300-1	
Jonathan Taylor (RB-Wisconsin)	300-1	
Ceedee Lamb (WR-Oklahoma)	300-1	
Nick Cole (LB-Auburn)	300-1	

HORSE RACING

145TH KENTUCKY DERBY		
Field for Saturday's 12th race at Churchill Downs in Louisville, Ky., for 3-year-olds, with entry fee of \$25,000 each and a starting fee of \$25,000 each. 1¼ miles. PP HORSE SX ML PTS		

1. War of Will	C	12-1	60
2. Tax	G	20-1	52
3. By My Standards	C	15-1	100
4. Gray Magician	C	50-1	41
5. Improbable	C	5-1	65
6. Vekoma	C	15-1	110
7. Maximum Security	C	8-1	100
8. Tacitus	C	10-1	150
9. Plus Que Parfait	R	30-1	104
10. Cutting Humor	C	30-1	50
11. Haikal	C	30-1	70
12. Code of Honor	C	12-1	74
13. Win Win Win	C	12-1	50
14. Master Fencer	C	50-1	110
15. Game Winner	C	9-2	85
16. Roadster	C	5-1	100
17. Long Range Toddy	C	30-1	53.5
18. Spinoff	C	30-1	40
19. Country House	C	30-1	50
20. Bodepress	C	30-1	40

— Omaha Beach C — 137.5 (scratched)
 SX-sex; C-colt; G-gelding; R-riding; ML-morning line odds; PT-Derby pts

PP HORSE	JOCKEY
1. War of Will	Tyler Gaffalione
2. Tax	Junior Alvarado
3. By My Standards	Gabriel Saez
4. Gray Magician	Drayden Van Dyke
5. Improbable	Irad Ortiz Jr.
6. Vekoma	Javier Castellano
7. Maximum Security	Luis Saez
8. Tacitus	Jose Ortiz
9. Plus Que Parfait	Ricardo Santana Jr.
10. Cutting Humor	Corey Lanerie
11. Haikal	Raviv Maragh
12. Code of Honor	John Velazquez
13. Win Win Win	Julian Pimentel
14. Master Fencer	Julien Leparoux
15. Game Winner	Joel Rosario
16. Roadster	Florent Geroux
17. Long Range Toddy	Jon Court
18. Spinoff	Manny Franco
19. Country House	Flavien Prat
20. Bodepress	Chris Landeros
— Omaha Beach	Mike Smith

PP HORSE	TRAINER
1. War of Will	Mark Casse
2. Tax	Danny Gargan
3. By My Standards	Bret Calhoun
4. Gray Magician	Peter Miller
5. Improbable	Bob Baffert
6. Vekoma	George Weaver
7. Maximum Security	Jason Servis
8. Tacitus	William Mott
9. Plus Que Parfait	Brendan Walsh
10. Cutting Humor	Todd Pletcher
11. Haikal	Kieran McLaughlin
12. Code of Honor	Shug McGaughey
13. Win Win Win	Michael Trombetta
14. Master Fencer	Koichi Tsunoda
15. Game Winner	Bob Baffert
16. Roadster	Bob Baffert
17. Long Range Toddy	Steven Assmusen
18. Spinoff	Todd Pletcher
19. Country House	William Mott
20. Bodepress	Gustavo Delgado
— Omaha Beach	Richard Mandella

Owners (by post position): 1. Gary Barber. 2. R. A. Hill Stable, Reeves Thoroughbred Racing, Lynch, Hugh and Corms Racing Stable. 3. Allied Racing Stable, LLC. 4. Wachtel Stable, Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners and Gary Barber. 5. WinStar Farm LLC, China Horse Club International Ltd. and Starlight Racing. 6. R. A. Hill Stable and Gatsas Stables. 7. Gary and Mary West. 8. Juddmonte Farms, Inc. 9. Imperial Racing, LLC. 10. Starlight Racing. 11. Shadwell Stable. 12. W.S. Farish. 13. Live Oak Plantation. 14. Katsumi Yoshizawa. 15. Gary and Mary West. 16. Speedway Stable LLC. 17. Willis Horton Racing LLC. 18. Wertheimer and Frere. 19. Mrs. J. V. Shields, Jr., E. J. M. McFadden, Jr., and LNJ Foxwoods. 20. Top Racing, LLC, Global Thoroughbred and GDS Racing Stable. Scr. Fox Hill Farms, Inc.

EARNINGS	2019	CAREER
War of Will	\$370,000	\$501,569
Tax	\$277,500	\$326,300
By My Standards	\$630,310	\$653,710
Gray Magician	\$527,140	\$587,140
Improbable	\$350,000	\$619,520
Vekoma	\$637,600	\$789,850
Maximum Security	\$638,600	\$649,400
Tacitus	\$610,000	\$653,000
Plus Que Parfait	\$1,504,000	\$1,590,400
Cutting Humor	\$471,267	\$516,967
Haikal	\$322,500	\$373,900
Omaha Beach	\$1,094,000	\$1,121,800
Code of Honor	\$332,070	\$478,820
Win Win Win	\$296,000	\$367,000
Master Fencer	—	\$234,392
Game Winner	\$350,000	\$1,846,000
Roadster	\$634,200	\$706,200
Long Range Toddy	\$533,334	\$854,459
Spinoff	\$212,000	\$260,000
Country House	\$245,800	\$260,175
Bodepress	\$199,150	\$208,700

RECORDS	2019	CAREER
War of Will	3-2-0-0	8-3-1-1
Tax	2-1-0-0	5-2-2-1
By My Standards	3-2-0-1	5-2-2-1
Gray Magician	4-0-2-0	8-1-3-2
Improbable	2-0-2-0	5-3-2-0
Vekoma	2-1-0-1	4-3-0-1
Maximum Security	3-3-0-0	4-4-0-0
Tacitus	2-2-0-0	4-3-0-0
Plus Que Parfait	3-1-1-0	7-2-1-2
Cutting Humor	3-1-1-0	6-2-2-1
Haikal	3-2-0-1	5-3-1-1
Omaha Beach	4-3-1-0	7-3-1-1
Code of Honor	3-1-0-1	5-2-1-1
Win Win Win	3-1-1-1	6-3-2-1
Master Fencer	—	6-2-2-0
Game Winner	2-0-2-0	6-4-2-0
Roadster	2-2-0-0	4-3-0-1
Long Range Toddy	4-1-1-1	8-4-1-1
Spinoff	2-1-1-0	4-2-1-1
Country House	4-1-1-1	6-1-2-1
AE. Bodepress	3-0-2-0	5-0-3-0

REC-starts-1st-2nd-3rd
Weights: 126 pounds. **Surface:** Dirt. **Purse:** \$3,000,000.

First place: \$1,860,000.
Second place: \$600,000.
Third place: \$300,000.
Fourth place: \$150,000.
Fifth place: \$90,000.

Post time: 5:50 p.m. CDT

144th Preakness Stakes: May 18; 1½ mile race at Pimlico Race Course in Baltimore

151st Belmont Stakes: June 8; 1½ mile race at Belmont Park in Elmont, N.Y.

TENNIS

ATP MILLENIUM ESTORIL OPEN	
R2 at Clube de Tenis de Estoril; Estoril, Portugal; outdoors-clay	
#1 Stefanos Tsitsipas d.	Guido Andreozzi, 6-3, 6-4.
#3 Gael Monfils d. Reilly Opelka,	3-6, 6-3, 6-0.
Joao Domingues d. John Millman,	6-3, 2-1 retired.

ATP BMW OPEN	
R2 at MTTC Iphitos; Munich, Germany; outdoors-clay	
#1 Alexander Zverev d.	Juan Ignacio Londero, 7-5, 6-1.
#3 Marco Cecchinato d. Martin Klizan,	6-1, 6-3.
Cristian Garin d.	#6 Diego Schwartzman, 6-1, 7-5.
#8 Marton Fucsovics d.	Thiago Monteiro, 6-7 (1), 6-4, 6-3.

WTA GRAND PRIX SAR LA PRINCESSE LALLA MERYEM	
R2 at Royal Club de Tennis; Rabat, Morocco; outdoors-clay	
#1 Elise Mertens d. Ivana Jorovic,	6-4, 6-0.
#2 Hsieh Su-wei d. Lara Arruabarrena,	4-6, 7-5, 6-3.
#4 Ajla Tomljanovic d.	Timea Bacszinsky, 6-4, 1-6, 6-2.
#6 Maria Sakkari d. Isabella Shinikova,	6-4, 6-4.
#7 Johanna Konta d. Ana Bogdan,	6-1, 6-7 (6), 6-2.
Natalia Vikhlyantseva d.	Varvara Lepchenko, 6-4, 6-0.
Ysaline Bonaventure d.	Tamara Zidansek, 6-4, 2-6, 6-3.
Rebecca Peterson d. Polona Hercog,	7-5, 3-6, 6-1.

WTA J&T BANKA PRAGUE OPEN	
R2 at TK Sparta Praha; Prague, Czech Republic; outdoors-clay	
#3 Wang Qiang d. Mandy Minella,	6-1, 4-6, 6-4.
#6 Katerina Siniakova d. Jana Cepelova,	6-1, 6-3.
#9 Barbora Strycova d. Jessica Pegula,	7-5, 6-2.
Tamara Korpatzsch d. Anna Karolina	Schmiedlova, 4-6, 6-3, 6-0.
Bernarda Pera d. Antonia Lottner,	6-2, 6-4.
Karolina Muchova d. Jennifer Brady,	6-4, 3-6, 7-6 (2).
Jil Teichmann d. Svetlana Kuznetsova,	2-6, 6-3, 6-2.
Natalia Vikhlyantseva d.	Anastasia Potapova, 6-4, 2-6, 7-5.

WNBA

PRESEASON SCHEDULE	
THURSDAY, MAY 9	
Chinese National Team	at New York, 6 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 10	
Washington at Minnesota,	7 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 11	
Los Angeles at Phoenix,	9 p.m.

MONDAY, MAY 13	
Dallas at Atlanta,	4 p.m.
New York at Connecticut,	6 p.m.

TUESDAY, MAY 14	
Indiana at Chicago,	11 a.m.
New York at Atlanta,	4 p.m.
Dallas at Connecticut,	6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15	
Phoenix at Seattle,	9 p.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 16	
Chicago at Indiana,	11 a.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 17	
Washington at Atlanta,	6 p.m.
Seattle at Los Angeles,	9:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, MAY 19	
New York at Connecticut,	1:30 p.m.
Indiana at Dallas,	2 p.m.
Minnesota at Los Angeles,	2:30 p.m.

REGULAR SEASON	
FRIDAY, MAY 24	
Dallas at Atlanta,	6:30 p.m.
Indiana at New York,	6:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 25	
Phoenix at Seattle,	2:30 p.m.
Washington at Connecticut,	6:30 p.m.
Chicago at Minnesota,	7 p.m.

SUNDAY, MAY 26	
Los Angeles at Las Vegas,	7 p.m.

GOLF

PGA TOUR STATISTICS	
Scoring Average	

1, Justin Thomas, 69.512. 2, Dustin Johnson, 69.564. 3, Patrick Cantlay, 69.637. 4, Tiger Woods, 69.729. 5, Matt Kuchar, 69.754. 6, Rory McIlroy, 69.767. 7, Jim Furyk, 69.857. 8, Rickie Fowler, 69.871

Victories
 Xander Schauffele, 2. Matt Kuchar, 2. **Top 10 finishes**
 1, Jon Rahm, 8. 2, Rory McIlroy, 7.

Driving Distance
 1, Cameron Champ, 314.8. 2, Luke List, 313.2. 3, Rory McIlroy, 312.6. 4, Wyndham Clark, 311.8. 5, Bubba Watson, 311.1. 6, Ollie Schniederjans, 310.1.

Greens in Regulation
 1, Tiger Woods, 75.56%. 2, Matt Kuchar, 74.42%. 3, Charles Howell III, 74.25%. 4, Corey Conners, 73.48%. 5, Justin Thomas, 73.06%. 6, James Hahn, 72.71%.

SG: Putting
 1, Dominic Bozzelli, 1.135. 2, Pat Perez, 1.004. 3, Martin Pillier, .944. 4, Jason Day, .868. 5, Denny McCarthy, .837. 6, Dustin Johnson, .796. 7, Rickie Fowler, .779. 8, Graeme McDowell, .758. 9, Brian Ray, .745. 10, Patton Kizzire, .735.

LPGA TOUR STATISTICS	
Scoring	

1, Jin Young Ko, 69.000. 2, Brooke M. Henderson, 69.530. 3, Nelly Korda, 69.600. 4, Hyo Joo Kim, 69.667. 5, Minjee Lee, 69.680. 6, Eun-Hee Ji, 69.750. 7, Jeongeun Lee, 69.917. 8, Sung Hyun Park, 69.950. 9, Carlota Ciganda, 70.000. 10, Amy Yang, 70.036.

Driving Distance
 1, Anne van Dam, 289.1. 2, Angel Yin, 284.1. 3, Sung Hyun Park, 282.9. 4, Elizabeth Szokol, 281.8. 5, Joanna Klatten, 281.7. 6, Nanna Koerstz Madsen, 279.4.

Greens in Regulation
 1, Jin Young Ko, .799. 2, Nelly Korda, .783. 3, Jodi Ewart Shadoff, .776. 4, Yu Liu, .771. 5, Jeongeun Lee, .764. 6, In-Kyung Kim, .762.

PGA TOUR CHAMPIONS	
Scoring Average (Actual)	

1, Bernhard Langer, 68.33. 2, Bob Estes, 69.17. 3, Scott McCarron, 69.48. 4, Kevin Sutherland, 69.52. 5, David Toms, 69.56. 6, Steve Stricker, 69.58. 7, Marco Dawson, 69.67. 8, Miguel Angel Jimenez, 69.72. 9, Fred Couples, 69.73. 10, Kirk Triplett, 69.79.

Driving Distance
 1, John Daly, 295.4. 2, Brandt Jobe, 292.9. 3, Darren Clarke, 291.9. 4, Kenny Perry, 287.8. 5, Steve Stricker, 287.2. 6, Scott McCarron, 285.9.

Greens in Regulation
 1, Fred Couples, 74.44%. 2, Kenny Perry, 73.33%. 3, David Toms, 73.15%. 4, Tom Lehman, 72.84%. 5, Billy Mayfair, 72.53%.

Putting Average
 1, Mark O'Meara, 1.688. 2, Kirk Triplett, 1.704. 3 (tie), Bernhard Langer and Esteban Toledo, 1.716. 5, Stephen Ames, 1.717. 6, Bob Estes, 1.718. 7, Kevin Sutherland, 1.719.

WOMEN'S AMATEUR FOUR-BALL
At Timuquana CC, Jacksonville, Fla. 6:28 a.m. Par 72

Semifinal Match Play
 Megan Furtney, South Elgin, Ill., & Erica Shepherd Greenwood, Ind. d. Amari Avery, Riverside, Cal. & Alexa Pano Lake Worth, Fla. 4 and 3

Jillian Bourdage, Tamrac, Fla. & Casey Weidenfeld Pembroke Pines, Fla. d. Sadie Englemann, Austin, Texas & Rachel Heck Memphis, Tenn., 20 holes.

Championship
 Furtney, & Shepherd d. Bourdage, & Weidenfeld, 2 and 1.

BEARS



DAVID PURDY/GETTY

According to Iowa State running backs coach Nate Scheelhaase, David Montgomery is going to become an impact player in the NFL.

His future is bright

Iowa State RBs coach Scheelhaase says Bears will be happy with Montgomery

BY RICH CAMPBELL | Chicago Tribune

The first in a series of conversations with the college position coach of each Bears draft pick.

David Montgomery was two years into transforming Iowa State's football culture when Nate Scheelhaase arrived in 2018 as the Cyclones running backs coach.

As a member of coach Matt Campbell's staff, Scheelhaase, the former Illinois quarterback, saw daily examples of Montgomery's insatiable drive. The same combination of talent and character that impressed Scheelhaase attracted Bears general manager Ryan Pace, coach Matt Nagy and offensive coordinator Mark Helfrich during their pre-draft scouting. On Friday, the Bears traded up in the third round to select Montgomery, immediately making him a central figure in the Bears offense.

Scheelhaase recently spoke with the Tribune about Montgomery's football ability and renowned intangibles. Here's the full Q&A, edited for clarity and space.

What are the Bears getting in David Montgomery the football player?

I don't know that I've been around many other guys that have the ability to break tackles, stay on their feet (and) run with the ball as aggressively as he does. He can catch the ball out of the backfield; he's got really natural hands. Obviously, he can run between the tackles. He can run outside. But he always seems to make more guys miss than what you would expect.

There have been countless times when it seems people are going to tackle him in the backfield or have him down for no gain, and he always finds a way to get extra yards. He's a great running back to have because he always keeps you in front of the chains.

What physically allows him to be so elusive and break so many tackles?

That's a good question because there is a physical side and a mental side. As big as he is at 220 pounds or so, he's got a high level of quickness. He's got the quickness of a smaller, 195-pound back. ... I think that quickness and lower-body strength help him stay up and keep moving forward.

What about the mental side, his determination as a runner and the mindset he brings to carrying the ball?

That's the part that separates him and you can't necessarily measure. It's hard to compare it with other backs. Man, there is something in him — in his heart and mentally in his head — that he hates being tackled. ... It's almost offensive to him if you think that, as one person, you can bring him down. He runs like that and plays like that.

You can't measure it, and it doesn't always make sense. ... He's got something in him that he's always going to give you more than you bargained for. When you got to Iowa State last season, how did you come to learn all of that?

You could see it on the videotape, for sure, from his freshman and sophomore year. David and I had a background — I actually recruited him out of high school when I was at Illinois, so I knew him and I knew, honestly, his spirit was

different than most people that I've run across. That part helped.

Plays that you think are blocked for a 6-yard carry, it's probably going to end up being 8 or 10 yards, or he's going to break it for 20 one way or another. You wouldn't necessarily game-plan for it, but you would always know on Saturdays that would show up. How would you describe his vision, particularly behind the line of scrimmage?

David played quarterback in high school. They would snap the ball, and he would figure out ways to navigate and run. He has really good vision once the ball is in his hands.

He can feel where the extra defenders are. He can find a way to get one-on-one in the hole. ... He's got a really good grasp of what to do when the ball is in his hands. It's just a natural ability.

Speaking of his high school tape, his senior year tape is fun to watch. It's really, really long — like, 20 minutes. The reason I think David wasn't highly recruited is most high schoolers put their very best highlights as the first highlight — the first highlight is the best highlight of the year, then the second highlight is the second-best and so on.

David did his just in chronological order. So his first highlight is a good run, an 8-yard gain. But 14 minutes in, there are incredible runs. At the 12-minute mark, there's this nasty run. It's really interesting to watch.

What I always think is people were lazy when recruiting him and didn't watch the whole thing. They saw the first few highlights and were like, 'Ah, this guy is pretty good.' If you watch the whole tape, it would shock you that he wasn't recruited by the top-five programs in the country. Is there a specific type of he thrives behind?

He's a really good inside-zone runner. He has a good feel, especially in the shotgun, of just how the zone moves and how things feel, which is probably why Coach Nagy and Coach Helfrich and those guys were really interested.

There were a lot of teams

interested in David, but the teams that seemed to be the most interested all came from that same tree: It was the Chiefs, Bears, Eagles, Colts. Those coaches that came from that same tree, they have a bunch of gun runs that they run really well.

But again, our bread and butter was inside zone. He got a really good feel of how to do that well in college, and he'll be really good at the NFL level. As a pass catcher, how much route versatility did you guys train him on and work him through either in practice or in games?

We had a lot of halfback-option plays from the backfield where he would have the ability to get one-on-one with a linebacker in the box — whether it was a middle or a weak-side linebacker — and figure out the best way to get open. He had a really good feel on that.

I still think — and Coach Campbell would say this — he has more versatility even than what we showed. ... I think he'll surprise people with his ability to run routes and catch the ball out of the backfield. So you're saying on those option routes that he was reading the leverage of a linebacker and making a cut based on that?

That's exactly right. We were giving him the full field to make a decision somewhere past the line of scrimmage, 3 to 5 yards down the field. He would feel leverage, feel whether it was man or zone, whether he needed to sit down or break away from a linebacker that was matching him.

I can't imagine there's a back out there that was better catching the ball or better running routes. Now some of them may have done a little more, but him doing that at the next level, that's a chance for him to separate himself from other guys. What type of pass blocker is he?

Pass blocking for a running back is more about a mentality; he's got the right mentality. He didn't give up a sack for us all year. He's really smart in protections and knowing who he needs to pick up.

There were even a couple times last year when someone got beat, and he found a way to stand in there and take on a hit so the quarterback could deliver the football. He's got a sturdy build and can get up underneath guys. He did a really, really good job for us last year. To turn our attention off the field and the type of guy he is, how would you describe him as a person — his character — for someone who doesn't know him?

David has one of the best personalities that I've ever been around. I remember when I met him in high school. I called my wife right after and said, "That kid I just met, he's special. He's different."

He really, really loves his family and his teammates. There's a genuine love and care for those who are close to him. He cares a whole lot about loyalty. ... He loves to get close to people. He loves to get to know people on deeper levels.

The Chicago community will be better because David Montgomery lives there. ... The community, the locker room, all of that will be better because he's there. How do you see his generosity and care for others affect teammates? How did you see it within the program and the guys around him?

David's spirit changed Iowa State football these last three years in a variety of ways. One is work ethic. He fully cares about what he's doing. He's a very hard worker. He believes in people around him and wants to raise the standard of them being hard workers.

Three years ago after his freshman season, Coach Campbell still tells this story: Instead of going out on a Friday night and Saturday night, David started working out in the indoor facility. The other thing he did is started bringing guys with him.

A year later and even now to this day, if you go to our football facility on a Friday night or Saturday morning, it'll be loaded up with our guys working out. It changed with him and what he was about. That's one piece of it.

Another interesting part is David came in as a freshman (in 2016) and ended up taking over and being the starter over a guy who had been there and done a whole lot at running back (Mike Warren, Big 12 Offensive Freshman of the Year in 2015). A lot of times that would divide a team, but because of his personality and spirit, there was a level of humility with accepting what that role would look like. There was a level of selfishness he provided.

That's the reason our locker room is different. That's what he showed in moments where a lot of kids would have been arrogant or cocky or felt like they had arrived. He didn't do any of that.

What was it like watching video with him?

Long. He would want to watch a lot of film. My wife joked about it the other day. We were watching some special on David, and they were talking about how much he cared and how much he invested. She was, like, "Ah, yeah, that's true."

It's fun to coach him because he likes it as much as you do as a coach. He likes to learn and grow and be a better football player. Obviously, you have to have that at the NFL level, and he will.

There's not many that are willing to invest that much, but he sure is.

rcampbell@chicagotribune.com
Twitter @Rich_Campbell

BEARS NOTES

Bears pick up 5th-year option on Floyd

BY BRAD BIGGS
Chicago Tribune

As expected, the Bears announced Wednesday they have picked up the fifth-year option in outside linebacker Leonard Floyd's contract.

General manager Ryan Pace said at the Bears' end-of-season news conference Jan. 14 that this would happen. The deadline was Friday.

"He played well, and we're happy where he's at," Pace said in January.

Floyd is entering his fourth year and played in 16 games last season for the first time. The option, which is guaranteed for injury only, will pay Floyd \$13.2 million in 2020. He is set to earn \$2.6 million this season as part of the four-year, \$15.78 million deal (not including the club option for 2020) that he signed as the No. 9 pick in 2016.

Floyd, 26, has 15 1/2 sacks, 23 tackles for a loss and 32 quarterback hits with one interception for a touchdown in his career. He had a career-high seven sacks as a rookie and four last season.

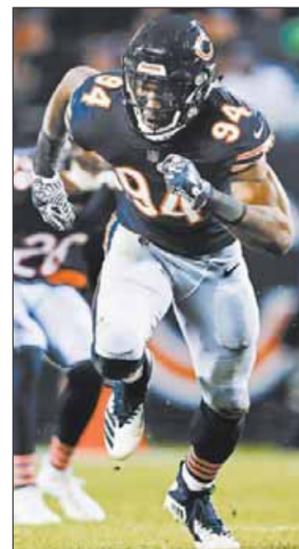
The Bears believe the arrow still is pointing up for Floyd, and this secures him for an additional season.

Childress returns: The Bears also announced Brad Childress will rejoin the team as a senior offensive assistant. The Aurora native and 20-year NFL coaching veteran previously served as a senior offensive consultant during the 2018 offseason and training camp as coach Matt Nagy installed his offense.

Childress originally was supposed to coach the Atlanta team in the Alliance of American Football this spring, but he stepped down before the season started. The league suspended operations after eight games.

Chicago Tribune's Colleen Kane contributed.

bmbiggs@chicagotribune.com
Twitter @BradBiggs



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Leonard Floyd has 15 1/2 sacks in his first three seasons with the Bears, including four last season.

ASK THE REPORTER BRAD BIGGS

What are the chances Ha Ha Clinton-Dix stays after this year? @brendancole205

There's no way of telling what Clinton-Dix's future is when you consider he's on a one-year contract and we've yet to see him with a helmet on. We do know he was angling for a big payday in free agency when his rookie contract expired, and that didn't happen, so he secured what is essentially a prove-it contract with the Bears. The Bears will have to pay Eddie Jackson big money after this season, so if Clinton-Dix plays really well, I would guess he would likely head elsewhere. Few teams will pay big money to two safeties. **What chance do you give Javon Wims to be on the roster or make an impact this year? I liked him coming out of school, and he showed promise with the brief chance he was given.**

@ac9000
Wims really didn't get any action until the finale at Minnesota. He showed well in the preseason, and the Bears felt he made gains on the practice field. The Bears used their fourth-round draft pick on his former Georgia teammate Riley Ridley, and that's good because you're not going to just hand a role in the offense to a seventh-round pick entering Year 2.

eNEWSPAPER BONUS COVERAGE



SETH WENIG/AP

Fans monitor the screens at Monmouth Park Racetrack in Oceanport, N.J. With sports betting now competing for bettor dollars, horse racing may have to adjust how it does business.

Fixed odds may be ticket to preserving horse racing

BY STEPHEN WHYNO
Associated Press

When Animal Kingdom romped to victory in the 2011 Kentucky Derby, he did so at odds of 21-1.

Anyone who bet on the horse when the initial morning line was set did so when Animal Kingdom was 30-1. Except they didn't get those odds.

That's just horse racing, and some say that needs to change because the industry — which is funded by gambling — is losing its betting monopoly.

The sport has a long tradition of parimutuel wagering where the odds fluctuate and nothing is set until the horses leave the starting gate. But with the legalization of sports gambling in the United States and its gradually expanding implementation around the country, adding fixed-odds wagering could be a way for horse racing to adapt and compete in the changing landscape.

"When we had a monopoly, we certainly benefited from that, but it made us very lazy and it's time to get moving," said Craig Bernick of the Thoroughbred Idea Foundation that recently raised the possibility of adding fixed-odds betting in horse racing. "If we don't adjust, I personally think sports betting has a very good chance to destroy most of the horse racing gambling because the price, the familiarity that everyday people have with those sports that they grew up with, the free access to data and the type of bets allowed all favor sports betting over horse racing. We really need to innovate."

This isn't the first time horse racing has needed to fend off challenges to its longstanding betting monopoly. There was the addition of lotteries across the United States, then came the proliferation of casino gambling that in some states partially funded horse racing and gave a boost to a fading business model.

The impact of legalized sports betting seems to be heading in the opposite direction.

Even though places like New Jersey's Monmouth Park have championed the cause and embraced it, it's not expected to be a financial windfall for horse racing.

The spread of legalized sports gambling since the Supreme Court's May 2018 ruling is yet another threat to horse racing's very existence. Unlike professional and amateur sports that can have bets placed on them but don't directly benefit financially from those wagers, the horse racing industry counts on betting as the lifeblood that keeps everything up



WAYNE PARRY/AP

Sports bettors line up at Monmouth Park. Fixed-odds wagering is one advantage sports betting offers over parimutuel odds in horse racing.

and running.

"Our sport is funded by gambling, so our participants have to share in any wagering that takes place," said Alex Waldrop, president and CEO of the National Thoroughbred Racing Association. "There may be some reluctance because the pricing model is very different for sports betting and horse racing. Sports betting does not generate pay for the product that it takes bets on. That product has other forms of revenue."

In sports betting, any bet placed is locked in at the odds at the time. Anyone who wants to bet the New York Knicks will win the 2020 NBA title right now could get some pretty good odds.

Such an advantage doesn't exist in horse racing, where lines move based on the money bet, which can make a perceived long shot a favorite and eliminate the benefit of being on the ground floor of a possible upset.

"It's very frustrating for the handicapper to bet on a horse and

the horse goes to the gate at a certain odds, and then when they open the starting gate 30 seconds later the odds have dropped a point, a point and a half," said trainer Tom Amoss, who graduated from LSU with a marketing degree. "In horse racing the way it works now is the odds are determined by how much is in the pools at the time the race goes off. So what you bet five minutes before the race goes off may not be the same odds as what you're actually going to get when the race runs."

That's the tradition of horse racing and the risk avid fans and bettors understand they're accepting when they go to the teller window or punch in their bet on their smartphones and computers. But it's very different from the fixed-odds wagering that's the standard in sports betting where a 50-1 bet on an unlikely outcome is worth the same when it's placed and if the outcome occurs.

"The reason to do fixed odds is just so you can be competitive with other sports where you've

got bettors coming in and they've quite a menu of opportunities to bet," said Alan Foreman, chairman and CEO of the Thoroughbred Horseman's Association. "We can't be on the outside looking in. You have to be a part of it. You have to be a part of the choices for someone who wants to bet."

Horse racing has fended off efforts to make its product available at sportsbooks as a way to protect itself. Bernick believes that is "shortsighted" and said the industry — from officials down to owners and trainers — have to understand how much of a threat legal sports betting in the United States is and that changes are needed.

One of the proposed changes is to make at least basic race stats — known as past performances — free and available to the public because that has traditionally been a pay-for service.

"If you're an 18-year-old kid and gambling's legal in your state, you can see who's playing in European soccer today and have ton of

information about that sport," Bernick said. "If you want to know who's racing at Belmont Park this afternoon or Keeneland, you have to pay. We aren't going to transfer young people that want to gamble to horse racing now that all the other sports are legal."

Australia has added fixed-odds wagering in horse racing successfully and given the U.S. the start of a blueprint on how to do it. But because the sport runs off the dollars wagered, there is still considerable debate about how to put together a price structure that keeps the industry profitable.

"That's a work in progress," Waldrop said. "There's no question people do chafe sometimes at the way that odds move in horse racing, especially the late odds changes, so there's a market out there. It's up to someone to devise the proper way to access it and that might happen soon, it may not, but we certainly encourage operators to be creative and find ways to make it work because I know the horseplayers want it."

eNEWSPAPER BONUS COVERAGE



ETHAN HYMAN/RALEIGH NEWS & OBSERVER

Television analyst Jay Bilas, who says high school players jumping straight to the NBA might not affect college basketball as much as people think, takes a selfie with Blue Devils fans.

Q&A WITH JAY BILAS

Ending 1-and-dones will create 'slow drip of chaos'

BY RICK BONNELL
The Charlotte Observer

"A slow drip of chaos."

That's what ESPN basketball analyst Jay Bilas expects once the NBA returns to a system where U.S. high school players can enter the draft. That change seems inevitable, and could happen as soon as the 2021 draft, if the league and the players association work out details.

Bilas has a rare vantage point to all this, as a longtime college basketball analyst and also part of ESPN's annual NBA draft coverage.

Bilas favors the NBA returning to the rules as they were before 2005, when future stars such as Kobe Bryant and Kevin Garnett turned pro out of high school, because he endorses options. But Bilas knows there will be "casualties" — players turning pro too soon, based on bad information — and he thinks so-called "one-and-done" college players have become a convenient scapegoat for the NCAA's problems.

"The casualties will be real, but the policymakers aren't really going to care because their money is going to be protected," Bilas said, referring to pressure on college basketball and football to additionally compensate players.

"Football coaches making \$10 million a year, and we're still calling this amateur?"

"There is something in this that smacks of the NCAA being able to blame all its problems on one-and-dones; that once we get these 30 one-and-dones out of the game, we don't have to worry about all of these money issues and the (corruption cases) in the federal courts. I think that's a red herring. A lie, really."

The timing of this change will be key because NBA front offices and college coaches will need warning to adjust how they fill their rosters. But the momentum is there: NBA commissioner Adam Silver endorsed the change last summer, and the NCAA has done so as well.

Bilas discussed the ramifications on the NBA, college basketball and the players who will be in position to make these choices with the Observer.

How different will this be for NBA front offices in draft preparation?

"Quite a bit because they are going to change their rules again, and they're going to have to do it in advance so everybody is prepared for 2021 or '22," Bilas said. "Where is the NBA going to be allowed? Can they go to high school gyms (for games)? Are they allowed in daily practices? Can they only go to certain (age group) events?"



RICH BARNES/GETTY

Jay Bilas says it's laughable to say the game would be better off without one-and-done players. "Are we going to deny that Zion Williamson was good for college basketball?"

"At all these summer events, pro scouts will be there. You'll have an NBA scout at a high school game watching (the next) Zion Williamson, and the 10th-best player (in that game) is gonna think 'They're here watching me.'"

Bilas said high school seniors being draft-eligible again will put more emphasis on developing young prospects, but the NBA is already better equipped to do that via G-League affiliates. Each of the

30 NBA franchises now has direct control of a G-League team.

The development of young Hornets Dwayne Bacon and Devonte Graham with the Greensboro Swarm last season demonstrates how much better coordinated the system now is.

How different will this be for college basketball?

Different, but not as different as some

might predict. Bilas doesn't see every player good enough to be drafted skipping college, because there is still an argument for college over a season spent mostly in the G-League.

"Until the money and exposure (for developmental players) are ramped up, college is still going to be a very viable opportunity. For a lot of players, you're probably better off going to college for a year," Bilas said.

"In college, you're flying around on private planes, eating really well, being developed. (Top college programs) are pouring resources into it. Would you rather go to the G-League to pocket a couple of bucks and you're living in Sioux Falls? Why not play in college for a year?"

Bilas said college coaches will have more complicated decisions whether to recruit a player good enough to consider the NBA out of high school. But ultimately, Bilas said, this won't change who is elite among college basketball programs.

"The best available kids will still go to the same schools — the No. 1 prospect will still be choosing between Duke, Kentucky and North Carolina," Bilas said.

Bilas finds it laughable that some argue college basketball is better off without the so-called "one-and-dones."

"It's undeniable that (Duke freshman) Zion Williamson made all our (television) ratings shoot through the roof," Bilas said. "So are we going to deny that Zion Williamson was good for college basketball? Or players like him?"

Also, Bilas notes that making high school seniors draft-eligible won't end "one-and-dones." Rather, it means different players will turn pro following their freshman seasons in college.

How different will it be for players?

To Bilas, this change will amplify a trend already in progress: kids speeding up their high school graduations in order to reclassify when they are college-eligible.

If you're identified as an elite prospect as a high school freshman or sophomore, then why not spend what would be your last season of high school eligibility playing at a top college program?

"The calculus is, 'Why should I stay in high school and play against a bunch of guys not anywhere good as me? What am I getting out of that when I can go to college and get better facilities, better training, better food and really work on things so I'm far better prepared to go to the NBA in another year,'" Bilas said.

"We're seeing way more of that, and we're going to see yet more of it."

Smollett's absence barely noticeable

'Empire' production team decided to use a series of flashbacks

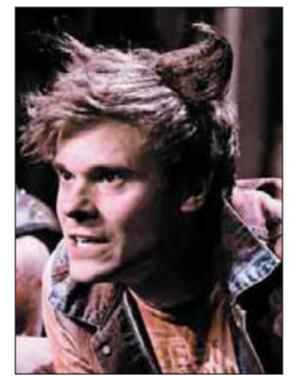
By **TRACY SWARTZ**
 Chicago Tribune

Blink and you might have missed Jussie Smollett on Wednesday's episode of "Empire." Smollett — whose role was supposed to be cut from the final two episodes of the season as the drama surrounding his alleged Chicago attack plays out in real time — could be seen in a series of flashbacks that aired in the first six minutes of the season's penultimate episode.

Otherwise, there was little mention of Smollett's character, musician Jamal Lyon, who was said to be spending his honeymoon in the Seychelles after marrying his husband in a lavish ceremony on last week's episode.

Wednesday's episode mostly focused on the aftermath of patriarch Lucious Lyon's car crash and oldest son Andre's battle with a life-threatening illness. Scenes were filmed after Smollett, who is African-American and openly gay, was accused of staging a racist and homophobic

Turn to 'Empire', Page 2



GREGG GILMAN PHOTO

Curtis Edward Jackson performs in "First Love is the Revolution" at Steep Theatre.

IN PERFORMANCE
 'First Love is the Revolution' ★★ 1/2

Boy meets fox in 'First Love is the Revolution'

Play at Steep Theatre is a gutsy, provocative and smart production

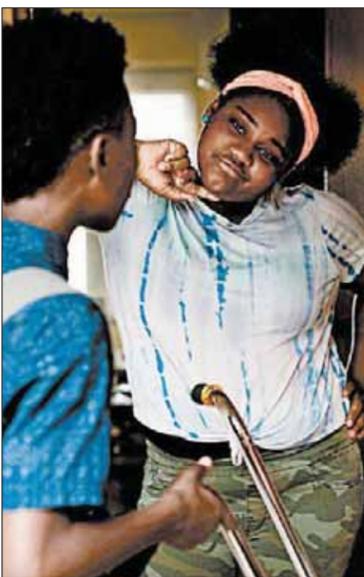
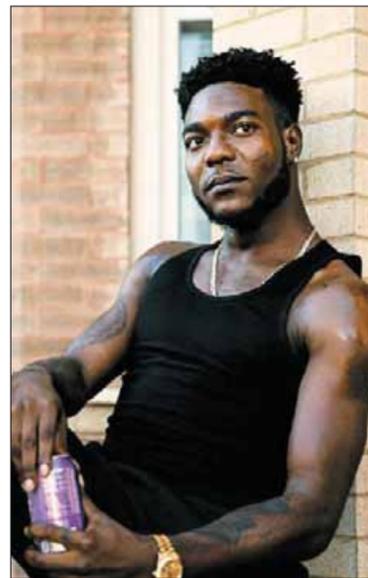
By **CHRIS JONES**
 Chicago Tribune

Heard of "Venus in Fur"? That's nothing compared to "First Love is the Revolution," a play about a torrid and intensely emotional love affair between a 14-year-old boy and a young vixen.

In the literal sense of that word: Rdeca, the heroine of this play from London by the Australian scribe Rita Kalnejais, is a fox.

Minor characters include hens and an oversexed dog.

Turn to Love, Page 2



PARRISH LEWIS/SHOWTIME PHOTOS; MATT DINERSTEIN/SHOWTIME (MIDDLE)

Clockwise from top left: Rolando Boyce as Darnell. Barton Fitzpatrick as Reg. La Donna Tittle, left, as the granny with the shotgun, keeping Det. Cruz (Armando Riesco) in line. Yolonda Ross as Jada. Genesis Denise Hale as Maisha.

Five can't-miss characters on 'The Chi'

Performers bring real-life perspective to roles on Showtime drama

Earlier this week the Chicago-set Showtime drama "The Chi" was picked up for a third season.

Created by South Side native Lena Waithe, the show is midway through its second season, with a focus on the four stages of black manhood and its primary storylines anchored by middle schooler Kevin, teenage Emmett, young adult Brandon and middle age Ronnie.

Each is surrounded by supporting characters who are just as integral to filling out and deepening the show's world.

With that in mind, here's a look at some of those actors whose performances stand out.



NINA METZ
 Chicago Close-up

Yolonda Ross (Jada)

Ross, who plays single mother to Emmett, is one of the few characters on the show who mostly has her stuff together — but whether she's at work or at home, she's a caregiver to someone.

"That's real life, we all know women like this," said Ross. "Too many single black mothers just work to take care of their kids, their grandkids — and they're alone. I feel like we all know these situations." This season, her character finally makes a change on one of those fronts: "It's that sink or swim mode," Ross said of Jada's decision to

Turn to Metz, Page 3

A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM

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CHRIS PIZZELLO/INVISION

Jim Parsons, from left, Simon Helberg, Kaley Cuoco and Johnny Galecki, were among the cast members who wrapped the final episode of "The Big Bang Theory" on Tuesday. The finale airs May 16.

Hugs, tears mark 'Big Bang' finale

BURBANK, Calif. — Hugs and tears punctuated the final taping of "The Big Bang Theory," a lovefest for its stars, crew and audience alike.

There were plenty of punchlines as well, as the true-to-form hit comedy about scientists and those who love them wrapped the two-part, hourlong finale that will air in mid-May on CBS.

"This show has touched so many hearts," an emotional Kaley Cuoco told the fans who filled a Warner Bros. soundstage Tuesday. She shared a comment made by series creator Chuck Lorre at a reading of the final script: "'The Big Bang Theory' will live on in our hearts forever."

Johnny Galecki, who plays husband Leonard Hofstadter to Cuoco's Penny, thanked the audience and called the top-rated comedy's 12-season run "a dream come true for all of us."

Jim Parsons, who stars as awkward genius Sheldon Cooper, looked relaxed and even broke into a few dance moves between shots. Parsons is keeping ties to his character, as an executive producer of "Young Sheldon," the CBS spinoff about the future physicist's childhood in Texas.

The cast, including Simon Helberg, Kunal Nayyar and Melissa Rauch, lingered after taking their final bows.

The "Big Bang Theory" episode taped Tuesday will air as the last half of a two-part finale on May 16. Also airing that night is "Unraveling the Mystery: A Big Bang Farewell," with Galecki and Cuoco hosting a behind-the-scenes look back at the show.

— Associated Press



MATT WINKELMEYER/GETTY

Defining no more: Kristen Stewart says she felt a "huge responsibility" to define her sexuality after finding fame in the "Twilight" movie franchise. But she's glad today's young stars don't have to do so. The actress said she was "so gay" on "Saturday Night Live" two years ago. But she sees a shift in culture that's allowed young people to accept fluidity in gender and sexuality. "The fact that you don't have to (choose) now is like so much more truthful," she said.

Diversity report: The Asian Pacific American Media Coalition released its report card for the big four networks Wednesday, and ABC was tops, with an overall B grade with the highest number of Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders portraying series regulars. The advocacy group's assessment, which included reality TV, was based on the 2017-18 season.

Asylum: Swedish broadcaster SVT says two activists linked to the Russian group Pussy Riot — Lusine Dzhanyan and Alexei Knedyakovskiy — have successfully appealed their rejected asylum application and received shelter in Sweden. SVT said the two sought asylum a year earlier, claiming they had gotten death threats and experienced "politically motivated" harassment because of the group's protests.

May 2 birthdays: Country singer Larry Gatlin is 71. Actress Christine Baranski is 67. Actor Brian Tochi is 60. Country singer Ty Herndon is 57. TV commentator Mika Brzezinski is 52. Actor-wrestler Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson is 47. Actress Ellie Kemper is 39. Singer Lily Allen is 34. Actress Kay Panabaker is 29.



ASK AMY

By AMY DICKINSON

askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter @askingamy

Parent ponders assault allegation

Dear Amy: A co-worker just told me that his college daughter was raped by my neighbor, who is also a college student. Another student at the school told his daughter that this boy had raped her, too. Neither girl pressed charges because they had no proof.

My co-worker wanted me to know because we have a relationship (not close) with the boy's family, and I have a teenage daughter. Now I am wondering about another neighbor who also has a teenage daughter and a closer relationship with the family. I want them to be aware that this boy is not safe. At the same time, I feel uneasy about spreading the news. It seems unlikely either teen would be alone with this boy, yet if anything were to happen and I had not said anything, I would feel terrible.

Is there a way to protect my neighbor's daughter without potentially launching the gossip mill?
— Perplexed

Dear Perplexed: Based on what you report, it seems that the gossip mill is already churning. These accusations are extremely serious and completely untested. I realize you aren't a parent of one of the accusers, but both young women who are accusing this young man should go to the police department in the town where the college is located. Even if they don't think they have specific proof, they should be interviewed by police and give their account of what happened, including any identifiable characteristics. Doing this might establish a pattern. (They should also be screened for STDs.)

They should go to the dean of students at their school to report this assault.

If you want your daughter to stay away from this neighbor, you should tell her, "I think he is bad news, and I want you to be aware of that." But you should not pass along specific unproven allegations. You should also assume that the gossip mill has spread and that your daughter may know more about this than you do.

You could encourage the parent who warned you to also warn the other neighbor, but no, I don't think you should.

Dear Amy: I am 65. I hope this letter can help some younger couples. I frequently wore women's clothing 40 years ago, before I was married. About five years after we were married, I told my wife about those experiences and asked if we could incorporate cross-dressing into our life together. She freaked out and told me that it would never be possible.

She wondered about my sexual identity and even wondered what other things I had hidden from her. This had a negative effect on our trust level. She still brings up that conversation when we are having normal marital problems. We do get along fine and we both think we have a good relationship.

The problem is that the compulsion to dress as a woman has never gone away. I look at women and wish I could be wearing their wonderful outfits, especially their underwear.

My advice for young cross-dressers is to discuss this issue before you are

married. Don't be afraid to tell her exactly who you are. Women who find out before marriage about a cross-dressing partner should not be afraid, either. Talk about it and then experiment to see what you think. Be open.

It is too late to fulfill my desire to live that part of my true self. I just want to help others.

— Too Old to Begin

Dear Too Old: I hope it is not "too late" for anything! The world has changed in 40 years, and I believe that people are generally more understanding about gender-fluid behavior.

You should not need your wife's permission to essentially express your "real self." She may not want to incorporate your cross-dressing into her life, but she should be tolerant regarding your expression. You are not acting out sexually. You are not being unfaithful. You are simply trying to be yourself.

Dear Amy: "Slighted on Social Media" really needs to figure out how social media works! He was fixated on ONE person who wouldn't follow him. Slighted really needs to broaden his reach, and embrace connecting with many people, versus one.

— Experienced

Dear Experienced: Social media offers powerful opportunities to connect. We already know our friends. Social media can help us meet new friends.

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GREGG GILMAN PHOTO

Isa Arciniegas and Jordan Arredondo in "First Love is the Revolution" at Steep Theatre.

Love

Continued from Page 1

And no, this is neither a comedy nor a parody. It's a very thoughtful and distinctive piece of writing interested in a whole lot of salient themes — the struggles and anguish of the teenage years, the pain of loneliness and the strange complexities and hypocrisies that underpin our relationships with animals. Oftentimes, they're the object of intense love and yet sexual attraction remains one of the strongest human taboos. In a given moment, we might prefer the company of our favorite animal to that of our own kind. But with another species, or at another moment, we might drive past a piece of roadkill without so much as a second look.

If all of this sounds ridiculous to you, "First Love is the Revolution," now at Steep Theatre under the direction of Devon de Mayo, is most definitely not your show. But I think this is a very gutsy, provocative and smart play. Steep is set up for this production with the audience on two sides: I stared at a lot of questioning faces for the first few minutes, but then I saw most people come around. As played by Isa Arciniegas and Jordan Arredondo, the young lovers here are quite empathetic figures.

When: Through May 25

Where: Steep Theatre, 1115 W. Berwyn Ave.

Running time: 1 hour, 35 minutes

Tickets: \$27-\$38 at 773-649-3186 or www.steeptheatre.com

And here's another thing about this play that has stuck with me: it involves the hens, who approach their death with a kind of fatality mingling with desire. It's a strange scene but one that gets at a lot of, well, I suppose you might call it the detritus of natural selection.

De Mayo's cast throws itself into all of this stuff with zeal. At times, this very busy production feels overly cacophonous, too scattered, all as if the production didn't quite trust its own script or heart and felt like it needed a stylistic, frenetic, punk-rock kind of veneer to operate effectively. I don't think that's the right tack — truth is truth, and an audience can believe in all kinds of love affairs, if they are put before them with some honesty. The most effective performance here is from Lucy Carapetyan. She plays a fox, too, but she is mostly showing us a mother.

Chris Jones is a Tribune critic.

cjones5@chicagotribune.com

Chicago-area native Aimee Garcia wowed by the 'El Chicano' script

By TRACY SWARTZ
Chicago Tribune

Chicago-area native Aimee Garcia is poised to add some groundbreaking achievements to her resume in May. The Fenwick High School alumna will be the Oak Park school's first Latina graduate to deliver the commencement speech. The 40-year-old actress also stars in "El Chicano," which is due out in some theaters Friday and is being billed as the first Latino superhero movie with an all-Hispanic cast.

In the movie, Raul Castillo plays twins Diego and Pedro Hernandez, who embark on very different career paths. Pedro turns to a life of crime, while Diego becomes a Los Angeles police detective. When Pedro is murdered, Diego resurrects the masked street legend of their youth, El Chicano, to avenge his brother's death.

Garcia plays Diego's fiancée, Vanessa, who has returned to East Los Angeles to teach and give back to her neighborhood. Garcia considers Vanessa the



BRIARCLIFF ENTERTAINMENT

Chicago-area native Aimee Garcia stars in "El Chicano," which is due out in some theaters Friday.

"moral compass" and "voice of reason" in the film. Garcia said she was wowed by the script, which she called historic.

"I think since 'Selena' there hasn't been a major studio film release with a predominantly all-Latino cast," Garcia said by phone. "We need a Latino superhero, a Latino Batman, a Latino Punisher, and I feel like representation is really important. 25% of ticket sales are Latinos and only 3% of characters on screen are Latinos. And when it comes to genre films and action films, the disproportionality is even greater."

Indeed, a study last year by the USC Annenberg Inclusion Initiative found that 2 to 7% of the characters in some 1,100 movies released between 2007 and 2017 were Latinx. Underrepresented characters were more likely to appear in animated or comedy films than in action/adventure movies in 2017, the researchers determined.

"El Chicano," which also stars comedian George Lopez in a dramatic role, is an indie-financed film that was mostly shot in Canada, with some exterior scenes filmed in L.A. Briarcliff Entertainment — helmed by Tom Ortenberg, who shepherded "Spotlight" to the best picture Oscar — acquired the U.S. distribution rights to "El Chicano" after it premiered in September at the L.A. Film Festival. It's expected to hit 600 screens on Friday, including several in the Chicago area.

Garcia said she hopes "El Chicano" takes off like other action films with diverse casts such as "The Fast and the Furious,"

"Alita: Battle Angel" and "Black Panther." "I hope that 'El Chicano' is poised for a franchise success, and we can keep telling the story of this Latino family from East L.A.," she said.

Garcia, who grew up on the Northwest Side and in River Forest, has other projects in the works. She voices a character in "The Addams Family" animated comedy, which is due out in October.

She plays the assistant to the supervillain voiced by "The West Wing" alum Allison Janney. Meanwhile, the fourth season of her police drama "Lucifer" — Garcia plays a forensic scientist — is slated to drop on Netflix May 8.

In just weeks, the actress will return to the Chicago area, where she lived until graduating from Northwestern University nearly two decades ago. She's slated to throw out the first pitch at the Cubs game on May 25. It will be her fourth time opening a game at Wrigley Field.

tswartz@tribpub.com
Twitter @tracyswartz

'Empire'

Continued from Page 1

bic attack against himself in the Streeterville neighborhood on Jan. 29.

The 36-year-old actor vehemently denied faking the attack, and the Cook County state's attorney's office dropped all 16 felony charges against Smollett in March with little explanation.

But by that time, representatives for the Fox network — which produces and airs "Empire" — had already announced that Smollett's role would be cut from the final two episodes of Season 5 to "avoid further disruption on set." The Season 5 finale

is scheduled to air next week.

Fox reps announced Tuesday that "Empire" was renewed for a sixth season, and they left the door open for Smollett's return — perhaps waiting to see how the saga will continue to unfold. Though the criminal charges against him were dismissed, Smollett faces a civil lawsuit from the city of Chicago for the cost of the police overtime hours spent investigating his allegations.

"By mutual agreement, the studio has negotiated an extension to Jussie Smollett's option for Season 6, but at this time there are no plans for the character of Jamal to return to 'Empire,'" Fox reps said in a statement Tuesday.



CHUCK HODES/FOX

Terrence Howard, from left, Taraji P. Henson and Jussie Smollett star on the April 24 episode of "Empire."

"Empire," which premiered in 2015, is based at Cinespace Chicago Film Studios on the West Side and films around Chicago. Filming of Season 6 is expected to begin in July.

The show was once an enormous hit for Fox, but ratings have continued to decline in recent weeks.

tswartz@tribpub.com
Twitter @tracyswartz

'Sleeping Beauty' a spell-binding project

Local school to put on full-length ballet with young dancers



LAUREN WARNECKE
Dance Card

In the summer of 2016, Alexei Kremnev and Anna Reznik formed A&A Ballet. The husband and wife team, originally from Russia, had just lost their positions as directors at the Joffrey Academy and Studio Company. According to Kremnev, the Joffrey Ballet opted to restructure the student division and pre-professional programs, eliminating both their positions in the process. A few months later, the couple launched a summer intensive to generate income, promoting their workshops on Facebook. And over three years, A&A has developed into a thriving studio with an elite pre-professional conservatory and a youth performance company.

The school, which now boasts 140 students ages 3-24, is at capacity in its current rehearsal home at the American Rhythm Center. In January 2020, they'll move into a new space in Printers Row, renting approximately 4,600 square feet, retrofitted to include two large dance studios, dressing rooms and common areas, with potential space to expand in the future.

In 2017, the youth company premiered a glamorous full-length "Nutcracker" and, in April, added Kremnev's 2007 adaptation of "Cinderella" to its inventory of story ballets. And the company has been invited to perform "Cinderella" at the Festival International Bravissimo in Guatemala on May 28-31 for its first international engagement.

A&A is operating at an impressive pace. The tour comes on the heels of a brand-new production of "Sleeping Beauty" in Chicago, the latest in Kremnev's fast-growing catalog of evening-length ballets. "Sleeping Beauty" will have two performances May 4 at the Studebaker Theatre.

Grace Curry, 15, is dancing the starring role as Princess Aurora for the matinee performance. Curry started dancing at age 4 in her home town of Orland Park, and now



ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

Members of Chicago's A&A Ballet Company rehearse for "Sleeping Beauty," which will have two performances Saturday at the Studebaker Theatre.

commutes with her dad by train to Chicago to train with A&A. Her days consist of daily classes and rehearsals plus online school, a common occurrence among teens in the conservatory.

Curry is an American Ballet Theater national scholarship recipient, participating in the company's summer intensive and receiving tuition assistance for the A&A conservatory. In an interview, she said it doesn't bother her to miss out on the "normal" high school experiences, knowing that one day, her hard work will pay off. "[Kremnev and Reznik have] really helped me grow from a technical and artistic standpoint, and helped me to become a more mature dancer," she said. "With ballet, day after day we're working toward perfection. We know we can never really attain that, but I think that's one of my favorite parts about ballet. You just keep working."

The evening cast features Trinity Santoro as Aurora, another student at A&A. Santoro was recently appointed as a 2019 Youth America Grand Prix honoree; A&A Ballet received awards for outstanding school and best ensemble.

Both young women will be partnered by BalletMet dancer Michael Sayre as Prince Desire. Sayre, 24, trained with Kremnev and Reznik at Southold Dance Theater in his hometown of South Bend, Ind., and continued with them as a Joffrey trainee. Sayre joined BalletMet in 2013, the same year Edwaard Liang assumed director-

ship. Liang's approach has shifted the of the Columbus-based company's aesthetic toward more contemporary works. Sayre said that while he enjoys the challenge of BalletMet's modern repertoire, he jumps at opportunities to guest with A&A and tackle principal roles in classical ballets. "The great thing about getting to do roles with a name and a character is embodying a personality and bringing that to life — that's what I really love," he said in an interview.

Kremnev and Reznik create a demanding training environment that mimics what life is like in a professional company. "I feel grateful that I came into the professional world with a really solid foundation," said Sayre. "I feel like I can always trust my training. What Anna and Alexei have been able to do with their students is make things innate."

The seriousness of the company is echoed in "Sleeping Beauty's" top-level production value, with no expense spared for A&A's professional-grade costumes and sets. Kremnev's design team is constructing elaborate, hand-made tutus and recreating Gustave Dore's 19th century illustrations as projections, in place of static backdrops. Some reasonable editing to Tchaikovsky's three-act ballet give Kremnev's staging a more manageable length for families, but all the demands of Marius Petipa's original choreography are intact, particularly in the famous Rose



Left, Olivia Mitchell plays Carabosse, the wicked fairy godmother, during rehearsals for the upcoming ballet of "Sleeping Beauty" at the Studebaker Theatre.

Adagio and Aurora and Desire's grand pas de deux.

It's a tall order for a teenager, but Curry says she's up for the challenge. She pointed out that the story of "Sleeping Beauty" begins with a girl about to turn 16 years old.

"I'll be 16 at the end of the summer, so for the first act I get to show her youthfulness," Curry said. The bigger challenge, she said, is the third act. As Aurora's waking up from a deep sleep, she's "a much more mature lady, who's getting married all of a sudden. And it's super hard from a technique standpoint."

Kremnev and Reznik admit that their exit from the Joffrey Academy was an extremely tough transition, personally and professionally. "It was a shock," said Kremnev, adding they had no indication that the administration was unhappy with the jobs they were doing. "We started in 2009 and were following, exactly, the artistic director's vision.

We could do any programs we liked, as long as we didn't lose money. It's a great model and I'm happy right now because I follow exactly the same model!"

Kremnev and Reznik's success is evidenced by the number of Joffrey trainees and Studio Company dancers who've gone on to successful careers, and the trend appears to be continuing with A&A. Artistic and administrative freedom are paramount for them, and their model of conservatory training is deliberately free from attachment to a professional company.

"It's 24/7, obviously, but it's fast moving and we can do many things because it's flexible," said Kremnev. "We don't have a board of directors; we don't have a five-year plan. If we feel like the momentum is right, we do it."

"Sleeping Beauty" is 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. May 4 at the Studebaker Theatre, 410 S. Michigan Ave. Tickets are \$25-\$45, available at

Also of note

In addition to A&A Ballet, Chicago has a wealth of high-caliber pre-professional training programs. Of those, these upcoming productions are also worth seeing.

Chicago Academy for the Arts: Classic works by Martha Graham, Alvin Ailey and former Joffrey Ballet artistic director Gerald Arpino are on tap for two performances of "Icons of Choreography," the spring dance department concert at the elite performing arts high school. *May 4 at the Athenaeum Theatre, 2936 N. Southport Ave.; tickets are \$25 at www.chicagoacademyforthearts.org*

Ballet Chicago: Back by popular demand, the Studio Company revisits favorite works by George Balanchine. Ballet Chicago artistic director Daniel Duell and resident choreographer Ted Seymour. Duell's brisk one-act version of Humperdinck's "Hansel and Gretel" highlights the range of these excellent dancers-in-training, while their performance of Balanchine's "Concerto Barocco" is likely to rival the pros. *May 11 at the Harris Theater for Music and Dance, 205 E. Randolph Drive; tickets \$35-\$50 at 312-334-7777 or www.harris-theaterchicago.org*

www.aacenterfordance.org/box-office.

Lauren Warnecke is a freelance critic.

lauren.warnecke@gmail.com

Metz

Continued from Page 1

push Emmett out of the nest.

"She's taken care of him and that's understandable — that's her child — but now it's time for her to find herself as a single woman. Her cutting him off is necessary for both of them, because I think parents who keep their kids around and hold on to them hinder them. Let them go, so they can learn to fly."

Many of Ross' scenes are with La Donna Tittle, who plays Miss Ethel. "I love working with her and I was so happy she was back in a major way this season. When they did the makeup work on her (to create bruises on her face) that hurt, because she reminds me of my grandmother and it was just like, 'Whoa, whoa, whoa.' It was really upsetting."

Ross says she relates to Jada's forthrightness. "Out of all the characters I've played over 20 years, she is probably the closest to me. I really appreciate that she's just about common sense. She's down to earth, real, she's there for you — but at the same time, she's not a bulls-----. She's just that solid person."

Barton Fitzpatrick (Reg)

Fitzpatrick, who grew up on the West and South Sides, plays the leader of

the 63rd Street Mob who is also the older brother and guardian to preteen Jake. He was originally cast as a day player in the pilot episode, but producers liked his performance so much they decided to keep Reg around and expanded his role considerably.

The character is a bundle of contradictions — hard but not, smart but not — and this season he's increasingly realizing he's in over his head. "Just being from Chicago, born and raised and living here my entire life, I've just come across guys like Reg on numerous occasions," Fitzpatrick said, "whether they've been family members or people from high school. So it wasn't a challenge to imitate these guys. But also I believe that acting is being yourself in imaginary circumstances, so it's a specific life I bring to the character."

One thing that stands out about Reg are his moments of vulnerability. "I'm frowning in every scene and I'm just menacing, so it's important to show that different side of that character. If you don't, all of the fans would just be waiting for me to get killed off."

Fitzpatrick said the show's producers have been open to improvisation. "I feel like it's my job, being from Chicago, to give an authentic representation of the city. So I would just go ahead and add my lingo and add my flavor. And the flow would just make so much sense, they

would revise the script on the spot. And after a while it was like, 'You don't have to keep asking us permission.' So I truly appreciate that. I would love to be invited to the writers room. There are a lot of stories that I would like to share through this show."

As for what's in store for Reg: "He's just in trouble this entire season," said Fitzpatrick. "He doesn't get a break. ... He has sleepless nights every night. I know people hated my character at first but now it's like, give this guy a break because he's trying!"

Genesis Denise Hale (Maisha)

Hale, who is 14, plays one of Kevin's classmates at school. What was initially an awkward relationship — Maisha all but forced herself into Kevin's orbit — has blossomed into a true friendship in Season 2, which also gives a backstory to her life at home.

"What I have in common with Maisha is, I think we both have a good sense of what we want," Hale said, "whether it's what we want from people or picking out clothes or how we just move around on a daily basis. Maisha's also very smart, which I can connect to. That solar system project (in the first episode of the season) was like something I actually did." Did the writers know that? "No, I don't think so!"

Hale said a challenging scene for her this year

featured Maisha trying to find the right hairstyle for school picture day. "That scene was with my actual hair and that was a tough process. But (showrunner) Miss Ayanna Floyd Davis was like, 'You are representing a triple minority because you're big and you are (an actress of) color and female — so you're breaking all these stereotypes. So using your real hair is something these kids can relate to.' It was tough for me at the time because I was looking really rough. They took all of the extensions out of my hair and they kind of wet it to make it look rough and I was almost crying. But the way that it turned out in the episode, I was proud of it." When Maisha shows up at school the next day looking fabulous and literally throwing confetti as she walks in to get her photo taken, "I was like, oh, OK — this my Beyoncé moment!"

Rolando Boyce (Darnell)

Boyce, who plays Emmett's estranged father Darnell, is a veteran of the Chicago theater scene, with credits at ETA, Black Ensemble and the Goodman. He has lived in Los Angeles since 2006.

"I don't even watch a lot of TV," he said, "but I had to watch the first season of 'The Chi' because I just wanted to make sure they were doing it right. And I went through the whole season and was like: This is

really good and I gotta find out a way to get on this show. I loved the storyline with the kids. But the other relationship that I was drawn to was Emmett and Jada, and maybe it's because I was raised by a single mom."

"The Chi" combines slice-of-life drama alongside lighter moments, of which Darnell is part and parcel. "You can't have everything so intense," Boyce said. "The way it's written, it's funny. But for me, you still gotta play it real. When I start to put on the track suit and the earpiece, I transform into Darnell. I 'stole' some of his mannerisms from my best friend, who's in Chicago. Everything's really dry — he's straightforward and tells it how it is."

"But outside of that, it's just growing up on the South Side. The guys in the neighborhood, their street sense is off the charts — they could be CEOs of companies — and I play Darnell like that, it's just hustle to hustle to hustle."

La Donna Tittle (Miss Ethel)

Tittle, who plays the Ronnie's blunt-spoken grandmother Miss Ethel, originally made her name as a longtime radio personality in Chicago. "The Chi" is a late-in-life career break on a major TV series. "Miss Ethel's not only a tough grandma, but a cussin' grandma!" said Tittle. "She speaks her mind."

Tittle produces and hosts "The La Donna Tittle TV/Radio Show, featuring Cookin' Wit' Tittle" on CAN TV, Ch. 19 (7 p.m. Thursdays and 2 p.m. Fridays).

"So I'm either called 'That Cookin' Lady' — or Granny With the Shotgun!" she said. "I love what I'm doing and the age I'm doing it at. Supposedly when you get past 50 you get written off, so to play this role at this time in my career is exhilarating. I dreamed of doing a character that was long-lasting and complicated."

Her character is brutally attacked in her home in the first episode of the current season. "I found it absolutely intriguing and challenging," said Tittle. "After the first table read, Lena and (showrunner) Ayanna (Floyd Davis) asked if we had any questions, and I said, 'Please don't kill Miss Ethel!' And they said, 'Don't worry!'"

Did Tittle have a stunt double for that scene? "You know what I told them to call me? Ethel 'Tom Cruise' Davis because I wanted to do all of my stunts! I had everybody cracking up. So I did most of the scenes. They told me Lena Waithe's Instagram blew up after people saw that beat-down and she had to reveal that yes, Ethel is going to be OK. I told Lena, they should call the third season 'Miss Ethel's Revenge!'"

nmetz@chicagotribune.com
Twitter @Nina_Metz

BOOK REVIEW

A wild ride with musical supergroup

Browne chronicles CSNY drama

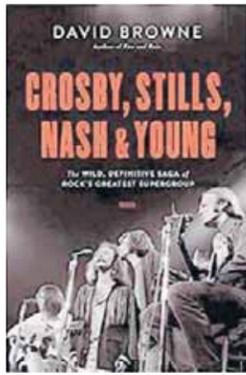
By DAVID KIRBY
The Washington Post

Imagine a production of "Hamlet" with three Hamlets. Or four or two. No one is certain who will show up when, not even the actors themselves.

Now move the action from a castle in Denmark to a recording studio in Los Angeles, and instead of fratricide and revenge, let king-size egos drive the drama, boosted by a mountain of cocaine and an ocean of alcohol. Give each Hamlet a dozen Ophelias, even a wife or two from time to time, and encourage swapping.

Now you have a sense of what it was like to witness the rise, fall, resurrection and multicar pileup that was Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young, the folk-rock supergroup that shaped and were shaped by 1960s and '70s counterculture while propelling millions of music lovers to near-organic levels of joy and almost killing themselves (and each other) along the way.

David Browne's "Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young: The Wild, Definitive Saga of Rock's Greatest Supergroup" is for music lovers, but it should also be required reading for students of group dynamics. Bands implode all the time, but it's rare for one to operate so dysfunctionally over five decades while also spawning so many imitators, influencing so many musicians and producing so much memorable music, including such hits as "Teach Your Children" and



'Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young'

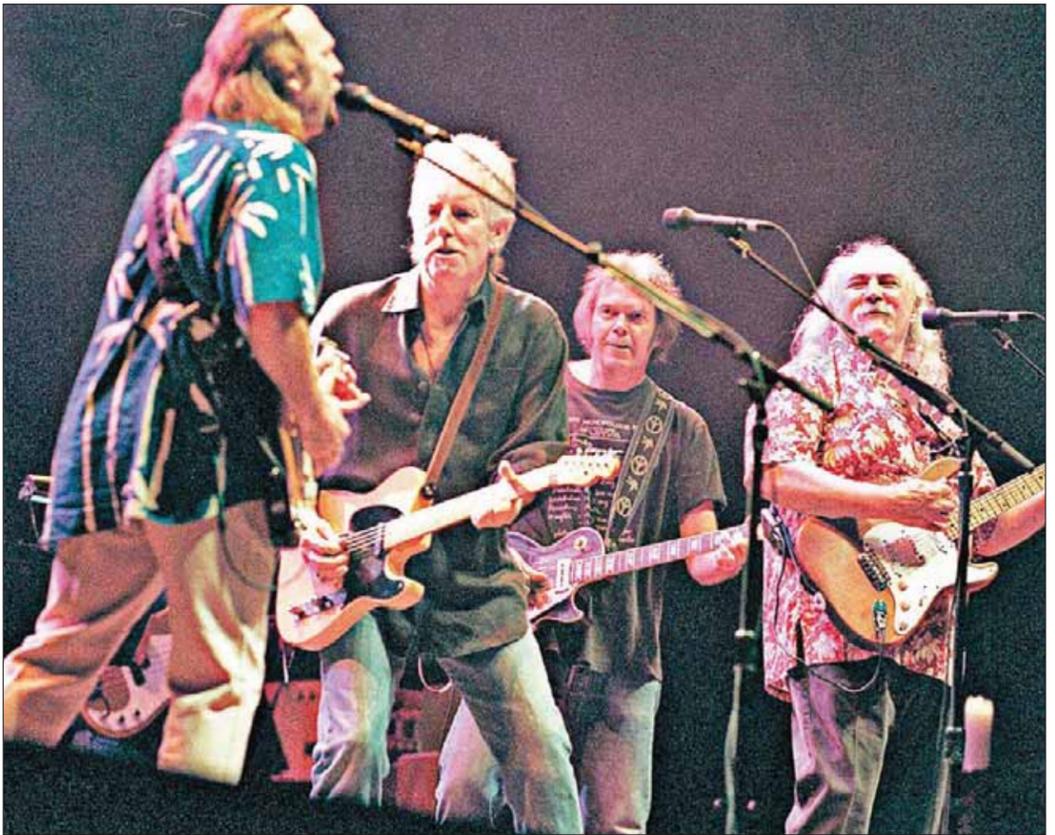
By David Browne, Da Capo, 480 pages, \$30

"Ohio."

Browne is a contributing editor at Rolling Stone and has written books on the Grateful Dead and Beatles, among others. It's clear he is a huge fan of these guys, which means that he likes them a lot more than they liked each other.

The story begins on Feb. 14, 1968, at Hollywood's legendary Whisky a Go Go, where the Hollies were playing. At the center of the so-called "hippie riots" two years earlier, the club often booked grittier acts such as the Doors and Frank Zappa, yet here were five young men from Manchester, England, including guitarist and singer Graham Nash, pumping out such frothy tunes as "Bus Stop" and "Look Through Any Window."

In the audience were Nancy Sinatra, Cass Elliott of the Mamas and Papas,



SAMUEL MORALES/FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

Stephen Stills, from left, Graham Nash, Neil Young and David Crosby at Reunion Arena in Dallas in 2000. The band got together in the late '60s and Young joined the group for its second album.

and other pop music royalty, including David Crosby and Stephen Stills. Crosby had just been fired by the Byrds, and Stills wasn't sure whether his band, Buffalo Springfield, even existed anymore.

On the sidewalk after the show, the two musicians waxed eloquent on Nash's performance and wondered aloud whether he might be the bridge to a new and better band. According to one account of the evening, Crosby said, "Maybe we can steal him."

It wasn't long before the three men were touring together and recording for Atlantic Records. But something was missing, which was why Atlantic co-founder and president Ahmet Ertegun suggested they fill out their sound by bringing in Stills' old Buffalo Springfield bandmate Neil Young.

As with many of their

momentous decisions, this one turned out to be both the best and worst choice: Young's prolific songwriting and distinctive counter-tenor gave the band an extra dimension, but his abundant ego added volatility to a group dynamic that was already strained.

Young was a veritable fountain of songs — he wrote "about three of 'em a day," Crosby told one concert crowd. And whereas the others often insisted on having things their way in the studio, Young was a master of persuasion by using aw-shucks diplomacy. Perhaps because he was so successful in his solo career, though, Young never really seemed to belong to the group, sometimes even failing to show up when he was on the bill.

Then there were the drugs, which seemed as ubiquitous as oxygen. Crosby came so close to

losing his life while freebasing cocaine that the band hired a minder to keep him from overdoing it.

This bodyguard had had the same job with John Belushi, who had died of an overdose a few months earlier. "Great reference," Crosby said when the two men were introduced.

Stills provided Browne with a darkly comedic metaphor that best describes the interactions of the four musicians at the band's peak: It was "a four-way street," he recalled, "four horses pulling in different directions. Which is the method they used to use for executions."

Of course, that just led to more songs. As Browne writes, "one could compile an entire album of the barbed tunes they wrote about each other."

One of the group's employees estimates that it broke up eight times during

his tenure alone, yet somehow it managed to keep getting back together. And even though Crosby underwent a liver transplant in 1994, all four are active today.

Does this mean we'll see them together onstage again? Nash stated in an interview not long ago that the band was offered \$100 million to go on tour.

But that's not going to happen, he said, for one simple reason: "We don't like each other."

As Crosby told Browne, though, "It's always been strange. It never wasn't strange."

At this point, perhaps the strangest thing of all would be not for these four irascible geniuses to reunite, but for them to fail to do so.

David Kirby is the author of "Crossroad: Artist, Audience, and the Making of American Music."

BOOK REVIEW

In novel, Lincoln chats with a man who shared his bed

By CAROL MEMMOTT
The Washington Post

There's pillow talk in "Courting Mr. Lincoln," Louis Bayard's speculative-history novel, but it doesn't take place between the man who would become a U.S. president and his wife, Mary Todd. These imagined tete-a-tetes are between Lincoln and Joshua Speed, the man long rumored to be his lover.

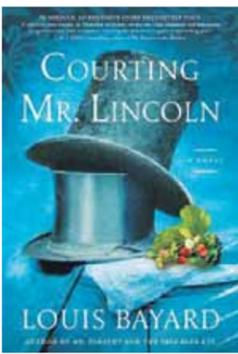
Bayard has written eight other novels, and he's extraordinarily gifted at blending provocative fiction with history. In "The Pale Blue Eye" (2006), we encounter Edgar Allan Poe helping to solve a murder at West Point, and in "Roosevelt's Beast" (2014), he adds a supernatural twist to Teddy Roosevelt's 1914 Amazon expedition.

In "Courting Mr. Lincoln," he imagines a sensitive story about two men who were the best of friends and maybe more.

That Lincoln was gay has never been substantiated, and the evidence is weak. As a young lawyer in Springfield, Ill., Lincoln shared a bed for several years with Speed, who rented space above his dry-goods store to cash-strapped boarders. It was common practice for men to share beds or rooms with complete strangers. There was nothing sexual about it, but rumors about Lincoln and Speed have always been out there.

The novel begins in 1839 and takes place mostly before Lincoln was president.

It's told from Mary and Speed's perspectives, and both paint Lincoln as an uneducated, socially inept but kind man of few words. Speed, on the other hand, is a "dandyish" man who toys with



'Courting Mr. Lincoln'

By Louis Bayard, Algonquin, 352 pages, \$27.95

women's affections, behavior unappreciated at a time when women had few options beyond marriage.

One such woman is Mary, panicked about "entering the vale of spinsterhood," even though she's only 20 when she travels from Kentucky to her sister's home in Springfield with the "grim and single-minded resolve" of landing a husband.

In "Courting Mr. Lincoln," Mary has a bright and inquiring intellect and a love for politics. She's not the melancholy and difficult woman described in other accounts. Here, she's sharp-tongued and witty, and she cringes when other women feign a lack of intelligence in front of men. It's not love at first sight, but Lincoln woos her with detailed election results that feed her love of all things political.

The details of their courtship are lovely to read, but Lincoln's time with Speed is much more riveting. In one scene, Lincoln and Speed are taking an evening walk

when Lincoln throws his arm around his friend and says, "I do not lie, Speed. Meeting you was the greatest fortune that ever befell me."

Later that night while they are lying in bed, Speed asks, "Did you mean what you said?" Lincoln turns toward him and says, "Did I mean what, Speed?" It's these ambiguous scenes that make this book so arresting, yet it never teeters toward debunking or proving anything.

In other chapters, the men toast bachelorhood and brotherhood, but later in a conversation about marriage, Lincoln resignedly says, "This is what men do. Men who have reached a certain age." When Bayard has Speed pointing over Lincoln's relationship with Mary, Lincoln asks, "Is it *this* girl you object to? Or is it any girl?"

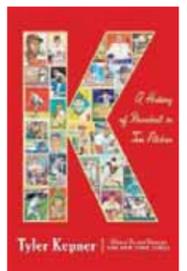
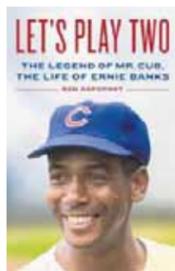
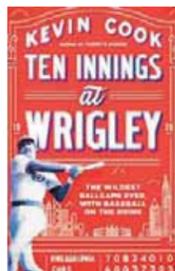
Lincoln is the novel's anchor, but Speed is its most intriguing character.

In a scene in which now-President Lincoln and Speed meet 20 years after the bulk of this novel takes place, the men make polite conversation until Lincoln plops himself down on Speed's hotel bed and promptly falls asleep. Speed lies next to him and does the same. When they awake, Speed looks into Lincoln's face and notices "the same downturn of lip and residues of salt, like tracks across a desert. Why, he thought, it was like watching a heart break twice over."

Bayard offers readers no absolutes. At book's end, who's courting Lincoln remains an enticing mystery.

Carol Memmott is a freelance book critic in Virginia.

BOOK REVIEWS



2019's lineup of baseball books? Bases loaded.

By ROBERT BIRNBAUM
The Washington Post

Baseball has inspired some of the best writing about sports. This year's crop will get you through extra innings.

"Ten Innings at Wrigley: The Wildest Ballgame Ever, With Baseball on the Brink," by Kevin Cook (Henry Holt)

Wrigley Fieldrightfully stands with Fenway Park as a revered baseball venue. Among the most memorable games played there was the 1979 slugfest between the Phillies and the "lovable losing" Cubs. Kevin Cook recounts the contest — indeed a wild game — that was knotted 22-all in the ninth inning. It's a vivid tale of a dramatic contest.

"Let's Play Two: The Legend of Mr. Cub, the Life of Ernie Banks," by Ron Rapoport (Hachette), and "Let's Play Two: The Life and Times of Ernie Banks," by Doug Wilson (Rowman & Littlefield)

Ernie Banks' trademark phrase serves as the title of two new biographies of the 14-time all-star who spent 19 seasons with the Cubs. Banks' story — rising from mean beginnings in the Jim Crow South to glory — is well told by Chicago sportswriter Ron Rapoport. His is an extensively researched portrayal of the

public figure as well as the lesser-known, private Banks. Wilson, an experienced baseball biographer, located several friends from Banks' childhood and high school years, as well as some Kansas City Monarchs with whom he played in the Negro Leagues. Choosing one bio over the other is a toss-up, so "let's read two."

"Play Hungry: The Making of a Baseball Player" by Pete Rose (Penguin Press)

In 23 seasons Pete Rose, aka "Charlie Hustle," established a bunch of records: most hits (4,256), most games played (3,562), most at-bats (14,053), you get the idea. His baseball career ended in 1989 after revelations that he gambled on baseball, a subject he discusses for just two pages in a book billed as the star's "love letter" to the game. He focuses on stories from baseball's Golden Age and on his dedication to playing the game "the right way."

"K: A History of Baseball in Ten Pitches," by Tyler Kepner (Doubleday)

Kepner has organized his history around the 10 major types of pitches — slider, fastball, knuckleball, splitter, screwball, sinker, change-up, cutter, spitball, curveball. He relies on the testimony of hurlers with the most recorded strike-

outs to elucidate the complicated and magical art of throwing a ball 60 feet 6 inches. A fascinating tour of the sport as seen from the mound.

"For the Good of the Game: The Inside Story of the Surprising and Dramatic Transformation of Major League Baseball," by Bud Selig (Morrow)

During his 22-year tenure as commissioner, Bud Selig dealt with the 1994 players union strike and the cancellation of that year's World Series. Inter-league play and instant replay were introduced. The steroid scandal remains uppermost in his Selig's mind. Part memoir, part business book, part apology, Selig's testimony is a necessary addition to baseball history.

"108 Stitches: Loose Threads, Ripping Yarns, and the Darndest Characters From My Time in the Game," by Ron Darling (St. Martin's)

A former big league starter, Darling makes use of his Ivy League smarts to serve up a full menu of baseball lore harvested from a wide swath of characters — Hall of Famers, MLB commissioners and more. A rich presentation of the allure of the game and its culture.

Robert Birnbaum is a writer and critic based in Boston.

WATCH THIS: THURSDAY



Rose McIver

"iZombie" (7 p.m., CW): The cult hit launches its fifth and final season with "Thug Death," which finds Liv (Rose McIver) facing one of the hardest challenges of her crime-solving career: investigating a murder case with no body and, thus, no brain for her to eat to gain her usual special insights. In fact, all she and Clive (Malcolm Goodwin) have to work with are a grainy video and a wee bit of blood found at the scene of the crime.

"Grey's Anatomy" (7 p.m., ABC): A crossover event with sister show "Station 19" opens with a new episode called "What I Did for Love," in which Maggie (Kelly McCreary) treats a member of the firehouse team and Jo (Camilla Luddington) is schooled in a hard lesson. Elsewhere, while working with a family seeking asylum, Meredith (Ellen Pompeo) winds up making a tough call that could put her entire career in jeopardy.

"A.P. Bio" (7:30 p.m., NBC): After an absolutely mortifying video of Jack (Glenn Howerton) falling off a stage goes viral, he tries to rebound from this very public shaming by creating a viral video of his own in a new episode called "Dr. Whoopsie." Elsewhere, Durbin, Helen (Patton Oswalt, Paula Pell) and several members of the faculty set out to track down the Sugar Daddy, Whitlock High School's most infamous litterbug. Lyric Lewis, Jean Villepique and Mary Sohn also star.

"Station 19" (8:01 p.m., ABC): Tonight's crossover event that began on sister show "Grey's Anatomy" continues with a new episode called "Always Ready," which finds the Station 19 team on edge and facing an uncertain future in the aftermath of a deadly blaze inside a coffee beanery, which sent a beloved member of the crew to Grey Sloan in grave condition.

"Abby's" (8:30 p.m., NBC): James (Leonard Ouzts) is offered a new position at work, but he's hesitant to accept it, since he frets that he is not sufficiently qualified. Determined to give him a morale boost, Abby (Natalie Morales) starts plying him with tequila shots to bolster his bravado. Unfortunately, James inadvertently offends Abby's neighbor, who threatens to call the cops on the bar.

"The American Farm" (9:03 p.m., 12:06 a.m., History): It may be midsummer on this show, but the crop called winter wheat is ready for harvest in the new episode "Chasing the Dream." For the farmers, the harvest will provide the first opportunity for a payday, as well as a chance to break out their combines. The stakes are high as all concerned undertake a harvest that could carry them out of challenges.

TALK SHOWS

- "Conan" (10 p.m. 11:30 p.m., TBS):** Actor Kevin Nealon.*
- "The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon" (10:34 p.m., NBC):** Actor Ryan Reynolds; actress Rosie Huntington-Whiteley; Kevin Abstract performs.*
- "The Late Show With Stephen Colbert" (10:35 p.m., CBS):** Journalist Chris Cuomo; actor Nicholas Hoult; actress Lily Collins.*
- "Jimmy Kimmel Live" (10:35 p.m., ABC):** Professional football player Tom Brady; writers David Benioff and D.B. Weiss.*

* 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

THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 2

	PM	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00
BROADCAST	CBS 2	Big Bang Theory (N)	Young Sheldon (N)	(8:01) Mom (N) ©	Life in Pieces (N)	S.W.A.T.: "Day of Dread." (N) ©		News (N) ♦
	NBC 5	Superstore (N) ©	A.P. Bio (N) ©	Brooklyn Nine (N)	Abby's (N) ©	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit: "Diss." (N)		NBC 5 News (N) ♦
	ABC 7	Grey's Anatomy: "What I Did For Love." (N) ©		(8:01) Station 19: "Always Ready." (N) ©		For the People: "Moral Suasion." (N) ©		News at 10pm (N) ♦
	WGN 9	MLB Baseball: Boston Red Sox at Chicago White Sox. From Guaranteed Rate Field in Chicago. (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	Three Amigos! (PG,'86) **		Chevy Chase. ©		Dirty Rotten Scoundrels (PG,'88) *** ♦		
	PBS 11	Chicago Tonight (N)		American Experience: "The Chinese Exclusion Act." ©				Interview Show (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	The Game	The Game	Mann &	In the Cut	Imagine That (PG,'09) ** ♦		
	FOX 32	2019 Miss USA (N) (Live) ©				Fox 32 News at Nine (N)		Modern Family ©
	Ion 38	Chicago P.D. ©		Chicago P.D. ©		Chicago P.D.: "You Wish."		Chicago ♦
	Telem 44	Exatión EE. UU. (N)		Betty en NY (N) ©		La reina del sur (N) ©		Chicago (N)
	CW 50	Zombie: "Thug Death." (Season Premiere) (N)		In the Dark (N) ©		The Good Wife: "Infamy."		Chicago ♦
UniMas 60	Fire With Fire (NR,'12) Josh Duhamel.				Simón dice	Simón dice	Hoy voy a ♦	
WJYS 62	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Joyce Meyer	Robison	Christian	Dn. Carson	Monument	
Univ 66	Jesus		Rosa de Guadalupe (N)		Por amar sin ley		Noticias (N)	
CABLE	AE	Live PD ©		Live PD ©		Dating App Horrors (N)		Kids-Bars ♦
	AMC	Escape Plan (R,'13) **	Sylvester Stallone. ©			(9:35) Escape Plan ** ♦		
	ANIM	Fish or Die		Jeremy Wade (N)		River Monsters: Legendary (N) ♦		
	BBCA	*(6) Rambo: First Blood		Top Gear (N) ©				Premier (N Tape)
	BET	*(5:35) Movie			(8:28) South Central (R,'92) ***	Glenn Plummer. ♦		
	BIGTEN	*(6:30) Project Runway			BIG Show	BIG Show	BIG Show	Campus
	BRAVO	*(6:30) Project Runway		Project Runway: "Blame It on Rio." (N)		Don't-Tardy		Watch (N)
	CLTV	News at 7	News (N)	News at 8	News (N)	SportsFeed ©		Politics
	CNBC	Shark Tank ©		Shark Tank ©		Shark Tank ©		Shark ♦
	CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)		Cuomo Prime Time (N)		CNN Tonight (N)		Tonight (N) ♦
	COM	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	Daily (N) ♦
	DISC	Naked and Afraid Pop-Up		Naked and Afraid (N)		Naked and Afraid (N)		Naked ♦
	DISN	Sydney-Max	Sydney-Max	Jessie ©	Jessie ©	Sydney-Max	Coop	Andi Mack
	E!	Bad Teacher (R,'11) **	Cameron Diaz. ©			Botched ©		Busy (N)
	ESPN	NBA Basketball: Conference Semifinal: Teams TBA. (N)				(Live) ©	NBA Basketball (N) ♦	
	ESPN2	Boxing ©		Boxing ©		Boxing ©		SportCtr (N)
	FNC	Tucker Carlson (N)		Hannity (N) ©		The Ingraham Angle (N)		Fox News
	FOOD	Chopped ©		Chopped: "Viewers Rule."		Beat Flay (N)	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby
	FREE	Cloak & Dagger (N)		(8:01) Sweet Home Alabama		(PG-13,'02) ** (SAP)		700 Club ♦
	FX	*(6) The Avengers (PG-13,'12) ***	Robert Downey Jr.		Better (N)	Better	Better	Better
	HALL	Love Takes Flight (NR,'19)	Nikki DeLoach. ©		Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Golden Girls
	HGTV	Beach	Beach	Flip/Flop (N)	Flip/Flop	Hunters (N)	Hunt Intl (N)	Hunters
	HIST	Swamp People ©		Swamp People (N)		The American Farm (N)		Swamp ♦
	HLN	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic
	IFC	*(5) Aliens (R,'86) ****		Prometheus (R,'12) **	Noomi Rapace, Michael Fassbender. © ♦			
LIFE	Little Women: Atlanta (N)		Little Women: Atlanta (N)		Little Women: LA (N) ©		Little (N)	
MSNBC	All In With (N)		Rachel Maddow Show		The Last Word (N)		11th Hour (N)	
MTV	Double Shot at Love (N)		Double Shot at Love		Catfish: The TV Show ©		Catfish ♦	
NBCSCH	Track and Field: Drake Relays.				Track and Field: Penn Relays. Day 2. ♦			
NICK	Spy Kids 2: The Island of Lost Dreams (PG,'02) ***				Friends ©	Friends ©	Friends ♦	
OVATION	Made of Honor (PG-13,'08) **	Patrick Dempsey. ©			Amazing Hotels: Life (N)		Amazing (N)	
OWN	20/20 on OWN ©		20/20 on OWN ©		20/20 on ID: "What If." ©		20/20 ♦	
OXY	Snapped: "Jodi Arias."		Snapped: "Marjorie Orbin."		Snapped ©		Snapped ♦	
PARMT	Mom ©		Mom ©		Step Brothers (R,'08) **	Will Ferrell. ♦		
SYFY	(7:13) Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2 (PG-13,'11) ****						Happy! © ♦	
TBS	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Conan (N) ♦	
TCM	Since You Went Away (NR,'44) ***	Claudette Colbert, Jennifer Jones. ©					Miniver ♦	
TLC	My 600-Lb. Life: "Supersized: Cillas' Story." (N)				Untold Stories of the E.R.		Stories ER ♦	
TLN	Humanit	Wretched	Faith and Freedom in		Life Today	Like You	Humanit	
TNT	S.W.A.T. (PG-13,'03) **	Samuel L. Jackson, Colin Farrell. ©				Red 2 (PG-13,'13) *** ♦		
TOON	Samur. Jack	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Burgers	Burgers	Family Guy	Family Guy	
TRAV	The Dead Files ©		The Dead Files (N) ©		Ghost Bait	Ghost Bait	Dead Files ♦	
TVL	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Two Men	Two Men	King	
USA	*(6) NHL Hockey: Conference Quarterfinal: Teams TBA.				NCIS: "Lockdown."		NCIS ♦	
VH1	RuPaul's Drag Race ©		RuPaul's Drag Race (N) ©				Forrest ♦	
WE	Braxton Family Values		Braxton Family Values (N)		Hustle & Soul (N) ©		Braxton ♦	
WGN America	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	
PREMIUM	HBO	On Tour (N)	On Tour (Se-	REAL Sports Gumbel		The Darkest Minds (PG-13,'18) ***		
	HBO2	Gentleman Jack ©		Barry ©	(8:35) Veep	Wyatt Cenac	Rock and Roll ♦	
	MAX	The Parallax View (R,'74) ***			(8:45) Conspiracy Theory (R,'97) **	Mel Gibson. ♦		
	SHO	I Spy (PG-13,'02) **	Eddie Murphy. ©		(8:40) Booty Call (R,'97) **			Desus (N)
	STARZ	♦ Empire St	Apocalypse	(8:05) Venom (PG-13,'18) **	Tom Hardy. ©			Now ♦
STZNC	The White Princess ©		The White Princess ©		Live and Let Die (PG,'73) *** ♦			

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Horoscopes



Today's birthday (May 2): Collaborative ventures profit this year. Plan your moves carefully to expand boundaries. Launch your creative project this summer before your travel plans evolve. Discover uncharted terrain this winter, leading to a new direction in your story. Pull together, and share the gains.

Aries (March 21-April 19): Today is a 9. Take action for what you love today. Follow a personal passion. Do what you do best, and everything comes together harmoniously.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): 6. Use wisdom, not credit. You're gaining confidence. Revise earlier decisions. Continue with caution. Savor walks in nature and intimate moments with loved ones.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): 8. Connect with friends, allies and colleagues. Grab a spontaneous opportunity for collaboration. Don't make assumptions. Someone you know has a solution.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): 9. An exciting opportunity requires urgent action. Go for it! Abandon routines. Nothing ventured, nothing gained. Stay on firm ground, and watch your step.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): 8. Luck smiles on your travels, investigations and studies. Choose your destinations carefully, and stay light on your feet. Explore and discover rare delights.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): 9. Collaborate for profitable results. Share talents and appreciations. Avoid risky business, and steer family finances for growth. Keep your agreements.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): 9. Let magnetism draw you together. Charm and flirt. Enchant your partner. Don't rush into anything; take it slow and easy. Communication and action create magic.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): 8. Stick with trusted physical routines, and practice your moves. Don't try out new tricks. Luck blesses your work and health; take advantage to grow stronger.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): 9. Flattery will get you everything. Reassert your position, with humor. Maintain an undercurrent of love. Compose love letters. Put in corrections. Share your beautiful expressions.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): 8. Your greatest strength is love. Share it at home with family. Beautify your spaces. Tend your garden, and count blessings. Discover hidden treasure.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): 9. Your creative muses sing to you. Harmonize and craft a masterpiece. Follow a spontaneous inspiration. Think outside the box. Come up with something brilliant.

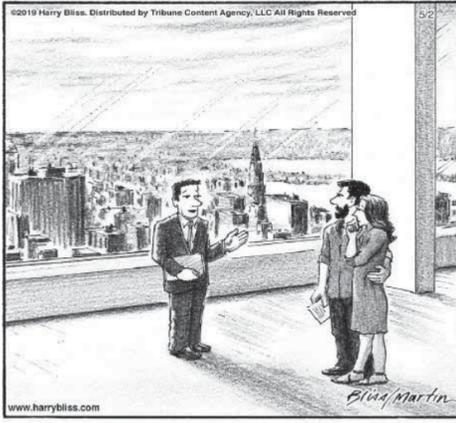
Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): 8. Take charge to get a project rolling. Learn valuable tricks from an elder. Monitor both expenses and income. Take advantage of a lucrative opportunity.

— Nancy Black, Tribune Content Agency

The Argyle Sweater



Bliss



Bridge

East-West vulnerable, North deals

North
 ♠ AKQJ
 ♥ J10
 ♦ QJ976
 ♣ 76

West
 ♠ 10984
 ♥ 532
 ♦ 53
 ♣ K943

East
 ♠ 52
 ♥ KQ764
 ♦ AK8
 ♣ 852

South
 ♠ 763
 ♥ A98
 ♦ 1042
 ♣ AQJ10

Today's deal is an example of the difference between duplicate bridge and rubber bridge.

A heart lead to the queen is routine after this auction, and we would expect declarer at either form of the game to win the first trick with his ace. A spade to dummy would be followed by a club to the queen. A good defender sitting West would duck his king and allow the queen to win the trick. At this point, the two declarers would probably go different ways.

The duplicate declarer, dreaming of an overtrick or two, would likely cross back to dummy with a spade and repeat the club finesse. West would win with his king this time and lead the five of hearts. East should duck and allow dummy's jack to win this second round of hearts. Declarer would not be able to get back to his hand and the defense would come to three hearts, two diamonds, and a club for down two.

At rubber bridge, where the goal is nine tricks and overtricks don't matter as much, the play should go differently. After winning the first club finesse, declarer should continue with the ace of clubs and then the jack of clubs, discarding dummy's jack of hearts. Should the defense play on hearts, declarer would have an entry to his hand and nine tricks. Should they never play on hearts, declarer will have time to set up dummy's diamond suit to get nine tricks that way.

— Bob Jones
 tcaeditors@tribpub.com

Dilbert



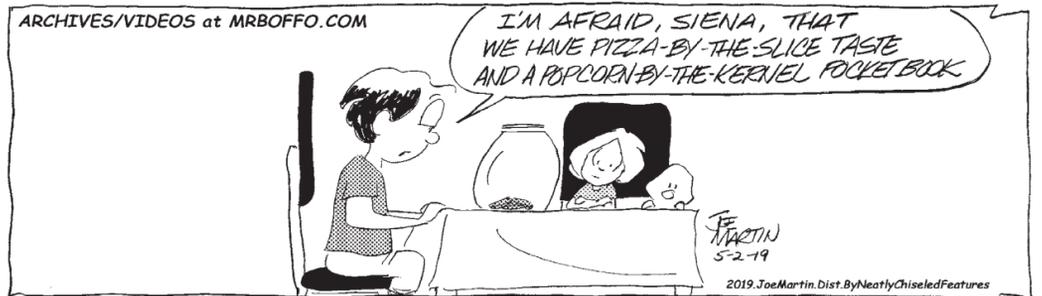
Baby Blues



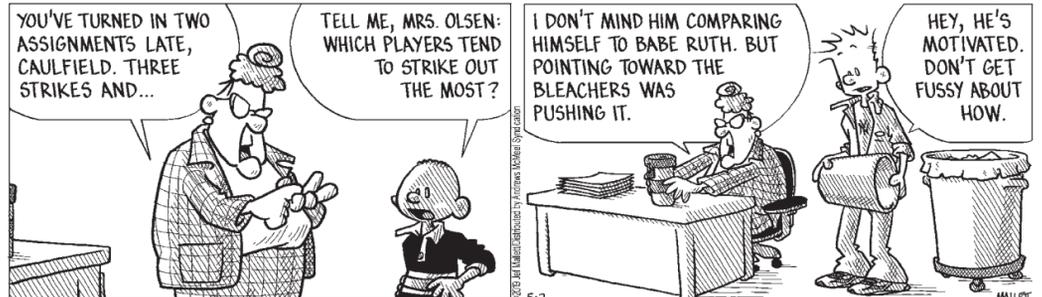
Zits



Mr. Boffo



Frazz



Classic Peanuts



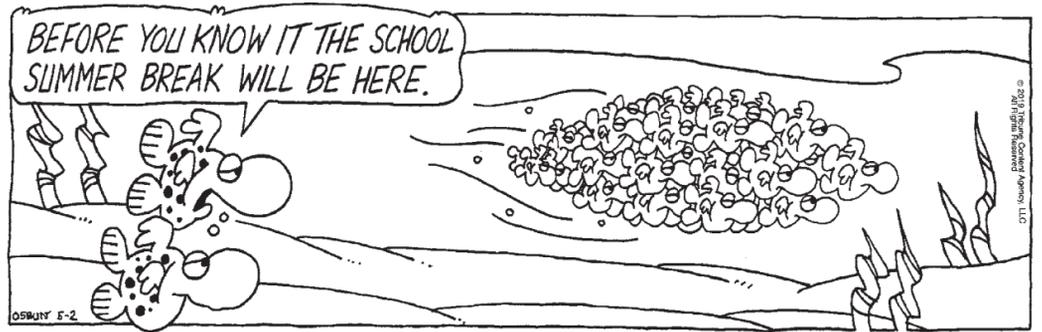
Pickles



Dick Tracy



Animal Crackers



Prickly City



CHICAGO WEATHER CENTER

chicagoweathercenter.com | BY TOM SKILLING AND WGN9



THURSDAY, MAY 2

NORMAL HIGH: 66° NORMAL LOW: 44° RECORD HIGH: 91° (1959) RECORD LOW: 27° (1875)

More rain ups the ante on areawide flooding

LOCAL FORECAST

HIGH 55 **LOW** 43

- Low pressure will move through the area with generally east to NE winds 10 to 18 mph..
- Flash Flood Watch until 5PM CDT.
- Cloudy, damp, cool. Showers spread into the area from the southwest with a few embedded t-storms, continuing through the morning, lasting until late afternoon - then will end from the west.
- Highs range from the 40s along the lakefront to inland highs of 50s north to lower 60s south.
- Skies become partly cloudy later at night.

NATIONAL FORECAST



What looks to be the last in a series of direct hits over the Chicago area, a wave of showers and thunderstorms will deposit another inch or so of rain Thursday. With soils saturated and rivers and streams already swollen or flooding, many of those living close to waterways will have their hands full trying to stem the rising waters in coming days.

Major flooding is expected at Morris, Ottawa and LaSalle on the Illinois River as well as Shelby on the Kankakee River. Then most of our area should have a reprieve that will last through the weekend into the first part of next week, although southern sections could be clipped with a little rain from low pressure riding along the Ohio River Valley Friday night and early Saturday.

FRIDAY, MAY 3

HIGH 58 **LOW** 44

Clouds early, but the sun breaks through later in the morning—highs 55-60 with cooler readings at the lakefront due to easterly winds. Clouding over at night with a chance of light rain, mainly southern portions.

SATURDAY, MAY 4

HIGH 68 **LOW** 48

Clouds early, becoming mostly sunny. Highs 65-70 with a little cooler readings at the lakefront. Partly cloudy skies overnight. Light winds.

SUNDAY, MAY 5

HIGH 71 **LOW** 48

Partly cloudy skies and seasonably mild—highs around 70 degrees. Clouds and a slight chance of showers overnight. Southerly winds.

MONDAY, MAY 6

HIGH 74 **LOW** 56

Mix of sun and clouds with a slight chance of showers. Winds pick up out of the southwest bringing in warmer temps in the afternoon—highs in the low to mid 70s. Mostly cloudy with showers and t-storms likely overnight.

TUESDAY, MAY 7

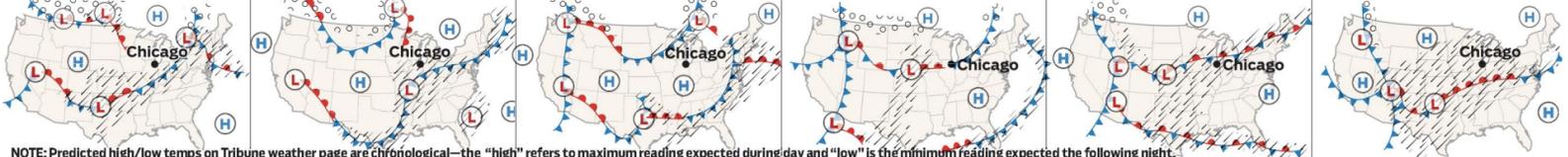
HIGH 65 **LOW** 45

A mix of sun and clouds with a good chance of showers or thunderstorms from time to time. Highs in the 60s north to lower 70s south. Showers and t-storms likely overnight. Southerly winds.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

HIGH 58 **LOW** 45

Mostly cloudy with showers and t-storms likely. Highs range from the 50s north to 70s south. Showers diminish overnight. Southerly winds shift to



NOTE: Predicted high/low temps on Tribune weather page are chronological—the “high” refers to maximum reading expected during day and “low” is the minimum reading expected the following night.

ASK TOM

Dear Tom,
Why does Lake Michigan act like a heater in the winter but in the summer it acts like an air conditioner?
Mrs. Smith's third-grade class, Aux Sable Elementary, Minooka

Dear third-graders,
The answer is the difference between air temperatures over land and over Lake Michigan. The temperature of air over the lake tends toward the temperature of the lake. That means “lake air” in the winter will often be warmer than colder air over the adjacent land because the lake surface will never be colder than 32 degrees. It's opposite in the summer. Lake Michigan water temperatures are usually no warmer than about 70 degrees, and air over the lake tries to attain that temperature. Thus, “lake air” is usually warmer than “land air” on our cold winter days, but it's usually chillier than air over the land on our hot summer days.

Write to: ASK TOM
2501 W. Bradley Place
Chicago, IL 60618
asktomwhy@wgntv.com

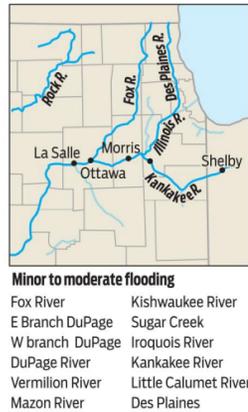
WGN-TV meteorologists Mark Carroll, Steve Kahn, Richard Koeneman, Paul Merzlock and Paul Dailey, plus Bill Snyder, contribute to this page.

Hear Tom Skilling's weather updates weekdays 3 to 6 p.m. on WGN-AM 720 Chicago.

Another inch of rain further burdens areas already in flood

FLASH FLOOD WATCH Until 5 p.m. Thursday

Major Flooding
Illinois River at LaSalle, Morris and Ottawa; Kankakee River at Shelby.



SOURCES: Frank Wachowski, National Weather Service archives

TOTAL 4-DAY RAINFALL



THURSDAY SET-UP

Showers and t-storms developing
Jet stream flow to our north, low pressure and a cold front approaching from the west with warm moist low-level southerly flow ahead of the approaching low/front creates instability showers/t-storms.

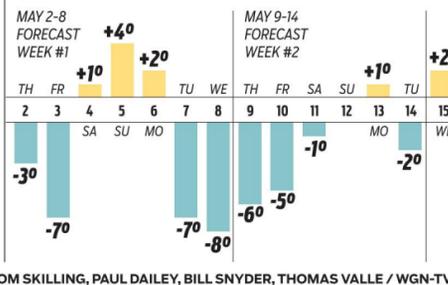


LAKE MICHIGAN'S CHILLY IMPACT ON THURSDAY'S TEMPS EVIDENT

Thursday forecast temperatures and afternoon winds

PREDICTED CHICAGO TEMPERATURE DEPARTURES

Milder weather this weekend—but no heat waves yet in sight..



TOM SKILLING, PAUL DAILEY, BILL SNYDER, THOMAS VALLE / WGN-TV

CHICAGO DIGEST

WEDNESDAY TEMPERATURES

LOCATION	HI	LO	LOCATION	HI	LO
Aurora	57	44	Midway	61	45
Gary	63	48	O'Hare	58	44
Kankakee	67	52	Romeoville	61	46
Lakefront	59	43	Valparaiso	68	57
Lansing	62	49	Waukegan	55	41

CHICAGO PRECIPITATION

PERIOD	2019	NORMAL
Wed. (through 4 p.m.)	0.80"	0.11"
May to date	0.80"	0.11"
Year to date	13.68"	9.51"

THURSDAY SUNBURN FORECAST

TIME OF EXPOSURE BEFORE SUNBURN BEGINS	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
7 a.m.	Burn unlikely	Burn unlikely
1 p.m.*	Over 60 minutes	Over 60 minutes
4 p.m.	Burn unlikely	Burn unlikely

SOURCE: Clear Skin Dermatology, Dr. Bryan Schultz

LAKE MICHIGAN CONDITIONS

THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Wind	N 11-22 kts. N 10-20 kts.
Waves	1-3 feet 2-4 feet
Wed. shore/creeper water temps	50°/39°

WEDNESDAY PEAK POLLEN LEVEL

POLLEN	LEVEL
Tree	0
Grass	0
Mold	Low
Ragweed	0
Weed	0

SOURCE: Gottlieb Memorial Hospital Allergy Count, Dr. Rachna Shah

CHICAGO AIR QUALITY

Wednesday's reading **Good**
Thursday's forecast **Good**
Critical pollutant **Particulates**

SUN 5:46 a.m. 7:50 p.m.
MOON 5:03 a.m. 5:34 p.m.



THURSDAY PLANET WATCH

PLANET	RISE	SET
Mercury	5:10 a.m.	6:05 p.m.
Venus	4:48 a.m.	5:24 p.m.
Mars	7:52 a.m.	11:09 p.m.
Jupiter	11:04 p.m.	8:18 a.m.
Saturn	1:59 a.m.	10:19 a.m.

BEST VIEWING TIME **DIRECTION**

Mercury	Not visible	
Venus	5:15 a.m.	4.5° E
Mars	8:45 p.m.	24.5° WNW
Jupiter	3:45 a.m.	25.5° S
Saturn	4:45 a.m.	25.5° SSE

SOURCE: Dan Joyce, Triton College

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Add some out-of-sight tasks to your spring cleaning list **PAGE 2**

Pruning best approach to winter-damaged boxwoods **PAGE 5**

Flexible PEX water piping a good alternative to copper **PAGE 6**

Chicago Tribune
HOMES



SET THE SCENE

Modern tech makes wallpaper murals affordable in any room **PAGE 4**

Time to tackle cleanup of home's neglected areas

HomeAdvisor

When was the last time you looked at the tops of your kitchen cabinets? Or worse yet, the area behind your stove? These areas rarely fit into a regular cleaning schedule. But every now and then, you have to take a look and tackle those most-forgotten chores. Here are some out-of-sight tasks you might be missing.

Showerheads and faucets: You may be diligent about water spots, but how often do you deep-clean your showerheads and faucets? If you can't remember, try this: Fill a small plastic bag with vinegar or a 50/50 water and vinegar solution; submerge the fixture head in the solution and secure the bag to it for an hour; remove the bag, run the water and give the fixture a quick scrub.

Lightbulbs: Lightbulbs are easy to forget, but a thick layer of dust can make them a fire hazard. Plan ahead so you can leave the lights off for a while. Then, remove



DREAMSTIME

Add something extra to your cleaning schedule, such as the oft-avoided insides of trash bins and the inside and tops of kitchen cabinets.

the bulbs and wipe the dust away with a dry cloth. You'll want to wear plain plastic gloves for halogen bulbs, which are sensitive to oils from our fingers.

Inside indoor waste bins: The insides of trash,

recycling and compost bins are often left to collect grime and residue — perhaps because we associate them with waste, not cleanliness. But this can lead to sanitation and odor issues. Give all of your trash cans, including those in your

bathrooms, a good scrub-down. And disinfect them for a fresh start.

Tops of cabinets, fridges and tall furniture: When you can't see the top of something, it won't be top of mind. But kitchen cabi-

nets, refrigerators and tall furniture can amass an impressive amount of dust and dander. In most cases, a good dusting will do the trick. But if the job is more challenging, be sure to use the appropriate cleaning solution for the surface material.

Drains and disposals: Sink stoppers and strainers keep drains and disposals out of sight, but they are magnets for gunk. Take a day to treat all of the drains and disposals in your home. Try adding baking soda, following with vinegar and stopping up the drain for a chemical reaction that will break down grime. Then, flush with hot water. Tackle leftover scum with a toothbrush for good measure.

Inside small and large appliances: We often overlook the insides of appliances, whether they're countertop toasters and coffeemakers or washers, ovens and refrigerators. Pick one or two to clean on your next free day. And remember details like

drip pans, crisper drawers, oven racks and the underside of your ventilation hood. If you're feeling ambitious, pull your appliances out and clean the area behind them.

Inside cabinetry: Though we use our cabinets nearly every day, we certainly don't clean them as often. Rather, we close the doors on medicine cabinets, under-sink areas, pantries and drawers and forget that they need maintenance. Choose one cabinet or drawer to detail when you're cleaning the house, and you'll have all-clean cabinets in no time!

The list doesn't end here. We also tend to forget things like air and exhaust vents, window tracks, ceiling fans, mattresses, the undersides of tables and chairs, bathroom accessories, handles, switches, curtains, upholstery and more.

If you're behind or don't have enough time for these sideline chores, consider a one-time deep cleaning service, so you can start off with a clean slate.

FINDS

Lamp charges phones wirelessly, eliminates desk clutter

BY GREGG ELLMAN
Tribune News Service

The LumiCharge II is coming to a desk near you.

After a successful crowdfunding campaign on Indiegogo, the multifunctional LED desk lamp charging station has launched and is available for purchase with a June delivery.

Even if you're one of the few who has a clutter-free desk, you'll still enjoy the

lamp's benefits and features. And if you're like me, with endless clutter, this makes a big dent in getting a few things cleaned up.

LumiCharge gives it an accurate reference as the "Swiss Army knife" of smart desk lamps. If you've used one of those knives, you'll understand the versatility of the lamp, which is far from just a lamp.

It is a lamp, and if you use it for just that, it's perfect, with 10 levels of light-

ing brightness and three LED light colors — all from energy-efficient low-heat LED bulbs. A motion sensor night light will detect movement in the dark and give you a soft light to find your way around.

A feature of the modern-looking device that shows off its functionality is the wireless charging area. The base of the lamp is a Qi wireless, fast-charging pad, so assuming you have a Qi-charging phone, just

place it on the base and it charges. Androids, iPhones or any other Qi-enabled phone will work.

A built-in universal charging dock spins around to expose lightning, USB-C, micro USB charging ports to dock and charge non-wireless devices. Only one of those connections can be used at a time since the dial exposes the one you're using while the others will be turned away. But there is an extra USB port to con-

nect your own charging cable for an additional device.

A smart LED dimmable display on the arm turns the lamp into an information center with the date, day of the week, temperature and time. A built-in alarm clock can be set for alerts and appointments.

After the crowdfunding campaign is over, the LumiCharge II will be \$159 and available in black, silver and white.



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Homer Glen \$409,900
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Lockport \$479,900
 Remodeled brk 5BR, 3.5BA home, top quality upgrds thru-out, mstr BR w/prvt bth. Beautifully updated. MLS# 10324809

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New Lenox \$1,295,000
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Orland Park \$629,900
 Custom all brick 5BR, 7BA 2sty w/main lvl mstr, offc & laundry. 2000sf fin bsmt w/BR & 2nd kitchen. MLS# 10309425

Ambassador Robert Shutay 708-349-1111



16337 Emerson Dr, Orland Park \$495,900
 New construction w/3BR, 2.5BA, cath clngs, HW, 1st flr mstr, offc & ldry, SS appls, fp, walkout bsmt. MLS# 10291474

Ambassador Robert Shutay 708-349-1111



Orland Park \$299,900
 Historic OP. 1st flr retail space 2000sf, 9ft clgs, 2nd flr 1600sf 2br, 2ba apt w/9ft clngs, bsmt. MLS# 10120868

Ambassador Robert Shutay 708-349-1111



Orland Park \$249,900
 Updated 2br townhome has mn lvl bdrm & laundry, 2sty LR w/frplc & skylites. Close to I-80 & train. MLS# 10353915

Ambassador Robert Shutay 708-349-1111



Orland Park \$245,000
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Ambassador Robert Shutay 708-349-1111



Palos Park \$541,000
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219-878-2972

Michigan City, IN



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Morris



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815-474-6670

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Wallpaper murals no longer a splurge

Digital-printing technology is making them accessible to the masses

BY MICHELLE BRUNNER

The Washington Post

Designers love scenic wallpaper for its ability to transform a room. Unlike regular wallpaper, which often has a repeating pattern, scenic wallpaper fills an entire wall with a single, mural-like image. Usually depicting an outdoor tableau, the wallpaper brings nature inside and lends old-world appeal to a space. Just flip through any recent design magazine and you'll probably see a well-appointed room with walls covered in large-scale images of flowering vines or swaying trees.

"People embrace things that feel handmade and have a link to the past," says Susan Harter, who makes hand-painted scenic wallpaper in her Port Townsend, Wash., studio. "At a time when we're being bombarded with technology, it's nice to be in a haven of one's own making. It's like entering a peaceful mini-Eden."

Until recently, if you wanted the look, you had to splurge on custom wallcoverings from luxury brands such as Zuber et Cie, Gracie Studio, de Gournay and Fromental. Those handmade paper or silk panels can cost thousands of dollars, and that's without installation.

But scenic wallpaper has become far more accessible. Thanks to digital-printing technology that allows retailers to duplicate the look inexpensively, you no longer have to blow your entire decorating budget on a few pricey panels of chinoiserie.

High-definition printers aren't exactly new to the luxury wallpaper business; the London-based brand Iksel has been producing high-end digital collections based on hand-painted works since 2004. And Harter's company, Susan Harter Muralpapers, has been using the technology for several years to turn her hand-painted murals into custom canvas wallcoverings.

Now, mass-market retailers are getting in the game: Anthropolo-

gie, Minted, Tempaper and U.K.-based Woodchip & Magnolia are just a handful of the companies offering lower-priced versions, making it easier than ever to embellish a blank wall with a painterly image of a meadow or garden. Wallpaper murals from Anthropologie and Woodchip & Magnolia can be ordered online for less than \$300.

Even renters can upgrade their space with a nature-inspired scene: Minted offers abstract landscapes created by independent artists in peel-and-stick panels, starting at \$330, and Tempaper's removable wallpaper features chinoiserie-inspired blooms and lush tropical foliage at \$12 per square foot.

Scenic wallpaper has been enlivening homes for more than 300 years. Most examples can be traced back to two styles: Chinese panels and French panoramic scenes. According to Greg Herringshaw, assistant curator of wallcoverings at the Cooper Hewitt Smithsonian Design Museum in New York, the earliest examples of hand-painted decorative panels came from China in the late 17th century. They often featured flowers, birds and trees, or tradesmen at work and were rendered in an intentionally naive, shallow perspective. The popularity of chinoiserie soared through the 19th century, and the wallpaper made its way to Europe and the United States as an import from the East India Company, following the trade routes of the time. French panoramic papers used a more realistic perspective and showed highly detailed landscapes.

Because of its expense and dramatic appearance, scenic wallpaper has traditionally been used in high-traffic rooms where visitors would be impressed by such a lavish display. Today, you're still most likely to spot the wallcoverings in places where guests congregate, especially dining rooms. "There isn't usually as much furniture to obstruct the view," says Alexandria, Va., de-



JOHN BESSLER

Designer Shazalynn Cavin-Winfrey covered dining room walls in a Virginia home with a mural from Gracie Studio.



MINTED

Lindsay Megahed's Meadowland removable wallpaper is sold by Minted, one of the retailers getting into mural wallpaper.

signer Shazalynn Cavin-Winfrey. "The table and chairs are generally centered in the room as opposed to sitting on the periphery, and they also tend to be more formal spaces."

For a home in McLean, Va., Cavin-Winfrey covered the dining room walls with a luxurious, one-of-a-kind design from Gracie Studio. The homeowners are avid birdwatchers, and the gilded

paper reflects a variety of flora and fauna that are indigenous to the region. For another project, she canvassed the walls of a sitting room, literally, with murals from Harter depicting bucolic rolling hills in the English countryside.

Lower-priced scenic wallpapers are gaining acceptance in design circles too. Anthropologie's Etched Arcadia mural, for

example, was recently used by two local interior designers known for their mix of traditional and modern elements: Lauren Liess of Great Falls created a statement wall in her offices using the grisaille (or gray-toned) forest scene; northern Virginia designer Alison Giese liked it so much she installed it in two different projects.

The newfound accessibility of scenic wallpaper also helps solve a variety of routine design problems. Take the ever-present open floor plan: "Murals are the perfect way to define a space," says Giese, who used one to delineate a dining room in an open-concept living area.

And for the space-challenged, a scenic landscape can make a big difference. "It seems counterintuitive, but a mural can make a small space feel much larger," Herringshaw says.

Another bonus is that the wallpaper becomes the focal point of the room, reducing the need for additional art. "Any place you have a feature wall is a good place to try a mural," Giese says. It's also an easy way to add character to your space, especially if it's not blessed with a lot of architectural detail.

Michelle Brunner is a freelancer.

Large trees are usually sold with their roots wrapped in burlap.



MORTON ARBORETUM

Planting a large tree? You're going to need help

BY BETH BOTTS
Chicago Tribune

If you're planting a large tree this spring, the technique will be somewhat different from planting a smaller tree grown in a pot, as explained last week.

A large tree, with a trunk more than an inch in diameter, is grown in a nursery's field and sold with a ball of soil and roots wrapped in burlap, tied with rope and often contained in a wire basket.

Because it's large and comes with a lot of soil, a balled-and-burlapped tree will be heavier than the potted trees often bought by homeowners. "Consider having it planted by a certified arborist or landscaping firm," said Sharon Yiesla, plant knowledge specialist at The Morton Arboretum in Lisle.

If you choose to plant a balled-and-burlapped tree yourself, recruit enough helpers to manage its weight and bulk safely. When you get the tree home, take care not to lift or drag it by its trunk or branches. Always lift it and handle it by the root ball (the roots and soil wrapped in burlap).

The most critical con-

cern when planting any tree is to avoid planting it too deep, which can smother the roots. "That ... can eventually lead to the decline or even death of the tree," Yiesla said.

When the tree is planted, the root flare — where the trunk widens out to the roots — should sit at or slightly above the surrounding soil. At the nursery, look for the root flare at the top of the root ball on any tree you buy. It should not be buried in soil inside the burlap.

Before digging, measure the depth of the root ball. Make the hole at least two to three times as wide as the root ball. It should have sloping sides and be no deeper than necessary.

Gently roll the tree into the hole. Open the burlap and remove any soil on the root ball above the root flare. Be sure the root flare is at or above the rim of the hole. Check that the tree is standing straight. Cut away as much burlap, rope and wire as you can reach.

There's no need to remove them from beneath the root ball. Look for roots that are growing sideways around the root ball. Cut these roots so that new, spreading roots can grow

from the cut ends. "Otherwise, those roots will keep growing in a circle," Yiesla said. "Eventually, they can strangle the tree."

Use the soil you removed to fill in around the root ball. Smooth the soil evenly out from the root flare. Spread mulch in a wide, even layer, 3 to 4 inches deep, in a circle around the tree. Do not pile any mulch against the trunk, which can cause rot and other problems.

Water the tree by gently pouring at least four 5-gallon buckets of water slowly onto the soil around the trunk or use a gentle stream from the hose. Keep watering the tree at regular intervals for at least two to three years, until it is well established.

"A balled-and-burlapped tree loses much of its root system when it's dug up for transplanting," Yiesla said. "It needs extra help to get enough water until its roots grow back."

For tree and plant advice, contact the Arboretum's Plant Clinic, 630-719-2424 or plantclinic@mortonarb.org.

Beth Botts is a staff writer at the Morton Arboretum.

How to help boxwood, other evergreens after tough winter

BY TIM JOHNSON
Chicago Tribune

The winter burn on my boxwood seems to be getting much worse. What can I do to help them recover?
— Bob Anderson, Wheeling

There is widespread winter damage on boxwood growing in different exposures this year. The recent warm weather has brought on a more rapid progression of visible damage to boxwood and other evergreens in gardens. The damage may continue to worsen as conditions warm up. The signs of winter burn are very easy to see now and include golden, tan or brown leaves, as well as foliage that has developed an overall yellowish or off-green color. Leaves may appear bleached.

There is not much for you to do for your boxwood at this point other than pruning out the dead wood and foliage, which will help get more sun to the living interior stems to encourage new foliage to develop. Try to make your pruning cuts just above a live stem or healthy leaves.

If the foliage under the top dead layer of the plant is dark green, then it should recover after pruning the dead foliage off. If the entire plant is tan or brown, and you do not see any life in the lower stems, then your shrub is most likely dead. Scratch a few branches to see if there is any green to check for viability — scratch a healthy branch to get a sense of a healthy green color to compare with.

If your evergreen has an overall off-green or yellowish color, then it will be best to give it two to three more weeks to improve. If it has not shown any improvement at that point, then you should consider replacing it. It may still



CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDEN

There has been widespread damage to boxwood over the winter, and the toll is becoming even more obvious now that the weather is getting warmer.

green up and recover, though the chances are less likely now than they were a couple of weeks ago, since there has been some warm weather.

Once you prune off the outer layer of dead foliage, your plants may still be in trouble if the remaining green foliage is starting to dry out while still having a green color. If this foliage starts turning an off-green color after pruning, then the plant is most likely dead. Scratch the bark on a few stems to see if there is any green color under the bark. Any branches that are off-color and have bark peeling off the lower stems are most likely going to die, so it will be best to prune those branches out now.

It is a good idea to prune out any individual sections that you can confirm as dead, to encourage new growth to start filling in the resulting holes.

It is best practice to disinfect your pruners with Lysol disinfectant between pruning each boxwood to prevent the spreading of any possible infection of boxwood blight.

Once you prune the branches out, it becomes a decision on your part whether you can live with the shrub's appearance. Boxwood are slow-growing, so the recovery can easily take two years or more, depending on the extent of the damage and how much dead foliage was pruned off.

Volutella blight on boxwood looks similar to winter damage with leaves turning orange, to bronze and then straw-colored. The *Volutella* fungus infects wounds in the branch bark caused by winter injury. The bark at the base of an infected branch will get loose and readily peel off from the gray-to-black discolored wood beneath.

Prune out infected branches, and remove any dead leaves under the plant. Be sure to disinfect your pruners between each shrub to prevent spreading this disease. Fungicide applications may be necessary to save plants in some situations.

Tim Johnson is director of horticulture for the Chicago Botanic Garden in Glencoe.

PEX offers alternative to copper pipe

BY TIM CARTER
Tribune Content Agency

Q: I'm building a new home and have the option of using PEX piping for my hot and cold water in the house, as opposed to traditional copper. Do you have an opinion about both materials? Have you used both? What do you have in your own home?

A: PEX plastic water piping for drinking water has been around for almost three decades now. It was introduced in the late 1960s, and its use as radiant floor heating exploded in Europe in the 1970s.

During the early part of my plumbing career, I installed only traditional copper water lines. It was a mainstay in the Midwest. However, the plumbing codes started to permit the use of PEX, and once plumbers became comfortable using it, its use started to grow like dandelions in the spring.

I have PEX piping in my own home for both the radiant heating system and all of the hot and cold water that's supplied to each faucet. It's important to realize there are different brands of PEX. While the piping chemistry may be the same or very similar in each brand, the method you use connect the pipe to fittings may vary. The product that I've come to trust and use is AquaPEX, which employs an ingenious ex-

panding compression collar at each end of the tubing to create a leak-proof connection.

Installing traditional copper can be a complex and time-consuming process if you solder the tubing to the fittings. In the past decade, there's been a shift to connecting copper tubing and fittings with a pressing tool that crimps the fittings onto the end of the tubing without using molten solder. An inner rubber O-ring in a raised collar on each fitting, along with the crimping, creates a leak-proof joint. I have these press fittings in my own home where the copper water lines connect my modulating boiler to the heating distribution manifolds.

The copper press fitting system saves enormous amounts of time. It takes only seconds to create a leakproof connection. However, you may have to install quite a few of these press fittings to supply water to just one fixture. PEX piping eliminates all these fittings.

PEX water piping is much like electrical wiring. It's flexible, and you can run long lengths of it from a central distribution manifold all the way to the plumbing fixture without any joints. These long runs of tubing from a fixture to a manifold are called home runs. You can install one PEX pipe in just minutes if your home is framed using

open floor trusses. The home run system allows you to turn off the hot or cold water to just one fixture and still have water working at all other fixtures.

The fastest way to install hot and cold water lines in a home or room addition is the PEX piping employing an uninterrupted single-pipe between each fixture and the central manifold. To put this in perspective, my son-in-law and I installed all of the hot and cold water lines to his new four-bathroom home in less than three hours. You could never accomplish this feat using copper, even with the wonderful press fittings.

I have a video at my AsktheBuilder.com website showing you how fast and easy it is to create one of these PEX connections using the simple expansion compression collars. You'll be astonished at how simple it is to work with PEX water lines.

Q: I need your help connecting my new gas water heater to my chimney. My chimney has an 8-by-8-inch clay flue liner that runs just under 20 feet from the inlet in the basement to the top of the chimney on my roof. The water heater vent pipe is 3-inch PVC. The water heater has a 50-gallon capacity with a 40,000 Btu burner. Should I install a 4-inch



TIM CARTER PHOTO

The red and blue PEX piping will supply hot and cold water to plumbing fixtures in this new home when connected to a distribution manifold inside the closet.

pipe from the new water heater to the flue liner?

A: I receive lots of email from homeowners asking detailed questions about exactly how to install any number of building products. However, in most cases I'm the wrong person to ask, and you should be extremely cautious following the advice from others whom you have not vetted to determine their depth of their experience solving the exact problem you face.

When it comes to the nuances of installing products and mechanical equipment such as a new water heater, there's only one

accurate source for your answer: the manufacturer of the product or fixture. The first place to start is by reading the product label or the instruction manual.

In this case, you need to understand that the water heater venting system is most likely controlled by a very tiny yet powerful computer that's connected to sensors within the water heater. The vent may have to be PVC from the heater all the way up through the roof or out a side wall.

There may be limits to the length of the pipe and the number and types of fittings that can be installed be-

tween the water heater and the end of the pipe outdoors.

In other words, stop simply hoping that something will work when you install it. The risk is that you or your family could die from carbon monoxide poisoning if you install it improperly.

Take the time to read what the manufacturer wants you to do. In many cases, it may have its own installation videos showing you what to do. Remember, if you want to be safe and you want the warranty with a product, only do what the manufacturer says to do.

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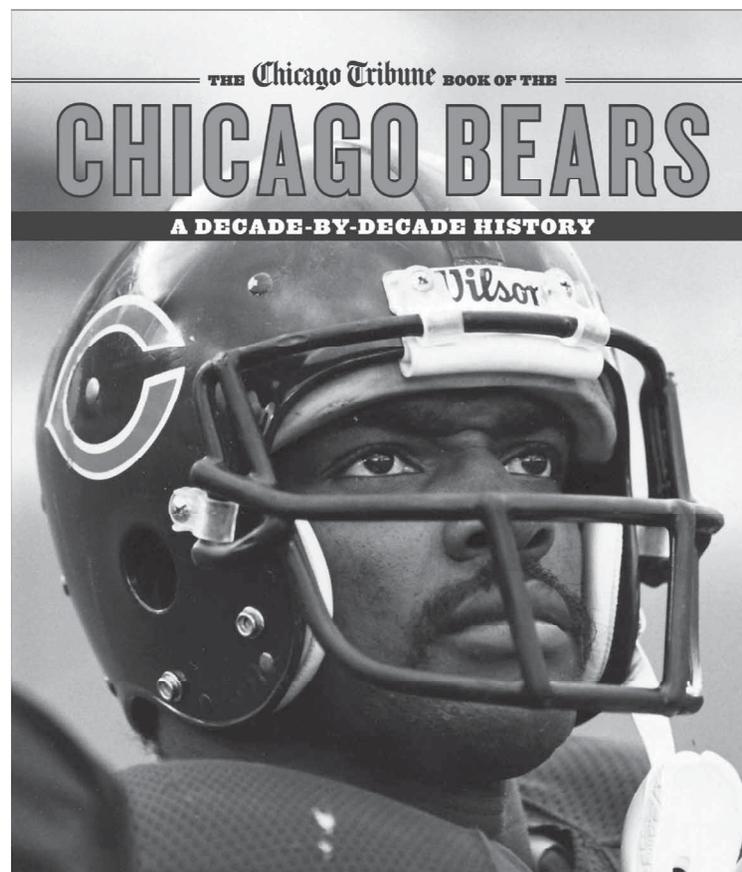
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DREAMSTIME

Resealing and staining can add years to the life of your wood deck.

HOME REMEDIES

Preparing your deck for warm-weather months

BY PAUL F.P. POGUE
Angie's List

An outdoor deck provides great comfort and luxury for spring and summer outdoor entertaining. But even the most well-constructed deck needs to be well-maintained and inspected every so often. Wood decks require the most maintenance, but composite decks need to be checked as well. Follow these steps to ensure a safe deck season for your family.

Inspect your deck: At least once per year, conduct your own inspection of the deck to identify problems and prepare for the season.

- Sweep it clear of debris, furniture, toys and so on. You want a clean surface to check out, and sometimes furniture can get in the way of what you need to see. Debris and leaves that remain in the same spot for a long time can contribute to mold.
- Carefully check all the nails, screws and other fasteners. Any fastener that is loose, corroded or rusted

needs to be tightened or repaired.

- Check all railings, banisters and stairs for stability and tripping hazards. If a rail or banister can move when you push against it, or a stair has loose boards, hire a professional to repair it.
- Inspect all the boards for weakness or decay. In particular, look for small holes in wood boards; they can indicate insect infestation. If you can push a screwdriver into the wood, it's too weak and should be replaced.

Deck cleaning and sealing: Wood decks can last for decades, but they need to be regularly cleaned and sealed to stay in top condition. Wear and tear, rain and sun take their toll. A dirty deck poses many problems. Not only can it make the deck less attractive, the slippery surface creates a safety risk. Mold and mildew will cause long-term damage if not removed.

If you're not sure whether your deck needs to be resealed, sprinkle some water on the surface.

If the water beads up, your sealant is still effective. If it seeps into the wood, you need to reseat the deck.

Every few years, hire a professional to perform a cleaning and sealing process. The money you pay will be well worth it for the extended life span of your deck.

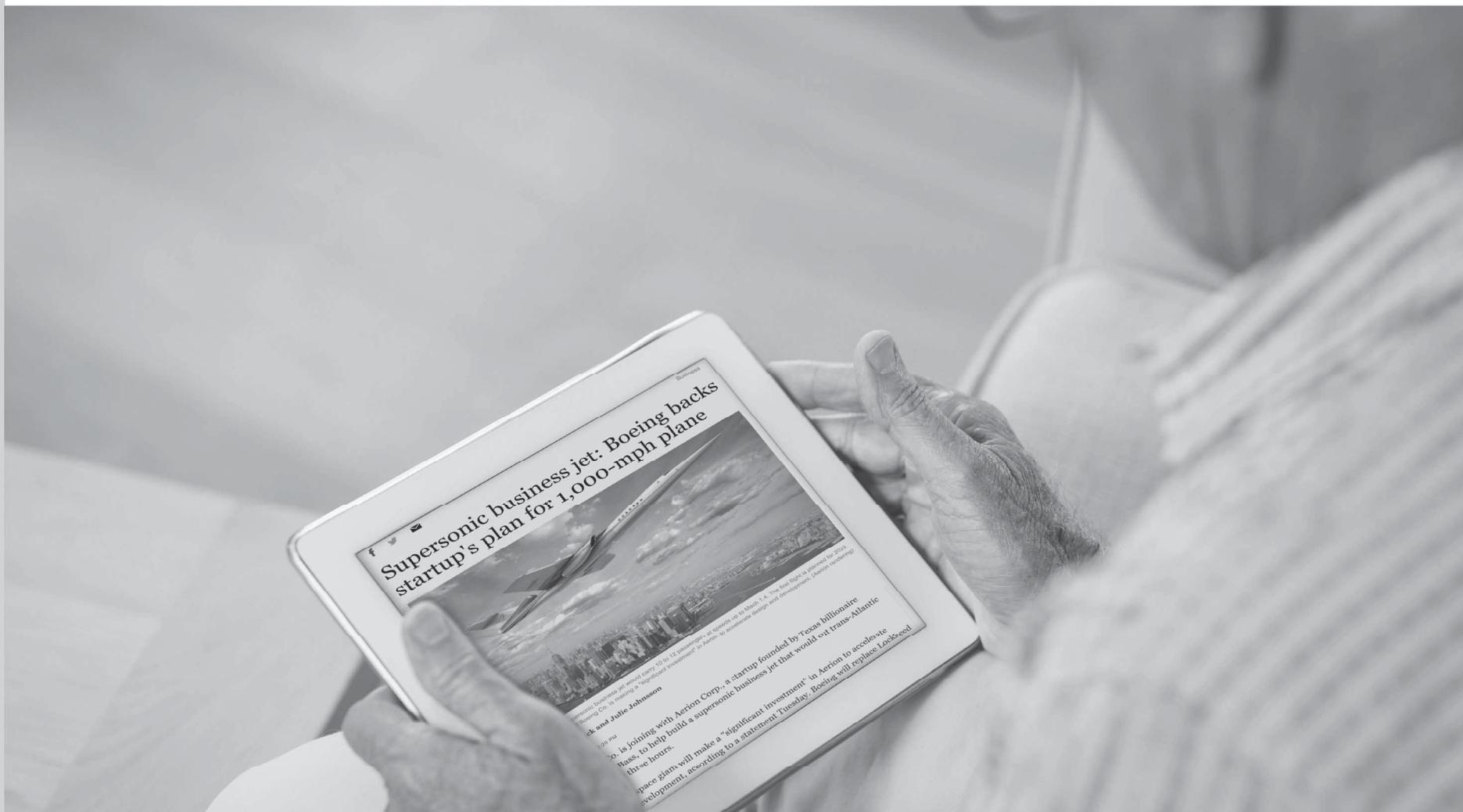
A professional should use the correct power washing settings to avoid splintering the wood. Also make sure that they use cleaning chemicals that are recommended by the manufacturer for your particular type of wood.

Even if you don't get it resealed, a deck can use a good cleaning at least once per year. For smaller decks, you can do the work with a long-handled scrub brush. A larger deck will require a pressure washing job.

When you're cleaning and sealing your deck, also consider restaining it. Wood stain loses color over time as it accumulates damage and debris. Removing the grime will restore some of the color, but after a few years, a new coat of stain will brighten it up.

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SAVINGS UPDATE

How to foil phone scammers trying to get your bank info

Whether or not you're familiar with the term phishing, you've most likely been a target. That's because phishing scams attempt to access the private banking info of millions of Americans every year. Fortunately, easy-to-follow rules of thumb can help you thwart phishing criminals and keep your money safe.

A common strategy of phishers is to call you directly, presenting themselves as your bank. They may suggest there's an issue regarding your account that needs your urgent attention, or they may simply say they're conducting routine account maintenance. What they'll likely ask for next is your bank account number, your banking login credentials, or your social security number.

Private information like this should never be provided over the phone to someone who has contacted you, since you have no idea who is actually on the other end of the line. No matter how official

and convincing the caller may sound, someone calling to ask for this type of information should raise a red flag.

If the scammer doesn't succeed in coaxing this information out of you in the initial phone call, they're likely to try a couple more tactics. One is to urge you to call a phone number they provide for your bank, or to visit a specific web address that they provide. These are most likely spoofed numbers and sites, with calls being answered by accomplices of the caller and the fake website siphoning your sensitive information or installing malware on your computer.

The way to thwart them is to not provide sensitive information during the initial phone call, and to avoid calling any number or visiting any website the caller provides. If you want to contact your bank, call them at the phone number listed on your statements, or type your bank's known web address directly into your browser.

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