

CHICAGO SPORTS

# Only pride on the line

The Bears' 100th season started with Super Bowl hopes. It ended Sunday with a 21-19 victory over Vikings backups.

STACEY WESCOTT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE



ALEX BRANDON/AP

President Trump addresses military members during a Thanksgiving Day visit to Afghanistan.

# Taliban agree to limited cease-fire

Temporary deal opens up window for a peace agreement with the US

BY KATHY GANNON AND RAHIM FAIEZ  
Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — The Taliban's ruling council agreed Sunday to a temporary cease-fire in Afghanistan, providing a window in which a peace agreement with the United States can be signed, officials from the insurgent group said. They didn't say when it would begin.

A cease-fire had been demanded by Washington before any peace agreement could be signed. A peace deal would allow the U.S. to bring home its troops from Afghanistan and end its 18-year military engagement there, America's longest.

There was no immediate response from Washington.

The U.S. wants any deal to include a promise from the Taliban that Afghanistan would not be used as a base by terrorist groups. The U.S. currently has an estimated 12,000 troops in Afghanistan.

The Taliban chief must approve the cease-fire decision but that was expected. The duration of the cease-fire was not specified but it was suggested it would last for 10 days. It was also not specified when the cease-fire would begin.

Four members of the Taliban negotiating team met for a week with the ruling council before they agreed on the brief cease-fire. The negotiating team returned Sunday to Qatar where the Taliban maintain their political office and where U.S. special peace

Turn to Deal, Page 10

# Tax, fee increases coming in 2020

Hikes in ride-share fees, food and drink tax and downtown parking meter rates start in new year

BY JOHN BYRNE

Chicagoans won't face the dreaded huge property tax hike many feared in the new year, but Mayor Lori Lightfoot's budget still will dip into residents' pockets.

For one thing, property taxes will go up, just not by the astronomical amount that loomed when the new mayor delivered a prime time August speech to unveil the \$838 million budget deficit she said she inherited.

Lightfoot increased property taxes by \$18 million to pay for Sunday hours at libraries. Property taxes will go up about \$50 million more thanks to a \$32 million increase aldermen approved under Mayor Rahm Emanuel to pay for debt service, and another \$15 million or so for the value of new property in the city.

There's also a tax increase of \$5 million in the Chicago Park District budget. And as usual, the school district boosted its property taxes by the maximum increase allowed under state law. For 2020, that's a \$150 million jump.

None of the increases alone would be significant, but together they could be noticeable depending on the assessed value of an individual's home.

In addition, there are other fee increases on tap in the new year.

Perhaps the most controversial

Turn to Increases, Page 6



Nurse Christina Deacy helps prepare Marqus Valentine for a blood exchange transfusion at Edward Hospital in Naperville on Dec. 4.

# Stigmas, stereotypes and sickle cell disease

Complex on its own, but black men with the illness battle even more

BY CHRISTEN A. JOHNSON

Doctors didn't expect Marqus Valentine to live past age 5. The prognosis was so certain that the Valentine family was granted a free trip to Universal Studios to the set of "The Ghostbusters" from a foundation as a dying wish.

Although Valentine beat those odds, his troubles didn't stop. Diagnosed with sickle cell disease as a baby, he repeated kindergarten because of missing a lot of school due to lengthy hospitalizations and even had a stroke in fourth grade during class, he said.

Growing up during the height of the AIDS epidemic, his classmates didn't want to play with him because they thought Valentine was contagious. Invitations to birthday parties stopped, and as he got older, he spent the rest of his childhood years receiving monthly blood transfusions, as well as other treatments.

"My peers, no one understood sickle cell," said Valentine.

The disease is complex physiologically, manifesting itself differently in every carrier, but also sociologically, bringing in factors like racial bias, since sickle cell is believed to be most common among minority

Turn to Disease, Page 4

# New year, still the same construction projects

Major work to continue on Jane Byrne Interchange, Edens Spur and Central Tri-State, plus rail projects

MARY WISNIEWSKI  
Getting Around

Illinois residents will experience stop-and-go deja vu next year, with many construction projects continuing from years past.

The Jane Byrne Interchange reconstruction won't be done. Neither will the rebuilding and widening of part of Interstate 294, the Tri-State Tollway. There's better news about some other

long-running projects as well as some good and bad news for your wallet.

For a second year in a row, the CTA, Metra and Pace will not raise fares, though there will be higher fees on the Chicago Skyway, with car tolls going up 30 cents to \$5.60. It was \$2 before it was privatized in 2005.

Here's a rundown of projects coming, or continuing, around the Chicago area:

## Expressways

On the Jane Byrne, the ramp from outbound Ida B. Wells Drive to the outbound Kennedy Expressway will close Saturday in

order to demolish and rebuild it before the end of 2020, according to the Illinois Department of Transportation.

It will be just the first major closure of the year at the Byrne Interchange, which is going to

have a rough 2020. Upcoming work also includes the closure and reconstruction of the inbound Eisenhower ramp to the outbound Kennedy, as well as

Turn to Around, Page 6



Vehicles on Interstate 290 east slow to a crawl in September as they inch closer toward construction at the Jane Byrne Interchange.

# John Lewis reveals cancer diagnosis

The Democratic representative of Georgia, an icon of the civil rights movement, said on Sunday that he plans to return to Washington to continue work and begin treatment for stage IV pancreatic cancer.

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GARY MIDDENDORF/DAILY SOUTHTOWN

Eisenhower teacher Cheryl Sansone shows a device that helps monitor and adjust implanted neurostimulators.

Teacher demonstrates how technology can change a life

Stimulators implanted in her brain alleviate uncontrollable shaking

By DONNA VICKROY

It's just after 8 a.m. and Cheryl Sansone's forensic science class is about to see how medical technology can change a person's life. Inside the Eisenhower High School lab, where Sansone has taught chemistry and biology, on this day, she is the experiment.

She is about to demonstrate the pre- and post-surgery effects of a neurological disorder called essential tremors.

"I have a stimulator with a little antennae," she says, holding the device against her chest. Inside her body are implanted stimulators reaching up to her brain.

She turns the device off and holds up both arms. They immediately begin to shake, worsening quickly.

After a few seconds, her whole body is shaking.

Then she turns the device back on and the shaking slows and stops within seconds.

She explains to the class how essential tremors, a hereditary, progressive condition that can affect anyone, claims actress Katherine Hepburn, musician Ozzie Osbourne and Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor among the sufferers.

Marked by uncontrollable shaking, the disorder left Sansone unable to use a fork, sip from a glass of water or put a key in a door lock, finally convincing the

former head swim coach to undergo brain surgery.

Deep brain stimulation surgery is a two-step operation during which electrodes are implanted into the brain and connected via a system of wires to a chest device. Sansone had it in done four and a half years ago after her condition had escalated and other options were eliminated.

Today she monitors her battery and is able to slightly adjust the stimulator as needed.

"My younger son jokes that I'm a cyborg now," she told the students.

Sansone was diagnosed about six years ago when she was going through a stressful situation in her life, she said. She suspects, however, that she had the condition for much longer, often attributing slight shaking to allergy medications.

The disorder quickly went out of control, prompting her to change her teaching style, relying on power points instead of writing on the board and eventually compelling her to stop teaching chemistry because it requires handling chemicals.

"I'm sharing my story because a lot of people know someone with Parkinson's (disease)," she said. "It's important especially as someone working in the science field to share that there is a lot of help out there. You just need to know where to go."

There are more than 200,000 cases of essential tremors in the United States, she said, and often it is misdiagnosed as Parkinson's disease.

Though essential tremors is often treated with medication and many patients, Sansone's brother among them, have had success with that, that route did not work for her.

A mother of two sons, age 30 and 26, Sansone said she recently became engaged to a man she'd met while in the throes of her condition.

"It had to be very scary for him. But he was very supportive," she said.

Surgery, Sansone said, was her last hope.

"It's crazy," she said. "You have to be awake for the surgery. They put you out when they're drilling into your skull but after that they wake you up."

"They have to make sure the placement is in the right spot so they had me doing different exercises," she said.

That included drawing spirals. She showed the class her before- and after-stimulation drawings.

Sansone underwent the first surgery on June 8, 2015, and the second a week later.

"I was watching the Blackhawks win the Stanley Cup Championship game from the Neuro Intensive Care Unit (at Rush Hospital)," she said. "I will always remember that day."

She had to let the brain heal for a month after the operations before doctors could turn the device on, but once they did, her life

changed dramatically, she said.

Though she had to re-teach herself how to write, the treatment enabled her to go back to teaching in the fall and by September, she was off all neuro medications, she said.

The students ask if she felt anything during the surgery. She replies no. They wonder how long her battery can last. She tells them she keeps a close watch on it. And they ask if metal detectors are a hassle. They can be, she says, particularly those at the airports.

But today, she tells them, she can eat soup, pour a glass of milk and reach for things on shelves without knocking everything over. People can read the checks she writes and the tip amount she adds to a restaurant bill.

The whole process, she said, cost \$183,000, of which she had to pay \$500 out of pocket.

"I can do anything except things that shake my head, like riding a roller coaster, which I'm bummed about," she said. "But I can swim, shower, I can dive off the board."

"My life has changed a million times over."



DAHLEEN GLANTON has the day off



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Chicago Tribune

# CHICAGOLAND

## Refugee uses her experience to help others

Helps spot mental health challenges among immigrants

BY ALISON BOWEN

On her white board are several dates written in red marker.

Ekram Hanna wrote those dates in the fall, when she learned she would have funding for a daylong mental health training she hoped to coordinate.

“When you put something in your mind, you just do it,” she said.

Hanna is an Iraqi immigrant who is certified as a mental health first aid instructor. She trains others on how to recognize signs and stigmas of mental health among immigrant populations.

She was one of about 15 people who became certified to lead mental health first aid trainings, in part through an Office of Refugee Resettlement grant, said Isabelle Darling, a clinical mental health consultant for the National Partnership for Community Training, a program of Gulf Coast Jewish Family and Community Services based in Clearwater, Florida.

“We recognize that refugees need to be at the forefront of the conversation,” Darling said. “We knew that this was an area where we would need advocates from within the community to advocate for mental health, for delivering the language and purpose for this work.”

People benefit from hearing from others who have experienced similar challenges. For refugees, mental trauma does not begin or end at the time of flight,



ABEL URIBE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Ekram Hanna, right, shares ideas with Jackie Kalan, while conducting a mental health training at the MIRA office.

Darling said.

“We tend to think that the refugee experience of fleeing is where the challenges start, but a lot of times it starts even beforehand,” she said, like when a person’s home country begins to feel unsafe or his family is at risk or separated. “All of these experiences end up building.”

Darling said Hanna brought a clear passion for connecting the right language about mental health to immigrants.

“She was definitely one of the standouts,” Darling said.

The eight-hour trainings that Hanna now provides cover topics such as providing help to people experiencing depression, anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorder, and understand-

ing the stigma of mental health. Many immigrants are hesitant to share difficulties, much less seek help through a therapist.

“For us, we don’t even talk about that,” Hanna said. “We really need to talk about that.”

Many immigrants and refugees arrive in the U.S. after experiencing trauma in their own country, and then confront mental health challenges as they try to adjust to a completely different culture and language. Often, they are doing all of this while trying to find employment and enduring separation from their families.

At the first training that Hanna held, which she said included a representative from the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement, she

trained colleagues at the Middle Eastern Immigrant and Refugee Alliance, where she is a community engagement manager, and staffers at other service agencies.

Hanna understands how hard it can be to adjust to a new country and a new life. When she arrived from Iraq in 2012 with her husband and two children, then ages 6 and 4, she experienced depression. Even though she felt confident in her education, she said having the confidence to speak the language was her biggest barrier.

“You have to learn everything as a baby,” she said. “When it comes to speaking, this is a big thing.”

Hanna didn’t leave the house for several months when she first arrived in

Chicago because she wasn’t able to communicate well.

“It was really hard for me,” she said.

Ultimately, finding a job and a routine, and a community, helped, she said.

The experience gave her a passion for nudging others to leave the home and learn English. Right now, she runs a group for women, many of whom are refugees from countries including Afghanistan, Jordan, Egypt, Iraq and Syria. It is something she has dreamed about for years. A decade ago, she worked with a group in northern Iraq focused on empowering women.

“I felt like that’s the thing that I wanted to do,” Hanna said.

Often, she said, she encounters women who stay

home for years without speaking English. Many of the women do not feel comfortable with everyday activities like taking the bus.

“I have passion to help these ladies,” Hanna said. “A lot of people, they came as immigrants or refugees, but especially for a woman, in our community, they don’t have the courage to go out and do stuff by themselves. So they just stay home, even for years.”

“I want to change the way that these ladies think,” she added. “Because when you think that you are less than a man, you will feel like you are limited.”

The most recent training she facilitated included 17 people who work with immigrant service groups, and counseling students, and a doctor.

“It was an amazing group,” she said. “That was really encouraging.”

Hanna hopes participants will take the lessons they learned and teach others. Even if they check on people around them, they will have taken something away, she said. “Sometimes just showing other people that we care about them, that helps a lot,” she said.

Ultimately, she would like to translate the entire training to Arabic. That will require funding to pay professional translators. But that way, she can give the training to many in her group of women too.

“I want people to know, it’s OK if you feel like you don’t feel good,” she said. “But just try to take that courage to ask for help first.”

abowen@chicagotribune.com

## Gary mayor reflects on her eight years in office

BY CAROLE CARLSON

Eight years ago, Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson swept into office with 86% of the vote. The landslide victory made her the first woman mayor in Gary, Indiana’s 106-year history and the state’s first African American woman mayor.

“Now, the real work begins,” Freeman-Wilson told her supporters on that November election night in 2011.

Like many politicians, the early popularity had an expiration date. It came in May when she lost a bruising primary fight to Lake County Assessor Jerome Prince, who will be sworn in as Gary’s next mayor at 10 a.m. Monday at the Genesis Convention Center.

When Freeman-Wilson took the oath in 2012, the city teetered on bankruptcy, vacant homes marred the neighborhoods and crime framed Gary’s image.

Prince convinced voters that the city isn’t any better today and based his successful primary victory on that platform, urging them to “re-imagine” Gary.

### The beginning

In 2012, Freeman-Wilson came into office with her own blueprint for Gary’s revival created by teams of citizens preparing the transition.

She reached out to former Newark, N.J., Mayor Cory Booker, now a 2020 Democratic presidential candidate. She sought his advice because their cities faced similar problems.

About 80% of the city’s 2012 \$47 million budget went to police and fire protection. New property tax caps would soon reduce the budget even more.

At her first State of the City address in 2012, she projected a \$10 million to \$15 million deficit and hoped a new local option income tax would ease the

losses.

That same year, Allegiant Airlines began a short-lived Florida passenger service at the Gary/Chicago International Airport. Citing a lack of demand, the airline bailed in 2013.

The new mayor hoped to ignite the city’s comeback with an inland casino, airport improvements, and a lakefront site at Buffington Harbor providing a shipping and warehousing alternative to Chicago. She also targeted a teaching hospital near Indiana University Northwest.

She got three out of the four.

This year, a casino operator received state approval for a \$300 million inland casino slated to open next year south of the Borman Expressway.

The airport opened its extended \$175 million runway in 2015 and it’s managed by a private developer who pledged \$100 million over a 40-year period.

The lakefront port is beginning to take shape after an endorsement from state leaders.

Freeman-Wilson also hoped to rebuild the city’s rocky relationship with U.S. Steel. In August, the steel giant made a \$750 million commitment to invest in Gary Works upgrades.

Despite the economic gains, the city landscape festered with crumbling homes and ever-present weeds and trash.

The new mayor organized regular neighborhood clean-ups and typically mowed grass herself or picked up garbage.

Still, unrest persisted.

Initially, it came for outsourcing key jobs to outside consultants, like a former Booker aide. In the end, the mayor shouldered the blame for failing to keep watch over troubled municipal finances mired in a sea of budget transfers to keep the city afloat.

Prince took aim at a risky

leaseback deal that mortgaged the police department building, but brought in enough cash to keep the city solvent for the immediate future.

Freeman-Wilson said the city will begin 2020 without a deficit for the first time in years.

“I think she’s done an excellent job,” said political ally and Councilwoman Mary Brown. “In many instances, she hasn’t had a lot to work with, but she’s a hard worker.”

Brown said it wasn’t unusual to receive an email from the mayor at 2 a.m. on an issue she wanted moved forward.

“There were times we disagreed, but we’ve been able to work that out,” she said.

When Freeman-Wilson ascended to a leadership post for the National League of Cities, Brown said it was an important moment for the city.

The new role also drew complaints that she spent too much time out of the city.

Councilwoman LaVetta Sparks-Wade, who ran for mayor twice against Freeman-Wilson, said during the primary campaign the mayor didn’t do enough to bring business to the city. She also was the lone vote against the leaseback deal.

She declined to comment for this story.

### In retrospect

On an overcast day during her final week in office, Freeman-Wilson looked back on her two terms as mayor.

Somewhere above the second floor, construction workers pounded nails to wrap up a City Hall renovation project and a South Shore train rumbled by Broadway, a short distance to the north.

The clamor seemed a fitting farewell for the high-energy mayor who found



KYLE TELECHAN/POST-TRIBUNE

Gary, Indiana mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson poses for a picture with Chelsea Whittington, with the Chicago Urban League, during the State of the City luncheon on Feb. 22.

time to write grants to bring philanthropic money into the city, including \$1 million from businessman Michael Bloomberg, another 2020 Democratic presidential candidate.

His cash evolved into the ArtHouse: A Social Kitchen, a business incubator and job training site.

While economic upgrades from the runway extension and inland casino emerged, crime persisted at a steady pace.

In 2014, a serial killer led police to the bodies of six women who he dumped in abandoned homes.

Darren Vann’s grisly killing spree formed the nexus for the city’s blatant vulnerabilities – blight and crime.

Images of Gary’s unsavory city streets became magnified on a national stage and reporters turned to Freeman-Wilson for answers, drowning out any economic good news.

“What Darren Vann underscored was the city’s Achilles heel – homicides and the abandoned buildings,” she said.

That same year, a grant collaboration with the University of Chicago led to a data count of more than 6,500 vacant buildings. Under then-Gov. Mike Pence, the state awarded Gary \$6.65 million in federal funds to demolish buildings.

Overgrown weeds,

dumped garbage and dilapidated buildings were already the top complaint from residents.

Gary began knocking down homes and buildings with its federal money. So far, Freeman-Wilson estimated about 1,500 have come down, including the 13-story Sheraton hotel, south of City Hall.

That same year, another killer ended the life of a veteran police officer who responded to a domestic violence call.

Patrolman Jeffrey Westerfield died July 6, 2014, when a gunman approached his squad car and shot him. It was Westerfield’s 47th birthday.

Westerfield’s death marked a violent summer and led Freeman-Wilson to hire a new police chief and add 14 new police officers.

A former Indiana attorney general and Gary city judge, Freeman-Wilson still made little progress in stemming the city’s tide of homicides.

So far this year, there’s been 58 killings, a 45% increase over 2018’s 40 homicides.

“We’ve made some headway, but there’s been no substantial change,” she said. “That’s one of my largest regrets – that we weren’t able to make the headway I would have like to have seen on violent crime.”

### The next chapter

Jordan Wilson was 18 when her mother became mayor. She’s now a first-year law student at Boston College. “A lot of my friends at Howard University knew about her,” she said.

“Seeing her solve issues has been great. She’s not a quitter.”

Next month, Freeman-Wilson moves to a bigger stage to become president and CEO of the Chicago Urban League.

“I think her legacy would be putting the people of Gary first,” said her daughter.

For Freeman-Wilson, her fondest memory came Oct. 9 when the city unveiled a statue of her hero, five-term Gary mayor Richard Gordon Hatcher. He died Dec. 13 at age 86. A trailblazer and civil rights crusader, Hatcher was the country’s first black mayor, along with Carl Stokes of Cleveland.

By then, Freeman-Wilson had been a lame duck mayor for four months.

Although frail, Hatcher smiled and enjoyed the spotlight. Freeman-Wilson said he offered her some advice.

“As I bent over to talk to him, he whispered: ‘You know there’s life after being mayor,’” she said with a smile.

Carole Carlson is a freelance reporter for the Post-Tribune.



# Disease

Continued from Page 1

groups, particularly African Americans. Historically, there has been limited funding and research dedicated to sickle cell disease, evidenced by only one FDA-approved drug available to the community until last month. The landscape for adults who have sickle cell is much harder than that for children with the illness, and black men specifically may have a harder time dealing with the condition because of existing stereotypes preceding them. A lack of resources for a disease that primarily affects a marginalized community, coupled with negative perceptions of African American males, can exacerbate the navigation of an already complicated, painful disease.

Sickle cell disease, given it's name for the abnormal C-shape the red blood cells take — similar to a sickle farm tool or a crescent moon — occurs when there's a genetic mutation in a person's hemoglobin, the protein source in red blood cells responsible for carrying oxygen throughout the blood, according to the American Society of Hematology.

There are different types of sickle cell disease, which is inherited when a child receives two sickle cell genes — one from each parent, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

In the United States, the exact number of people living with sickle cell is unknown, but the CDC estimates that 100,000 people in the country are affected by the disease. One out of 365 African Americans have sickle cell disease, and 1 in 13 are born with the trait. For Hispanic Americans, the prevalence is about 1 out of every 16,300.

TaLana Hughes, executive director of Sickle Cell Disease Association of Illinois, said there are only approximate numbers because there is not an official registry for sickle cell disease.

"(For a while) they've used that there are 100,000 people in the U.S. that have sickle cell disease," said Hughes. "Well, wouldn't we think that that should be larger now?"

The issue with this, explained Hughes, is that there is no registry where, upon diagnosis, typically as a baby, you're entered, preventing an accurate accumulation of data and long-term follow-up, she said.

Illinois added sickle cell disease as one of the conditions to be tested for in the newborn screening panel in 1989, according to data from the Illinois Department of Public Health. Since then, the state has maintained legislation around the disorder, Hughes said. There are plans for funds to be allocated to a universal sickle cell registry, a more accurate numerical database of people living with the disorder, she said. "We still kind of have to just wait," she said.

In September, the CDC awarded funding to seven states, the closest to Illinois being Indiana, to work with the CDC on a data collection program to start accumulating comprehensive health information on people with sickle cell disease throughout the next year. A total of nine states are in the program.

Hughes, who's been in her role as director for almost a decade and who also has a 17-year-old daughter with sickle cell disease, said she spends a fair amount of her job fundraising and securing grants since her organization does not receive any state funding.

"We're advocating all the time," said Hughes, who's been at the organization since 2002. She feels that the stigma of sickle cell being "a black disease" is part of the reason it doesn't get as much funding or attention.

"Over the years, instead of (sickle cell) having the description of being a genetic disorder, because that's what it is — meaning, genetically anybody can pass it down — it's been called a 'black disease,'" she said. "It's like, 'Oh, that's a black problem so the black people need to figure out how to fix that,' kind of thing."

Dr. Lewis Hsu, a pediatric



E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Terrance Hill is examined by Dr. Santosh Saraf, a hematologist-oncologist during a Nov. 27 checkup at University of Illinois Hospital.



STACEY WESCOTT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Marqus Valentine rests as he waits for a blood exchange transfusion at Edward Hospital.

ric hematologist at UI Health, the University of Illinois at Chicago's health system, explained that the disease is incredibly complicated for its physical and psychosocial pains, but also for its ties to "all kinds of issues with social justice, race disparities and stigmas."

"The amount of problems that arise because this (disease) affects minorities is huge," he said.

One of the hallmark problems of sickle cell disease is pain: a "pain you can't see from outside," Hsu said.

"The pain can be stupendously severe," he said, "worse than a broken leg, or worse than childbirth; it's a 10 on a scale of 10. It happens unexpectedly and for no clear reason on when it will stop."

Until recently, there hasn't been much hope for cures or treatment, said Hsu, only palliation methods to ease the pain. So when sickle cell patients experience a pain crisis, they often go to the emergency room seeking relief, sometimes resulting in accusations of being drug addicts.

Valentine, now 36, felt hurt when this happened to him, especially since the accusation came from a nurse who had taken care of him several times in the past, he said.

"I asked for my IV medi-

cine even though I had it written for IV, oral and I was on a pain pump," he said. "For a nurse, who has taken care of me in the past, to come in to my room and say, 'I'm going to not, you have oral written,' I was shaken up, sad and I wanted to get angry but I couldn't."

"He still required additional IV pain medication doses despite being started on the oral medications," elaborated Ashley Valentine, 31, Marqus' younger sister, who said her brother had just finished spending a prolonged time in the intensive care unit for severe sepsis prior to this interaction. "Marqus was in distress and called (me and my mother) because he was told that he would not be receiving IV pain medication from 'this nurse' during 'my shift.'"

This was against Marqus' established pain plan covered by hematology and anesthesia pain service, explained Ashley, who works full time as president of Sick Cells, the advocacy nonprofit organization that she and Marqus co-founded.

"As a man, it was heartbreaking because I was there — I didn't want to be there — I went from being super healthy to now being stuck in a hospital room dying," said Marqus Valentine.

Situations like these are not uncommon and one of the main stigmas black men

with sickle cell disease face when seeking emergency medical attention for a pain episode, said Hsu.

"If someone with sickle cell disease goes to an urban hospital, and you're an urban African American male, and people just look at you like, 'Yeah, right, you just want these meds,'" said Hsu, "it's instant stress (for the patient). Even when seeking help, when people are in helping professions, there's raised eyebrows and skepticism. There is, 'No, we don't believe you. Prove you have sickle cell disease.'"

Men may face issues like these more than women do, said Hsu, due to stereotypes and ways of communication distinct to black males. He trains his teenage patients through role playing on how to deal with these scenarios, but the navigation can be harder for adult males.

"The times I do get sick and have to go to the emergency room, if there is staff who don't know who I am, it is hard," said Valentine.

Elijah Powell, a 24-year-old Hyde Park native who was diagnosed with sickle cell disease at 2 months old, said he thinks the stigma of drug addiction for sickle cell patients applies to black men more.

"Look at all the stigmas a normal black man faces on a regular basis," he said, "then you add sickle cell to it and

it's way more extreme."

Powell, who graduated from Morehouse College in Atlanta with a biology degree in 2017, said it's hard having sickle cell disease as a young black man because of how the condition depletes the body.

"The illness itself drains you and naturally makes you weaker," said Powell, who later mentioned he's not as masculine as he'd like to be, a common sentiment among men with the illness, according to Hsu. "Most black men, they're strong and able to do a lot of stuff, but we can't do as much because our body is weak and our organs are breaking down and being attacked by sickle cell disease on a daily basis."

Powell works as a freshman on-track coordinator at Kenwood Academy High School. He says he mentors youth with sickle cell disease so they can have hope.

"I try to show sickle cell patients you can go to college, pursue your dream job and live a life you've dreamed of," said Powell.

"I'm hoping for a cure one day," he added, "but we'll see what happens."

There have been new developments for curative treatment options for adults involving gene therapy treatments, like stem cell transplants.

"Ever since people learned this was a genetic condition, we knew there was a possibility of doing a genetic cure," said Hsu, who says the techniques still have to be proven, but that there is considerable promise.

After battling sickle cell his whole life, Terrance Hill, a 40-year-old West Pullman resident, received a successful stem cell transplant in 2016, he said, leaving him with just the trait.

"I got the half cure," he explained, meaning he's left with the trait as opposed to being completely sickle cell free. For the latter, he needed to get a donor who was a full, identical match, he said. Hill was able to get the transplant because his doctor said he might be able to benefit from the treatment since he wasn't having too many complications or crisis at the time.

Since the transplant, Hill says he's "been OK," and that living with the trait has been "somewhat better" since he's able to do more physically.

"I'm moving around, exercising more, just able to participate in different events," he said. "Beforehand, it was just hard to do things; just trying to come out was just hard. It took a toll on my quality of life."

In November, just 10 days apart, the FDA approved two new drugs: Adakveo, which would reduce the common pain crises, and Oxbryta, which would make red blood cells less likely to form the sickle shape.

Ashley Valentine called these drugs "game changing," because "these are the ones that actually, specifically target sickle cell."

"This is such a big deal because up until this point there has not been investment into sickle cell disease, and a lot of that is because of the population it impacts," she said. "The disease was discovered in 1910, and it's taken this long for the game-changing drugs to come."

Prior to these two approvals, there was only one medication for sickle cell called Hydroxyurea that was approved by the FDA in 1998, and it was specifically for adults, according to data from a 2016 report from the American Society of Hematology.

The new medications are exciting for the community, Hughes said, but there is still some hesitation.

"Unfortunately, we went through decades of no treatment options," said Hughes. "When you have one thing that's being offered as an FDA approved treatment option — and say, for instance, that doesn't work because we know that all medications don't work for some, or some don't work for everybody — you kind of have a community that hope has been lost because for so long there's been no options."

Additionally, Hughes explained how adult patients, who've had much wear and tear on their bodies from years of harsh pain medications and blood transfusions — that only treat symptoms — may not have the physical wherewithal to stand a new treatment or even a curative option.

"You still have people dying from sickle cell disease," she said. "With blood transfusions, over time, you can build up antibodies. If you're taking these harsh pain medications for 20 years, you know long term there's going to be damage to your organs. There really weren't things (in the past) put in place to help treat your body."

Marqus Valentine, who has been on Hydroxyurea since he transitioned to adult care, will start Oxbryta this month and is optimistic. He'll keep a journal to chart how his body responds to the medication, he said.

"Going from (what felt like) nothing to two drugs specifically designed for sickle cell is excellent," he said. "It's been kind of like a weight off my shoulders."



ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Elijah Powell, a Kenwood Academy freshman on-track coordinator, was diagnosed with sickle cell disease at 2 months old.

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Advanced Digital technology is used to eliminate a HUGE percentage of treatment failures. Every treatment at Joint Relief Institute is pin-pointed to the damaged area inside the knee. The doctors see the medication live as it goes to help the troubled joint.

doctors and surgeons who attempted these injections without using advanced imaging. Instead, they simply felt the knee with their fingers and BLINDLY delivered the replacement fluid.

The study revealed that these doctors missed the target most of the time . . . In fact, 30% of the time, they didn’t even



**Alternative to the knife for your knee pain?** Non-Surgical treatment success rate soars after using new digital technology

place the treatment inside the joint. Yes THIRTY percent. It is not a typo.

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It’s pretty simple, really. You see, when you’re young, you have a thick, fluid protein inside your knee joints to lubricate them as you move.

This fluid also acts as a cushion and shock absorber inside your knee. It’s called synovial fluid, and it works much like the oil in a car’s engine to keep all the parts moving freely, without friction.

However, as you age, this fluid dries out, leaving your bones to painfully rub and grind against each other with every step. And unfortunately, there’s no way for the joint to make more.

After years of trusted service in moving you everywhere you need to go, you start to feel a subtle ache in your knees with certain activities like kneeling down, or getting out of the car. With time, it becomes a constant

ache. If left untreated, it can keep you awake at night, and hurt with every step.

The good news is, researchers discovered an almost identical, all natural lubricating fluid called Hyaluronic acid. It has been proven in numerous clinical studies to act as a natural lubricant in your joints.

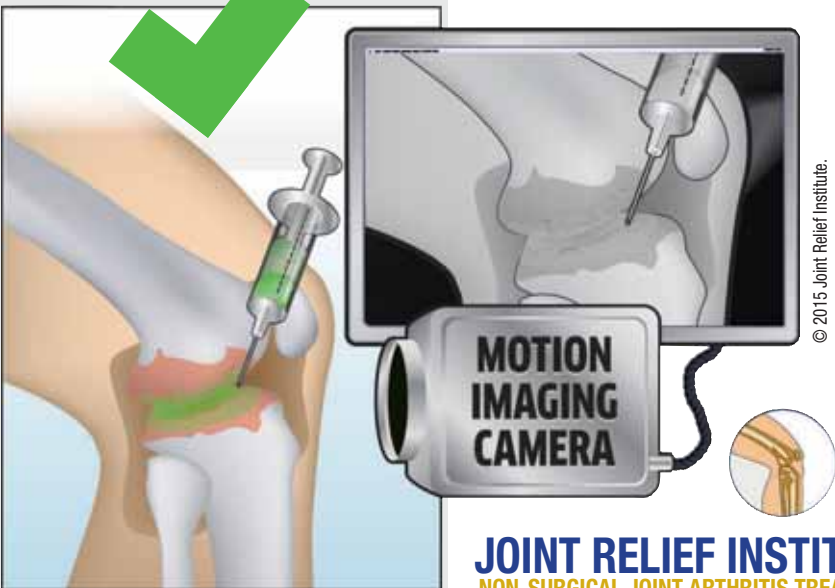
It’s FDA approved and is a perfect cushion and shock absorber for your joints. Once it’s correctly placed inside your knee, it can make them feel just like new again, eliminate any rubbing and friction, and make your joints glide smoothly.

**Are there any side effects to this treatment? Is the treatment painful?**

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**Here is what you need to do if you or a loved one is suffering with knee pain...**

**Call now for a free screening...**

If you or a loved one is suffering with knee pain, this could be the blessed relief you’re looking for. You are personally invited to a FREE knee pain screening from the Joint Relief Institute doctors to see if you are a good candidate for this all-natural, highly-precise treatment.

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This ache in your knees could be a sign of serious damage and people who choose to simply “tough it out” will definitely see their knees deteriorate further over time. The one thing we know is: The damage will NEVER undo itself without some help.

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# Former boxer accused of pummeling 2 men

BY WILLIAM LEE

A former heavyweight boxer turned ironworker faced a Cook County judge Sunday after prosecutors said he seriously injured two men, including a retired Chicago cop, in separate beatings that occurred in the days before and after Christmas.

Wearing a black overcoat and standing with his hands behind his back, Phillip Triantafillo, 33, was silent throughout his brief appearance before Circuit Judge Susana Ortiz at the Leighton Criminal Court Building on separate counts of aggravated battery.

In court, prosecutors accused Triantafillo, a 280-pound former heavyweight boxer, of hospitalizing two men in separate disputes in the former steel neighborhood of Hegewisch.

In the first incident on Dec. 21 inside a bar in the 3200 block of East 135th Street, authorities said Triantafillo approached a 56-year-old man who had previously dated his current girlfriend, Assistant State's Attorney Maha Gardner told the judge Sunday.

Upset because he thought the man, a retired police officer, was still sexually involved with the woman, Triantafillo allegedly stood next to the man and rained punches down on him until he fell from his stool onto a nearby radiator, Gardner said. Triantafillo then fled the bar.

The victim suffered blunt head trauma, a fracture to his left jaw and misaligned teeth, authorities said.

In the second incident, Triantafillo is accused of approaching a 49-year-old acquaintance outside a bar in the 13500 block of South Brandon Avenue on Thursday and getting into a heated quarrel, authorities said. Surveillance video captured the victim trying to calm Triantafillo down, but then showed Triantafillo knocking the acquaintance unconscious as

the man fell to the concrete sidewalk, Gardner said.

The second victim was taken to the University of Chicago Medical Center, where he was treated in the intensive care unit for heavy bleeding on the brain and a fractured orbital bone, Gardner added. The man underwent brain surgery and had at least 30 staples in his head.

Prosecutors didn't mention the motive for the beating of the second victim, who was described as knowing Triantafillo from the neighborhood.

Triantafillo's court-appointed attorney said he had completed an ironwork apprenticeship and had a relative prepared to pay \$500 for his release. But Ortiz, citing a criminal history that included a prior aggravated battery conviction, ordered him held on \$40,000 bail with electronic monitoring.

Published reports describe Triantafillo, born in Chesterton, Indiana, as the scrappy son of a Hegewisch ironworker who turned to boxing after a youth filled with street fights and trouble with the law. Between 2011 and 2016, Triantafillo traveled the country fighting as a heavyweight, winning his debut with a technical knockout.

Triantafillo was also the subject of an inexplicable scene in 2013, when he walked out of the ring before a scheduled six-round heavyweight bout with Patrick "Paddy Boy" Farrell in North Bergen, New Jersey. In the ring, moments before the opening bell was to ring, Triantafillo left and refused to fight. His opponent was initially declared the winner due to Triantafillo's disqualification, but the fight later was ruled a "no contest" and taken from both fighters' records, according to RingTV.com.

Triantafillo, of Hegewisch, has numerous run-ins with the law and a previous aggravated battery conviction.



ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Mayor Lori Lightfoot announces the Chicago public libraries will stop fining people for overdue books and wipe away patrons' outstanding debt, during a news conference at the Woodson Regional Library in Chicago on Sept. 30.

## Increases

Continued from Page 1

new cost will hit those who hire ride-share companies such as Uber or Lyft.

In an effort to raise \$40 million in 2020, Lightfoot successfully pushed a "congestion fee" she hopes will dissuade people through a carrot-and-stick approach from hailing single-passenger vehicles to get in and out of the crowded downtown area where traffic gridlock has become an even bigger problem with tens of thousands of ride-share drivers now on the streets.

The stick will be an additional \$2.28 fee tacked on to those types of rides on weekdays between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m., making the tax per downtown trip \$3. Single-passenger trips in outlying neighborhoods also will see a hike, of 53 cents to

\$1.25 per ride.

Lightfoot's anti-congestion carrot is a slight reduction in the city tax on ride-share pool rides that pick up more than one passenger at a time, from 72 cents down to 65 cents, which she hopes will persuade more people to use those.

Uber fought the plan hard, and the mayor said the company engaged in scare-mongering tactics while mischaracterizing her plan. As the battle heated up in November ahead of her budget vote, Lightfoot accused Uber without evidence of "paying off black ministers by offering them \$54 million" to fight her ride-share tax proposal.

The mayor also doubled the tax on food and drinks bought in Chicago restaurants, from .25% to .5%, which she hopes will raise an extra \$20 million in 2020. And she pushed

through an increase to the personal property lease tax on some computer leases of cloud software and cloud infrastructure.

Downtown parking meter rate increases are coming, too. Lightfoot hopes to bring in \$7 million by charging 50 cents more per hour to park on the street in and around downtown. In the Loop the meters will go up to \$7 per hour, and elsewhere south of North Avenue, north of Roosevelt Road and east of Halsted Street the meters will increase to \$4.50 an hour. The city also will install new metered parking areas in the West Loop.

Though Chicago Parking Meters LLC leases the meters and collects parking revenues thanks to a much-maligned 2008 deal engineered by Mayor Richard M. Daley, the city has to pay shortfalls to the company due to meters being taken offline for things such as

neighborhood festivals and street repairs. The parking rate increases will help lower that payout, according to the Lightfoot administration.

And there's still the question of the \$163 million worth of ambulance reimbursements the city's counting on from the federal government as a major piece of Lightfoot's package to close the financial shortfall.

While the mayor says she's confident the approval will be coming soon from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, critics worry Lightfoot eventually will need to seek another tax or fee increase if federal officials under President Donald Trump deny the request.

Chicago Tribune's Hal Dardick contributed.

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## Around

Continued from Page 1

ongoing work on the outbound Ida B. Wells ramp to the outbound Dan Ryan, and the inbound Kennedy ramp to inbound Ida B. Wells.

The Adams Street and Jackson Boulevard bridges over the Kennedy will close for full reconstruction, with a tentative reopening in 2022, IDOT said. IDOT expects the entire Jane Byrne project to finish in 2022.

In the suburbs, work continues to convert the Interstate 55 and Weber Road interchange in Romeoville and Bolingbrook to a diverging diamond, a road design intended to improve travel times and safety. The project will add a third lane in each direction of Weber in the area. This project wraps up in 2021 or 2022, IDOT

said.

The state also is reconstructing the interchange between Interstate 80 and U.S. 30 in New Lenox. The project will add a third lane in each direction on the busy stretch of I-80 between Interstate 355 and U.S. 30.

Around Labor Day, IDOT expects to finish construction of the long-running Kennedy Expressway/Cumberland Avenue flyover project, which involved building a new two-lane bridge spanning both Interstate 90 and the CTA Blue Line. The project started in 2016.

IDOT also will make bridge deck replacements on Interstate 290 over Salt Creek just east of Addison Road, which will require lane shifts.

The Chicago Department of Transportation will start station house construction at Damen Avenue and Lake Street on the Green Line, which will

affect road traffic in the area.

The city also plans to break ground on the 43rd Street pedestrian bridge over Lake Shore Drive, and finish the Navy Pier Flyover, part of the Lakefront Trail, in late spring of 2020. The project started in 2014, and the city originally predicted it would be finished in 2018.

### The Tollway

The Illinois Tollway will spend about \$1.46 billion next year on projects, including the Tri-State and the Edens Spur, spokesman Dan Rozek said.

Tri-State work will include reconstruction of the BNSF Railroad Bridge, which carries the railroad over the Tri-State between Hinsdale and Western Springs.

The Tollway also plans to continue extending Illinois Route 390 east to York Road, where a new

interchange will be built to connect 390 with the new Interstate 490 tollway and provide direct western access to O'Hare International Airport, Rozek said. Construction continues on the remaining portion of the new I-490/I-90 interchange at the site of the old Des Plaines Oasis.

Bridge and roadway construction on sections of North Avenue and Lake Street will be part of the North Avenue interchange project at I-294, Rozek said.

Work also will start on the second phase of the I-294/I-57 interchange, which will build four new ramps, rebuild the I-57 median and widen the road.

### Public transit

Transit agencies got a big infusion of money from the state capital bill to spend on bridges, stations and equipment, but say they are still in the planning phases for many projects.

"We're still finalizing how that money will be used for large-scale infrastructure projects," CTA spokesman Brian Steele said.

One big job funded and underway is the \$2.1 billion Red-Purple Line Modernization. In preparation for major construction in 2020, there will be weekend closures of the Bryn Mawr, Thorndale and Granville stations.

There also will be construction in the Lakeview area to build a flyover that will carry northbound Brown Line trains over Red and Purple line tracks north of Belmont Avenue.

Four stations to be rebuilt as part of the project — Lawrence, Argyle, Berwyn, and Bryn Mawr — will close for construction in either late 2020 or early 2021, Steele said. When they close, temporary stations at Argyle and Bryn Mawr will immediately open, he said.

The CTA will finish refurbishing three old stations on the Blue Line — the Grand, Chicago and

### Transportation song quiz

■ Last week's Brit hit was about something a lot of us did last week, inching through traffic. The song was "Driving Home for Christmas," by Chris Rea. Brian Daly, of Glenview, was first with the right answer.

■ Some folks start in transportation jobs, and abandon all that glamor for music. Name the former railroad water boy, brakeman and switchman who became a star. The first person with the right answer gets a Tribune pen, and glory.

Division stops — in 2020, Steele said. The upgrades include new tile walls, granite stairs and lighting improvements. There will be track work during the weekends, which will mean stations sometimes will be closed in one direction of travel.

The CTA has started doing similar work at the Blue Line Logan Square station, which will get upgraded lighting and have two elevators refurbished, Steele said.

Pace, the suburban bus service, plans major improvements to its ADA paratransit service, which has been criticized by disabled riders for long waits and other issues. Pace is making it easier for riders to make online reservations, and integrating the Ventra fare payment system with paratransit, according to spokeswoman Maggie Daly Skogsbakken.

Metra will continue work on 11 Union Pacific North bridges from Grace Street to Balmoral Avenue in Chicago, Metra spokesman Michael Gillis said. The commuter railroad also is starting engineering work on the next phase of the project, which will cover bridges over 11 streets from Fullerton to Cornelia avenues.

The agency will start replacing bridges at Milwaukee Avenue in Chicago on the Milwaukee North Line; and at 43rd and Root streets, 86th Street and Vincennes Avenue and at Morgan Street on the Rock Island District line. Metra also wants to finish the second span of the Milwaukee West bridge over the Fox River at Elgin.

Work should begin on the long-awaited Peterson Ridge station on the Union Pacific North Line and the Auburn Park station on the Rock Island, Gillis said.

Other Metra projects will include adding heated shelters to stations, elevator replacements, platform upgrades and parking lot fixes.

### The airports

The expansion of Terminal 5 at O'Hare, which paves the way for a massive eight-year, \$8.5 billion airport expansion, will continue in 2020.

"It's still mostly going to be work on the extension for the added gates there," Aviation Department spokesman Matthew McGrath said.

Most of the work will be outside so it shouldn't affect passengers, McGrath said.

Work on O'Hare's light rail system, also known as the "people mover," is more than a year behind schedule but the city hopes it will be done in late spring.

Out where the airplanes are, the city will be working on the Runway 9R extension, and finish a new 11,245-foot east-west runway, known as 9C/27C, which will be open before the end of 2020, McGrath said.

At Midway Airport, the city expects to continue working on its modernization program, with 40 to 50 additional concessions and a new security platform over Cicero Avenue that will double screening capacity, McGrath said.

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# Chicago Tribune

# NATION & WORLD

## 5 stabbed during Hanukkah party at rabbi's home

Suspect arraigned amid a wave of anti-Semitic attacks

BY RYAN TARINELLI  
AND MICHAEL R. SISAK  
Associated Press

MONSEY, N.Y. — A knife-wielding man stormed into a rabbi's home and stabbed five people as they celebrated Hanukkah in an Orthodox Jewish community north of New York City, an ambush the governor said Sunday was an act of domestic terrorism fueled by intolerance and a "cancer" of growing hatred in America.

Police tracked a fleeing suspect to Manhattan and made an arrest within hours of the attack in Monsey. Grafton E. Thomas had blood all over his clothing and smelled of bleach when officers stopped him, prosecutors said.

Thomas, 37, was arraigned Sunday and pleaded not guilty to five counts of attempted murder and one count of burglary. Bail was set at \$5 million and he remains jailed.

Thomas' criminal history includes an arrest for assaulting a police horse, according to an official briefed on the investigation. A lawyer representing Thomas at the arraignment said he had no convictions.

The FBI is seeking a warrant to obtain his online accounts and were scouring digital evidence, the official said. They are also looking into whether he has a history of mental illness.

The official was not authorized to discuss the matter publicly and spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

The stabbings on the seventh night of Hanukkah left



STEPHANIE KEITH/GETTY

People hold signs of support on Sunday near the Monsey, N.Y., home of Rabbi Chaim Rottenberg. Five people were injured in a knife attack at the home late Saturday.

one person critically wounded, Gov. Andrew Cuomo said. The rabbi's son was also injured, he said. Authorities have not provided a motive.

The attack was the latest in a string of violence targeting Jews in the region, including a Dec. 10 massacre at a kosher grocery store in New Jersey. Last month in Monsey, a man was stabbed while walking to a synagogue.

Cuomo said Saturday's savagery was the 13th anti-Semitic attack in New York since Dec. 8 and endemic of "an American cancer on the body politic."

"This is violence spurred by hate, it is mass violence and I consider this an act of domestic terrorism," Cu-

mo said. "Let's call it what it is."

Ramapo Police Chief Brad Weidel said it was unclear why the rabbi's house was targeted or if a specific ideology motivated the suspect.

The stabbings happened around 10 p.m. Saturday at the home of Rabbi Chaim Rottenberg, located next door to his Congregation Netzach Yisroel synagogue. The large house on Forshay Road remained cordoned off with yellow crime-scene tape Sunday.

"The guy came in wielding a big knife, sword, machete — I don't know what it was," said Josef Gluck, who hit the assailant with a coffee table during the attack.

Levy Kraus, 15, said he was outside the rabbi's home when he saw a tall man enter with an object.

"He had something in his hand. It looked like an umbrella. It was covered," Kraus said.

Later, he said he saw the man rushing out of the house and screaming at someone, "I'll get you."

Rabbi Motti Seligson, the media director of the Chabad Lubavitch movement, said witnesses told him that people fled the house and went to the synagogue where they locked themselves in. Rabbi Rottenberg led the service at the synagogue later, he said.

Weidel said a witness saw the suspect fleeing in a car and alerted police to the

license plate number. Police entered that information into a database and used plate reader technology to track the vehicle to Manhattan, where Thomas was arrested.

"It was critical to the case," Weidel said.

Thomas played football for two seasons at William Paterson University in New Jersey. He lives with his mother in Greenwood Lake, New York, about 20 miles from Monsey, a prosecutor said. No one answered a telephone number listed for his address and the voicemail box was full.

Monsey, near the New Jersey state line about 35 miles north of New York City, is one of several Hudson Valley communities that

has seen a rising population of Hasidic Jews in recent years.

The attack and the recent wave of anti-Semitic violence in the region drew condemnation from President Donald Trump and other officials, including Israel's prime minister, president and ambassador to the United Nations.

Jewish communities in the New York City metropolitan area have been left shaken following a deadly Dec. 10 shooting rampage at a Jersey City kosher market.

Six people — three people who had been inside the store, a police officer and the two killers — died in the gunbattle and standoff that New Jersey Attorney General Gurbir Grewal has said was "fueled" by hatred of Jews and law enforcement.

Last month, a man was stabbed while walking to a synagogue in the same town that was the site of Saturday night's attack; he required surgery. It's unclear whether the assailant has been arrested.

And this past week in New York City itself, police have received at least six reports of attacks possibly motivated by anti-Jewish bias. Mayor Bill de Blasio said Friday that police presence would increase in Brooklyn neighborhoods home to large Jewish populations.

"The Jewish community is utterly terrified," Evan Bernstein, the regional director of the Anti-Defamation League of New York and New Jersey, said in a statement. "No one should have to live like this. How many more times will it take for people in the Orthodox Jewish community to be terrorized with violence before something changes?"

## California jails use kinder approach to isolation cells

New policies may one day be used on a national scale

BY DON THOMPSON  
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — An inmate in solitary confinement at a California jail was refusing to leave his cell. The jailers' usual response: Send an "extraction team" of corrections officers to burst into the cell and drag him out.

But not in Contra Costa County, one of three in the state using a kinder, gentler approach in response to inmate lawsuits, a policy change that experts say could be a national model for reducing the use of isolation cells.

So the inmate was asked: "What if we gave you a couple extra cookies and another sandwich? Would you move?" recalled Don Specter, the nonprofit Prison Law Office director who negotiated the new policies. "He said yes. They were like, 'Wow.'"

More than a quarter of U.S. states and numerous smaller jurisdictions are looking for ways to reduce the use of solitary confinement, according to the Vera

Institute of Justice, which encourages alternatives to a practice behavioral experts say is dehumanizing and can worsen mental illness.

The new policies in California came after Specter's firm sued seven of California's 58 counties, alleging that conditions had grown inhumane as jails absorbed inmates who previously would have served their sentences in state prisons. The state in 2011 began sending less serious offenders to local jails for years at a time to ease crowding in state penitentiaries.

Some jurisdictions nationwide are banning isolation for young offenders, pregnant women or those with mental health diagnoses. The California counties' approach of generally limiting it to those who engage in continued violent behavior has dramatically reduced the number of inmates in isolation and the length of time they stay there.

Contra Costa started 2019 with about 100 people in solitary, most for more than a year. It had just three in isolation cells by December, after officials began using the new approach.

Sacramento County also is following the policy pio-

neered by Santa Clara County, while Fresno County is considering it. Among other things, it encourages the use of low-cost incentives to reward good behavior, like the opportunity to listen to the radio, watch a movie or get an extra snack.

Sacramento County has cut its isolated population roughly in half, to about 60 inmates, said Lt. Alex McCamy: "It's a limited time frame and a limited group, but the initial impression is positive."

Rick Raemisch, who restricted the use of solitary confinement when he headed Colorado's prison system, said the violent, tense, dirty conditions in Santa Clara County's jail improved markedly with the new policy.

"Think of yourself being in a cell the size of a parking space for 23 hours a day," said Raemisch, who consulted with county officials. "At a minimum you're going to get angry, and when you get angry you're going to fight back."

Inmates nationwide are most often segregated for nonviolent "nuisance infractions" like smoking, cursing, disobeying orders or having unauthorized



BEN MARGOT/AP

Sheriff Laurie Smith of Santa Clara County, Calif., looks inside a solitary confinement cell. The jail worked to reduce the number of inmates in isolation from 400 to 26.

items from the commissary, said the Vera Institute's Sara Sullivan.

Santa Clara County once locked a woman in solitary confinement for 2 1/2 years for talking back to correctional officers or yelling and banging on her cell door with other detainees, according to Specter's lawsuit.

The California counties' new policy of restricting its use to continued violent behavior could be seen as a national pilot program, Sullivan said.

New Jersey's Middlesex County Adult Correction Center has lowered the number of isolated inmates and the time they spend there, she said, but with a

different approach that lets inmates out of their cells more frequently.

The Hampden County Correctional Center in Massachusetts increased its use of alternative sanctions and positive reinforcement. And Cook County, Illinois, no longer keeps troublesome inmates in isolation, allowing them to regularly spend time with about a half-dozen other inmates.

"There's been a decades-long effort to reform solitary, especially in prisons. But what we haven't seen is a paired reform effort for jails," said Amy Fettig, director of the American Civil Liberty Union's Stop Solitary campaign. "In Santa

Clara what we're seeing is an attempt to reform the whole process."

Long-term isolation can be so debilitating, Fettig said, that she's had clients cut themselves "just to feel something because they've become numb."

Santa Clara County, home to San Jose and Silicon Valley, once had 400 inmates in solitary confinement. Specter's client in Santa Clara County had been in solitary confinement for nearly five years.

By last fall there were about 40 inmates confined to isolation cells for an average of about two months, and just 26 by December.



JUAN FIGUEROA/THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

A person stands near the scene of a church shooting on Sunday in White Settlement, Texas.

## Congregants kill Texas church gunman; 3 dead

Associated Press

WHITE SETTLEMENT, Texas — A man pulled out a shotgun at a Texas church service and fired on worshippers Sunday, killing two people before he was shot to death by congregants who fired back, police said.

Authorities at a Sunday evening news conference praised the congregants who opened fire as part of a volunteer security team at West Freeway Church of Christ in White Settlement. It was unclear if the two

people who were killed were the two who shot at the gunman.

"This team responded quickly and within six seconds, the shooting was over. Two of the parishioners who were volunteers of the security force drew their weapons and took out the killer immediately, saving untold number of lives," said Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, who also hailed the state's gun laws.

Britt Farmer, senior minister of the church, said, "We lost two great men today, but it could have been a lot

worse."

Authorities said there were more than 240 congregants in the West Freeway Church at the time of the shooting.

White Settlement Police Department Chief J.P. Bevering said the gunman had sat down in a pew before getting up, taking out a shotgun and firing at a parishioner, who was killed. He said the church's security team then "eliminated the threat."

Officials have not released the names of the

victims or the gunman. FBI Special Agent in Charge Matthew DeSarno said they're working to identify the gunman's motive, adding that he is "relatively transient" but had roots in the area.

DeSarno also said the gunman had been arrested multiple times in the past but declined to give details.

An elder at the church told The New York Times that one of those killed was a security guard who responded to the shooter, calling him a dear friend.



# Trump retweets alleged whistleblower’s name

BY DARLENE SUPERVILLE AND DAVID KLEPPER  
Associated Press

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — President Donald Trump retweeted a post that included the alleged name of the anonymous whistleblower whose complaint ultimately led to Trump’s impeachment by the House.

Just before midnight Friday, Trump retweeted a message from a Twitter user @Surfermom77, an account that claims to be a woman named Sophia who lives in California. The account shows some indications of automation, including an unusually high amount of activity and profile pictures featuring stock images from the internet.

By Saturday morning, the post seemed to have disappeared on many users’ feeds, suggesting Trump had deleted it, though it could still be found in other ways, including on a website that logs every presidential tweet.

The retweet then reappeared Saturday night. Twitter told The Associated Press that an outage with one of its systems caused tweets on some accounts, including Trump’s, to be visible to some but not others.

Trump has repeatedly



NICHOLAS KAMM/GETTY-AFP

President Donald Trump has backed efforts to unmask a whistleblower whose complaint led to his impeachment.

backed efforts to unmask the whistleblower. But his Friday night retweet marks the first time he has directly sent the alleged name into the Twitter feed of his 68 million followers.

Unmasking the whistleblower, who works in the intelligence field, could violate federal protection laws that have historically been supported by both parties.

The whistleblower filed a complaint in August about one of Trump’s telephone conversations with

Ukraine’s President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and other dealings with the Eastern European nation. The complaint prompted House Democrats to launch a probe that ended with Trump’s impeachment earlier this month. The matter now heads to the Senate, where the Republican majority is expected to acquit the president.

The central points from the whistleblower’s complaint were confirmed during the House impeachment hearings by a string of diplomats and other career officials, many of whom testified in public. The White House also released a transcript of Trump’s July 25 phone call with Zelenskyy, in which he asks for help investigating former Vice President Joe Biden and the Democratic National Committee.

Speculation about the whistleblower’s identity has been circulating in conservative media and on social media for months.

has a right to face his accuser and has called on the whistleblower to step forward.

For months, an array of right-wing personalities, amateur pro-Trump internet sleuths and some conservative news outlets have published what they claim to be details about the whistleblower, including name and career history. The president himself has also been inching closer to outing the individual; last week, Trump shared a tweet linking to a Washington Examiner article that included the alleged name.

Surfermom77, the Twitter handle on the post Trump retweeted, describes herself as a “100%Trump Supporter” and California resident. The account had nearly 79,000 followers as of Saturday afternoon. Some of its previous posts have denounced Islam and sharply criticized former President Barack Obama and other Democrats.

Surfermom77 has displayed some hallmarks of a Twitter bot, an automated account. A recent profile picture on the account, for instance, is a stock photo of a woman in business attire that is available for use online.

That photo was removed Saturday and replaced with an image of Trump.



J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/AP  
At 79, Rep. John Lewis, D-Ga., is the last of the Big Six civil rights activists.

## US Rep. Lewis reveals he has stage IV pancreatic cancer

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Congressman John Lewis of Georgia announced Sunday that he has stage IV pancreatic cancer, vowing he will stay in office and fight the disease with the tenacity which he fought racial discrimination and other inequalities since the civil rights era.

Lewis, the youngest and last survivor of the Big Six civil rights activists in a group once led by the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., said in a statement that cancer

was discovered this month during a routine medical visit. He said subsequent tests confirmed the cancer diagnosis.

Lewis added that he decided he will return to the nation’s capital in coming days to continue his work and begin his treatment plan. He said medical treatment will be ongoing over the next several weeks but he did not elaborate on the specifics of the treatment or the cancer itself.

“I may miss a few votes during this period, but with

God’s grace I will be back on the front lines soon,” he said in asking for prayers.

One percent of patients live five years after a diagnosis of stage IV pancreatic cancer, according to Johns Hopkins Medicine. The average patient with that diagnosis lives for about a year.

“I have been in some kind of fight — for freedom, equality, basic human rights — for nearly my entire life. I have never faced a fight quite like the one I have now,” he said in a statement.

An Atlanta Democrat

sometimes called the “conscience of the Congress,” Lewis is known for the prominent role he had in the 1960s civil rights struggles.

In that era, he led hundreds of protesters in the 1965 Bloody Sunday march across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama. Then 25, he was at the head of the march when he was knocked to the ground and beaten by police. His skull was fractured, and nationally televised images of the brutality forced the coun-

try’s attention on racial oppression in the South. Lewis also joined King and four other civil rights leaders in organizing the 1963 March on Washington. He spoke to the vast crowd just before King delivered his famed I Have a Dream speech.

Lewis turned to politics in 1981, when he was elected to the Atlanta City Council. He won a seat in Congress in 1986 and has spent much of his career in the minority.

*The Washington Post contributed.*

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Joan Lunden, former host of Good Morning America and senior living advocate.



ALEX BRANDON/AP

An Army team moves a transfer case containing the remains of U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Michael Goble, at Dover Air Force Base. Goble was killed in Afghanistan last week.

## Deal

Continued from Page 1

envoy Zalmay Khalilzad has been holding peace talks with the religious militia since September 2018.

Talks were suspended in September when both sides seemed on the verge of signing a peace pact. However, a surge in violence in the capital Kabul killed a U.S. soldier, prompting President Donald Trump to declare the deal “dead.” Talks resumed after Trump made a surprise visit to Afghanistan at the end of November announcing the Taliban were ready to talk and agree to a reduction in violence.

Khalilzad returned to Doha at the beginning of December. It was then that he proposed a temporary halt to hostilities to pave the way to an agreement being signed, according to Taliban officials.

Taliban officials familiar with the negotiations spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to media outlets.

A key pillar of the agreement, which the U.S. and Taliban have been hammering out for more than a year, is direct negotiations between Afghans on both sides of the conflict.

Those intra-Afghan talks were expected to be held within two weeks of the signing of a U.S.-Taliban peace deal. They will decide what a postwar Af-

ghanistan will look like.

The first item on the agenda is expected to address how to implement a cease-fire between the Taliban and Afghanistan’s National Security Forces. The negotiations, however, were expected to be prickly and will cover a variety of thorny issues, including rights of women, free speech, and changes to the country’s constitution.

The intra-Afghan talks would also lay out the fate of tens of thousands of Taliban fighters and the heavily armed militias belonging to Afghanistan’s warlords. Those warlords have amassed wealth and power since the Taliban were ousted from power in 2001 by the U.S.-led coalition. They were removed after Osama bin Laden’s al-Qaida carried out the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the United States. The Taliban had harbored bin Laden, although there was no indication they were aware of al-Qaida’s plans to attack the United States.

Even as the Taliban were talking about ceasing hostilities, insurgents carried out an attack in northern Afghanistan on Sunday that killed at least 17 local militiamen.

The attack apparently targeted a local militia commander who escaped unharmed, said Jawad Hajri, a spokesman for the governor of Takhar province, where the attack took place late Saturday.

Local Afghan militias commonly operate in re-

mote areas, and are under the command of either the defense or interior ministries. Taliban spokesman Zabiullah Mujahid claimed responsibility for the attack.

Last week, a U.S. soldier was killed in combat in the northern Kunduz province. The Taliban claimed they were behind a fatal roadside bombing that targeted American and Afghan forces in Kunduz. The U.S. military said the soldier was not killed in an IED attack but died seizing a Taliban weapon’s cache.

In its daily report of activity, the U.S. military said airstrikes overnight Sunday killed 13 Taliban in attacks throughout the country.

Taliban as well as Afghan National Security Forces aided by U.S. air power have carried out daily attacks against each other.

The Taliban frequently target Afghan and U.S. forces, as well as government officials. But scores of Afghan civilians are also killed in the crossfire or by roadside bombs planted by militants. The United Nations has called on all sides in the conflict to reduce civilian casualties. The world body said increased U.S. airstrikes and ground operations by Afghan National Security Forces, as well as relentless Taliban attacks, have contributed to an increase in civilian casualties.

Last year, Afghanistan was the world’s deadliest conflict.



# NEWS BRIEFING

Staff and news services

## Putin thanks Trump for info that helped foil terror attacks

MOSCOW — Russian President Vladimir Putin spoke with President Donald Trump on Sunday to thank him for information that Putin said helped Russia foil terrorist attacks over the New Year’s holiday, the Kremlin said.

Putin thanked Trump “for information transmitted through the special services that helped prevent the completion of terrorist acts in Russia,” the Kremlin said on its website.

Based on the U.S. information, the Russian security forces detained two Russians suspected of preparing to carry out terrorist acts in St. Petersburg during the upcoming holiday, state news agency Tass reported, citing the Federal Security Service.

The security service said it obtained the information from its “American partners.”

There was no immediate comment from the White House.

## Official: 1 dead from plane crash in Maryland neighborhood

LANHAM, Md. — A small plane crashed in the Maryland suburbs of the nation’s capital Sunday, hitting a home’s carport and killing the lone person aboard the aircraft, authorities said.

The plane came down in the neighborhood of Lanham shortly before 3 p.m., striking the carport before it broke into many pieces on the ground, said Mark Brady, a spokesman for Prince George’s County fire and emergency services.

The plane and the carport caught fire, but the flames have been extinguished, he said.

Brady said there were no reports of injuries on the ground. It wasn’t immediately clear if someone was in the house at the time.

The National Transportation Safety Board was expected to take over the investigation.

## NTSB: Condition of wreckage will slow crash probe in La.

The lack of a distress call and flight data recorder coupled with mangled and charred wreckage will make finding the cause of a fiery airplane crash in Louisiana extremely challenging, federal officials said Sunday.

National Transportation Safety Board Vice Chairman Bruce Landsberg said at a news conference that it could take 12 to 18 months to figure out why the twin-engine Piper Cheyenne fell from the sky about a minute after taking off from the Lafayette Regional Airport on Saturday.

The plane crashed near a post office and caught fire in seconds, leaving the ground littered with burning wreckage. Five of the six people on board died.

Landsberg said that he walked to the crash site Sunday and found debris scattered about a quarter of a mile.



**Confetti ready:** Planet Fitness tests the “air worthiness” of confetti prior to the Times Square New Year’s Eve celebration in New York. The fitness chain is presenting sponsor in partnership with Times Square Alliance.

## Ukraine, eastern rebels swap prisoners in move to end war

MAIORSK CHECKPOINT, Ukraine — Ukrainian forces and Russia-backed rebels in eastern Ukraine on Sunday exchanged 200 prisoners in a move aimed at ending their five-year war.

The swap at a checkpoint near the rebel-held city of Horlivka was part of an agreement brokered this month at a summit of the leaders of Ukraine, Russia, Germany and France.

According to figures from officials of the Donetsk and Luhansk People’s republics — the two separatist governments in the rebel area — Ukraine turned over 124 people and the separatists freed 76.

Those released by Ukraine included five former members of the now-disbanded special police force Berkut who were charged in the killing of protesters in Kyiv in 2014, Ukrainian news site Hromadske quoted their lawyer, Igor Varfolomeyev, as saying.

The Security Service of Ukraine said the 76 freed by the rebels included 12 servicemen, two of whom had been held since 2015 after being ambushed while escorting a convoy of wounded out of the battle of Debaltseve, which destroyed much of the city.

U.S.-funded Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty said two of its contributors, Stanislav Aseyev and Oleh Halaziuk, were among the released; they were taken captive in 2017.

The last major prisoner swap between separatist rebels and Ukrainian forces took place in December 2017, with 233 rebels exchanged for 73 Ukrainians.

The conflict in eastern Ukraine has killed more than 14,000 people since 2014. Russia’s annexation of the Crimean Peninsula soon followed.

## Sydney’s iconic New Year’s Eve fireworks to go on

PERTH, Australia — Sydney’s iconic New Year’s Eve fireworks will go ahead despite the wildfire crisis to show the world Australia’s resiliency, the prime minister said, while authorities on Sunday braced for conditions to deteriorate with high temperatures.

Prime Minister Scott Morrison also announced financial support for some volunteer firefighters in New South Wales, the state worst hit by wildfires ravaging the nation.

“The world looks at Sydney every single year,” he said.

The City of Sydney Council gave the green light although fire authorities warned that the fireworks could be canceled if catastrophic conditions are declared.

Morrison said that eligible volunteer firefighters will receive \$209 a day, up to \$4,190 in total, if called out to battle blazes for more than 10 days.

## 4 arrested in \$1B cocaine seizure in Uruguay

MONTEVIDEO, Uruguay — Four people were arrested for possible ties to the more than \$1 billion worth of cocaine seized in recent days in Uruguay, the largest drug bust in the history of the South American country.

The arrests took place on Saturday, news outlets reported. Authorities found 5.9 tons of cocaine, 4.4 tons of which was packed into cargo containers in the South Atlantic port of Montevideo, said Attorney General Enrique Rodriguez. Rodriguez did not say where the drug was headed.

The men accused of exporting the drug operate a soy bean business, the Uruguayan customs agency said Friday.

As officials investigated further, they discovered another cocaine stash of more than 2.9 pounds at a rural property linked to the suspects.

**In Italy:** An avalanche has killed a skier in the Dolomite Mountains, the fourth avalanche fatality in the Italian Alps in a 24-hour span.

Italian state TV said the skier was among four people struck by the avalanche near a mountain refuge Sunday morning.

A day earlier, a wall of snow crashed into a group of German skiers in the Senales valley of Bolzano province, killing two 7-year-old girls and the mother of one of them.

Prosecutors say they are investigating whether that slope should have been closed to the public that day.

Strong winds have raised the danger of avalanches in Italian Alpine ski areas, which are crowded with vacationers during the holidays.



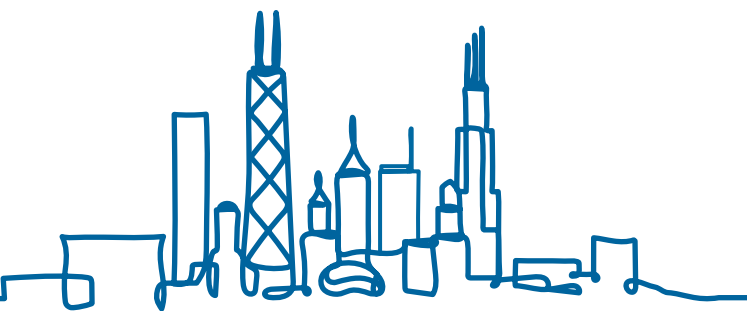
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Chicago Tribune  
HOLIDAY GIVING



# Details of alleged informers killed by IRA are released

BY NATASHA LIVINGSTONE  
Associated Press

LONDON — Rory Finnis was only 21 when he was killed in 1991 by the Irish Republican Army. Accused of informing the Northern Ireland government of the paramilitary group's activities, the Londonderry man was shot in the head. His hands had been tied behind his back, his eyes taped closed.

Details of his death, along with many others, have been revealed in archives newly opened by the Public Records Office of Northern Ireland.

The files concern the violent period known as "The Troubles," which centered on whether Northern Ireland would be part of the United Kingdom, as it is today, or join Ireland.

The conflict, lasting from roughly 1968 to 1998, claimed about 3,700 lives and was ended by a power-

sharing system called the Good Friday Agreement.

It has long been known that alleged agents or informers were often killed by the Provisional IRA, but the newly declassified documents include fresh details about those killed between 1978 and 1994.

During "The Troubles," the government did not usually confirm whether those killed were informers.

"In a number of cases, persons murdered by the IRA have not been informers," the official record, found in the archives, says.

"Furthermore, in other cases alleged informers have had to leave Northern Ireland at a moment's notice and start a new life elsewhere, knowing that they can never return to their homes without facing the prospect of torture and murder, possibly having to cut off their links with close family members in order to avoid the risk of their new location being revealed."

Informer or not, many of those named in the newly opened archives were dumped near the Irish border after being shot in the head.

The youngest listed were 20 years old: Michael Kearney was found dead in 1979 and Damien McCrory in 1985.

"The Provisional IRA themselves have made it clear that where they believe people within the organization to be agents or informers, they can expect no mercy," a draft government statement found in the archives says.

"This usually means torture, followed by a forced confession and murder. The corpse will then be found in a ditch, often many miles from the point of abduction."

While the situation in Northern Ireland has greatly improved, Britain's decision to leave the European Union has led to concerns the conflict could flare up again.



PAUL FAITH/GETTY-AFP 2018

A mural depicts the peace line in Belfast, Ireland. The Public Records Office of Northern Ireland recently opened archives that reveal details about those killed during "The Troubles."



NASSER NASSER/AP

## US strikes hit Iraqi militia blamed in contractor's death

BY ELLEN KNICKMEYER AND QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. has carried out military strikes in Iraq and Syria targeting a militia blamed for a rocket attack that killed an American contractor, a Defense Department spokesman said Sunday.

U.S. forces conducted "precision defensive strikes" against five sites of Kataeb Hezbollah, or Hezbollah Brigades, an Iran-backed Iraqi militia, spokesman Jonathan Hoffman said in a statement.

The U.S. blames the militia for a rocket barrage Friday that killed a U.S. defense contractor at a military compound near Kirkuk, in northern Iraq. Officials said attackers fired as many as 30 rockets in Friday's assault.

The Defense Department gave no immediate details on how the strikes were conducted. It said the U.S. hit three of the militia's sites in Iraq and two in Syria, including weapon

depots and the militia's command and control bases.

Iraq's Joint Operations Command said in a statement that three U.S. airstrikes on Sunday evening Iraq time hit the headquarters of the Hezbollah Brigades at the Iraq-Syria border, killing four fighters.

Hoffman said the U.S. attacks would limit the militia's ability to carry out future strikes against Americans and their Iraqi allies.

Iraq's Hezbollah Brigades, a separate force from the Lebanese group Hezbollah, operate under the umbrella of the state-sanctioned militias known collectively as the Popular Mobilization Forces. Many are supported by Iran.

Kataeb Hezbollah is led by Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis, one of Iraq's most powerful men. He once battled U.S. troops and is now the deputy head of the Popular Mobilization Forces.

In 2009, the State Department linked him to the elite Quds Force of Iran's

Revolutionary Guard, designated a foreign terrorist organization by President Donald Trump earlier this year.

The U.S. maintains about 5,000 troops in Iraq. They are there based on an invitation by the Iraqi government to assist and train in the fight against the Islamic State group.

The militia strike and U.S. counter-strike come as months of political turmoil roil Iraq. Nearly 600 people have died in anti-government protests in recent months, most of them demonstrators killed by Iraqi security forces.

The mass uprisings prompted the resignation of Prime Minister Adel Abdul-Mahdi late last month. Abdul-Mahdi remains for now in a caretaker capacity.

Abdul-Mahdi had made no public comment on Friday's militia attack but condemned the U.S. retaliatory strike on Sunday. He called it a violation of Iraqi sovereignty and a "dangerous escalation that threatens the security of Iraq and the region."

## Chicago Tribune

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## EDITORIALS

# As polar ice melts, Russia and China probe

Pentagon warns their activities in Arctic ‘may present risks to the homeland’

The top and bottom of the world no longer are barren expanses of ice visited every so often by explorers on snowshoes. They’re untapped El Dorados, troves of hidden energy and mineral resources coveted by both East and West.

Who’s doing the coveting? For some time the primary players have been the U.S. and Russia. But another global power has sidled its way into the game in both the Arctic and Antarctic: China.

### Putin knows what’s beneath the Arctic

Russian leader Vladimir Putin’s intentions were made clear in 2007 when he dispatched a submersible to the bottom of the Arctic Ocean to plant a titanium Russian flag and claim the Arctic as his own. He has also reopened Arctic military bases long shuttered by the demise of the Cold War, and beefed up the Kremlin’s fleet of icebreakers. Putin knows that at least a quarter of the world’s undiscovered oil and natural gas is buried underneath the Arctic Ocean.

China, however, has been creeping into the Arctic conversation, even though it doesn’t have the same say as the eight countries that border the Arctic — the U.S., Russia, Canada, Denmark (via Greenland), Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. International law gives those nations bona fide claims to the Arctic because of their proximity.

That hasn’t dampened China’s Arctic ambitions. Beijing’s overall investment in the Arctic rounds out to about \$90 billion. China has been building icebreaker ships, has established polar research outposts in Europe, and invested heavily in mines in Greenland and Canada and in a liquefied natural gas plant in Russia’s northern Siberian region.

### China eyes Antarctic minerals

China’s polar fascination isn’t limited to the Arctic. On the ice sheets of Antarctica, China has set up four research stations and is building a fifth. It has established a permanent airfield on the seventh continent, readied its second icebreaker there, and dramatically ramped up its Antarctic tourism industry. Anne-Marie Brady, a leading Antarctica



CHEN WEN/CHINA NEWS SERVICE

People wave goodbye to Xuelong 2 during a departure ceremony at Shekou Port on Oct. 15 in Shenzhen, China. China’s first home-built polar icebreaker, Xuelong 2, or Snow Dragon 2, set sail for its maiden voyage to the Antarctic.

scholar, views Beijing’s approach to the continent and its resources as “first come, first served.”

Those resources, which include coal, copper, uranium, diamonds and oil, are safely locked away for now. Ice 2 miles thick makes mining impractical. But China has always played the long game. Beijing is eyeing Antarctic mineral and energy wealth for the same reason it wants to wedge its way into the Arctic: The polar caps are melting.

In 2015, scientists logged a record high in Antarctica, 63.5 degrees. That’s a comfy fall day in Chicago. The rate of ice melt on the continent has tripled in

the last 25 years. Between 1992 and 2017, Antarctica lost 3 trillion tons of ice. The effect of climate change is even more drastic in the Arctic, where the amount of sea ice drops by 10% every 10 years.

China’s a signatory to the Antarctic Treaty, which governs what countries can do on the continent. That includes mining. The mining ban is up for review in 2048. As a party to the treaty, China has the right to call for that review, and push other nations to shelve the ban. In a few decades, will the aerial view of Antarctica be an expanse pockmarked with Chinese quarries?

In the Arctic, China’s ambitions are potentially more worrisome. This summer, the Pentagon released its Arctic Strategy. China’s civilian research efforts in the Arctic, the report warned, “could support a strengthened, future Chinese military presence in the Arctic Ocean, potentially including deployment of submarines to the region.”

### Global warming’s threat

America’s most pressing priority should be to confront and manage global warming. But the reality is the polar landscapes are

changing. Sizing up and minimizing the threats posed by China’s — and Russia’s — polar ambitions is a job the U.S. and its allies shouldn’t neglect. By virtue of Alaska, the U.S. is an Arctic nation. That makes the Arctic strategic terrain. Both China and Russia, the Pentagon says, are “pursuing activities and capabilities in the Arctic that may present risks to the homeland.”

It may seem far-fetched to worry about what America’s adversaries want to do in parts of the world covered in ice. But sadly, that ice is melting, and as it does, the strategic value of those regions will doubtless grow.

### WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

During this past decade, media polarization became firmly entrenched and is now flourishing, with the new decade bound to bring even more opportunities for division and chaos.

Surely foreign nations will find creative ways to manipulate divided U.S. public opinion while elected leaders spew party-line “facts.” Subsequently, Americans will have a tougher time deciphering truth from fiction.

The freedom to follow media outlets that allow us to hear or read the news through a filter compatible with one’s worldview not only solidifies polarization but makes it nearly impossible for leaders in Washington to achieve a national consensus on any issue to solve problems.

The link between shifting demographics and media polarization has created the Balkanization of media where white, brown and black Americans turn to disparate news outlets that cater to their beliefs. ... Media Balkanization is a dangerous state of affairs for a democracy that is undergoing a historical, permanent population change.

Thus, the challenge of this new decade is whether Americans can forge a cohesive national identity from a severely polarized population before the answer to “Can the country hold together?” is a painful, resounding “No.”

Myra Adams, RealClearPolitics

### EDITORIAL CARTOON



MIKE LUCKOVICH/ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION



# Chicago Tribune

# PERSPECTIVE



ERIN HOOLEY/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

An immigrant minor arrives for an asylum hearing at Chicago Immigration Court in Chicago.

## Far away from parents, children face Immigration Court alone

BY FRANCES DE PONTES PEEBLES

Chicago's Immigration Court has no porticos or statues of Lady Justice. It sits in an office building with a sandwich shop in the lobby. There's a security desk, though anyone is free to access the elevators. There are no signs or maps, no postings of hours or dockets. If you didn't already know Immigration Court was here, you'd need help finding it.

I visited the court as an observer in the aftermath of the Trump administration's family separation policy in 2018. My guide was Kelly Albinak Kribs, an attorney with the nonprofit Young Center for Immigrant Children's Rights, where I am a member of the board. With adults, Kribs had a lawyer's no-nonsense manner. With the children she served, she had the warmth and solicitousness of a teacher.

The courtrooms were labeled with numbered plaques, like exam rooms in a medical office. Inside, however, was the traditional setup that I'd only ever seen on television — rows of wooden benches for spectators, a waist-high railing separating the gallery from the two lawyers' desks and the judge's elevated bench, all in dark wood. Flanking the judge were two more women: on the right, a young clerk; on the left, a woman wearing reading glasses who was the Spanish interpreter.

The judge's voice was soothing, like a late-night radio DJ's. She turned her attention to the child in the respondent's seat — an 11-year-old girl. I'll call her Elena. Elena smiled shyly at us, then at the judge. She crossed her arms over her stomach. On one wrist was a rainbow of plastic bracelets.

There is a separate courtroom for kids, but not a separate legal standard. In Immigration Court, children are treated as adults. This means that, when most migrant children face deportation proceedings, they alone must carry the legal burden of proving that they should be allowed to remain in the United States. Our government doesn't guarantee migrant children the right to a lawyer, so many children must navigate the immigration system by themselves, and in a language foreign to them.

Elena's lawyer informed the judge that Elena was from Romania and needed an interpreter. The judge made a speakerphone call from the bench. An automated voice blared through the courtroom:

"Welcome to Language Services. Thank you for calling Interpretalk!" Cheery music played as we all waited. Elena glanced at her lawyer.

The 2002 Homeland Security Act and the 2008 William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act encouraged the Department of Health and Human Services to "make every effort to utilize the

*In this maze of bureaucracy, simply reuniting families becomes a heroic effort. And these are the families and children lucky enough to have even reached the United States.*

services of pro bono counsel" to represent migrant children. Despite their best efforts, not every child has counsel. Elena was lucky.

As soon as the interpreter arrived on the line, the proceedings moved with lightning speed.

"Can I talk to your representative about your case today?" the judge asked Elena.

Elena's lawyer provided details. She came with her father. They were forcibly separated by the U.S. government. He was deported back to Romania. Elena remains in custody. She is requesting voluntary departure back to her country of origin, back to her father.

There is no law requiring that migrant children and their parents be separated upon entering the United States. The separation practice officially began in April 2018, when then-Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced that anyone who crossed the border illegally would be prosecuted criminally. Children cannot be held in criminal jails, so kids were taken from their parents. Despite a federal court order halting family separations in June 2018, they continue because of a loophole in the ruling that takes a parent's criminal history into account. This exception is applied broadly and seemingly at random. In one case, a mother was separated from her child because of a shoplifting conviction a decade before.

In court, a child must prove why she is eligible for legal protection and how she can stay. Possible defenses range from asylum, to several specialized visas, to a family-based petition, or to a series of other alternatives that Kribs attempted to describe to me but which are too varied and complicated to list. Detention is the first step in a labyrinthine process that is arduous to navigate.

Children like Elena have two main pathways to return home: removal or voluntary departure. Removal means deportation and comes with the penalty of not being allowed back into the United States legally for three to 10 years. Voluntary departure is considered a benefit: A judge must grant it, and it carries no penalties if a person chooses to return legally.

The government's attorney responded that she didn't oppose Elena's request for voluntary departure.

"What will you plan on doing when you go back to Romania?" the judge asked Elena. "Go to school?"

"Da," she replied.

"Yes," the interpreter's voice on

speakerphone filled the courtroom.

All the while, Elena's foot shook. Her sneaker hit the chair leg again and again. She fingered her rainbow bracelets.

I was an 11-year-old girl once. Watching Elena in court, I remembered being in fifth grade. I started to care about the brands of my clothes, the cut of my hair. I had a dollhouse I played with in secret, because I was getting too old for such toys. But I didn't feel old. Eleven is a vulnerable age for a little girl, a time of in-betweens.

Elena was granted voluntary departure. The judge advised her to be patient; the government would get her a ticket back to Romania, to her family.

Two weeks later, I returned to the same courtroom with the same judge presiding. Kribs sat at the respondent's table, serving as a child advocate: meeting with children while they are in detention, learning their stories and advocating for their best interests. The child Kribs advocated for that day was a 14-month-old whom I'll call Edgar.

A woman from the detention center held Edgar in her lap in the respondent's chair. He wore jeans and a striped, button-down shirt, like a little man.

Edgar's father, a Honduran citizen, presented himself and Edgar to U.S. officials at a port of entry — a place where a person may lawfully enter the country — at the border and asked for asylum. He and Edgar were taken into custody. The next day, ICE officials took Edgar away without explanation.

After court, I asked Kribs if she'd been in contact with Edgar's father, and what that night was like for him.

"Dad told me that Edgar was crying," Kribs said. "And he didn't know where they were taking his son and when he was going to see him again."

Edgar's attorney asked for voluntary departure under safeguards which, in his case, meant an official from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement would eventually escort him home on a plane. The government's attorney approved. Edgar wiggled in the caretaker's arms. Defendants requesting voluntary departure must make a sworn statement — called an "offer of proof" — declaring that they are not felons or terrorists. The judge waived this in Edgar's case, as he could not yet speak.

Kribs hoped to do some advocacy around Edgar's return; she would try to convince officials to allow a facility caretaker, maybe the woman who'd

brought Edgar to court, to fly him back to his parents.

"That's a long flight," Kribs said. "He needs somebody who can be changing diapers, who can soothe a baby when their ears pop on a plane, who can feed them and comfort them."

In the past, she'd advocated for slightly older kids, asking ICE officials to wear plainclothes and not carry their weapons when they returned a child, to make the process as unthreatening as possible. These are details I'd never considered, though for children they can mean the difference between fear and comfort.

Today, there are parents who've been deported, parents still in ICE custody, others in U.S. Marshals custody. There are children in Office of Refugee Resettlement facilities spread across the United States, placed wherever a bed is available. There are multiple agencies and thousands of case-workers, judges, lawyers and child advocates without a structured method of communication between one another. In this maze of bureaucracy, simply reuniting families becomes a heroic effort. And these are the families and children lucky enough to have even reached the United States.

In July, the administration introduced a policy denying everyone — including children — the opportunity to request asylum if they traveled through any other country to reach our border, without first applying for asylum in that particular country. As a result of yet another policy known as "Remain in Mexico," 16,000 children, including 500 infants, have been left to wait in Mexico for asylum hearings, often living in unsafe conditions.

Outside of Immigration Court, I thanked Kribs and hurried from our meeting to pick up my then-6-year-old daughter from camp. She'd had a field trip to an amusement park, and she stepped off the camp's bus with tangled hair and a glazed look from the day's excitement. That night, as I put her to bed, she cried. There was a game at the arcade, one she was not allowed to play but caught a glimpse of. There were zombies on the screen. They chased a woman. She ran but they surrounded her and carried her away.

"It looked really real," my daughter said, crying. "I don't want them to take you away."

I thought of Edgar and Elena. I wondered when their parents would be able to comfort them with a hug, a kiss, a touch. And I felt a terrible kind of luck to be able to give my child comfort when comfort was needed. To be together, in a place we call home.

*Frances de Pontes Peebles is the author of the novels "The Seamstress" and "The Air You Breathe."*



# PERSPECTIVE



CHANDAN KHANNA/AFP-GETTY

Students in a classroom in Shanghai on Sept. 27, 2017.

## US high school students should be doing better

BY TERU CLAVEL

Americans are being left in the dust when it comes to education. Test scores of high school students internationally put 15-year-olds in the United States only in the middle of the pack, according to results released earlier this month, with reading scores flatlining and math scores declining. My American-born children were mostly educated in Asia, and I have some insight into why there are such differences in student performance.

In 2006, I left New York City and its competitive preschool admissions race to embark on a 12-year journey with my family that took us to Hong Kong, Shanghai and Tokyo, where my three children attended local public schools. We returned to the United States in 2016, to the top-rated public schools of Palo Alto, California.

The school buildings were sparkling, unlike those in Asia, but the academics were a failure. The district leadership was in upheaval. My middle child had four temporary fifth-grade teachers after the regular teacher left on maternity leave in October, watched no less than 10 animated films unrelated to the curriculum in a single academic year, was given an unmonitored iPad to bring home, and was told to read during math class to keep himself occupied because the curriculum the class was studying was years behind what he had already learned in Asia.

While abroad, we got the insider's perspective on how Shanghai students are up to four years ahead of U.S. kids academically. Enthusiastic and well-trained teachers lead to higher learning out-

comes, and the most disadvantaged students in China do as well or better than the average U.S. students. Clearly, the education system in China is equitably supporting and challenging students.

In Palo Alto, my daughter came home from school one day and declared, "I am not good at math." I was shocked. When we lived in China and Japan, there was no "bad at math." Nobody got through school being "bad" at anything; it was seen as a matter of applying the right mindset and persistence until every student mastered the material. Students benefited from high expectations and high standards. One day my son was kept after school in Shanghai. "I didn't get a 95 on my quiz, so I had to stay after until I got it all right," he explained.

The Program for International Student Assessment also looks at international attitudes toward learning. A growth mindset indicates an open-ended understanding of our abilities, while a fixed mindset suggests we believe our intelligence and other factors are limited and basically unchangeable. The test, administered to 600,000 students from 79 countries, asked 15-year-olds how they felt about this statement: "Your intelligence is something about you that you can't change very much." In the United States, students who disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statement scored 58 points higher in reading than students who agreed or strongly agreed, after accounting for students' and schools' socioeconomic profile. In China, students from disadvantaged backgrounds have an even higher growth mindset than do students from privileged backgrounds. Our counterparts in China

and Japan have long known that students learn more if they are expected to learn more.

The PISA report said the following teacher behaviors hinder learning and reading performance: not meeting the individual needs of students, teacher absenteeism, staff resisting change, teachers not being well prepared for class and teachers being too strict with students. In Japan, students bow at the start and end of every class period. Teachers walk their students out to the school gate every afternoon for a formal goodbye, modeling mutual respect and caring. In China, too, there is a healthy regard for the teacher. Teaching is a revered career choice there, commanding much more admiration than it does in the United States.

In the U.S., teachers spend 27 hours per week in classrooms teaching. That's well above the average of its peer group: Teachers in OECD nations, which include the U.S., Canada and much of Western Europe, spend 19 hours. Our teachers should also be spending time collaborating, lesson planning and investing in professional development.

We don't support our teachers in this country, and that results in damage to our students. Our kids have been totally forgotten in our political unraveling. Our education system is failing them, which means our nation — and all of us — are in trouble.

*Teru Clavel was an education journalist in Asia and is the author of "World Class: One Globe's Journey Halfway Around the Globe in Search of the Best Education for Her Children."*

### VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

#### Volunteers make a pantry possible

I want to thank Marc Paulhus for his commentary on the new rules for food stamps ("New SNAP rules ignore realities of food insecurity, poverty," Dec. 23) and also columnist Rex Huppke for his food drive efforts ("Working two jobs but can't afford food for the family," Dec. 10) to support the Greater Chicago Food Depository, which provides food pantries in the Chicago area access to affordable supplies.

Also a big thank you to all the people who give so generously of their time to help make a food pantry possible. It takes only a few hours of volunteering at a pantry to understand the great need many people in our communities have. It could be your next-door neighbor, or the elderly couple who live down the street, or the children you see walking past on their way to school.

Without the Greater Chicago Food Depository, many local pantries could not exist. Food insecurity is a real problem in the world today. Many of our clients also volunteer many hours at the pantry to help others. It is heartwarming to know we can help in some small way. It's work but a wonderful feeling.

— Margaret Kushman,  
President of the board of directors,  
Broadview Food Pantry, Broadview

#### Illinois' flat tax is a fair tax

The only fair tax rate is the flat tax; anything else is discrimination against those with higher wages and salaries. If our politicians were to select a progressive income tax rate, what would be the next step? A progressive sales tax rate? (Oops! Maybe I shouldn't have mentioned that.)

The fact that the federal government and most states have a progressive rate does not make it right. Please vote to maintain our fair tax rate: the flat tax.

— Jim Pioch, Geneva

#### US budget needs balancing

Right now, this country is as divided as we have seen in modern times. It's all President Donald Trump this and Trump that, and Democrats this and Republicans that.

But there's one issue that this country should and needs to unify behind, and that's balancing the budget. The last time this country had a balanced budget or surplus was 2001. The budget deficit continues to grow, and no one seems too concerned. And this is not a party problem, as the deficits rose under George Bush and Barack Obama and will continue to grow under Trump. Congress just passed a \$4 trillion budget that will only add to the deficit and push it over \$1 trillion. As Americans, we need to make it known to our representatives that this cannot continue.

There does not seem to be any interest from Congress to change this trajectory. We cut taxes and increase spending. As individuals, we aren't able to do that. If we don't have the money coming in, we can't spend it. We can continue along this path, but we run the risk of putting this country in a very dark financial hole. Or worse yet, having to cut spending on things that we Americans truly need.

Balancing the budget is something that both parties can come to terms with and all Americans can support.

— Bill Kalnes, Burr Ridge

#### Singing of anthem was inspiring

After I read the recap of Dec. 18's Northwestern vs. Michigan State basketball game the next day, something was missing: what occurred prior to the tipoff at the game, which I attended.

Even in the loss, NU was a winner. The team invited a young man with special needs to sing the anthem. This young man, also a winner in my eyes, sang his heart out in front of a near-capacity crowd, which appeared to touch everyone in a most positive way. Even the teams appeared to be in awe of his rendition, as I observed the players and the coaches of both teams enthusiastically join in with the standing ovation this man received.

While NU may have lost a hard-fought game, the school should be commended for allowing this young man to perform and show the world what individuals with special needs can contribute. In this day of much divisiveness, it was a reminder: What may appear as a not so significant event can lift the spirits of those at a simple basketball game.

— Charles Kliche, Lombard

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## What will it take to beat Donald Trump?

BY BRET STEPHENS

Bill Clinton and Barack Obama both campaigned for, and won, the White House on the watchword "hope." What watchword will it take for a Democrat to win this time?

My suggestion: soap. Nearly three years into Donald Trump's presidency, America needs a hard scrub and a deep cleanse. It needs to wash out the grime and grease of an administration that every day does something to make the country feel soiled.

Soiled by a president who, Castro-like, delivered a two-hour rant at a rally in Michigan the night he was impeached. Who described his shakedown of Ukraine as "perfect." Who extolled the world's cruelest tyrant as someone who "wrote me beautiful letters. ... We fell in love." Who abandoned vulnerable allies in Syria, then opted to maintain troops in the country "only for oil." Who, barely a year before the El Paso massacre, demonized illegal immigrants who "pour into and infest our Country."

The list goes on, and most everyone feels it. In June, the Pew Research Center published a survey on how the country sees the state of public discourse. The most striking finding: "A 59 percent majority of Republicans and Republican leaners say they often or sometimes feel concerned by what Trump says. About half also say they are at least sometimes embarrassed (53 percent) and confused (47 percent) by Trump's statements."

What's true of Republicans is far more so of the rest of the United States. Pew found that overwhelming majorities of Americans were "concerned" (76%), "confused" (70%), "embarrassed" (69%), "angry" (65%), "insulted" (62%) and "frightened" (56%) by the things Trump says.

These numbers should devastate Trump's chances of reelection. They don't, for three reasons.

First, 76% of Americans rate economic conditions positively, up from 48% at the time of Trump's election. Second, the progressive left's values seem increasingly hostile to mainstream ones, as suggested by the titanic row over J.K. Rowling's recent tweet defending a woman who was fired over her outspoken views on transgenderism. Third, the more the left rages about Trump and predicts nothing but catastrophe and conspiracy from him, the more out of touch it seems when the catastrophes don't happen and the conspiracy theories come up short.

No wonder Trump's average approval ratings have steadily ticked up since the end of October. In the view of middle-of-the-road America, the president may be bad, but he's nowhere near as bad as his critics say.

In that same view, while Trump's critics might be partly right about him, they're a lot less right than they believe. In a contest between the unapologetic jerk in the White House and the self-styled saints seeking to unseat him, the jerk might just win.

How to avoid that outcome? The most obvious point is not to promise a wrenching overhaul of the economy when it shows no signs of needing such an overhaul. There are plenty of serious long-term risks to our prosperity, including a declining birthrate, national debt north of \$23 trillion, the erosion of the global free-trade consensus, threats to the political independence of the Federal Reserve and the popularization of preposterous economic notions such as Modern Monetary Theory.

But anyone who thinks blowout government spending, partly financed by an unconstitutional and ineffective wealth tax, is going to be an electoral winner should look at the fate of Britain's hapless Jeremy Corbyn.

What would work? Smart infrastructure spending. New taxes on carbon, offset by

tax cuts on income and saving. Modest increases in taxes on the wealthy matched to the promise of a balanced budget.

What these proposals lack in progressive ambition, they make up in political plausibility and the inherent appeal of modesty. They also defeat Trump's most potent reelection argument, which is that, no matter who opposes him, he's running against the crazy left.

Hence the second point. Too much of today's left is too busy pointing out the ugliness of the Trumpian right to notice its own ugliness: its censoriousness, nastiness and complacent self-righteousness. But millions of ordinary Americans see it, and they won't vote for a candidate who emboldens and empowers woke culture. The Democrat who breaks with that culture, as Clinton did in 1992 over Sister Souljah and Obama did in October over "cancel culture," is the one likeliest to beat Trump.

Finally, the winning Democracy will need to make Trump's presidency seem insignificant rather than monumental — an unsightly pimple on our long republican experiment, not a fatal cancer within it. Mike Bloomberg has the financial wherewithal to make Trump's wealth seem nearly trivial. Joe Biden has the life experience to make Trump's attacks seem petty. Pete Buttigieg and Amy Klobuchar have the rhetorical skills to turn Trump's taunts against him.

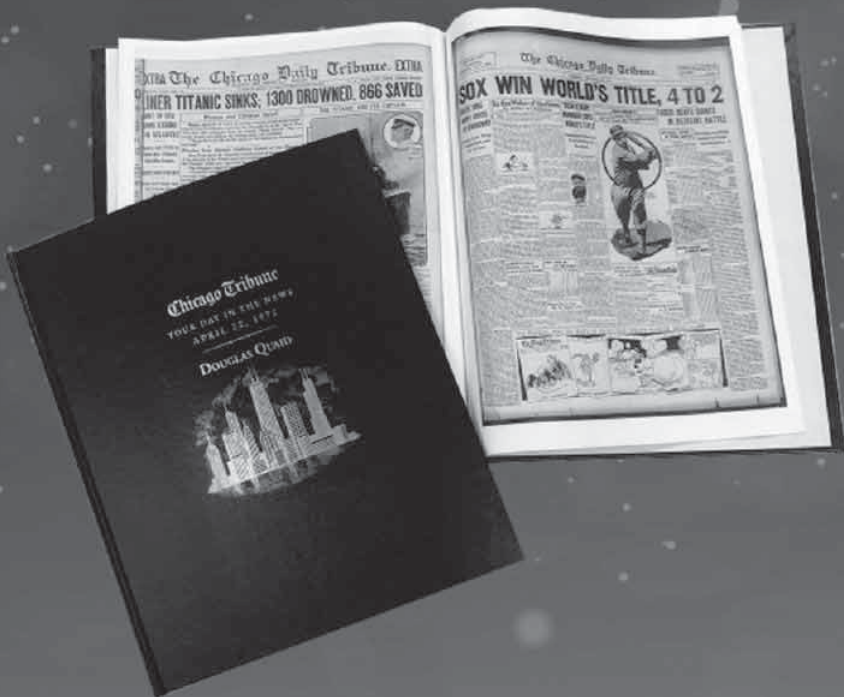
As with most bullies, the key to beating Trump is to treat him as the nonentity he fundamentally is. Wouldn't it be something if his political opponents and obsessed media critics resolved, for 2020, to talk about him a little less and past him a lot more?

When your goal is to wash your hands of something bad, you don't need a sword. Soap will do.

Bret Stephens is a New York Times columnist.



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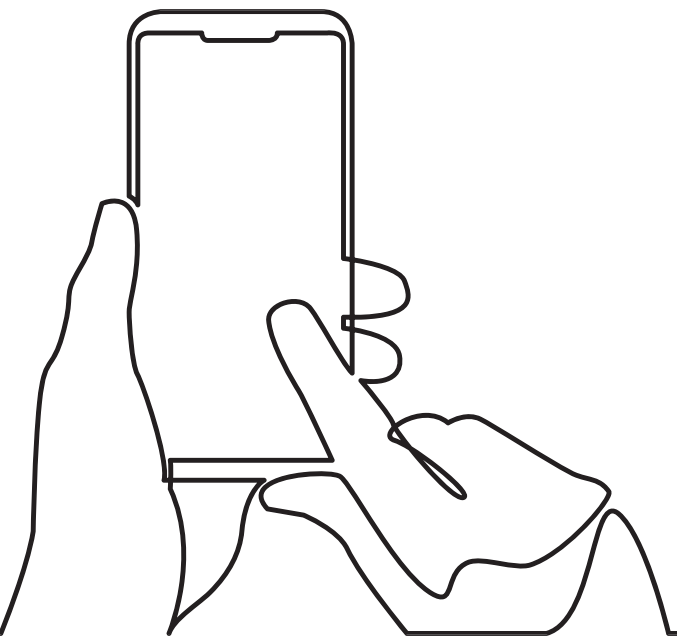
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# SUCCESS

Your guide to managing money, work and the business of life

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## Recession talk fading at end of year

Remember back in August when economists and investors were gnashing their teeth about a looming recession?

For the last four months, economic data have mostly improved, underscored by the boffo November jobs report. Job growth has averaged 180,000 per month thus far in 2019, down from the average monthly gain of 223,000 in 2018, but still strong for the 11th year of an expansion.

The unemployment rate edged down to match a 50-year low of 3.5%. The jobless rate has remained at or below 4% for 21 straight months, the longest such stretch since the 1960s. The broader rate slid to 6.9%, matching a post cycle low in August — the lowest reading since December 2000.

Average hourly wages were up 3.1% from a year ago, below the peak hit last February. Still, worker pay is more than a full percentage point ahead of the overall inflation rate, which may explain why many consumers say they are feeling jolly this holiday season.

The Federal Reserve underscored the overall improvement in the economy during its final policy meeting of the year. After cutting interest rates by a quarter of a percentage point three times in the second half of 2019, the central bankers decided to put interest rate policy on hold, potentially for a while. In a unanimous decision, officials kept the current level of rates steady, believing that 1.5 to 1.75% is the right range to maintain a balanced economy.

The Fed also noted that consumers have been doing the heavy lifting this year, with household spending rising at a strong pace, but also underscored that business investments and exports remain weak.

Looking ahead, the Fed sees moderate growth and low unemployment. As a result, they anticipate no interest rate moves in 2020 and just one hike in each of the subsequent two years.

That's rough news for savers, who just a year ago were finally seeing interest rates creep up in their savings and money market accounts. Conversely, borrowers are likely to see low costs for short-term loans, like credit cards, autos and some adjustable rate mortgages. For stock investors, an accommodative Fed has put the cherry on the top of strong 2019 performance.

Adding to the December cheer was a trade truce of sorts. After 19 months of tit-for-tat measures and two days before the U.S. was set to impose another round of tariffs, the world's two largest economies agreed upon a partial trade agreement. The U.S. agreed to hold off on the imposition of 15% tariffs on \$156 billion worth of Chinese goods.

In exchange, U.S. officials said that China would increase purchases of American food, energy, manufactured goods and services by a total of \$200 billion over the next two years, including a commitment to increase agricultural product purchases from \$8 billion to \$40 billion. The problem is that Beijing has not acknowledged those numbers, which has led some analysts to be a bit more skeptical about some of the larger outstanding structural issues, like intellectual property and technology transfer.

Although the deal is not really done, the trade war moving from a boil to a simmer has helped improve economic sentiment and certainly made the fears of a recession from just four months before, seem like a distant memory.

*Jill Schlesinger, CFP, is a CBS News business analyst. A former options trader and CIO of an investment advisory firm, she welcomes comments and questions at [askjill@jillonmoney.com](mailto:askjill@jillonmoney.com). Check her website at [www.jillonmoney.com](http://www.jillonmoney.com).*



JACOB AMMENTORP LUND/DREAMSTIME

## Sunday is not the new Monday

### Weekend work creep should be shut down

BY JOHN BOITNOTT | Inc.

Sunday used to be for relaxing, spending time with family and friends and catching up on personal tasks.

Now, I talk to more and more entrepreneurs and others who say they don't use the weekend to rest nearly as much as they once did.

Maybe it's because technology, and even some popular online advice, encourages people to stay available for work outside traditional business hours.

A 2017 survey from Enterprise Holdings found that nearly seven in 10 Americans put in a full workday (the equivalent of nine hours) on at least one weekend a month. The same survey also noted that two-thirds of respondents felt their employers expected them to work over the weekend.

Also, 61% said they struggled to not think about work over the weekend. Of this group, two-thirds also admitted they checked and answered work-related emails on a typical weekend.

To that I say, put Sunday — and work — in its proper place.

For the sake of our health and our sanity, we should stop or at least work to minimize Sunday work creep and keep work Monday through Friday where it belongs. You should work to regain this balance, even if you're in the middle of building a startup or are a freelancer facing inconsistent income.

Here are some ways to win back your Sunday from people (including yourself) who are trying to use this day of rest as an extra day of work:

#### Stop the guilt

There is no reason to feel bad about taking an entire day off from work. It's necessary for physical, emotional and mental health, as well as for productivity and creativity. Co-workers or colleagues should also recognize the value of letting you recharge your batteries.

To stop feeling guilty about time off, you need to ignore the naysayers and

your own negative thinking. Focus on what you can accomplish and plan time to relax, too.

#### Remove yourself from the work environment

While it's convenient to have an office at home, it's also very easy to fall into bad habits. You may think you're just checking your email, sending a quick invoice or writing a to-do list for Monday, but you're really just opening the door to work.

As long as you are near your office or see it, you may work when you don't need to. Step away from work by leaving your home on a Sunday to do something different, opting for time with family, friends or your furry companion.

Or, take the whole weekend away to decompress. That could include checking out of social media, email, text messages and messaging platforms like Slack. You can even try a silent retreat. When you do get away and remember how good it feels, it can become easier to stop thinking about work.

Your work will always wait for you, but life will pass you by if you don't take part in it.

#### Set limits and retrain those around you

For freelancers who create a flexible schedule, there are times when work on a Sunday is necessary. But, if clients or employers see or hear from you over the weekend, then they they'll either be annoyed because you're cutting into their rest time, or assume it's OK to contact you, even if you don't plan on working every Sunday.

Rather than confuse them and frustrate yourself, set limits and retrain those around you to still see the weekend as your time away from work. To do this, keep your chat availability set to "away." Don't announce you are working on those days. And, don't correspond or send work out.

Instead, share your digital calendar to your clients or employer. It will show them what days you are taking off, whether during the week or the weekend.

#### Plan for Monday on Friday

Part of the reason many people find themselves working on Sunday is because they want to prepare for the week ahead. They're tempted to send out agendas, emails, questions or even new assignments on Sunday night. Sometimes that half-hour you thought you'd need turns into a few hours of work.

Instead, create your Monday or full-week plan on Friday before you step away from work. Devote a half-hour to this. Use scheduling tools to write emails and messages and deliver them on Monday morning. If you think about it, there's no real reason to use Sunday for this task in most cases when Friday works just fine. If you're efficient and focused, you can get it done in 30 minutes.

Apply this thought to almost any aspect of work, and you'll be one step closer to achieving the balance that Sundays should be known for.

## Volunteering in retirement opens new doors

BY EMMA PATCH  
Kiplinger

For Linda Knott of Flagstaff, Arizona, volunteering was her foot in the door to the community she now calls home.

"I moved here, and I didn't know a soul," says Knott, 66. Now, she volunteers her time with Senior Corps, a national volunteering organization for people ages 55 and older. As a "senior companion," she assists elderly and home-bound women with daily tasks.

While Senior Corps is a network of national service programs, older adults serve in their local communities. Not only do Senior Corps volunteers receive training for their program, training often connects volunteers with a community of other older adults, providing a social support for many volunteers.

Many older adults across the United States have sought volunteering opportunities as a way to feel healthier in retirement, according to a recent UnitedHealthcare survey. Older Americans view retirement as a new beginning with new goals, says Ben Kehl, vice president of member experience for UnitedHealthcare Medicare and Retirement.

"Far from slowing down, respondents said they view retirement as a time to dive into their passions and hobbies, volunteer in their communities and perhaps even start a new type of employment," he says.

Working with children as a foster grandparent in Knoxville, Tennessee, is particularly valuable for Haroldene Hobbs, age 66, whose son recently died. "It's been so rewarding to know that I can be of help to the children," says Hobbs.

Senior volunteers reported significant increases in their emotional well-being from volunteering, according to a recent survey conducted by Senior Corps. After two years of service in the program, 84% reported improved health and 78% reported feeling less depressed.

About 200,000 volunteers participate every year in Senior Corps' range of programs, from helping with disaster relief to renovating homes. Volunteering lets you put your lifetime skills to use in a new way, says Samantha Warfield, spokesperson for Senior Corps. If you were an accountant, you could be a volunteer tax preparer in the springtime, for instance.

"On the flip side, if you're eager to work in a new field, it can be a great way to try something new," she says.

The volunteers who serve as "foster

grandparents" assist teachers in classrooms from 10 to 30 hours a week to help at-risk students. "The teachers are very grateful for the foster grandparents in their classroom because the volunteers can provide additional one-on-one support that many students need," says Erin Kruse, Flagstaff's Senior Corps project director.

The Department of Veterans Affairs recently began engaging Senior Corps volunteers to support the VA's Choose Home Initiative, enabling older veterans to receive needed homemaker and daily living support so they can remain in their own homes.

Ultimately, if you have a passion, Senior Corps can find you a purpose, Warfield says. You can learn more about how to volunteer and volunteering opportunities at [NationalService.Gov/SeniorCorps](http://NationalService.Gov/SeniorCorps).



SUCCESS



DREAMSTIME

# College, minus the crushing debt

Some schools try no-loans programs to ease burden



BY ELLIOT RAPHAELSON  
*The Savings Game*

I was fortunate that after I received my bachelor's and master's degrees at private colleges, I owed very little in in outstanding loans. That's because tuition and room and board were much lower than they are now.

I received an MBA from Carnegie Mellon in 1961 (a two-year program) when tuition was \$1,000 per year. I was also able to teach mathematics at night at the school to help subsidize my expenses. My undergraduate tuition at Clark University was even cheaper, and Clark offered me a partial scholarship for my A.B. in mathematics.

The bottom line is that I was able to go to two excellent universities, receive two degrees in 6 years, and owe only a few hundred dollars in loans. I always worked part time while a student, so I didn't have to ask my parents for financial support, which frankly would have been very difficult for them.

I sympathize with today's college

students and their parents facing such large expenses, even for public schools. Student loan debt in the U.S. has reached more than \$1.5 trillion among 44 million borrowers.

I recently checked the tuition and fees of the full-time two-year program at the Tepper School of Business at Carnegie Mellon, my alma mater, and it's just under \$69,000 per year.

What options do students have today? One option worth considering is attending a college that has a "no-loans policy." That title is deceptive, because even at colleges that offer this type of program, many of the students still face possible loans. I'll explain some of the basics associated with these programs. More information can be found at SavingforCollege.com.

Here is an example as to how this program can work: Assume the expected total cost of attending a college offering such a program is \$60,000 per year. The school indicates that it expects the family to contribute \$30,000 per year toward the cost. The remaining \$30,000 would be covered by grants and on-campus part-time jobs. If \$20,000 comes from a grant, that would leave \$10,000 to be covered by part-time work.

The student could decide to concentrate on studies and not work part time. Accordingly, he/she could then borrow \$10,000, or perhaps a smaller amount if he or she is willing to accept jobs which would result in an amount less than \$10,000 for that year.

Approximately six dozen colleges and universities offer this type of program, according to SavingforCollege.com. Some schools have restrictions based on family income; some have no such restriction. Each school develops its own policy, so there are significant differences among these schools.

The colleges offering this type of program include Amherst, Brown, Columbia, Harvard, John Hopkins, MIT, Princeton, Pennsylvania, Stanford, Swarthmore, Vanderbilt, Washington & Lee and Yale.

Some of the schools have students graduating nearly debt-free.

According to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, among 2018 graduates, 69% of students took out loans, and they graduated with an average debt of \$29,800.

There are other ways to minimize student debt. One is to start out at a junior college or a state university, which are much cheaper than private colleges, and then transfer to a more prestigious institution. Another option is to attend a public university for all four years.

The schools that offer no-loans programs include some of the most prestigious colleges in the United States. A degree from a top-rated college will lead to better job opportunities after graduation — and better job prospects — are certainly worthy objectives.

*Elliot Raphaelson welcomes your questions and comments at [raphelliot@gmail.com](mailto:raphelliot@gmail.com).*

# How to make the most of cash-back cards

BY MIRIAM CROSS  
Kiplinger

Credit card cash-back rewards are simple, versatile and don't lose value over time the way that loyalty points do.

The easiest method to rev up your cash-reward rate is to rely on a single card that earns more than 1% per dollar spent. Citi Double Cash Mastercard pays a flat 2% on all purchases, as does the Fidelity Rewards Visa Signature (but you must deposit your rewards from the card into a Fidelity account). Other cards, such as the Capital One Quicksilver visa, return 1.5% on everything. (Unless noted otherwise, the cards do not carry annual fees.)

Next, layer on one or two more cards with higher payback in categories in which you spend the most, such as dining, groceries or gas. Dining is a hot category right now, with several cards, including the Uber Visa and Capital One Savor Rewards Mastercard (\$95 annual fee, waived the first year), earning 4% or more at restaurants.

Sticking with cash-back cards that offer fixed bonus categories is easiest. If you choose cards such as the Chase Freedom VISA or Discover It, which hike earnings on new categories to 5% each quarter, you will need to activate the categories each quarter to earn the higher rate. (Recent 5% categories on those cards included home improvement stores, grocery stores, gas stations and ride sharing. Fourth-quarter categories usually focus on shopping.)

A couple of other cards, including the U.S. Bank CASH+ visa signature, let you choose the categories that earn additional cash back, including such options as TV, internet and streaming services, home utilities, and cell-phone bills.

Stay away from retail cards unless you're loyal to that store and shop there frequently, says Ted Rossman, industry analyst at CreditCards.com. "The sign-up bonuses are lacking compared with general-purpose cards, and even the ongoing rewards are not as attractive," he says.

Some cash-back cards have a catch: They cap your bonus earnings each year or quarter and drop the rate to 1% once you hit your limit. You may not worry about blowing through a \$1,500 quarterly cap on, say, gas and drugstores, but a family could easily surpass the \$6,000 annual limit for 6% cash back on groceries with the American express blue cash preferred (\$95).

Track your spending so you can revert to a card that earns more than 1% back until the clock resets. At the same time, familiarize yourself with how your credit card issuer defines its categories. For example, it's common for credit cards to exclude gas or groceries from the top-earning gas or grocery category when you buy those items at supermarkets, such as Walmart and Target, or wholesale clubs, such as Costco Wholesale and Sam's Club.

*Miriam Cross is an associate editor at Kiplinger's Personal Finance magazine. Send your questions and comments to [moneypower@kiplinger.com](mailto:moneypower@kiplinger.com).*

# Handling long-term care claims

Process can be lengthy, complex

BY KIMBERLY LANKFORD  
Kiplinger

Buying long-term-care insurance is usually a smart way to protect your finances and your family from the potentially massive cost of care. But after paying premiums for years, you don't want the insurance company to hassle you — or your children — when you submit a claim.

In many cases, 20 years or more have passed between buying the policy and using the benefits, and in that time, the types of care and rules for new policies may have changed. Even if the insurance company ultimately pays out, the claims process can be slow and complicated.

Here are tips to help the process go smoothly:

- Review the policy with your adult children. It's important to let your adult children (or another person you trust) know about your long-term-care insurance long before you need to use it. Give your adult children a copy of the policy and let them know how to start the claim. Make sure they have the contact information for the insurance company's claims department

and the agent who sold you the policy.

Review the requirements for receiving payouts with them so that they can keep an eye out if you start to need help with activities of daily living or become cognitively impaired. Find out what documentation the insurer requires for them to handle the claim on your behalf, such as a power of attorney and HIPAA authorization.

- Contact the insurer before you choose a care provider or facility. Some of the biggest problems happen when people pick a facility or home-care worker before they find out about the policy's requirements. Some older policies cover nursing home care but not assisted living or home care. Some that cover home care will only pay a licensed caregiver who works with an agency.
- Understand how to qualify for benefits. Most long-term-care policies sold since 1997 will pay out if you need substantial assistance with two out of six activities of daily living (bathing, dressing, toileting, transferring, eating and continence) or if you have severe cognitive impairment and need substantial supervision. But older policies may have other criteria. The documentation can be detailed and complicated, and can vary by company and policy.
- Ask how the waiting period works. Long-term-care policies have a waiting



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period (generally 30, 60 or 90 days) when you have to pay for care yourself before the policy will pay out. But the definition of this "elimination period" can vary a lot by policy.

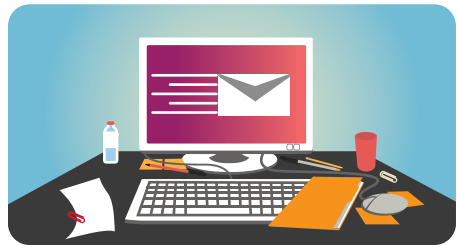
- Get help if you have delays. "If there's a challenge with a claim, my advice is to let your agent be your advocate," says David Eisenberg, an insurance broker in Los Angeles. The agent will understand how to navigate the insurance company's claims

process and can help get a claim approved more quickly. Your state insurance department can also help speed up the process and get answers from the insurer. Find your insurance department at [https://content.naic.org/state\\_web\\_map.htm](https://content.naic.org/state_web_map.htm).

*Kimberly Lankford is a contributing editor to Kiplinger's Personal Finance magazine. Send your questions and comments to [moneypower@kiplinger.com](mailto:moneypower@kiplinger.com).*

# Ditch the app

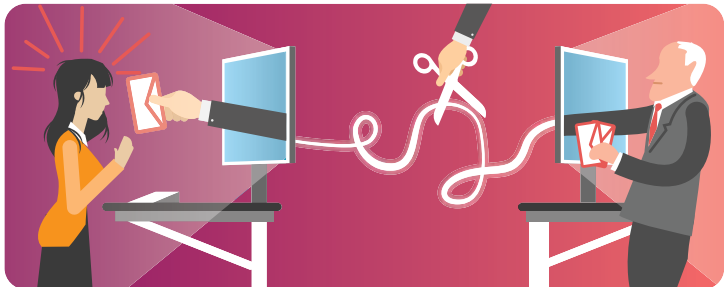
Sometimes going analog is better.



**Controlling time spent on email**

Tech solution: Apps like BatchedInbox will hide and deliver your email at pre-designated times, but they don't reduce the volume. You'll just have to deal with it later.

Analog solution: Email-free Fridays. If you're a manager, consider banning email at your company one day a week to give everyone a chance to focus on work instead of their inbox. Call or text people if you need to, or better yet, just walk over to their desks.



**Powering through the afternoon slump**

Tech solution: Web-blocking apps such as Freedom remove the temptation to web-surf, but they don't actually help you focus and do the thing you need to complete.

Analog solution: A coffee break, or even envisioning one. Research published in Consciousness and Cognition found that imagining the scent and taste of coffee enhances mental concentration.

SOURCE: Fast Company





SUCCESS

# Chicago's fastest-growing companies

Inc. notes 10 firms on the move

By Emily Canal | Inc.

While the Windy City dropped off Inc.'s 2020 list of surge cities — an index that measures the 50 metropolitan areas with the most economic momentum in the U.S. — it is still a hot spot for some of the U.S.'s fastest-growing private companies.

Part of what helps Chicago's companies thrive is its hospitable business climate, which includes the chance to subcontract with or sell to 11 Fortune 500 companies including Boeing, Conagra Brands, and Motorola Solutions.

Its not-outrageous cost of living helps as well. The median residential rent in Chicago is \$1,800, significantly lower than San Francisco's \$4,500 and New York's \$2,899, according to real estate database Zillow.

If you're looking to join a still-vibrant city, here are the 10 fastest-growing, private Chicago-based companies on Inc.'s 2019 list.

## 10. Wavicle Data Solutions

**2019 Inc. 5000 rank No. 342 | Three-year growth 1,347% | 2018 revenue \$12.4M**

Making its Inc. 5000 debut this year is Wavicle Data Solutions, a consulting firm that aims to help its business customers capture, analyze, and share large amounts of data like social media mentions or cloud applications. Naveen Venkatapathi launched the company in 2013 and leads a team of 171 employees as of December last year.

## 9. OppLoans

**2019 Inc. 5000 rank No. 321 | Three-year growth 1,435% | 2018 revenue \$134.2M**

This four-time Inc. 5000 honoree offers personal installment loans to nonprime borrowers that range between \$1,000 and \$5,000. Created by Jared Kaplan in 2012, OppLoans was also ranked as one of Inc.'s best workplaces last year.

## 8. Cultivate Advisors

**2019 Inc. 5000 rank No. 280 | Three-year growth 1,558% | 2018 revenue \$3.4M**



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Cultivate Advisors, which was founded in 2013 by Casey Clark and Dan Gramann, made its Inc. 5000 debut this year. The startup advises small-business owners nationwide on scaling tactics and employee skills development. Cultivate Advisors had 32 employees as of December 2018.

## 7. RedShelf

**2019 Inc. 5000 rank No. 231 | Three-year growth 1,797% | 2018 revenue \$46.2M**

The third fastest-growing education company on the Inc. 5000 this year is a two-time honoree. In 2012, Greg Fenton and Tim Haitaian launched RedShelf, which offers access to digitized course materials including textbooks, journal articles, and more. Its digital offerings are sold to students, but the company also works with publishers and universities.

## 6. Fitness Cubed

**2019 Inc. 5000 rank No. 180 | Three-year growth 2,142% | 2018 revenue**

**\$10.3M**

Arnav Dalmia's 5-year-old company makes a line of compact elliptical trainers for office workers and couch potatoes alike. The company's Cubii elliptical devices start at \$249 and come in Junior, Pro and Elite versions.

## 5. UPshow

**2019 Inc. 5000 rank No. 174 | Three-year growth 2,236% | 2018 revenue \$2.6M**

In 2015, Adam Hirszen and Matt Gibbs launched their consumer engagement startup, which installs screens in establishments like restaurants, bars, and fitness facilities so owners can broadcast marketing and entertainment messages to customers. It made the Inc. 5000 for the first time this year.

## 4. Arcalea

**2019 Inc. 5000 rank No. 149 | Three-year growth 2,514% | 2018 revenue \$2.8M**

Founded by longtime Chicago resident Michael Stratta in 2015, Arcalea is making its Inc. 5000 debut this year. The digital agency, which is ranked the No. 9 top advertising and marketing company on the Inc. 5000, offers customers analytics-driven marketing consultation and strategy services.

## 3. China Metal Solutions

**2019 Inc. 5000 rank No. 130 | Three-year growth 2,705% | 2018 revenue \$3.1M**

China Metal Solutions — the No. 3 top manufacturing company on this year's Inc. 5000 list — manufactures, imports and sells materials that are used for the automotive industry. Components include chrome plating, metal casting and in-house polishing. Jonathan Egan launched the business in 2015 after spending 12 years in China learning Mandarin and working for an automotive importing company.

## 2. ShipBob

**2019 Inc. 5000 rank No. 99 | Three-year growth 3,326% | 2018 revenue \$34.2M**

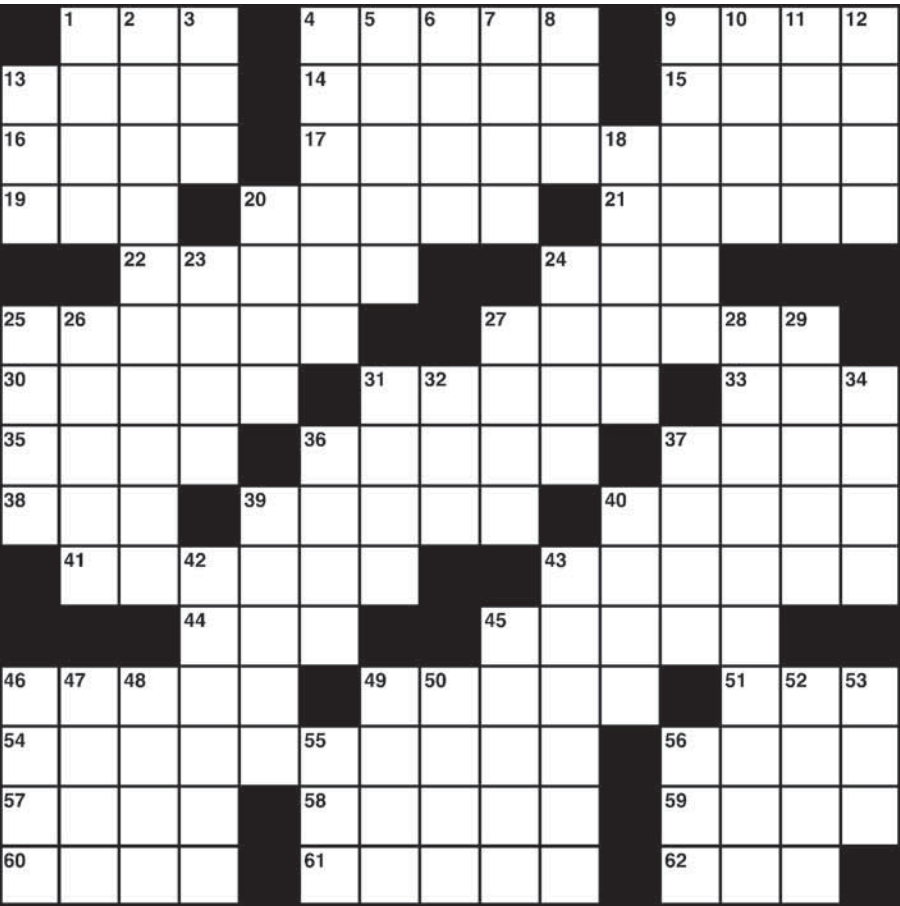
Dhruv Saxena and Divey Gulati got the idea for ShipBob, an e-commerce fulfillment business for online shops that launched in 2014, while waiting in line at a post office in Chicago. The two were sending inventory for their previous business, SnailMail Pics, a company that offered to send photo prints to users' friends and families. Today, ShipBob's software allows customers to manage orders, monitor inventory in real time, and receive notifications when stock needs to be reordered.

## 1. GForce Life Sciences

**2019 Inc. 5000 rank No. 90 | Three-year growth 3,532% | 2018 revenue \$14.4M**

GForce Life Sciences has been around since 2013 when it was founded by Mark Gallagher, but only in the past few years has it hit its stride. Today, it matches employers with skilled workers for clients in pharmaceutical, medical device, and biotechnology firms. That focus has helped GForce grow. Gallagher also helped found a prior Inc. 5000 company, HR firm Advanced Resources. It appeared on Inc.'s list at No. 4,606 in 2018. While it's still operating today, Gallagher was bought out by his business partner and cousin.

## Crossword



By Jacqueline E. Mathews. © 2019 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.

12/30/19

### ACROSS

- 1 Fellow
- 4 Cranium
- 9 "You don't know the half \_\_\_!"
- 13 "The \_\_\_ Star State"; Texas
- 14 Uncanny
- 15 Carousel or roller coaster
- 16 Babe in \_\_\_; innocent one
- 17 Slight; insignificant
- 19 Not \_\_\_ long shot
- 20 One of the Seven Dwarfs
- 21 \_\_\_ around; snoops
- 22 Gets closer to
- 24 Kilmer of films
- 25 Beethoven's "Moonlight \_\_\_"
- 27 Most recent
- 30 La Scala production
- 31 Big smiles
- 33 Shanty
- 35 Gentlemen
- 36 Leader
- 37 Mexican wolf
- 38 TV's "\_\_\_ Life to Live"
- 39 Homes for koi & goldfish
- 40 Turned off; disinterested
- 41 Fisher & Cantor

### DOWN

- 1 Gruesome; bloody
- 2 Rude
- 3 Simple reply
- 4 Madame in Madrid
- 5 Saves
- 6 Egg on
- 7 Mrs. Herman
- 8 Ring of flowers
- 9 Colorful songbird
- 10 Lies
- 11 Doing nothing
- 12 \_\_\_ off; irritates
- 13 Friendly dog
- 18 Pesky insects
- 20 Statistical info
- 23 All \_\_\_; listening

### Solutions



- 24 Weathercock
- 25 Average
- 26 Express one's views
- 27 Tupperware covers
- 28 Deficits
- 29 Yam or cassava
- 31 Firearms
- 32 Get \_\_\_ of; shed
- 34 Well-\_\_\_; wealthy
- 36 Departs
- 37 Suffer defeat
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Chicago Tribune





OBITUARIES

JAMES F. RUSS 1937-2019

Downers Grove bank CEO was influential in growth of Good Samaritan Hospital

By Bob Goldsborough

James F. Russ was the longtime chairman and CEO of Downers Grove National Bank until over-seeing the sale of the bank in 2011, and he also was a key player in the leadership of Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital in Downers Grove.

During the 1970s, Russ was part of a group of local business leaders who worked to bring the hospital to Downers Grove. Later, Russ served on the hospital's governing council, including as chairman, and he also was an active board member for Young Hearts for Life, a nonprofit group aimed at testing high schoolers for life-threatening heart abnormalities.

"The guy had excellent business acumen, but he also had a great rapport with a lot of different people. He was able to work with just about anybody," said Wheaton attorney Henry S. Stillwell III, a longtime friend. "He was really smart, and he figured out solutions and did so much for so many organizations that provided benefits to the public."

Russ, 82, died of congestive heart failure on Nov. 25 at the Sunrise of Naperville assisted living community in Naperville, said his son, James F. Russ Jr. A Downers Grove resident since 1969, Russ had been battling numerous ailments, his son said.

Born and raised in Milwaukee, Russ graduated from South Division High School in Milwaukee and then earned a bachelor's degree in finance and economics in 1960 from Marquette University. His first job was in the finance department of Rex Chain Belt, which now is known as Rexnord Corp. He then worked for the company in Worcester, Massachusetts, before taking a position at a Rex Chain Belt plant in Downers Grove in 1964 and moving to Naperville.

Russ began working for the now-defunct Citizens National Bank in Downers Grove in 1969 as a loan officer. He also joined Downers Grove's Chamber of Commerce and in short order became its chairman.

In that role, Russ was a key figure in the effort to bring a hospital to Downers Grove. Russ was an outspoken supporter of plans by the Evangelical Hospital



ADVOCATE HEALTH

Association to build what would become Good Samaritan Hospital on Highland Avenue in Downers Grove. Russ told the Tribune in June 1970 that the hospital was needed because of the village's growing population and the area's extensive employment base. The hospital opened in 1976.

In 1973, Russ was hired as Downers Grove National Bank's president. He later became the bank's chairman and CEO, and remained with the bank until its sale to BankFinancial Corp. in 2011.

"We're a closely held community bank with an aging shareholder base," Russ told the Tribune in 2009 during the announcement of an earlier, unsuccessful agreement to sell the bank.

Russ participated in a variety of civic and charitable endeavors. He was the treasurer of the DuPage Health Coalition, a group that supports individuals in DuPage County who are uninsured or underinsured, and he served for 25 years on Benedictine University's board of trustees.

Russ also was chairman of the Indian Boundary YMCA in Downers Grove, and he served on the Diocese of Joliet's finance committee. In addition, Russ served on the board of Young Hearts for Life, a nonprofit group aimed at screening teenagers for previously undiagnosed heart disease or other conditions that could cause sudden cardiac death.

"Jim was the kind of person who was knowledgeable and friendly and was always willing to help. He was someone who always took the high road and always looked for the win-win for various constituency groups in the community," said Laura Neiberg, Advocate Good Samaritan's retired vice

president of service line operations and growth. "He would bring people together, and he would look for how do we come up with a win-win."

Russ was continually involved with Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital, which became part of the Advocate system when Evangelical Health Systems and the Lutheran General Health System merged in 1995. Russ served on the Downers Grove hospital's governing council from 1983 until 2002, and he chaired the council from 1998 until 2002. He then rejoined the governing council as a board member in 2003, serving until 2012.

"Really, from the early 1970s all the way to the present time, he was engaged with the hospital," said retired Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital President David Fox. "He also was a member of our development council, which is the fundraising group of the hospital, and he also was a member more recently of a recent capital campaign that led to the building of an all-private-room bed tower."

Fox said he was struck by Russ' perpetual willingness to serve nonprofit groups.

"He was a real busy guy, and (yet) he always found time to attend board meetings, to help us raise dollars for the development committee," Fox said. "He was a force."

Stillwell recalled Russ' strength at fundraising for community groups.

"He raised so much money because he was so good at it," Stillwell said. "He was always picked to be on or to lead the fundraising committees for the Catholic church, the hospital, you name it."

Outside of work, Russ was an avid golfer and had been a longtime member of Butterfield Country Club in Oak Brook. He also was passionate about Marquette University basketball and had been a long-time season ticket holder.

In addition to his son, Russ is survived by his wife of almost 62 years, Judyann; two daughters, Cynthia Mochel and Laurie Stuhldreher; 14 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and a sister, Karen Schuppe.

Services were held.

Bob Goldsborough is a freelance reporter.

Chicago Daily Tribune

ON DECEMBER 30 ...

In 1853 the United States bought some 45,000 square miles of land from Mexico in a deal known as the Gadsden Purchase.

In 1894 suffragist Amelia Jenks Bloomer, whose short skirt and baggy trousers became known as "bloomers," died in Council Bluffs, Iowa; she was 76.

In 1903 about 600 people died when fire broke out at the recently opened Iroquois Theater in Chicago.

In 1916 Grigory Rasputin, the so-called "Mad Monk" who wielded considerable influence with Czar Nicholas II, was killed by a group

of Russian noblemen in St. Petersburg.

In 1922 Vladimir Lenin proclaimed the establishment of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, which lasted nearly seven decades before dissolving in December 1991.

In 1936 the United Auto Workers union staged its first "sit-down" strike, at the Fisher Body Plant No. 1 in Flint, Mich.

In 1940, California's first freeway, the Arroyo Seco Parkway connecting Los Angeles and Pasadena, was officially opened.

In 1944 King George II of Greece proclaimed a re-

gency to rule his country, virtually renouncing the throne.

In 1946 punk rock singer and poet Patti Smith was born in Chicago.

In 1947 King Michael of Romania agreed to abdicate, but charged he was being forced off the throne by Communists.

In 1948 the Cole Porter musical "Kiss Me, Kate!" opened on Broadway.

In 1954 Olympic gold medal runner Malvin G. Whitfield became the first black recipient of the James E. Sullivan Award for amateur athletes.

In 1956 the New York Giants defeated the Chicago Bears, 47-7, to win the NFL Championship Game.

In 1972 the United States halted its heavy bombing of North Vietnam.

In 1988 President Ronald Reagan and President-elect George H.W. Bush were subpoenaed to testify as defense witnesses in the pending Iran-Contra trial of Oliver North. (The subpoenas subsequently were quashed.)

In 1993 Israel and the Vatican agreed to recognize one another.

Chicago Tribune Death Notices

Chicago Tribune extends our condolences to the families and loved ones of those who have passed.

chicagotribune.com/deathnotice

Death Notices

Bentivenga, Gina G.

Gina G. Bentivenga, age 29, devoted daughter of the late Gina and Francesco Bentivenga; loving sister of Luigi, Mario (Amber), Phillip (Christine), Paolo (Melissa) Bentivenga; proud aunt of Chanel, Kayla, Joseph, Juliana, Aidan, Leo, Sofia, Frank and Rosalina; dearest niece and cousin to many. Visitation Thursday 2-8 P.M. Funeral Friday 8:30 A.M. from Lawn Funeral Home 7732 W. 159th St. Orland Park to St. Christina Church Mass 9:30 A.M. Entombment Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. Funeral info: 708 429-3200



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Fahy, Marie

Beloved wife of the late Thomas (Ret. CPD); Loving mother of Barbara (Daniel) Hanley, and Tom (Kathy); Proud grandma of Michelle Hansen, Jason (Karen) Hansen, Justin Fahy, and Kevin (Julia) Fahy; Cherished great-grandma of Dylan, Hunter, Gavin, and Nathan; Dear sister of the late Natalino (late Carmella), late Ralph, late Joe (Judy), late Jennie (late Nick) Izzo, and the late Anna (late Don) Hulsey; Fond aunt, sister-in-law, and friend to many; Visitation Tuesday 9:00 a.m. until time of Chapel Service 11:00 a.m. at Curley Funeral Home 6116 W. 111th Street, Chicago Ridge; Interment St. Mary Cemetery; For Funeral info 708-422-2700 or www.curleyfuneralhome.com

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Glueckert, Janice Ann

Janice Glueckert nee Bravieri, 71 of Des Plaines, beloved wife of William C.; loving mother of Laura Beason and stepmother of Daniel (Sherry), and Michael (Darla) Glueckert; loved grandmother of seven, great grandmother of one; dearest sister of Richard (Late Margaret) Bravieri. Visitation from 3:00 pm until 8:00 pm, Thursday at the Glueckert Funeral Home, Ltd., 1520 N. Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights. Prayers 9:00 am Friday from the funeral home to St. Zachary Catholic Church, 567 W. Algonquin, Des Plaines, for Mass at 10:00 am. Interment All Saints. Funeral information and condolences www.GlueckertFuneralHome.com or (847) 253-0168.



Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Heuss, Thomas Allan

Thomas A. Heuss, 83, of Oak Lawn, IL passed away on December 21, 2019. Thomas was preceded in death by his parents, Merrill and Louise Heuss, his brother, Jon Heuss, and his wife of 58 years, Suzann Segessman Heuss. He is survived by his four daughters, Amanda (James) Sullivan, Rebecca (Timothy) Brzezczek, Elizabeth (Kenneth) Langevin, and Amy (Karl) Wilharm. Tom was loved by eleven grandchildren and nine great grandchildren. Tom grew up in Chicago, IL and graduated from Morgan Park High School. He graduated from the Michigan College of Mining and Technology (Michigan Tech) with a Bachelor of Science in Metallurgical Engineering in 1962. He worked his entire career for Republic Steel Corporation and retired in 1996. He was an active member of Salem United Church of Christ in Oak Lawn, served on various committees with the IL Conference of the UCC, and was a Member of the Michigan Tech alumni association. A Memorial Service to celebrate Tom and Sue's life together will be held on Saturday, January 25, 2020 at Salem United Church of Christ 9717 S. Kostner Ave. in Oak Lawn, IL. Greeting and Gathering will be at 10am and the Service at 11am. In lieu of flowers the family wishes any donations be directed to P.A.W.S. of Tinley Park (pawstinelypark.org).

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Klein, Leslie H.

Leslie H. Klein, age 87, beloved husband and best friend for 64 years of Ruth, nee Ridker; loving father of Allen (Davi Hirsch) Klein, Robin Plotner, and David (Amy) Klein; adored grandpa of Steven (Jenny) and Jamie Klein, Jonathan and Joshua Plotner, and Dr. Sam (Dr. Erica) and Hannah Klein; devoted son of the late Eugene and Jeanette Klein. Service Thursday, 10:00 a.m. at The Chapel, 195 N. Buffalo Grove Rd., Buffalo Grove (1 blk N. of Lake Cook Rd.). Interment Shalom Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, contributions to CJE SeniorLife, www.cje.net. Info: The Goldman Funeral Group, www.goldmanfuneralgroup.com (847) 478-1600.



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Krasner, Dr. Ronald F.

Dr. Ronald F. Krasner, 75, of Wilmette. Beloved, trusted and devoted husband of Geraldine Krasner, nee Cooper; devoted father of Dr. Aaron J. (Gina Pulice) Krasner; loving grandfather of Isaac A, Jacob D. and Clarissa R. Krasner; brother of Rhea (Fred) Worrell; uncle of James and Joshua (Kristen) Worrell. Dr. Krasner is also survived by his best friend Gary (Holly) Fisher. Funeral services will be held 10:00 a.m., December 31, 2019 at Weinstein & Piser Funeral Home, 111 Skokie Blvd., Wilmette, IL 60091. Interment Memorial Park Cemetery. Memorial contributions to Fund for Psychoanalytic Research (www.apsa.org/research-fund) appreciated. Funeral information 847-256-5700.



Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

PAPANEK, THOMAS FRANK

Beloved father, and friend, Thomas Frank Papanek passed away on December 26, 2019 from congestive heart failure. He was living with his devoted partner and loving caregiver, Karen Carson, in Chesterton, Indiana.

A graduate of Michigan State University, Thom used his creative talents in a career in advertising, at Benton & Bowles, Leo Burnett, and his own creative studio in Chicago.

Sailing brought Thom, a life-long sailor, profound happiness that he was eager to share. His deep appreciation for music covered many genres and he played multiple instruments. Thom's gentle nature was manifested by his love of dogs.

Thom was born on January 1, 1942 in Chicago, son of Lillian Bursik and Samuel Papanek Jr, and brother to Samuel Papanek III. He is survived by his children Jeff and Sara, from his marriage with their mother Patti; and Julie Papanek Grant, from his marriage with her mother Meryl.

A gathering of family and friends, honoring Thom's life, will be held at a later date in 2020. Donations in his memory should be made to organizations that extend the joy of sailing to aspiring youth and disabled sailors.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Witte, Betty J.

Betty J. Witte (nee Ansett), 95, left this world peacefully with family present on November 30, 2019. She was the beloved and devoted wife of the late Henry W. Witte, DO. Betty was the wonderful, amazing and loving mother of (Ruth) Ted Ogden, Bob (Sue) Witte and David Witte. She was the grandmother of Danielle Groth, Katie (Ryan)

Young, Kristen (Jedidiah) Groves, Jen (Jeff ) Ryan, Shane (Jackie) Sierzega and Ron (Rosy) Sierzega and great grandmother of Logan, Mallory, Reese, Parker and Drake. Betty is also survived by sister-in-law Lois Ansett, brother-in-law/sister-in-law Robert and Doris Witte, as well as many loved nieces and nephews. There will be a celebration of Betty's Life on January 4, 2020. The memorial will be from 10am to 12pm with the service beginning at 11am at St. Mark Evangelical Lutheran Church, 11007 S. 76th Ave., Worth, IL 60482. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Betty's name to St. Mark Evangelical Church, Valparaiso University, 1100 Campus Drive South, Valparaiso, IN 46383 Attn: Advancement Services or Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine, 555 31st Street, Downers Grove, IL 60515. Express your thoughts and memories in the online Guest Book at www.palosgaidasfh.com (708) 974 4410



Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Zella, Wahnnon

Zella Wahnnon nee Skolnik, age 83. Loving mother of Janice Wahnnon. Cherished sister of Sydell (the late Dr. Harvey) Howitt and the late Walter (Giavanna) Skolnik. Aunt to Dr. James & Elena Howitt and Kimberly Howitt, Victor and Raquel Suarez, great aunt to Hailey, Amanda, Amy, Mia, Hayes and Everly. Service Tuesday, December 31st 12 Noon at Chicago Jewish Funerals, 8851 Skokie Blvd (at Niles Center Road), Skokie. Interment Memorial Park Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to SHALVA, P.O Box 46375, Chicago, IL 60646, www.Shalvaonline.org or Israel Cancer Research Fund, www.ICRFonline.org. Arrangements by Chicago Jewish Funerals - Skokie Chapel, 847.229.8822, www.cjinfo.com



Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Zoline, Marya Denise

Marya Denise Zoline, nee Sachman. Beloved wife of Jay for 30 years. Loving twin sister of Felyce Gifford and sister of the late Jack (Barbara) Ross and Elliot Ross (Ellen Ullman). Fond sister-in-law of Kenneth Zoline (Judith Hurwich) and Susan Zoline. Adoring aunt of Jaimee Gifford (Joe Michaelis), Colin (Elena) Gifford, Jeffrey and Robert Zoline, and dear

great aunt of Jules and Indigo Gifford-Michaelis. Treasured daughter of the late Jack Sachman and the late Millie (Lou) Ross. Dear daughter-in-law of Barbara Zoline. Service Tuesday, 11 AM at Chicago Jewish Funerals, 195 North Buffalo Grove Rd., (one block North of Lake Cook Rd.) Buffalo Grove. Interment Shalom Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, memorials in her memory may be made to the Temple Anshe Shalom Men's Club Mitzvah Fund (www.templeansheshalom.org) Arrangements by Chicago Jewish Funerals - Buffalo Grove Chapel - 847.229.8822, www.cjinfo.com.



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WINNING LOTTERY NUMBERS

<b>ILLINOIS</b>	
Dec. 29	
Pick 3 midday .....	314 / 2
Pick 4 midday .....	7160 / 1
Lucky Day Lotto midday .....	16 22 33 34 44
Pick 3 evening .....	590 / 5
Pick 4 evening .....	5800 / 6
Lucky Day Lotto evening .....	10 12 29 44 45

Dec. 30 Lotto: \$16M  
Dec. 31 Mega Millions: \$55M  
Jan. 1 Powerball: \$220M

<b>WISCONSIN</b>	
Dec. 29	
Pick 3 .....	091
Pick 4 .....	7629
Badger 5 .....	13 15 16 29 31
SuperCash .....	06 13 27 28 32 37

<b>INDIANA</b>	
Dec. 29	
Daily 3 midday .....	231 / 3
Daily 4 midday .....	1917 / 3
Daily 3 evening .....	438 / 7
Daily 4 evening .....	3370 / X7
Cash 5 .....	09 21 26 37 43

<b>MICHIGAN</b>	
Dec. 29	
Daily 3 midday .....	662
Daily 4 midday .....	1266
Daily 3 evening .....	526
Daily 4 evening .....	6802
Fantasy 5 .....	03 04 10 13 16 17
Keno .....	22 27 28 40 44 50 57 58
	59 62 66 72 73 76 77 80

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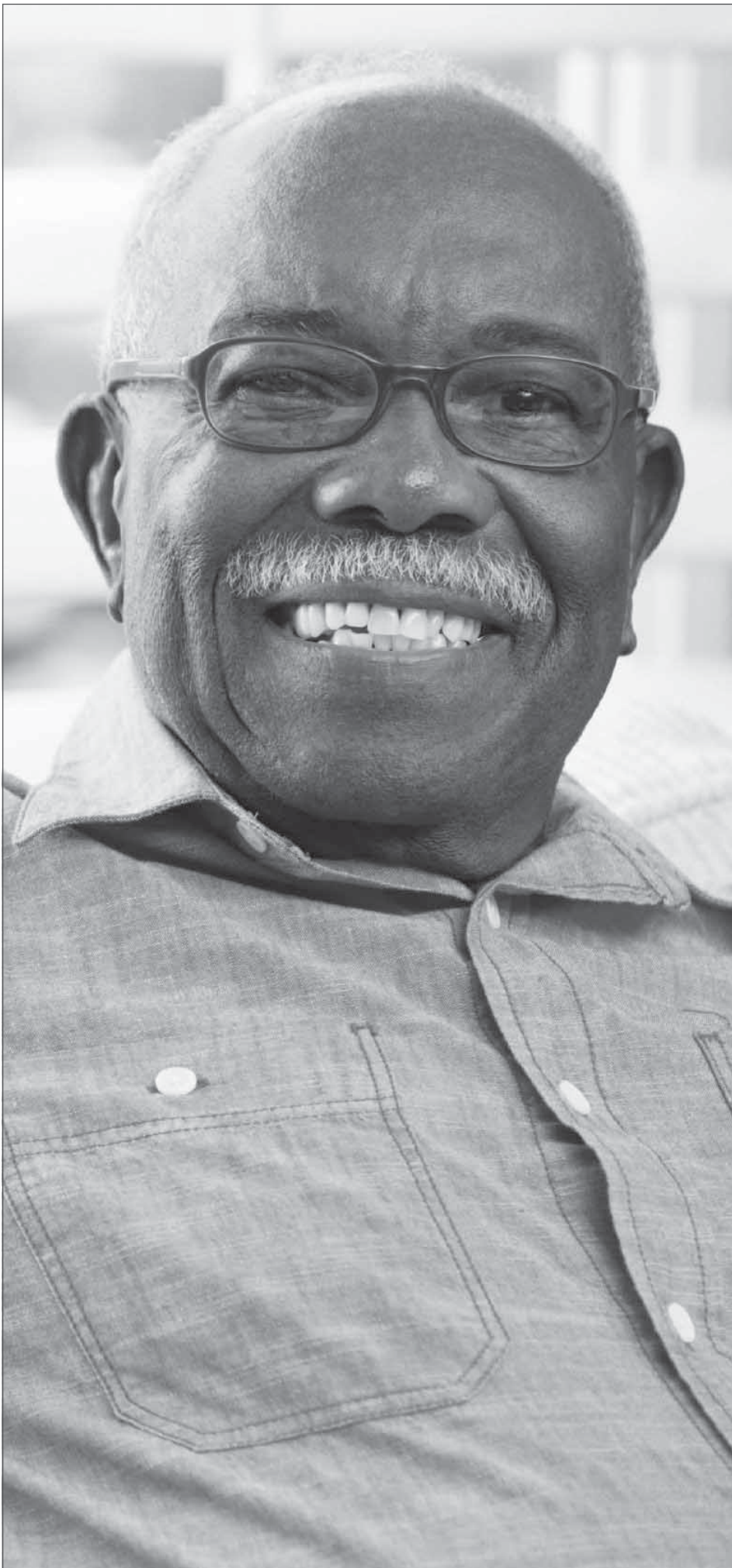
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GOVERNMENT/EDUCATION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF  
**A'Shawn Warren AKA A'Shawn Davis**  
MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF **Neosha Warren (Mother)**

JUVENILE NO.: 17JA01103

## NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, **Antoine Pittman (Father)**, respondents, and to **All Whom It May Concern**, that on **November 27, 2019**, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by **KIM FOXX** in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge **John Huff** in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, ON **01/21/2020, at 9:30 AM** in CALENDAR **14 COURTROOM N**, 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  
December 2, 2019 6557161

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF  
**Amaya Samayoa Brianna Samayoa**

MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF **Amanda Jazquez (Mother)**

JUVENILE NO.: 19JA01176 19JA01177

## NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, **Joshua Samayoa (Father)**, respondents, and to **All Whom It May Concern**, that on **October 16, 2019**, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by **KIM FOXX** in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge **Shannon O'Malley** in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, ON **01/17/2020, at 9:30 AM** in CALENDAR **6 COURTROOM F**, 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  
December 10, 2019 6554064

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Chicago Tribune

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  
**Andrea Ingram**

MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF **Michael Ingram (Father)**

JUVENILE NO.: 19JA01305

## NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, **Sheena Rayford (Mother)**, respondents, and to **All Whom It May Concern**, that on **November 06, 2019**, 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 **01/17/2020, at 9:30 AM** in CALENDAR **9 COURTROOM I**, 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  
December 2, 2019 6555414

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF  
**Arlania Moore**

MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF **Darnesha Campbell (Mother)**

JUVENILE NO.: 19JA00349

## NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, **Lafayette Moore (Father)**, respondents, and to **All Whom It May Concern**, that on **April 09, 2019**, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by **KIM FOXX** in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge **Patrick Murphy** in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, ON **01/17/2020, at 10:00 AM** in CALENDAR **1 COURTROOM A**, or as soon thereafter as this case may be heard, an adjudicatory hearing will be held upon the petition to have the minor declared to be a ward of the court and for other relief under the Act.

THE COURT HAS AUTHORITY IN THIS CASE TO TAKE FROM YOU THE CUSTODY AND GUARDIANSHIP OF THE MINOR, TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND TO APPOINT A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION. YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD. IF THE PETITION REQUESTS THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION, YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO THE CHILD.

**UNLESS YOU** appear, you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

**UNLESS YOU** appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and each of you, and an order of judgment entered.

DOROTHY BROWN, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
December 19, 2019 6557275

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF  
**Carl Tehwan Fongwe Kougtum**

MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF **Emilien Tsamoh (Mother)**

JUVENILE NO.: 19JA01100

## NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, **Fred Kougtum (Father)**, AKA **Freddo Kougtum**, respondents, and to **All Whom It May Concern**, that on **October 01, 2019**, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by **KIM FOXX** in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge **Nicholas Geanopoulos** in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, ON **01/21/2020, at 10:00 AM** in CALENDAR **17 COURTROOM K**, 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  
November 21, 2019 6538801

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF  
**Erin Anderson**

MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF **Darcel Anderson (Mother)**

JUVENILE NO.: 17JA00715

## NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, **Albert Hutchee aka Albert Huchubee (Father) Unknown (Father)**, respondents, and to **All Whom It May Concern**, that on **December 23, 2019**, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by **KIM FOXX** in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge **Nicholas Geanopoulos** in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, ON **01/16/2020, at 11:00 AM** in CALENDAR **17 COURTROOM K**, 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  
December 23, 2019 6557381

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  
**Gabrielle Reeves-Hobson**

MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF **Quavoni Reeves-Hobson (Mother) AKA Quavoni Hobson**

JUVENILE NO.: 17JA01195

## NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, **Quavoni Reeves-Hobson (Mother) AKA Quavoni Gobson, Unknown (Father)**, Any respondents, and to **All Whom It May Concern**, that on **December 19, 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 **01/22/2020, at 11:30 AM** in CALENDAR **12 COURTROOM L**, or as soon thereafter as this case may be heard, a hearing will be held upon the petition to terminate your parental rights and appoint a guardian with power to consent to adoption.

THE COURT HAS AUTHORITY IN THIS CASE TO TAKE FROM YOU THE CUSTODY AND GUARDIANSHIP OF THE MINOR, TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND TO APPOINT A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION. YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD. IF THE PETITION REQUESTS THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION, YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO THE CHILD.

**UNLESS YOU** appear, you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

**UNLESS YOU** appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and each of you, and an order of judgment entered.

DOROTHY BROWN, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
December 19, 2019 6557277

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF  
**Harmony Collier Elijah Collier**

MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF **Annette Collier (Mother)**

JUVENILE NO.: 19JA01107 19JA01108

## NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, **Unknown (Father)**, respondents, and to **All Whom It May Concern**, that on **October 01, 2019**, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by **KIM FOXX** in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge **Shannon O'Malley** in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, ON **01/21/2020, at 9:30 AM** in CALENDAR **6 COURTROOM F**, 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  
December 3, 2019 6557153

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF  
**Jeremiah Hunter**

MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF **Mariah Fondren (Mother)**

JUVENILE NO.: 19JA00999

## NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, **Unknown (Father)**, respondents, and to **All Whom It May Concern**, that on **September 09, 2019**, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by **KIM FOXX** in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge **Maxwell Griffin** in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, ON **01/16/2020, at 1:30 PM** in CALENDAR **10 COURTROOM J**, 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  
December 23, 2019 6557372

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF  
**Karson Allison**

MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF **Joyce Allison (Mother) AKA Jocelyn Allison**

JUVENILE NO.: 19JA00365

## NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, **Unknown (Father) and Any And All Unknown Fathers**, respondents, and to **All Whom It May Concern**, that on **April 11, 2019**, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by **KIM FOXX** in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge **John Huff** in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, ON **01/21/2020, at 11:00 AM** in CALENDAR **14 COURTROOM M**, 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  
November 13, 2019 6525508

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  
**Kenya Bridges**

MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF **Danielle Brown (Mother) AKA Danielle Dominic Brown**

JUVENILE NO.: 17JA01216

## NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, **Unknown (Father)**, respondents, and to **All Whom It May Concern**, that on **October 11, 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 **01/21/2020, at 11:00 AM** in CALENDAR **12 COURTROOM L**, or as soon thereafter as this case may be heard, a hearing will be held upon the petition to terminate your parental rights and appoint a guardian with power to consent to adoption.

THE COURT HAS AUTHORITY IN THIS CASE TO TAKE FROM YOU THE CUSTODY AND GUARDIANSHIP OF THE MINOR, TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND TO APPOINT A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION. YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD. IF THE PETITION REQUESTS THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION, YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO THE CHILD.

**UNLESS YOU** appear, you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

**UNLESS YOU** appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and each of you, and an order of judgment entered.

DOROTHY BROWN, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
November 7, 2019 6525520

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF  
**Rayven Cannon-Lucenda AKA Ravon Cannon-Lucenda Rayvon Cannon-Lucenda AKA Rayvon Lucenda AKA Rayvon Dantae Cannon-Lucenda**

MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF **Toccara Lucenda (Mother)**

JUVENILE NO.: 17JA00703 17JA00704

## NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, **Toccara Lucenda (Mother)** and **Unknown (Father)**, respondents, and to **All Whom It May Concern**, that on **November 11, 2019**, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by **KIM FOXX** in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge **Demetrius Kottaras** in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, ON **01/21/2020, at 10:00 AM** in CALENDAR **7 COURTROOM G**, 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  
November 15, 2019 6525435

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF  
**Rebecca Yurchenko Abigail Yurchenko**

MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF **Yekaterina Oraszhedova (Mother)**

JUVENILE NO.: 19JA01197; 19JA01198

## NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, **Sergey Yurchenko (Father)**, respondents, and to **All Whom It May Concern**, that on **October 22, 2019**, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by **KIM FOXX** in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge **Maxwell Griffin** in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, ON **01/21/2020, at 1:30 PM** in CALENDAR **10 COURTROOM J**, 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



NEWSPAPER  
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TWO EXTRA PAGES  
OF COVERAGE INSIDE

Chicago Tribune  
CHICAGO SPORTS

Chicago's best sports section, as judged by the Associated Press Sports Editors

BEARS 21, VIKINGS 19

So what's next?

Last-minute victory ends 8-8 season — but won't end the questions Bears face



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Quarterback Mitch Trubisky (10) is helped up after he throws an incomplete pass in the second quarter of the Bears' season-ending 21-19 victory Sunday over the Vikings in Minneapolis.

No excuses: Just figure out how to avoid a 2020 debacle



BRAD BIGGS  
On the Bears

MINNEAPOLIS — The Bears' starters finally got meaningful playing time in a game with a pre-season vibe. The stands at U.S. Bank Stadium were full, it was cold outside and the result counted in the standings. Otherwise, this was as meaningless as a preseason game during the heat of August. By the spring, no one will care that the Bears' 21-19 victory came against a lineup made up of Vikings back-ups. Sure, 8-8 has a better ring to it than 7-9, especially for an organization that has a difficult time with sustained success. There was no way for the Bears to come up with even a semi-fulfilling end to the season, short of suddenly becoming competent offensively and springing an upset on Patrick Mahomes and the Chiefs a week ago at Soldier Field. There was no way for this hyped

Turn to **Biggs**, Page 5

MORE COVERAGE

- For some Bears, including Eddy Pineiro, shown after Sunday's game-winning kick, the season finale had real meaning. **Page 5**
- Campbell: Matt Nagy's 2020 motto should be "Prove It." **Page 3**
- Full coverage of Week 17 around the NFL. **Page 4**



STACEY WESCOTT/TRIBUNE

PLAYOFF SCHEDULE

**NFC WILD-CARD ROUND**  
(6) Vikings at (3) Saints  
12:05 p.m. Sunday, FOX-32  
(5) Seahawks at (4) Eagles  
3:40 p.m. Sunday, NBC-5  
**DIVISIONAL ROUND**  
Lower seed at (1) 49ers  
3:35 p.m. Jan. 11, NBC-5  
Higher seed at (2) Packers  
5:40 p.m. Jan. 12, FOX-32

**AFC WILD-CARD ROUND**  
(5) Bills at (4) Texans  
3:35 p.m. Sat., ABC-7/ESPN  
(6) Titans at (3) Patriots  
7:15 p.m. Saturday, CBS-2  
**DIVISIONAL ROUND**  
Lower seed at (1) Ravens  
7:15 p.m. Jan. 11, CBS-2  
Higher seed at (2) Chiefs  
2:05 p.m. Jan. 12, CBS-2

After barely beating a bunch of subs, the autopsy awaits



DAN WIEDERER  
On the Bears

MINNEAPOLIS — So what exactly do we make of that, of those three mostly empty hours Sunday afternoon at U.S. Bank Stadium, of that 21-19 Bears victory over a group of junior-varsity Vikings? How do we properly contextualize the final scenes of the 2019 season with the Bears blowing a double-digit fourth-quarter lead, then rallying for a triumphant 71-yard game-winning field-goal drive? Bears coach Matt Nagy tried his hardest to extract meaning from this 16th game. Like he was rolling up the bottom of the toothpaste tube and pounding it with his fist. Eventually, a little something oozed out with the Bears' eighth win, the victory secured when Eddy Pineiro made a 22-yard field goal with four seconds left. "We have guys who fight," Nagy said. "This is not

Turn to **Wiederer**, Page 6

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

**BOWL A SPRINGBOARD FOR ILLINI?**  
Returnees, additions set to boost Lovie's program next season. **Back Page**

**CONTROVERSY RULES IN PLAYOFF**  
Questionable calls dog Ohio State in thrilling semifinal loss to Clemson. **Back Page**



# TOP OF THE SECOND



PHIL ROSENTHAL

## Even backups in the booth

Rather than criticize Fox announcer Dick Stockton for not being as good at age 77 as he was at 47, blame the Bears for being seen as so irrelevant this season that Stockton was assigned four of their games.

It actually seemed fitting their 2019 season, which began with soaring hopes of a Super Bowl, should end with Stockton throwing subtle shade on their 8-8, third-place finish in the NFC North by sounding like a parent trying to comfort a disappointed child.

“I know you’re playing against the backups, but it’s a division game and you get to .500,” Stockton said as the Bears closed in on their 21-19 victory Sunday over the Vikings, who had locked up their No. 6 NFC playoff seed days earlier. “And what did someone say? It’s not a losing year.”

Not a losing year.

Just a lost one.

To be fair, not all of Stockton’s Bears games were assigned because of their dramatic fall from the league’s elite. But Sunday’s meaningless season finale, seen in just 7% of the country, surely was.

Some Bears fans, who by this point knew Stockton and analyst Mark Schlereth far better than they would have preferred, found fault with mispronunciations, misidentifications and other mistakes.

But that stuff happens on a live broadcast with even the best announcers, though perhaps not as often.

It is far more difficult to botch something such as the second-half teaser in which Stockton said: “We can literally say this game, the first half, has had everything to it. You name it, we’ve had it.”

Unless, of course, you said “touch-downs.”

There were no touchdowns in the first half. No extra points either.

There was a safety, thanks to Bears linebacker Nick Kwiatkoski’s tackle of Vikings running back Mike Boone. That’s not so common.

Injuries made Kwiatkoski a starter — or, according to Stockton’s tortured sentence construction, “He was a backup and is starting today because of the linebacking problems due to injury that the Bears have.”

Perhaps Stockton was trying to flatter Bears backers after noting the late guard Danny Fortmann was among the NFL’s 100th season all-time picks.

“Those fans from Chicago remember



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Mark Schlereth suggested Javon Wims should wear different shoes to help his footing.

how great he was,” Stockton said.

Seeing as how Fortmann last played for the Bears in 1943, 76 years ago, those who remember how great he was are either very old or great students of the game.

Even if you’re fuzzy on the details, take the compliment.

Better that than to dwell on what Stockton must think of us as viewers that he felt he had to spell out what the Vikings using up their time outs meant vis-à-vis the remainder of the game.

“That would not help them if they have to get into position to get a field goal to win the game with no timeouts,” he said.

Gee, thanks.

There are probably more than a few viewers who thought Stockton’s criticism of Bears coach Matt Nagy’s penchant for passes in the flat was just as obvious.

But frankly, some of us found it reassuring even he noticed “that has not worked too well for the Bears.”

Maybe Nagy himself will notice by next season. In the meantime, let’s take stock of a few other winners and losers from Sunday’s regular-season coda.

### Losers: Bears 100

Maybe if the Bears organization hadn’t been so focused on celebrating its past, it might have fared better this season. To quote an old saying: “You can’t reach what’s in front of you until you let go of what’s behind you.”

### Winner: Mark Schlereth

Whatever else you think of his work

with Stockton, give him credit for saying that if Bears receivers Allen Robinson and Javon Wims kept losing their footing, they should wear different shoes.

### Losers: Sports Illustrated

Everyone laughed when the magazine predicted a 7-9 finish for the Bears, coming off a 12-4 NFC North championship. They wound up 8-8. So there. (Sigh.)

### Losers: Fox’s SkyCam operator

The minimum the audience expects is to see what’s happening when tuning in a game. Twice during Bears-Vikings, viewers couldn’t see the ball go through the up-rights on field goals because the remote-controlled camera hanging above the stadium zoomed in on the officials below without tilting up. Oops.

### Winner: Kevin Harlan

Bears fans glued to the Vikings game on FOX-32 may have missed it, but Harlan on CBS-2 called not just the Chargers-Chiefs game he was at but the Dolphins-Patriots game during a pivotal point in the fourth quarter of both games as the Chiefs locked up the No. 2 AFC seed. It was a bravura performance.

### Losers: Hyundai

The automaker deserves a partial refund from FOX-32 for a halftime ad glitch. The score incorporated into the commercial said, “Bears 11, Minneapolis 6.” Minneapolis? Try Minnesota. At least the station got the score right.

### LET’S PLAY 2



**Tuesday**  
@Flames  
8 p.m.  
NBCSCH

**Thursday**  
@Canucks  
9 p.m.  
NBCSCH+



**Monday**  
Bucks  
7 p.m.  
NBCSCH

**Thursday**  
Jazz  
7 p.m.  
NBCSCH

### MONDAY ON TV/RADIO

#### NBA

**6 p.m.** Hawks at Magic NBA  
**7 p.m.** Bucks at Bulls NBCSCH  
WSCR-AM 670  
**9 p.m.** Suns at Trail Blazers NBA

#### MEN’S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

**5:30 p.m.** Xavier at Villanova FS1  
**6 p.m.** William & Mary at Elon CBSSN  
**7:30 p.m.** Seton Hall at DePaul FS1  
WIND-AM 560  
**8 p.m.** Tulane at Memphis CBSSN

#### COLLEGE FOOTBALL

**11:30 a.m.** W. Kentucky vs. W. Mich. ESPN  
**3 p.m.** Illinois vs. California FOX-32  
WLS-AM 890  
**3 p.m.** Mississippi State vs. Louisville ESPN  
**7 p.m.** Florida vs. Virginia ESPN

#### NHL

**6 p.m.** Senators at Penguins NHL

### ASK THE REPORTER

BRAD BIGGS

**Is having Khalil Mack as a \$25 million first-round pick two years in a row a good idea?** —@tsizzle24

Mack’s average salary of \$23.5 million is the highest in the NFL among defensive players. While he didn’t dominate statistically after a hot start with four forced fumbles in four games, he commands the complete attention of opposing offenses and creates opportunities for teammates. The draft is far from a sure thing, and the Bears’ chances of finding a dynamic defensive player of Mack’s stature with the two first-round picks they gave up to acquire him were slim. Joe Banner, the former president of the Eagles and CEO of the Browns, told me at the time of the deal in September 2018: “Unless something happens that prevents him from having longevity, you are talking about a Hall of Fame player at, I would argue other than quarterback, the most important position on the field.”

# Chicago Tribune

# IT’S NOT JUST FOOTBALL, IT’S THE BEARS.

You’ve celebrated.  
You’ve obsessed.  
You’ve rallied.  
So have we.

For Bears coverage that hits closer to home,  
visit [chicagotribune.com/bears](http://chicagotribune.com/bears)

For all the ways to stay up to date on your favorite teams,  
visit [chicagotribune.com/myteams](http://chicagotribune.com/myteams)



BEARS

Sept. 5	Sept. 15	Sept. 23	Sept. 29	Oct. 6	Oct. 13	Oct. 20	Oct. 27	Nov. 3	Nov. 10	Nov. 17	Nov. 24	Nov. 28	Dec. 5	Dec. 15	Dec. 22	Dec. 29
																
GB Lost 10-3	@DEN Won 16-14	@WAS Won 31-15	MIN Won 16-6	OAK Lost 24-21	OPEN DATE	NO Lost 36-25	LAC Lost 17-16	@PHI Lost 22-14	DET Won 20-13	@LAR Lost 17-7	NYG Won 19-14	@DET Won 24-20	DAL Won 31-24	@GB Lost 21-13	KC Lost 26-3	MIIN Won 21-19



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS  
Bears coach Matt Nagy watches from the sideline in the second quarter of Sunday’s victory over the Vikings in Minneapolis. Nagy’s motto for next year should be simply: Prove it.

# ’20 Bears motto? ‘Prove it’

Nagy’s talk rings hollow, potential sounds empty unless it’s backed up



**RICH CAMPBELL**  
*On the Bears*

MINNEAPOLIS — Sometime before the Bears reconvene in mid-April to begin their next 100 seasons, the motivational lobe of Matt Nagy’s brain will fire up a slogan for his third year as head coach.

The Bears will display it around Halas Hall, as they did with Nagy’s first-year mantra “Be You.” That directive fit wonderfully with their charmed worst-to-first turnaround in 2018, giving players a license to leave behind past failures.

They’ll print the slogan on T-shirts, as they did with this season’s “Chasing Great.” Players will shove those shirts into giant black garbage bags Monday — locker cleanout day — while the Packers and Vikings prepare for the playoffs.

Well, here’s a suggestion for next year’s motto: Prove it.

It looks sleek in hashtag form too. #ProveIt. It really is that simple for Nagy and the Bears going forward.

No more talk. No more banking on potential, upside or growth curves. Just prove it. Prove you’re a 21st century offense capable of sustaining playoff-level success.

In the meantime, nothing the Bears do or say before games resume next September will change the skepticism with which Nagy and his offense should be scrutinized. Especially not after the Year 2 regression this season that followed an offseason that, in hindsight, was full of hot air.

The letdown leaves scars for so many of us who believed the hype, who bought into the notion that experience in Nagy’s system — for Trubisky and others — would naturally foster improvement.

So, after the Bears’ disappointing 8-8 season ended Sunday with a last-minute 21-19 win over Vikings backups, why would any independent thinker go into 2020 with anything other than a see-it-to-believe-it



Mitch Trubisky (10) fumbles as he is tackled by Vikings defensive tackle Armon Watts in the fourth quarter of the Bears’ tight victory over the playoff-bound Vikings on Sunday.

approach?

“I feel like we’re close,” quarterback Mitch Trubisky said after the game. “I feel like we’ve got the pieces. We just need to put it all together.”

Close??? Sorry, but the numbers and body of work say the exact opposite.

The Bears finished among the NFL’s bottom five in points per game, yards per game and yards per play.

This was supposed to be a breakout season for Trubisky, Nagy and an offensive supporting cast that remained mostly intact from last year’s middling first season together. Instead, there was a fatal regression that requires general manager Ryan Pace and Nagy to lead an uncompromisingly honest inquest in the weeks ahead.

Their greatest challenge is to deconstruct the offense’s complex, interconnected problems, from the unproven game plans and erratic quarterback play to the void at tight end and countless lost blocks by the line.

Think of it like a cake that was supposed to be delicious but came out of the oven tasting foul. How do you separate the ingredients in the batter to figure out if the eggs were spoiled, the flour was contaminated or the milk was sour?

Chef Nagy needs to put his apron on figure it out. That’s his job, and the Bears’ future depends on it.

“It can’t get here soon enough,” Nagy said. “For me, 2020 starts right now, literally the second I walk off this stage. I’ll get away for a little bit, for my mind, so that when I do get back on this thing it’s focused, it’s clear and concise. I’m ready to go into attack mode and figure out with Ryan how we want to go about this thing.”

Pace has said as recently as November that he believes in Nagy’s ability to design and dial up the X’s and O’s. So we have a clue how that part of the examination will go.

Beneath Nagy on the coaching staff, changes usually result from seasons as poor as this one. Whether those amount to meaningful fixes, though, won’t be known until the season returns are counted.

Of course, Trubisky’s stalled development should be underlined in red ink on the agenda.

Think back to late May, which seems like eons ago, on the practice field sideline at organized team activities. Remember how encouraged coaches were that Trubisky was speaking the offense’s language at an advanced level?

“Last year, I kept talking about 101,” Nagy said May 22. “Now, without a doubt, I can say with pure conviction we’re in 202 right now. And we don’t need to have a live game to see mentally where he’s at with calling the plays. I mean, he’s doing things in the last two days that last year at this time he wasn’t even close to.”

In fairness to Nagy, there weren’t compelling reasons to doubt his excitement, given Trubisky’s flashes in 2018 and Nagy’s pedigree with Chiefs coach Andy Reid as his mentor.

This offseason, though, why would anyone take that bait? After an 8-8 step backward that was painful from opening kickoff in the Week 1 face-plant against the Packers, we know better.

Nagy was asked Friday why Trubisky’s offseason advancement in the system didn’t translate to regular-season improvements. If he knows the answer, he wasn’t sharing any specifics.

“With regards to Mitch, just like all of us, there are areas that we feel like we can all improve in,” Nagy said. “With Mitch, again, just the big picture, start to finish, in the huddle to making the throw. And here in this offseason, I’ll have time to be able to look into a lot of the stuff that I have a feeling is going on with our offense in general. So I’ll be curious to see exactly what that ends up being.”

The rest of us are too. But also appropriately skeptical.

The relentlessly positive coach inevitably will say the problems will be fixed, regardless of whether Trubisky remains the quarterback.

To believe that after the season the Bears just put their fans through is simply blind faith.

Words are not enough. Keep that in mind Tuesday when Pace is scheduled to meet with reporters for the first time since before the season opener.

No, the Bears need to #ProveIt. Go ahead and send those shirts to the printer now.

## THREE KEYS

The Bears beat the Vikings 21-19 in a ho-hum victory that ended with a game-winning 22-yard field goal by Eddy Pineiro. That allowed Matt Nagy’s team to end a disappointing season at 8-8. With the Vikings resting most of their key starters, the Bears won what was, in some ways, a glorified preseason game. Here is our rundown to our three keys from the game.

**1. Apply the pressure. Don’t let up.**  
The Bears went without a sack for the third time this season, unable to consistently get after Vikings backup quarterback Sean Mannion or a patchwork offensive line. The defense registered only three quarterback hits. The Bears finished the season with just 32 sacks, well behind the NFC-best total of 50 they had last season. Khalil Mack finished the year with a team-best 8½ sacks, the fourth time this decade that no Bear recorded at least 10 sacks. After allowing the Vikings to rush for only 40 yards in the teams’ first meeting in September, the Bears allowed 174 yards Sunday.

**2. Take care of the football.**  
The Bears won the turnover battle 3-1 thanks to a handful of gifts. Mike Boone fumbled a pitch on the second snap and, one drive later, bobbled a pass right into the hands of Bears linebacker Kevin Pierre-Louis. Eddie Jackson recorded an interception on the game’s final play. Offensively, the Bears’ only turnover proved costly. Mitch Trubisky was stripped by Ifeadi Odenigbo, who returned the fumble 23 yards for a go-ahead touchdown. The TD was overturned on replay review; Odenigbo’s knee was down when he recovered the ball. But the Vikings still got a short-field score for a 19-18 lead.

**3. Summon purpose, passion and pride.**  
It’s hard to know how much the Bears had in their tank when the game began. But they squeezed as much as they could out of it. The Bears were particularly impressive on a nine-play, 75-yard march to open the second half. That drive included eight runs. David Montgomery carried the ball six times for 57 yards and scored on a 14-yard touchdown run that featured incredible follow-through from the offensive line and a strong push from the rookie running back. In crunch time, the Bears also dug deep to pull off a game-winning 15-play, 71-yard drive that set up Pineiro’s game-winning field goal.



NFL

AFC

EAST	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Div
y-New England	12	4	0	.750	420	225	6-2-0	6-2-0	8-4-0	4-0-0	5-1-0
x-Buffalo	10	6	0	.625	314	259	4-4-0	6-2-0	7-5-0	3-1-0	3-3-0
N.Y. Jets	7	9	0	.438	276	359	5-3-0	2-6-0	4-8-0	3-1-0	2-4-0
Miami	5	11	0	.313	306	494	3-5-0	2-6-0	4-8-0	1-3-0	2-4-0
SOUTH	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Div
y-Houston	10	6	0	.625	378	385	5-3-0	5-3-0	8-4-0	2-2-0	4-2-0
x-Tennessee	9	7	0	.563	402	331	4-4-0	5-3-0	7-5-0	2-2-0	3-3-0
Indianapolis	7	9	0	.438	361	373	5-3-0	2-6-0	5-7-0	2-2-0	3-3-0
Jacksonville	6	10	0	.375	300	397	3-5-0	3-5-0	6-6-0	0-4-0	2-4-0
NORTH	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Div
z-Baltimore	14	2	0	.875	531	282	7-1-0	7-1-0	10-2-0	4-0-0	5-1-0
Pittsburgh	8	8	0	.500	289	303	5-3-0	3-5-0	6-6-0	2-2-0	3-3-0
Cleveland	6	10	0	.375	335	393	4-4-0	2-6-0	6-6-0	0-4-0	3-3-0
Cincinnati	2	14	0	.125	279	420	2-6-0	0-8-0	2-10-0	0-4-0	1-5-0
WEST	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Div
y-Kansas City	12	4	0	.750	451	308	5-3-0	7-1-0	9-3-0	3-1-0	6-0-0
Denver	7	9	0	.438	282	316	5-3-0	2-6-0	6-6-0	1-3-0	3-3-0
Oakland	7	9	0	.438	313	419	5-3-0	2-6-0	5-7-0	2-2-0	3-3-0
L.A. Chargers	5	11	0	.313	337	345	2-6-0	3-5-0	3-9-0	2-2-0	0-6-0

WEEK 17 RESULTS

**SUNDAY'S RESULTS**  
Chicago 21, Minnesota 19  
Atlanta 28, Tampa Bay 22 (OT)  
Miami 27, New England 24  
Green Bay 23, Detroit 20  
Cincinnati 33, Cleveland 23  
Kansas City 31, L.A. Chargers 21  
N.Y. Jets 13, Buffalo 6  
New Orleans 42, Carolina 10  
Denver 16, Oakland 15  
Tennessee 35, Houston 14  
Dallas 47, Washington 16  
Jacksonville 38, Indianapolis 20  
Philadelphia 34, N.Y. Giants 17  
Baltimore 28, Pittsburgh 10  
L.A. Rams 31, Arizona 24  
San Francisco 26, Seattle 21

WEEK 17 TOP PERFORMERS

PASSING	CO-ATT	YDS	TD	INT
Player, TM				
D. Carr, OAK	29-46	391	1	0
K. Murray, ARI	26-42	325	2	2
A. Rodgers, GB	27-55	323	2	1
R. Fitzpatrick, MIA	28-41	320	1	0
J. Goff, LAR	29-45	319	3	0
M. Ryan, ATL	30-51	313	1	0
D. Prescott, DAL	23-33	303	4	0
D. Jones, NYG	28-47	301	1	1
K. Allen, CAR	25-41	295	0	1
G. Minshew, JAX	27-39	295	3	1

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	TD
Player, Team			
D. Henry, TEN	32	211	3
J. Mixon, CIN	26	162	2
M. Boone, MIN	17	148	1
G. Edwards, BAL	21	130	0
D. Williams, KC	12	124	2
E. Elliott, DAL	18	122	1
D. Montgomery, CHI	23	113	1
R. Jones, TB	11	106	0
A. Jones, GB	25	100	0

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	TD
Player, Team			
D. Parker, MIA	8	137	0
B. Perriman, TB	5	134	1
A.J. Brown, TEN	4	124	1
D. Williams, BUF	6	108	0
D. Waller, OAK	6	107	0
H. Renfrow, OAK	6	102	1
C. Kupp, LAR	7	99	1
M. Gallup, DAL	5	98	3
K. Smith, NYG	8	98	0

KICKING	FGM-A	XPM-A	Pts
Player, Team			
K. Forbath, DAL	4-4	5-5	17
Y. Koo, ATL	5-5	1-1	16
J. Tucker, BAL	4-4	2-2	14
D. Bailey, MIN	4-4	1-1	13
E. Pineiro, CHI	4-4	1-1	13
J. Lambo, JAX	3-3	3-3	12
M. Crosby, GB	3-4	2-2	11
J. Elliott, PHI	2-2	4-4	10
D. Hopkins, WAS	3-3	1-1	10

DEFENSE	SACK	TCK	AST
Player, Team			
S. Barrett, TB	3.0	6	0
C. Dunlap, CIN	2.5	4	1
D. Barnett, PHI	2.0	2	0
C. Barnette, CIN	2.0	3	1
T. Murphy, BUF	2.0	2	1
J. Pierre-Paul, TB	2.0	4	0
M. Sweat, WAS	2.0	5	0
M. Crosby, OAK	1.5	4	1
S. Hubbard, CIN	1.5	3	3
J. Allen, WAS	1.0	7	1

late game not included

SUMMARIES

BEARS 21, VIKINGS 19

Chicago	6	5	7	3	-21
Minnesota	0	6	0	13	-19

First quarter A: 66,913.

Chi: FG Pineiro 26, 7:41. Cln: FG Pineiro 33, :44.

Second quarter

Min: FG Bailey 37, 9:17. Cln: safety, 6:03.

Chi: FG Pineiro 34, 1:51. Min: FG Bailey 38, :00.

Third quarter

Chi: Montgomery 14 run (Pineiro kick), 9:49.

Fourth quarter

Min: Boone 1 run (Bailey kick), 14:13. Min: FG Bailey 39, 8:54.

Min: FG Bailey 34, 4:53. Chi: FG Pineiro 22, :10.

TEAM STATS

First downs	24	14
Total net yards	337	300
Rushes-yards	34-158	26-174
Passing	179	126
Punt returns	0-0	1-8
Kickoff returns	2-44	1-28
Int. returns	2-16	0-0
Comp-att-int	26-37-0	12-21-2
Sacked-yds lost	4-28	0-0
Punts	2-55.5	1-52.0
Fumbles-lost	2-1	1-1
Penalties-yards	3-34	3-40
Possession time	37:40	22:20
<b>Rushing: Chi,</b> Montgomery 23-113, Cohen 4-20, Patterson 2-14, Nail 2-8, Robinson 1-2, Trubisky 2-1.		
<b>Min,</b> Boone 1-28, Abdullah 6-22, Ham 2-4, Mannion 1-0.		
<b>Passing: Chi,</b> Trubisky 26-37-0-207.		
<b>Min,</b> Mannion 12-21-2-126.		
<b>Receiving: Chi,</b> Robinson 9-71, Cohen 9-44, Ridley 3-54, Wims 3-23, Saubert 1-10, Miller 1-5.		
<b>Min,</b> O.Johnson 3-34, Abdullah 3-14, Hollins 2-46, Boone 2-12, L.Smith 1-11, Conklin 1-9.		

BENGALS 33, BROWNS 23

Cleveland	7	9	0	7	-23
Cincinnati	13	7	3	10	-33

First quarter A: 47,759.

Cle: Ratley 46 pass from Mayfield (Forbath kick), 13:32.

Cin: Uzomah 15 pass from Dalton (Bullock kick), 9:53.

Cin: Mixon 3 run (kick failed), 4:45.

Second quarter

Cin: Dalton 5 run (Bullock kick), 10:06.

Cle: FG Seibert 42, 6:53.

Cle: Landry 56 pass from Mayfield (kick failed), 1:52.

Third quarter

Cin: FG Bullock 47, 9:04.

Fourth quarter

Cin: Mixon 2 run (Bullock kick), 14:16.

Cle: Beckham 20 pass from Mayfield (Seibert kick), 7:16.

Cin: FG Bullock 46, 1:55.

Rushes-yards	20-74	39-179
Passing	239	182
Punt returns	1-9	2-1
Kickoff returns	3-95	3-62
Int. returns	1-0	3-56
Comp-att-int	12-27-3	16-28-1
Sacked-yds lost	6-40	1-8
Punts	4-51-8	3-55-7
Fumbles-lost	1-0	1-0
Penalties-yards	4-33	3-20
Possession time	25:19	34:41

**Rushing: Cle,** Chubb 13-41, Mayfield 4-29, Hunt 3-4, Cin, Mixon 26-162, Dalton 8-10, Erickson 1-5, Bernard 3-4, Ross 1-(minus 2).

**Passing: Cle,** Mayfield 12-27-3-279, Cin, Dalton 16-28-1-190.

**Receiving: Cle,** Beckham 3-81, Hunt 3-32, Landry 2-62, Ratley 2-64, Hodge 1-19, Chubb 1-1, Cin, Boyd 5-59, Uzomah 5-25, Ross 2-42, Eflert 2-34, Erickson 1-16, Mixon 1-14.

JETS 13, BILLS 6

N.Y. Jets	0	3	0	10	-13
Buffalo	0	0	3	0	-6

Second quarter A: 69,016.

N.Y.: FG Ficken 30, 10:54.

Third quarter

Buf: FG Hauschka 28, 1:29.

Fourth quarter

N.Y.: Crowder 1 pass from Darnold (Ficken kick), 13:31.

N.Y.: FG Ficken 47, 2:05.

Buf: FG Hauschka 29, :47.

TEAM STATS

Passing	185	236
Punt returns	1-9	1-1
Kickoff returns	1-16	3-40
Int. rets.	2-15	1-15
Comp-att-int	23-36-1	21-36-0
Sacked-yds lost	2-14	1-1
Punts	5-42.8	6-35.5
Fumbles-lost	1-0	2-2
Penalties-yards	2-13	5-44
Possession time	31:21	28:33
<b>Rushing: NYJ</b> , Bell 16-41, Powell 17-27, Smith 1-20, Darnold 3-minus 2.		
<b>Buf</b> , McKenzie 2-30, Gore 6-26, Yellon 3-24, Perry 3-13, Barkley 2-minus 4.		
<b>Passing: NYJ</b> , Darnold 23-36-1-199.		
<b>Buf</b> , Barkley 18-35-2-232, Allen 3-5-0-5.		
<b>Receiving: NYJ</b> , Crowder 8-66, Bell 5-36, Smith 3-36, Brown 3-32, RAnderson 3-18, Berrios 1-11.		
<b>Buf</b> , Williams 6-108, Sweeney 5-76, Yellon 3-24, Gore 3-16, McKenzie 2-7, Kroft 1-5, Perry 1-1.		
<b>Missed field goals: NYJ</b> , Ficken 51.		
<b>Ficken</b> 34.		

PACKERS 23, LIONS 20

Green Bay	0	3	7	13	-23
Detroit	7	10	0	3	-20

First quarter A: 62,840.

Det: Blough 19 pass from Amendola (Prater kick), 7:59.

Second quarter

Det: K.Johnson 1 run (Prater kick), 3:13.

GB: FG M.Crosby 32, :20.

Det: FG Prater 42, :00.

Third quarter

GB: D.Adams 20 pass from Rodgers (M.Crosby kick), 3:10.

Fourth quarter

GB: FG M.Crosby 40, 12:07.

Det: FG Prater 56, 11:08.

GB: Lazard 28 pass from Rodgers (M.Crosby kick), 5:19.

Det: FG M.Crosby 33, :00.

TEAM STATS

First downs	25	13
Total net yards	432	200
Rushes-yards	30-120	23-36
Punt returns	2-17	4-89
Kickoff returns	4-89	2-17
Int. returns	1-22	1-0
Sacked-yds lost	1-11	1-0
Punts	5-44-2	7-45
Fumbles-lost	1-0	0-0
Penalties-yards	9-97	4-51
Possession time	34:56	25:04
<b>Rushing: GB, Jones 25-100, Ervin 1-0, D.Williams 2-9, Rodgers 2-1. Det, T.Johnson 3-65, K.Johnson 11-53, Scarborough 9-42, Blough 2-11.</b>		
<b>Passing: GB, Rodgers 27-55-1-323, Det, Blough 12-29-1-122, Amendola 1-1-0-19.</b>		
<b>Receiving: GB, D.Adams 6-79, Lazard 4-69, Graham 4-49, Allison 3-17, Jones 2-43, Valdes-Scantling 1-9, Tonyan 2-9, Lewis 1-12, Kumerow 1-7, Ervin 1-5, Det, Golladay 3-72, Amendola 2-16, Lacy 2-12, James 2-5, Blough 1-19, Thomas 1-15, McKissic 1-4, Agnew 1-minus 2.</b>		
<b>Missed field goals: GB, M.Crosby 51</b>		

DOLPHINS 27, PATRIOTS 24

Miami	3	7	7	10	-27
New England	0	10	7	7	-24

First quarter A: 65,878.

Atl: FG Sanders 27, 1:38.

Second quarter

Mia: Rowe 35 interception return (Sanders kick), 10:31.

Fourth quarter

NE: FG Folk 25, 5:51.

NE: Michel 4 run (Folk kick), 2:05.

Third quarter

Mia: Fitzpatrick 2 run (Sanders kick), 7:42.

NE: Roberts 38 pass from Brady (Folk kick), 4:26.

Fourth quarter

Mia: FG Sanders 32, 8:29.

NE: White 13 pass from Brady (Folk kick), 3:53.

Mia: Gesicki 5 pass from Fitzpatrick (Sanders kick), 2:24.

TEAM STATS

Comp-att-int	29-44-0	16-29-0
Sacked-yds lost	2-14	1-1
Punts	4-42.5	4-44.3
Fumbles-lost	2-0	3-4
Penalties-yards	4-35	6-60
Possession time	33:51	26:09
<b>Rushing: Mia, Laird 11-21, Perine 5-16,</b>		
<b>16, Fitzpatrick 5-15, Ford 1-11. NE,</b>		
<b>Michel 18-74, Burkhead 6-48, Harry</b>		
<b>1-9, White 2-4.</b>		
<b>Passing: Mia, Fitzpatrick 28-41-0-</b>		
<b>320, Wilson 1-2-0-20, Haack 0-1-0-</b>		
<b>0. NE, Brady 16-29-1-221.</b>		
<b>Receiving: Mia, O.Parker 8-107, Ford</b>		
<b>7-54, Wilson 5-59, Laird 4-48,</b>		
<b>Gesicki 4-34, Smythe 1-8. NE, Sanu</b>		
<b>3-35, White 3-33, Harry 3-29, Ed-</b>		
<b>elman 3-26, Dorsett 1-50.</b>		
<b>CHIEFS 31, CHARGERS 21</b>		
<b>L.A. Chargers</b>		
Comp	7	7
Att	7	7
Int	3	14
<b>First quarter</b>		
NE	At	73:68

CHIEFS 31, CHARGERS 21

L.A. Chargers	0	7	7	7	-21
Kansas City	3	7	14	7	-31

First quarter A: 73,680.

Chi: FG Butker 40, 1:29.

Second quarter

LAC: Allen 12 pass from Rivers (Badgley kick), 11:44.

KC: D.Williams 7 run (Butker kick), 13:14.

Third quarter

LAC: Gordon 5 run (Badgley kick), 12:58.

KC: Hardman 104 kickoff return (Butker kick), 12:58.

KC: D.Williams 84 run (Butker kick), 13:14.

Fourth quarter

LAC: Henry 8 pass from Rivers (Badgley kick), 5:23.

KC: D.Williams 7 run (Butker kick), 2:37.

TEAM STATS

Fumbles-lost	0-0	0-0
Penalties-yards	8-40	5-30
Possession time	36:04	23:55
<b>Rushing:</b> LAC, Ekeler 9-46, Gordon 14-46, Jackson 1-11, Rivers 1-5. <b>KC</b> , Hill 1-11, Thompson 4-17.		
<b>Passing:</b> LAC, Rivers 31-46-2-28. <b>KC</b> , Mahomes 16-25-1-17.		
<b>Receiving:</b> LAC, Allen 9-82, Ekeler 5-43, Gordon 6-76, Henry 5-44. <b>M</b> .Williams 2-38. <b>KC</b> , Hill 4-66, D.Williams 4-30, Kelce 3-24.		



## BEARS



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Eddy Pineiro gets excited after kicking the field goal that put the Bears ahead in the final seconds of Sunday's victory over the Vikings.

# Plenty of meaning

## Superfluous game actually mattered to these 5 Bears

BY COLLEEN KANE

The celebration was more subdued this time, a product of everything Eddy Pineiro and the Bears had been through in the 15 weeks since his last winning field goal.

As Pineiro watched his 22-yard attempt sail through the uprights at U.S. Bank Stadium, he clapped his hands rapidly and yelled excitedly to his teammates to cap the Bears' season-ending 21-19 victory over the Vikings.

The moment didn't have quite the same exuberance as when Pineiro made the 53-yard winner against the Broncos in Week 2. He skipped around the field then with his arms spread wide to celebrate the Bears improving to 1-1 at a time when they still harbored Super Bowl hopes.

Sunday's winning kick meant only that the Bears would finish with an 8-8 record. But still, the game wasn't meaningless for every player.

It was, of course, important for quarterback Mitch Trubisky as he ended a disappointing season on a good note by leading the winning scoring drive. And it mattered for these five Bears players, with Pineiro topping the list.

### Eddy Pineiro

Pineiro's winner was his career-high fourth field goal of the afternoon, and he also made his lone extra-point attempt. He finished the season having made his final 11 field-goal attempts and his last nine extra-point attempts.

That was big for a rookie who had to overcome a significant midseason slump that started when he missed two field-goal attempts, including the potential winning 41-yarder, against the Chargers in October.

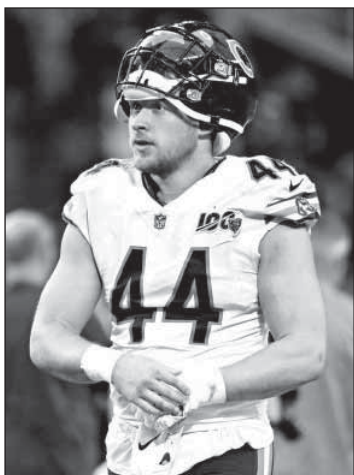
"Just bouncing back from adversity," Pineiro said. "The Chargers game didn't go good for me. Mentally (it was) getting out of that slump and going, 'I'm a good kicker. I'm good enough to play here.' So just getting over that road."

The September winner against the Broncos temporarily put to bed all of the drama that surrounded the Bears' offseason kicking competition to replace Cody Parkey. Pineiro made 20 of his first 21 kicks — going 11-for-11 on extra-point attempts and missing only one of his 10 field-goal attempts while he was battling a knee injury.

But then it unraveled against the Chargers, which was the start of a stretch in which he missed four field-goal and two extra-point attempts in five games.

To finish on a better note — even though Sunday's performance was indoors instead of against the tricky Soldier Field wind — was important for the Bears and Pineiro, though he doesn't assume the job will be his next year.

"I wouldn't say I have the roster spot," Pineiro said. "I expect people to come in. I'm going to have to compete like every other position."



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Inside linebacker Nick Kwiatkoski lifts his helmet after the win.

### Nick Kwiatkoski

Nick Kwiatkoski shot through a hole at the goal line, wrapped up Vikings running back Mike Boone and didn't let go of Boone's leg until Boone was on the ground in the end zone.

The tackle gave the Bears a safety and an 8-3 lead midway through the second quarter. And it was just the latest in a number of splash plays Kwiatkoski has made this season during his eight starts at inside linebacker.

"They were backed up and a hole opened up right in front of me," Kwiatkoski said. "I just hit it. The fullback went outside and a gap opened up."

When Chuck Pagano was asked earlier in the week which players were better than he expected in his first season as Bears defensive coordinator, he first listed four inside linebackers — starters Danny Trevathan and Roquan Smith but also Kwiatkoski and Kevin Pierre-Louis, who have filled in well after Trevathan and Smith went down with injuries.

Kwiatkoski's preparedness to step in almost certainly has earned him a solid next contract — though where remains a question. He finished Sunday's game with a team-high eight tackles, including two for a loss. He had a career-high 68 tackles, eight for a loss, three sacks, an interception and a forced fumble this year.

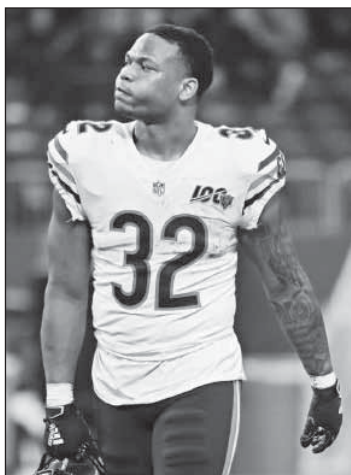
"Opportunity is something that you don't know when it's going to come, and you don't know if you'll get a second one," Kwiatkoski said. "You make the most of it. No matter what the opportunity is, if you're playing or if you have an opportunity to make a play in a game — it kind of applies to everything. You've got to be ready for it."

### David Montgomery

David Montgomery knew he had to be getting help as he drove forward on a 14-yard touchdown run on the opening drive of the third quarter. Behind him in a scrum of players, teammates J.P. Holtz, Ted Larsen, James Daniels and Cornelius Lucas helped push him to his sixth rushing touchdown of the season.

"I knew I wasn't doing it all myself," Montgomery said. "It's kind of impossible."

That run was part of Montgomery's second career 100-yard rushing game, to go with his 135-yard performance against the Chargers. He had six carries for 57 yards on the Bears' lone



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

David Montgomery leaves the field after Sunday's victory.



STACEY WESCOTT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Riley Ridley runs for long yardage to set up the winning field goal.



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Wide receiver Anthony Miller gathers himself after being injured on a play in the second quarter of the Bears' 21-19 victory over the Vikings.

touchdown drive of the game and finished with 23 carries for 114 yards.

Though Montgomery finished his rookie year with 889 yards rushing, he characterized his season as "not good enough." The Bears again struggled to get the rushing game going for multiple reasons beyond Montgomery, including injuries and inconsistency on the offensive line and play-calling by coach Matt Nagy.

So Montgomery said it was important to him "to show how much fight I had in me" to finish the year. Trubisky was among those who took notice.

"Every yard it just seems like he absolutely earns it out there, never wanting to go down, bouncing off guys," Trubisky said. "The first guy can never take him down by himself. He's such a tough runner I think it says a lot about him and just how he's battling through every single tackle, every single run. He's grinding out the yards, and it was big for this offense today, and it's going to be big for this offense going forward."

### Riley Ridley

Riley Ridley, the Bears' fourth-round pick out of Georgia in 2019, was active for only five games this season as he assimilated to the NFL, so there wasn't much of an opportunity to see what he could do.

He made the most of his chances Sunday by finishing with three catches on four targets for 54 yards. That included a 32-yard catch on fourth-and-9 on the Bears' winning drive.

Ridley beat Vikings cornerback Kris Boyd, who took a

tumble. He then hauled in the catch and gained 15 more yards to get the Bears to the 17-yard line.

"I just got my route, I came off, I tried to be a little physical," Ridley said. "When I saw he went down, I was just playing ball, and it was a scramble drill from there."

Ridley finished his rookie year with six catches for 69 yards.

"One thing I did that stuck with me is that when the time comes, just have the guys' back, be able to pick up the slack," he said.

### Anthony Miller

This is the only negative on this list, and that's because Miller was injured on a second-quarter kickoff return.

The Bears wide receiver was filling in for Cordarrelle Patterson, who was out with a concussion. Miller took a hard hit on the 28-yard return, appeared to be holding his left arm and went straight to the medical tent with a shoulder injury. He didn't return to the game, and Nagy didn't provide an update after the game.

Miller, who wasn't available in the locker room afterward, had his left shoulder surgically repaired last offseason after playing most of his rookie year with it injured. Another setback would be unfortunate after Miller had a strong late-season stretch, including totaling nine catches for 140 yards against the Lions and nine catches for 118 yards against the Packers.

He finished his year with 52 catches for 656 yards, but the Bears most certainly will be looking for more in 2020 if he can report to training camp healthy.

## Biggs

Continued from Page 1

season, one that seemingly kicked off at the party the team threw itself in June at Bears100, to end in a pretty manner.

Players are constantly evaluated by what they put on tape, but any measure of what the Bears accomplished here has to be evaluated through the prism of who it came against as the playoff-bound Vikings (10-6) sat quarterback Kirk Cousins and nearly all of their front-line players, prioritizing health for a wild-card-round play-off game. Vikings defensive end Danielle Hunter played one snap to keep a streak of 77 consecutive regular-season starts going. Other than that, linebacker Eric Wilson was the only other defensive starter in the lineup.

"These games aren't easy," coach Matt Nagy said. "I'm appreciative of the players and coaches fighting until the very end, to literally the very end. It's not where we want to be. But we're going to learn from this."

The Bears played to win, and they accomplished that goal, but it was a scuffle against the Vikings reserves in Nagy's fourth consecutive victory over the NFC North rival. Quarterback Mitch Trubisky fled the pocket on fourth-and-9 with a little more than two minutes to play and lofted a pass down the sideline that rookie Riley Ridley hauled in for a 32-yard gain, setting up a game-winning 22-yard field goal by Eddy Pineiro, who was 4-for-4 kicking during the game to conclude the season with 11 straight field goals made.

"Situational football in crucial times, I thought Mitch showed what he can do in those scenarios," Nagy said. "He's done that over his career. We want to make sure as we go through this thing that we really, really learn on all the other stuff, which is going to happen — taking time on learning how to get better with everything that involves playing the quarterback position."

Rookie running back David Montgomery carried 23 times for 113 yards, reaching triple digits for the second time this season, but the offense was uneven, at best, ending things the way they began in an abysmal 10-3 loss to the Packers on national television back on Sept. 5. Those grasping for explanations blamed Nagy's decision to rest most of his starters for the majority of the pre-season. If they'd only gotten 50-60 more reps in preseason, things wouldn't have been so terribly disjointed. That was the excuse anyway. The outlook, you see, is much brighter when you can pin blame on a preseason coaching decision rather than questioning the viability of the personnel.

Those clinging to that excuse saw it crumble as the offense never grew from the modest beginnings it had in 2018. In fact, it regressed. The Bears won despite failing to score an offensive touchdown in the first half for the 11th time this season. That's so troubling it's hard to process what Trubisky playing well during crunch time of a handful of games really means.

The Bears finished near the bottom of the league in so many major offensive categories that it's difficult to put a lot of stock in Nagy vouching for Trubisky's playmaking ability with the game on the line. There's much more to it than just the quarterback, and the Bears have an offseason to sort through the mess, a much different feeling than 51 weeks ago when the prevailing thought was the Bears were a kicker away from solving their greatest problems.

Looking ahead to 2020, you're not sure where the Bears will start when it comes to adjustments.

"I feel like we're close," Trubisky said. "I feel like we've got the pieces. We just need to put it all together, and it's all about consistency, believing, outworking your opponents, playing smarter than your opponents and just things that we can do on a weekly and daily basis to put ourselves in a better position to win because in the NFL every week it's so close between winning and losing."

"It's those inches and plays, and you never know which one they're going to be. So, we've just got to make sure those plays go our way next year so we're able to come out with more wins. And you've got to find out ways to get the edge in the offseason. It's going to be interesting to see what we do, see how guys improve themselves over the offseason. And I'm excited for next year."

I'm not sure what they're close to after they had to fight and claw against a bunch of reserves. This was close to preseason action. At least we have an idea now how the starters handle that.

It's time to stop coming up with ways to rationalize a disappointing season and start brainstorming ways to avoid a repeat disappointment.



BEARS

Wiederer

Continued from Page 1

where we want to be. It's not acceptable. We know that. But we're going to learn from this. And it could have been easy for them to not be fighters. But they didn't (do that). And that's the positive."

Quarterback Mitch Trubisky left the Twin Cities with his own grasp for optimism. Trubisky was pleased, of course, that his final drive of an otherwise discouraging season led to a game-winning score.

The Bears quarterback made his biggest play on fourth-and-9 with 2:36 left, vacating the pocket and firing a 32-yard strike to rookie Riley Ridley. It was, for all intents and purposes, the completion that turned 7-9 into 8-8. So there's that.

Thus after a taxing season that fell short of just about everyone's expectations, Trubisky confidently marched himself to this conclusion.

"I feel like we're close," he said. "I feel like we've got the pieces. We just need to put it all together."

And why exactly does Trubisky sense the Bears are close when their 16-game body of work became an infomercial for inconsistency and mediocrity?

"For example, just at the end (today), we were battling," Trubisky said. "We could have easily just cashed it in. But we didn't. We never gave up, all the way to the last minute. We have guys who will battle and stick with you through thick and thin.

"And we make big plays in big situations. It's not easy to go down on a two-minute drive and put your field-goal team in a position to go win the game."

Technically, none of what Trubisky said was inaccurate. But it'll also cause an eye-roll outbreak across Chicago, a tough sell to a success-starved city that would much rather celebrate success while accepting effort and grit as a given.

The context of Sunday's game-winning drive is important, too, with all of the Vikings' best defenders chilling on the sideline for the day.

And perhaps that's why so many other players in the Bears locker room were a little more



Vikings running back Mike Boone (23) is tackled in the end zone for a safety as Bears outside linebacker Leonard Floyd (94) and others move in for the tackle in the second quarter Sunday at U.S. Bank Stadium.

subdued, more measured in attaching any big-picture significance to what went down Sunday.

"Listen," left tackle Charles Leno said, "8-8 looks better than 7-9. Right? That's about the only thing I can get out of today. Other than that?"

He shrugged.

Yep, that's really all Sunday was. A win and not a loss. This was the shrug before the uncomfortable inquest begins.

Nagy knows this next phase of the Bears' self-examination process will be critical. And layered. And complex. And at times, very, very dirty.

In the days and weeks ahead, the Bears coach will have to put his head together with general manager Ryan Pace. In tandem, they will have to hold their 2019

season up in front of the mirror and acknowledge what they see.

With their egos pushed aside, Nagy emphasized.

With a collective need to not feel defensive.

With honesty becoming a key component of getting to the bottom of how the 2019 Bears failed so frequently.

The reflection in that mirror won't be very flattering. The Bears betrayed their fans' trust this season. They talked about winning the Super Bowl then bumbled to 8-8.

They went backward offensively, with erratic quarterback play complemented by some hodgepodge play-calling, a shaky offensive line, a lack of commitment to the running game and the disappearance of the tight end. A

full house, in other words.

The defense regressed, too, with its sack total slipping from 50 last season to 32 this year and its takeaway total dipping from 36 to 19.

So now it's up to Pace and Nagy, the men George McCaskey has put in charge, to brainstorm the comprehensive cleanup process of this massive oil spill.

They will have to do an in-depth examination on the playbook and the players chosen to run it.

They will have to reach common ground on what they believe Trubisky's true potential is and what his immediate future has to look like.

They will have to be brutally honest with their back-and-forth, with their evaluations of their

players and coaches and their criticisms of one another.

"When you go into a year like this, and you have all those (high) expectations and those intentions and you don't reach them, you're going to have tougher conversations," Nagy acknowledged.

Still, Nagy can't wait to get the dialogue started.

"I'll do it the right way," he promised. "I'll get away just for a little bit, for my mind. So that when I do get back on this thing, it's focused, it's clear and concise. But I'm ready to go into attack mode and figure out with Ryan how we want to go about this thing."

Nagy has remained extremely complimentary of his bond with Pace and said the GM was instrumental in helping to keep him focused and upbeat during some of this season's valleys. But what will happen if and when the two find themselves in a healthy disagreement on some of the most important evaluations within this team?

"We'll see. You know?" Nagy said. "That's a great question. But usually, when you have good people who believe in one another, whatever the disagreement is or the agree-to-disagree is, (the decision) will be made for what's best for the team."

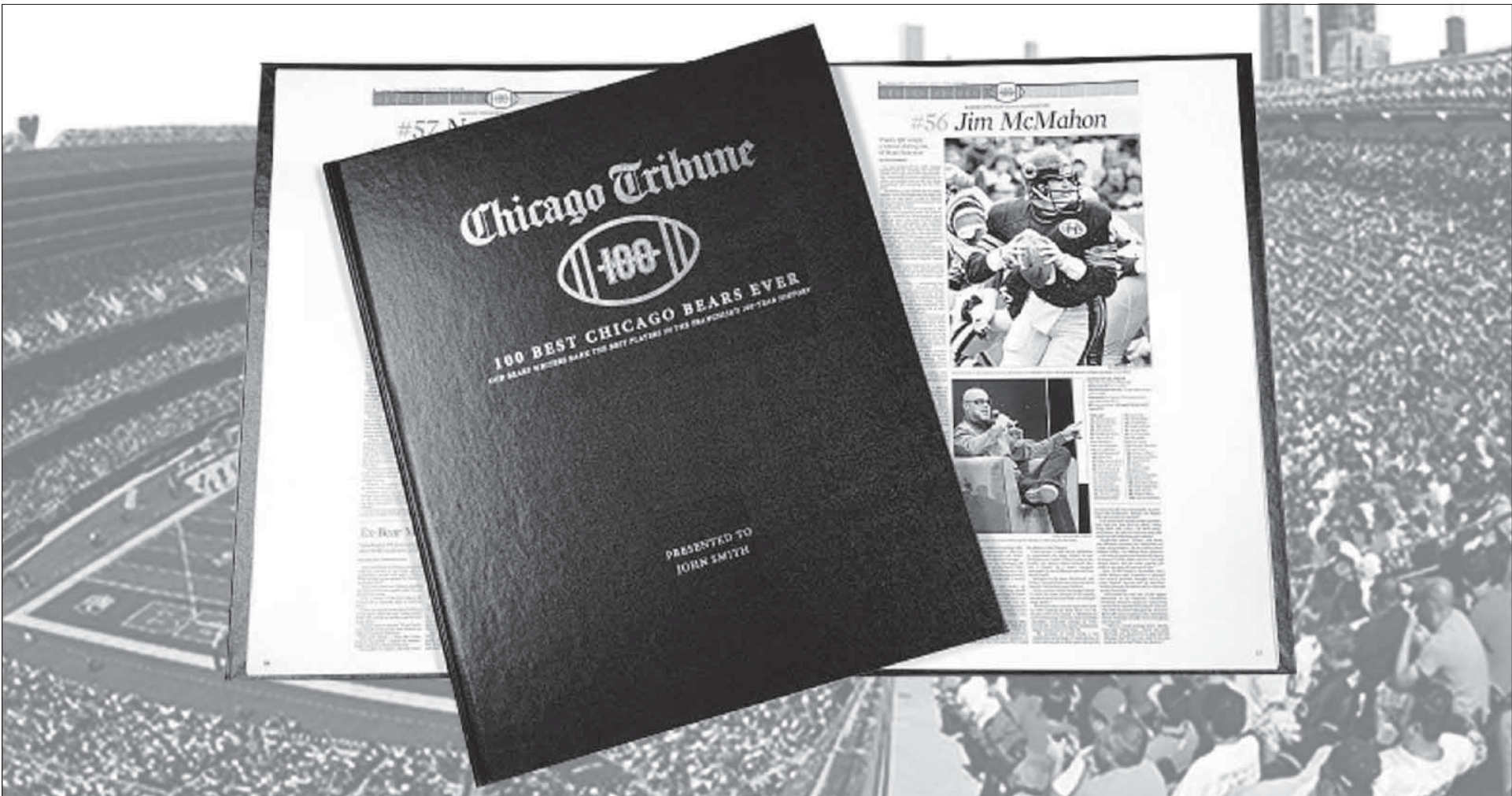
The initial big-picture assessment, Nagy admitted, has to be a deep dive. He should be aware that his fingerprints are likely going to show up very prominently on the offense's season of malfunction. Nagy was hired to develop Trubisky and take the offense to a new level. Thus far, he has failed to do either and, in the process, lost the confidence of a huge chunk of the fan base.

Behind closed doors with Pace, the Bears coach will have to be ready for a potentially harsh debriefing and an intense and time-consuming repair project.

"The biggest thing that we need to do is to create a plan," Nagy said. "And that plan does take a little bit of time for us. But in the end, Ryan and I will do what's best for our organization. And we're going to do it full steam ahead."

It's hard to know what any of that will ultimately lead to or how it can set a meaningful course for 2020.

On Sunday, the Bears finished this season with just a bunch of vague hope and a shrug victory.



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BULLS

3 TAKEAWAYS

Weak foe? Still, Bulls will take it

By Phil Thompson

The Bulls weren't crowing too much about dismantling the Hawks 116-81 Saturday night.

Coach Jim Boylen acknowledged the circumstances: The Hawks were without top scoring threat Trae Young and were playing the second part of a back-to-back. But it was enough for Boylen that the Bulls didn't take the undermanned team lightly.

"I thought we played fresh, I thought we played with energy," he said. "The ball moved. We didn't get the 35 assists, but I thought we played well."

The Bulls outscored the Hawks by 16 in the first quarter and showed no signs of letting up, besting them by 17 points in the fourth.

"We talked about it (that) we don't care who's playing, we've just got to play harder than them, and I think we got off to a good start," Lauri Markkanen said. "And we talked about we've given up leads this year."

Here are three observations from Saturday's game at the United Center.

**1. Wendell Carter Jr.'s 3-pointers aren't a side show.** Don't go calling Wendell Carter Jr., who made 2 of 3 from beyond the arc, the new Al Horford just yet — but the notion brought a big grin to his face.

"That's a good comparison," he said tongue in cheek. "I ain't really."

Carter's night brings him to 11 of 54 (20.4%) in his career.

Carter shot 41.3% on the 46 attempts he took in his one season at Duke.

"I feel like I've been a pretty good shooter all my life," he said. "I'm just steadily building my confidence, taking them when I'm open to the point where I can be on the scouting report: 'He's a capable catch-and-shoot 3-point shooter.'"

He knows how valuable he can be as a floor spacer as a center, and not just for his own game.

But Jim Boylen wasn't a fan of Carter taking the ball out of the paint to take a 3-point shot.

"When he's faced up, he has his feet down on the catch-and-shoot, I want him to take those open shots," Boylen said. "I did not like the one when he dribbled out to the line. He knew it and I knew it."

Carter said, "I told him it was a heat check. I just had to make sure."

**2. Tomas Satoransky is making the other Bulls starters better.** Tomas Satoransky was a little bit of everything against the Hawks. He had six assists to go along with 11 points, three steals and eight rebounds.

As the starting point guard the last month, he has provided a scoring jolt and deserves at least partial credit for setting up Lauri Markkanen and Zach LaVine for more open shots and fast breaks.

"We're getting used to him," LaVine said. "He's a freelance guy. He'll break a play off and throw to like a backdoor cut or something like that. Me and him will have a play where it's just between us."

"It's been good, but it's us adjusting to him. ... He's aggressive in getting to the hole and it expands everyone else's game as well."

Markkanen added, "Everybody's kind of learning their role and Sato's with us. I think he's done a really good job of adjusting and knowing where guys like to get the ball."

**3. The Bulls are ready to take on bigger fish.** The Bulls saw Monday's close loss to the Magic, currently eighth in the East, as a missed opportunity to reach playoff contention as well as a chance to make a statement.

They'll have other opportunities when they soon host the Bucks, Jazz and Celtics, all top-six teams.

"We play with some of the best teams in the league," Zach LaVine said. "We know we can compete and fight with them. We just have to learn how to close out games. It's going to be a challenge, but I think we're up for it."

Wendell Carter Jr. knows the Bulls can "hang" with the Bucks and other contenders but wants to see them keep up the intensity for 48 minutes.

"I feel like the sky's the limit for this team," he said. "If everybody continues to stay healthy, continues to stay bought into this team and what Coach (Jim) Boylen wants to do for us, we can beat anybody in this league."



JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Tomas Satoransky grabs the ball in the third quarter Saturday vs. the Hawks.

BLACKHAWKS



PAUL VERNON/AP

Blackhawks goalie Robin Lehner exults after stopping a shot by Blue Jackets forward Nathan Gerbe to win Sunday's shootout. Lehner has excelled in regulation but struggled in shootouts.

BLACKHAWKS 3, BLUE JACKETS 2 SO

Full story: Lehner's 1st shootout win

By Jimmy Greenfield

COLUMBUS, Ohio — A game that was full of so many wonderful stories ultimately will be remembered for one that will never be heard.

At least not publicly.

Moments before Robin Lehner returned to his net from the Blackhawks bench to begin the shootout, forward Zack Smith pulled his goaltender aside and shared a story that apparently was so shocking it made Lehner forget that, statistically, he has been the worst shootout goalie in NHL history.

"Zack Smith, before the shootout started, told me a really, really bad story," Lehner said. "So that kind of got my mind off it. ... He just put it in my head and that's all I was thinking about."

Whatever Smith said, it worked. Lehner stopped two of three shootout attempts and Jonathan Toews and Patrick Kane each converted on theirs to give the Hawks a thrilling, come-from-behind 3-2 victory against the Blue Jackets on Sunday afternoon at Nationwide Arena.

Lehner did change up his strategy for how he approaches shootouts. Instead of moving from side to side or coming out to challenge the shooters, he stayed on the line and waited.

"I didn't move," he said. "Maybe I'll try that going forward. But hell of a win, and I thought Columbus had a hell of a game, but we battled through it, we stuck together and we did the right things again and we got rewarded."

Lehner's heroics and Smith's storytelling were just part of what made the victory so memorable. The Hawks were seeking to build off a big win Friday over the Islanders, one of the league's best teams, but they came out flat and trailed 2-0 after the first period.

The Blue Jackets had more blocked shots than the Hawks had shots on goal for most of the game. It seemed like another chance to build momentum to help turn the Hawks season around was about to be lost.

But an improved second period turned into a frenzied third, and Dylan Strome finally got the Hawks on the board with a deflection for his eighth goal with 12 minutes, 27 seconds remaining. The Hawks failed to score on a power play late in the third but were gifted another when Seth Jones sailed a puck over the glass and was called for delay of game.

The Hawks took advantage, finally, as Erik Gustafsson sent a relatively soft one-timer from the point that found the corner of the net to tie it at 2-2 with 2:02 left in regulation. It helped make up for a brutal mistake Gustafsson made when a turnover in front of the Hawks net led to the Blue Jackets' second goal.

"We kind of pushed and pushed and pushed, and you give yourself a chance to find a way to get a puck through," Jeremy Colliton said. "Both goals we get a puck through from the top

and have some traffic in front. Obviously, the shootout was big for the group. Everyone's really happy for Robin. And two pretty special moves by (Toews and Kane)."

Lehner had stopped only one of six attempts while losing all three games he played this season that went to a shootout. He has been so ineffective that the idea was floated to Lehner and Colliton that the Hawks should replace him with Corey Crawford just for the shootout.

While Lehner has said he would be open to it, Colliton never gave it any consideration. And, incredibly, the Blue Jackets gave everyone a glimpse of why.

After Toews scored on the Hawks' first shootout attempt, Blue Jackets goalie Joonas Korpisalo was forced to leave the game with an injury. Backup goalie Elvis Merzlikins, who had been sitting on the bench for nearly three hours and hadn't played in a game since Dec. 14, entered the game and gave up Kane's shootout goal on the only attempt he faced.

"(Lehner is) playing so well for us you want him to get rewarded for it," Colliton said. "He made some real big saves to get us to that point. Again, don't love the idea of putting in a cold goalie. You saw their goalie get injured. He was fresh. You put somebody in who's cold and he's got to make those kind of moves laterally, not sure that's a great recipe."

The game almost never reached the shootout. The Blue Jackets began a power play with 18.1 seconds left in overtime and narrowly missed ending the game, but Zach Werenski's shot went in less than a second after time expired.

"I felt like I heard the signal before I felt their shot came through," Lehner said. "But (the refs) told me pretty quick it wasn't a goal."

The Hawks have won four of five games to improve to 17-17-6, but they're too far back in the standings to be content with their modest run. They finish their road trip on New Year's Eve against the Flames, then begin 2020 against the Canucks on Thursday, a pair of games against conference rivals whose importance can't be overstated.

They have been in this situation before, most recently this month when they beat the Jets and Avalanche on the road then came back to the United Center and got blown out by the Devils.

That can't happen again. And they know it.

"We're obviously excited, but at the same time we can't get too high," Strome said. "We seem to be doing that (thing) where we win a few in a row and we're sky high and then we don't come to play the next game. Yeah, it feels good. Everyone's happy but at the same time got to keep rolling."

"Can't just take our foot off the gas and expect we're going to do it every time. We worked hard tonight and we worked for our bounces and we finally got them."

COLLEGES

HARTFORD 67, NORTHWESTERN 66

Cats fall in final seconds

Hot-shooting Hartford pulls Welsh-Ryan upset

By Sarah Trotto  
Associated Press

Hunter Marks hit a jumper with 1.4 seconds left and blocked Northwestern's final shot as Hartford shocked the Wildcats 67-66 on Sunday at Welsh-Ryan Arena.

Northwestern, a 16½-point favorite, inbounded the ball up the court to Ryan Young before Marks blocked his final shot attempt.

It was the Wildcats' third straight loss and fourth in their last five games.

Hartford (7-7) shot 56% from the field compared with Northwestern's 37% in the teams' first meeting. The Hawks went 7-for-20 from 3-point range while Northwestern (5-7) was 6-for-22 from beyond the arc in its nonconference finale.

Miller Kopp led Northwestern with 24 points, including 17 after halftime. Young and Boo Buie each had 14 for the Wildcats, one of the youngest teams in the country.

Buie shot 5-for-14 after he averaged 25.5 points on 62% shooting in Northwestern's last two games.

Malik Ellison led Hartford with 16 points. Miroslav Staffl added 15 points and Marks had 10 in the third straight win for the Hawks of the America East Conference.

Northwestern went on an 8-2 run to start to pull away in the final minutes. Layups from Staffl and Marks pushed Hartford within a point with 52.1 seconds left.

After a Northwestern turnover, Marks scored under the basket to give Hartford the lead for good.

The Hawks picked up a technical foul on a delay-of-game warning with 12:35 remaining after receiving a flopping warning earlier. Pat Spencer made the free throw to cut the Hawks' lead to 48-44.

Hartford led 37-31 at halftime after shooting 60.9% to NU's 35.7%. The Wildcats went on a 13-3 run before Hartford responded with an 18-6 run capped by Mitchell's four-point play.

ILLINOIS 95, N. CAROLINA A&T 64

Cockburn's career-high 26 spark blowout

By Terry Towery  
Associated Press

CHAMPAIGN — Kofi Cockburn scored a career-high 26 points and Illinois beat North Carolina A&T 95-64 on Sunday.

The 7-foot freshman also grabbed nine rebounds, narrowly missing his seventh double-double in 13 games. Cockburn has more double-doubles this season than any other freshman in the country. He scored 23 points on two occasions earlier this season against Grand Canyon and Miami.

Ayo Dosunmu had 19 points and Alan Griffin added 18 for Illinois (9-4).

Tyler Maye and Devin Haygood scored 12 points each for North Carolina A&T (3-11). Ronald Jackson added 10 points for the Aggies.

North Carolina A&T took a 2-0 lead on the game's first possession and never led again.

Illinois led 50-34 at the half. The Illini put together a 6-0 run early in the game and 14-2 run fueled by back-to-back 3-pointers from Trent Frazier in the closing minutes of the half.

Illinois shot 53% (36 of 68) from the field, compared with 46% (24 of 52) for the Aggies.

North Carolina A&T turned the ball over 18 times, leading to 28 Illinois points. The Illini turned the ball over only nine times.

Big picture

**North Carolina A&T:** The Aggies played Illinois for the first time in their history.

**Illinois:** The Illini did what they needed to do in the final tuneup before conference play begins. The game provided an opportunity to get some valuable playing time for the reserves.



SCOREBOARD

NBA				
EASTERN CONFERENCE				
ATLANTIC	W	L	PCT	GB
Boston	22	8	.733	—
Toronto	22	11	.667	1½
Philadelphia	23	12	.657	1½
Brooklyn	16	15	.516	6½
New York	9	24	.273	14½
SOUTHEAST				
Miami	24	8	.750	—
Orlando	14	18	.438	10
Charlotte	13	22	.371	12½
Washington	9	22	.290	14½
Atlanta	6	27	.182	18½
CENTRAL				
Milwaukee	29	5	.853	—
Indiana	21	12	.636	7½
Chicago	13	20	.394	15½
Detroit	12	21	.364	16½
Cleveland	10	22	.313	18
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
SOUTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB
Houston	22	11	.667	—
Dallas	21	11	.656	½
San Antonio	13	18	.419	8
Memphis	13	21	.382	9½
New Orleans	11	23	.324	11½
NORTHWEST				
Denver	23	9	.719	—
Utah	20	12	.625	3
Oklahoma City	17	15	.531	6
Portland	14	19	.424	9½
Minnesota	11	20	.355	11½
PACIFIC				
L.A. Lakers	26	7	.788	—
L.A. Clippers	11	20	.376	3½
Phoenix	12	20	.375	13½
Sacramento	12	21	.364	14
Golden State	9	25	.265	17½

SUNDAY'S RESULTS	
Oklahoma City 98, Toronto 97	
Memphis 117, Charlotte 104	
New Orleans 127, Houston 112	
Denver 120, Sacramento 115	
L.A. Lakers 108, Dallas 95	
MONDAY'S GAMES	
Atlanta at Orlando, 6 p.m.	
Miami at Washington, 6 p.m.	
Brooklyn at Minnesota, 7 p.m.	
Milwaukee at Chicago, 7 p.m.	
Detroit at Utah, 8 p.m.	
Phoenix at Portland, 9 p.m.	
TUESDAY'S GAMES	
Boston at Charlotte, 2 p.m.	
Philadelphia at Indiana, 2 p.m.	
L.A. Clippers at Sacramento, 4 p.m.	
Cleveland at Toronto, 6 p.m.	
Denver at Houston, 6 p.m.	
Golden State at San Antonio, 6 p.m.	
Dallas at Oklahoma City, 7 p.m.	
WEDNESDAY'S GAMES	
Orlando at Washington, 5 p.m.	
Portland at New York, 6:30 p.m.	
Minnesota at Milwaukee, 7 p.m.	
Phoenix at L.A. Lakers, 9:30 p.m.	

LAKERS 108, MAVERICKS 95	
DALLAS:	Finney-Smith 4-8 1-2 12, Porzingis 4-10 0-0 11, Powell 2-6 3-4 7, Doncic 5-14-9-19, Hardaway Jr. 1-5-0-0, Brookhoff 2-4 0-0 6, Jackson 1-6 0-0 2, Kleber 1-6 0-0 3, Marjanovic 0-0 0-0 0, Barea 4-7-2-12, Brunson 0-3-0-0, Curry 3-11 0-0 7, Wright 5-9 3-3 14. Totals 32-89 18-20 95.
LA LAKERS:	Davis 8-12 7-9 23, James 3-10 5-6 13, McGee 5-6 1-1 11, Bradley 2-6-0-5, Green 4-7-0-0 10, Dudley 0-1-0-0 0, Kuzma 0-7 0-0 0, Howard 6-7 3-4 15, Caldwell-Pope 5-9 5-6 19, Caruso 2-6 2-2 6, Cook 0-1-0-0 0, Daniels 1-1-0-0 2, Rondo 2-5-0-0 4. Totals 38-78 23-28 108.
Dallas	19 24 26 26 — 95
L.A. Lakers	25 29 30 24 — 108

3-Point Goals—Dallas 13-43 (Finney-Smith 3-5, Porzingis 3-7, Barea 2-3, Brookhoff 2-4, Wright 1-2, Curry 1-3, Kleber 1-4, Hardaway Jr. 0-2, Powell 0-2, Jackson 0-4, Doncic 0-6), L.A. Lakers 9-23 (Caldwell-Pope 4-5, Green 2-4, James 2-4, Bradley 1-2, Kuzma 0-2, Caruso 0-3).	
Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Dallas 45 (Powell 11), L.A. Lakers 39 (Davis 9). Assists—Dallas 17 (Doncic 7), L.A. Lakers 28 (James 13). Total Fouls—Dallas 23, L.A. Lakers 23. A—18,997 (18,997)	

NHL						
EASTERN CONFERENCE						
ATLANTIC	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Boston	25	7	9	59	139	104
Toronto	21	14	5	47	142	131
Florida	20	13	4	45	138	130
Tampa Bay	20	13	4	44	131	116
Montreal	18	15	6	42	130	128
Buffalo	17	17	7	41	119	128
Ottawa	16	18	5	37	109	127
Detroit	9	28	3	21	87	157
METRO.	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	27	8	5	59	143	118
N.Y. Islanders	24	10	3	51	110	97
Pittsburgh	23	11	4	50	131	102
Philadelphia	22	12	5	49	124	113
Carolina	23	14	2	48	133	111
N.Y. Rangers	19	15	4	42	124	125
Columbus	17	14	8	42	101	111
New Jersey	13	19	6	32	99	136
WESTERN CONFERENCE						
CENTRAL	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
St. Louis	26	8	6	58	127	104
Colorado	23	12	4	50	140	112
Dallas	22	14	4	48	107	101
Winnipeg	21	15	3	45	118	116
Minnesota	19	16	3	43	125	133
Nashville	18	14	6	42	132	127
Chicago	17	17	6	40	113	129
PACIFIC	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Vegas	21	15	6	48	129	123
Vancouver	21	15	4	46	132	119
Arizona	21	16	4	46	115	107
Calgary	20	16	5	45	111	122
Edmonton	20	17	4	44	118	129
Anaheim	16	18	5	37	101	119
San Jose	17	20	3	37	109	137
Los Angeles	16	21	4	36	104	129

2 pts for win, 1 pt for shootout/OT loss	
SUNDAY'S RESULTS	
St. Louis 4, Winnipeg 1	
Chicago 3, Columbus 2, SO	
New Jersey 4, Ottawa 3, OT	
N.Y. Islanders 3, Minnesota 1	
Boston 3, Buffalo 2	
Florida 6, Montreal 5	
Tampa Bay 2, Detroit 1	
Dallas 4, Arizona 2	
Philadelphia 2, Anaheim 1 (OT)	
Vancouver 5, Calgary 2	

MONDAY'S GAME	
Ottawa at Pittsburgh, 6 p.m.	
TUESDAY'S GAMES	
Boston at New Jersey, noon	
N.Y. Islanders at Washington, noon	
Anaheim at Vegas, 2 p.m.	
Toronto at Minnesota, 5 p.m.	
Tampa Bay at Buffalo, 6 p.m.	
Montreal at Carolina, 6 p.m.	
Florida at Columbus, 6 p.m.	
San Jose at Detroit, 6:30 p.m.	
Winnipeg at Colorado, 7 p.m.	
St. Louis at Arizona, 8 p.m.	
Chicago at Calgary, 8 p.m.	
N.Y. Rangers at Edmonton, 8 p.m.	
Philadelphia at Los Angeles, 8 p.m.	
WEDNESDAY'S GAME	
Nashville at Dallas, 1 p.m.	

BLACKHAWKS 3, BLUE JACKETS 2 (SO)				
Chicago	0	0	2	— 3
Columbus	2	0	0	— 2
Blackhawks win shootout 2-1				
FIRST PERIOD: 1, CBJ, Nash 2 (Savard, Gavrilov), 6:54, 2, CBJ, Dubois 12 (Foligno, Gerbe), 18:40. Penalties: Murphy, Chi (Hook), 2:28; Wennberg, Col (High Stick), 8:55; Stenlund, Col (Hook), 13:43.				
SECOND PERIOD: Penalty: Strome, Chi (Hooking), 14:16.				
THIRD PERIOD: 3, Chicago, Strome 7 (Murphy, DeBrincat), 7:33, 4, Chicago, Gustafsson 4 (Kubalik, Keith), 17:58 (pp). Penalties: Koekkoek, Chi (Roughing), 9:01; Gerbe, Col (Roughing), 9:01; Wennberg, Col (Tripping), 13:51; Jones, Col (Penalty of Foline), 16:16.				
OT: Delaney goes, Col (High Sticking-1), 1:05; Chicago bench, served by Strome (Too Many Men on the Ice), 4:41.				
SHOOTOUT: CBJ 1 Dubois NG, Nyquist G, Gerbe NG; Chi 2 (Toews & Kane G)				
SOG Chi 4-8-11 7-2—32, CBJ 9-13-8-31—34.				
POWER PLAYS: Chi 1 of 5; CBJ 0 of 4.				
GOALIES: Chicago, Lehner 10-6-4 (33 shots-31 saves). Columbus, Korpisalo 17-10-4 (30-28). Columbus, Merzlikins 0-4-3 (0-0). A: 18,544 (18,500). T: 2:50.				

AP DECADE IN SPORTS	
AP MALE ATHLETE OF DECADE	
1. LeBron James, NBA basketball	
FINALISTS	
2. Tom Brady, NFL football	
3. Usain Bolt, Jamaican track and field	
4. Lionel Messi, Argentine soccer	
5. Michael Phelps, Olympic swimming	
AP FEMALE ATHLETE OF DECADE	
1. Serena Williams, WTA tennis	
FINALISTS	
2. Simone Biles, Olympic gymnast	
3. Katie Ledecky, Olympic swimmer	
4. Lindsey Vonn, World Cup skier	
5. Mikaela Shiffrin, World Cup skier	

COLLEGE BASKETBALL	
HOW MEN'S AP TOP 25 FARED	
1. Gonzaga (13-1) did not play. Next: vs. Detroit, Monday.	
2. Ohio State (11-2) lost to No. 22 West Virginia 67-59. Next: vs. Wisconsin, Friday.	
3. Louisville (11-2) did not play. Next: vs. No. 17 Florida State, Saturday.	
4. Duke (11-1) did not play. Next: vs. Boston College, Tuesday.	
5. Kansas (10-3) beat Stanford 72-56. Next: vs. No. 22 West Virginia, Saturday.	
6. Oregon (11-2) beat Alabama State 98-59. Next: at Colorado, Thursday.	
7. Baylor (9-1) did not play. Next: vs. Jackson State, Monday.	
8. Auburn (12-0) beat Lipscomb 86-59. Next: at Mississippi State, Saturday.	
9. Memphis (11-1) did not play. Next: vs. Tulane, Monday.	
10. Villanova (9-2) did not play. Next: vs. Xavier, Monday.	
11. Michigan (10-3) beat UMass Lowell 86-60. Next: at No. 14 Michigan State, Sunday.	
12. Butler (12-1) did not play. Next: at St. John's, Tuesday.	
13. Maryland (11-2) beat Bryant 84-70. Next: vs. Indiana, Saturday.	
14. Michigan State (10-3) beat Western Michigan 95-62. Next: vs. Illinois, Thu.	
15. San Diego State (13-0) did not play. Next: vs. Fresno State, Wednesday.	
16. Virginia (10-2) beat Navy 65-56. Next: vs. Virginia Tech, Saturday.	
17. Florida State (11-2) did not play. Next: vs. Georgia Tech, Tuesday.	
18. Dayton (10-2) did not play. Next: vs. North Florida, Monday.	
19. Kentucky (9-3) did not play. Next: vs. Missouri, Saturday.	
20. Penn State (11-2) beat Cornell 90-59. Next: vs. No. 25 Iowa, Sat.	
21. Washington (10-3) did not play. Next: vs. UCLA, Thursday.	
22. West Virginia (11-1) beat No. 2 Ohio State 67-59. Next: at No. 5 Kansas, Sat.	
23. Texas Tech (9-3) beat CS Bakersfield 73-58. Next: vs. Oklahoma State, Sat.	
24. Arizona (10-3) did not play. Next: vs. Arizona State, Saturday.	
25. Iowa (10-3) beat Kennesaw State 93-51. Next: at No. 20 Penn State, Saturday.	

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COLLEGE FOOTBALL



ROSS D. FRANKLIN/AP

Ohio State running back J.K. Dobbins fails to hang on to a pass as he crosses the goal line in the first half Saturday in the Fiesta Bowl.

Controversy rules

2 questionable calls hurt Ohio State — but so do Dobbins, Clemson’s Lawrence



TEDDY GREENSTEIN On college football

GLENDALE, Ariz. — Chris Olave sat at his locker, dazed. As his Ohio State teammates showered and changed, he remained motionless in his No. 17 jersey. “I put that game on me,” he said. “My mistake.” The Buckeyes’ season ended in cold,

brutal fashion. The quarterback who never throws interceptions got picked off. The receiver who scored the go-ahead touchdown got confused and cut off his route. The Big Ten team that entered 13-0 and took a commanding lead against Clemson fell just shy of meeting LSU for college football’s national championship. Here are seven takeaways from Clemson’s 29-23 victory:

**1. The game was rife with controversy.** Ohio State fans will debate the calls for years, the same way Miami fans still curse the infamous end-zone pass interference in 2003 and Michigan devotees insist J.T. Barrett came up short of a first down in 2016.

Ohio State benefited from those two borderline calls. But the Buckeyes got done in Saturday night by two monumental rulings that went Clemson’s way. One was valid, the other perplexing.

The valid one: With Ohio State leading 16-0, cornerback Shaun Wade came free on a third-and-5 blitz. He sacked Trevor Lawrence but used the crown of his helmet.

The replay review ended Wade’s night and flipped the game. The Tigers, then down 16-0, outscored Ohio State 29-7 the rest of the way.

“I’m feeling a range of emotions right now: proud, sad, and certainly angry,” coach Ryan Day said. “Some plays in that game are really hard to swallow.”

The perplexing one: Justyn Ross received a pass from Lawrence — “caught” would be more accurate — and took several steps with the ball. Cornerback Jeff Okudah pried it loose, and Jordan Fuller scooped it up and ran 29 yards.

Touchdown? Not in the eyes of the replay officials.

Veteran NFL official Terry McAulay, who analyzes officiating for NBC Sports, was among those in disbelief.

“There is absolutely no way replay should have reversed,” he tweeted. “Indisputable video evidence’ is simply not there.”

Fuller, who watched the replay on the State Farm Stadium video board, said: “I’m not paid to be a ref, but it looked like he caught it to me. I’m not paid to do that. I’m not even paid to play football yet.”

Referee Ken Williamson told a pool reporter: “We had a lot of good looks on it. We put on fast motion and slow motion ... We determined when (Ross) moved, the ball was becoming loose in his hands and he did not complete the process of the catch.”

**2. J.K. Dobbins had both a terrific and terrible night.** The Ohio State running back gobbled up 174 yards on 18 carries with a 68-yard score. He also caught six balls for 47 yards.

But he dropped two potential touchdowns. The first came on a diving attempt. The second was on a brilliantly devised



CHRISTIAN PETERSEN/GETTY

Quarterback Trevor Lawrence (16) is wrapped up by Shaun Wade of Ohio State in the first half Saturday. But Lawrence had a fabulous game in leading Clemson to victory.

CFP CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

New Orleans #3 Clemson vs. #1 LSU 7 p.m. Jan. 13, ESPN

screen pass your grandmother could have caught.

Asked if he took his eyes off the pass, Dobbins replied: “Of course ... I didn’t play good enough. It’s very hard. Any loss is hard for me.”

Dobbins, who exited the game and returned after twisting his left ankle, said of the Buckeyes’ season: “It didn’t go as planned. It’s a failure.”

Also damaging: Cameron Brown’s roughing-the-punter penalty, which allowed Clemson to complete a 99-yard touchdown drive.

**3. Clemson QB Trevor Lawrence was fantastic.** He completed 18 of 33 passes for 259 without a turnover and led his team with 107 rushing yards. His 67-yard score on a quarterback draw was a game-changer.

“This guy can move, man,” Clemson coach Dabo Swinney said. “People don’t realize that. We don’t win the game if we don’t have his legs because they’re going to always outnumber you in the box.”

Lawrence is the No. 1 reason the Tigers extended their winning streak to 29 games. And he’ll be one half of the ultimate quarterback duel in the Jan. 13 national championship game in New Orleans.

LSU obliterated Oklahoma 63-28 in the first Saturday semifinal, with Heisman Trophy winner Joe Burrow completing more touchdown passes in the first half (7) than Northwestern had all season (6).

**4. Ohio State coach Ryan Day made two interesting coaching decisions.** The Buckeyes trailed 21-16 early in the fourth quarter and faced a long fourth-and-1 at the Clemson 23. Kick the field goal? Nah. Day not only went for it, he called for play action. Justin Fields led Chris Olave perfectly on a 23-yard score.

Day played it safe with that two-point lead on fourth-and-4 from the Clemson 39

with 3:27 to play. He punted — and the Tigers needed just four plays and 78 seconds to go 94 yards for the go-ahead score.

“I felt if we could pin them inside the 10-yard line, that would give our defense a chance to get a stop,” Day said. “Then in a four-minute drill, we could end the game. I felt confidence in the defense. I would still make the same decision now.”

**5. College football needs to adopt a yellow card/red card system for targeting.** College football should make a distinction between the vicious hit that prompted the ejection of Oklahoma’s Brendan Radley-Hiles and Shaun Wade’s hit. One was the equivalent of a felony, the other a misdemeanor.

Radley-Hiles launched at LSU’s Clyde Edwards-Helaire with the appearance of having an intent to injure.

Wade ducked his head slightly, hitting Lawrence in a way that would not have drawn any attention a few years ago. It was a dangerous hit but not worthy of ejection.

**6. The playing surface was not adequate.** Players on both teams slipped and fell throughout the game. So much for playing in a dome in the desert.

**7. Ohio State will be back.** Ohio State’s Chris Olave vows to become college football’s No. 1 receiver next year, saying his end-of-game error “will make me work harder.”

Olave cut off his route because he thought Justin Fields was going to scramble: “I turned around to try to get open for him. He ended up throwing the ball to the post. My mistake.”

Many teammates tried to console Olave. “Even the guys I don’t talk to very much came up to me and said they respected me,” he said.

Fields threw only one interception in Ohio State’s first 13 games;Clemson picked him off twice.

“He did not lose us the game,” Fields said. “Chris is a great player and one of the best receivers in the country.”

Safe to say those two will work endlessly this offseason on their communication.

ILLINOIS

Bowl game a spring to next year?

Returnees, additions give Illini something to build on

By SHANNON RYAN

SAN FRANCISCO — Between practices and media sessions, Illinois has fit in some touristy stops in San Francisco as it prepares for its first bowl game since 2014. A reporter asked coach Lovie Smith if he had previously toured Alcatraz.



Smith

“I’m 61,” he said wryly. “There’s very little I haven’t done.”

It’s true: Smith has coached in high school, college and the NFL for almost 40 years. But if he can return Illinois to relevancy and respectability, it will be an impressive milestone

for the coach and the football program.

A victory Monday against Cal (7-5) in the Redbox Bowl would point to a resuscitated team that endured an embarrassing three-year tenure under coach Tim Beckman and was just 3-9 in Smith’s first season in 2016 and 2-10 in his second season. The Illini (6-6) haven’t won a bowl game since 2011 after the school fired coach Ron Zook.

While reaching a bowl game qualifies as an accomplishment in Champaign — something the team achieved only six other times in the last 20 years — perceptions can be shaped by Monday’s performance at Levi’s Stadium.

Illinois ended the regular season with a 29-10 loss to 3-9 Northwestern. A bowl loss would mean this season essentially amounted to a four-game losing streak followed by a four-game winning streak, then a three-game losing streak. The Illini still failed to post a winning Big Ten record (4-5) for a 12th straight season.

This season appeared headed for disaster when Illinois fell to 2-4 with losses to Eastern Michigan, Nebraska, Minnesota and Michigan.

During that turbulent stretch, Smith — as usual — embodied patience, not panic.

“I’ve been doing this enough to go through streaks,” he said. “It’s about the next game, stay the course. It’s a process. What did I learn? Same thing you normally learn. Clean up the mistakes you made and focus on the good things you’ve done.”

Athletic director Josh Whitman said he didn’t look at this as a do-or-die season for Smith, but he said it was “a big year for the trajectory of Illinois football.”

“It was a big year for making steps,” he said. “We knew there’d be growing pains and challenges. Our conversation in the offseason was we expected to turn the corner. Lovie was the first to say that. We were excited about the season. We didn’t get off to the start any of us hoped, but we continued to believe. If you really studied games and didn’t just look at the outcome, we were closer than the losses suggested.”

Illinois unveiled an \$80 million training facility this year. They have had their best season under Smith, who played lots of freshmen in 2017 and 2018 and added talented transfers this season.

“Our program has made so many strides this year,” Smith said. “I’ve talked about the new facility. The next thing was to put a better product on the football field. We put a better product on the football field. I’ve also made a statement the best team is leading up to next year.”

His steady persona through the trials kept players believing, they said.

“Everything Coach Smith says is really heartfelt,” senior linebacker Dele Harding said. “Everything he was preaching to instill in us we were believing. The road wasn’t as clear as today, but we wanted to travel the road with him. Players bought in and it definitely paid off my senior year and going into next year. I can’t wait to see our program keep rising.”

Smith’s contract runs through 2023 after his initial deal was extended at the end of last season. Quarterback Brandon Peters will return, along with a strong receiving group, including Ricky Smalling, Trevon Sidney and Josh Imatorbhebhe as well as tight end Luke Ford.

Linebacker Jake Hansen is expected to return from a season-ending injury, and the same goes for defensive back Marquez Beason, a highly touted recruit whose freshman season was shelved because of injury.

Besides boosting recruiting, a bowl victory would enhance Illinois’ stature.

“This is what consistent winning programs do,” Whitman said. “They have an expectation of that 13th game. We need to continue to recalibrate the thinking of our program inside the building and outside the program. (There will) come a time when it’s not a sixth win and being bowl eligible (as the goal) but accepting that as a given and talking about what kind of bowl game.”

REDBOX BOWL

I Cal Santa Clara, Calif. Illinois vs. California 3 p.m. Monday, FOX-32



# — eNEWSPAPER BONUS COVERAGE —

# More than a game

**In memoriam:**  
Newcombe and Robinson were key in elevating black players, managers

**BY FRED LIEF**  
Associated Press

They ran the next legs, taking the baton from Jackie Robinson as black players claimed their place in the game.

The deaths in 2019 of Don Newcombe and Frank Robinson left baseball not only without two pillars on the diamond but two pillars in its fight against inequity.

Newcombe, a pitcher for the Brooklyn Dodgers, knew the sting of segregation traveling from city to city. Martin Luther King Jr., it is said, thanked him for making his work easier.

Frank Robinson dared any pitcher to throw it his way and later set the course for black managers, starting with the Indians in 1975.

Sports also lost part of the core of two dynasties — Bart Starr of the Packers and John Havlicek of the Celtics. One was immortalized for a sneak, the other for a steal.

## Don Newcombe, 92

He came out of the Negro leagues and played with Jackie Robinson and Roy Campanella, the three putting baseball on a testing path.

“We had to endure,” he said.

In his first season in 1949, Newcombe went 17-8 and was the NL rookie of the year. He won 20 games three times.

When that luminous day came for the Dodgers in 1955 — a World Series title after so many maddening Octobers — Newcombe was there. He went 20-5 that year, homering on the day of his 20th win. He was one of the best hitting pitchers.

The next year, the 6-foot-4 right-hander was 27-7, taking the first Cy Young Award and the NL MVP. Eventually, drinking diminished his talent. He moved to Los Angeles from Brooklyn, later playing for the Reds and Indians.

## Frank Robinson, 83

He slid hard and played hard and knew how to make an entrance. In his first game as manager, a player-manager for the Indians, Robinson homered in the first inning.

He was baseball's first African American manager. He managed three other teams before becoming the first for the Washington Nationals. He was a Hall of Famer with statues at three stadiums.

Robinson hit 586 home runs, was an MVP in Cincinnati and Baltimore, a rookie of the year and a 12-time All-Star outfielder. He was a force on the first Orioles championship team in 1966. He hugged the plate, only more determined when pitchers decked him.

Maybe the highest compliment came from Bob Gibson, never one to overpraise: “As a rule, I’m reluctant to express admiration for hitters, but I make an exception for Frank Robinson.”

## Bart Starr, 85

On an Arctic day in 1967 at Lambeau Field, Starr sent the Packers past the Cowboys 21-17 in the NFL title game.

The Packers trailed by three with five minutes left. Starr got the Packers to the Dallas 3 and conferred with coach Vince Lombardi. Starr didn’t trust the footing and wanted to run a sneak. Jerry Kramer led the blocking, Starr plunged in with 16 seconds to go and the “Ice Bowl” legend was born.

Starr, the 200th draft pick in 1956, led the Packers to five NFL titles. He was the MVP in 1966 and MVP of the first two Super Bowls. (Two teammates also died in 2019: offensive lineman Forrest Gregg and backup quarterback Zeke Bratkowski.)

Starr later coached the Packers for nine years, but his legacy was elsewhere. Said fellow Hall of Famer John Elway: “He set a tremendous example for all QBs to emulate.”

## John Havlicek, 79

It started as a boy in his Ohio coal-mining town. Running, always running. The story goes that



TONI L. SANDYS/WASHINGTON POST

Frank Robinson waves goodbye to Nationals fans at RFK Stadium before his final game as manager on Oct. 1, 2006. Robinson died this year at 83.



AP

Brooklyn Dodgers pitcher Don Newcombe, shown here in 1951, was one of the first black players in the majors. Newcombe died this year at 92.

## “We had to endure.”

— Don Newcombe

a standard X-ray machine could not take the full measure of his lungs.

At Ohio State, he ran with Jerry Lucas and won a national title. And then with the Celtics, playing under Red Auerbach and with Bill Russell and Bob Cousy. Later, for another era of championship Celtics teams with Dave Cowens and Jo Jo White.

Havlicek played 16 seasons, a lean 6-foot-5 swingman and basketball’s greatest sixth man before becoming a starter. “Hondo” won eight titles, never losing in the Finals, and was a 13-time All-Star and Hall of Famer. Russell called him the best all-around player he ever saw.

In Game 7 of the 1965 Eastern finals, the Celtics led by a point with five seconds left. Philadelphia struggled to inbound. Havlicek tipped the ball to Sam Jones as the clock ran out. Radio announcer Johnny Most hollered now sacred words in Celtic lore: “Havlicek stole the ball!”

## Also

In hockey, the Red Wings mourned Red Kelly and Ted Lindsay. Kelly played 20 seasons, winning eight Stanley Cups for the Wings and the Maple Leafs. He was also a member of Parliament. Lindsay played on four Stanley Cup winners in the 1950s and was a building block of the NHL players union.

Junior Johnson, a moonshine runner-turned-driver and owner, was one of stock-car racing’s best. He was depicted by author Tom Wolfe as “The Last American Hero.” Auto racing also is without Niki Lauda, winner of three Formula One world titles.

Baseball was shaken by Tyler Skaggs, the Angels pitcher who died after a drug overdose, the legal implications still unclear. ... Bill Buckner, who infamously botched a roller during the 1986 World Series, was a batting champ with more than 2,700 hits. ... Jim Bouton, a bulldog pitcher for the Yankees in the 1960s, threw back the curtain on baseball’s culture with his book “Ball Four.”

Longtime NBA coaches Al Bi-



MICHAEL CONROY/AP

Former Packers quarterback Bart Starr carries the Vince Lombardi Trophy at the Super Bowl in 2006. Starr died this year at 85.



AP

The Celtics’ John Havlicek (17) drives past the Hawks’ Walt Hazzard during a January 1970 game in Boston. Havlicek died this year at 79.

anchi, John MacLeod and Tom Nissalke died. So did Wat Misaka, who was of Japanese descent and the league’s first non-white player.

Two mainstays from the NFL’s only unbeaten team, the 1972 Miami Dolphins, are gone: Nick Buoniconti and guard Bob Kuechenberg. ... The Raiders also lost two stars of their own: cornerback Willie Brown and receiver Cliff Branch. ... Gino Marchetti, the formidable defensive end, won two titles with the Baltimore Colts. ... Johnny “Lam” Jones was an Olympic gold medalist sprinter who played for the Jets and Cowboys. ... Two Heisman Trophy winners died: Navy’s Joe Bellino and Ohio State’s Hop-along Cassidy.

In boxing, Russia’s Maxim Dadashev and Argentina’s Hugo Santillan died from ring injuries days apart. ... Pernell “Sweet Pea” Whitaker, a four-division champ, was fatally hit by a car in Virginia. ... Bert Cooper took on his share of top heavyweights.

Soccer is diminished without England goalkeeper Gordon Banks, who made perhaps the greatest save in soccer history, on

a header by Pele at the 1970 World Cup. ... In golf, sweet-swinging Gene Littler won the 1961 U.S. Open. ... Horse racing’s Marylou Whitney was a prodigious thoroughbred breeder.

In tennis, Australia’s Peter McNamara was part of one of the best doubles teams in the 1980s. ... Finland’s Matti Nykanen was a four-time Olympic ski jump champ. ... Jack Burton Carpenter helped make snowboarding a Winter Games showpiece.

In track, Harrison Dillard, the only Olympian to win the sprints and high hurdles, had been the oldest living U.S. Olympic champion at 96. ... New Zealand miler Peter Snell was a three-time Olympic gold medalist.

The laughter quieted with the exit of sports writer and author Dan Jenkins. At his World Golf Hall of Fame induction, Jenkins listened as his honors were read.

“You left out my cure for polio,” he said.

*Contributing to this report were AP sports writers Doug Ferguson, David Ginsburg, Kyle Hightower, Arnie Stapleton, Stephe Wade and Ben Walker.*



eNEWSPAPER BONUS COVERAGE

SOCCER



LACHLAN CUNNINGHAM/GETTY

Head coach Gregg Berhalter of the U.S. men’s national team looks on before his squad’s friendly against Costa Rica last February at Avaya Stadium in San Jose, Calif.

NEW YEAR, NEW EXPECTATIONS?

What U.S. Soccer has in store for '20

By STEVEN GOFF  
The Washington Post

Soccer’s new decade will bring World Cups to the Middle East and to North America, and on the women’s side, perhaps Down Under. We can hope FIFA makes greater efforts in supporting female initiatives and takes a hard-line stance in combating racism in stadiums.

The ’20s will see MLS expand to at least 30 teams (40, anyone?). Soccer will continue spreading as a spectator sport in the U.S., with clubs worldwide aiming to expand their brands with fans who, through technological advances, have direct access.

No one knows exactly how the next 10 years will unfold, but we do have a clear vision of U.S.-geared storylines over the next 12 months. Here are 10 of them:

1. With the pain and embarrassment of missing the 2018 World Cup still gnawing at our souls, the men’s national team will have an opportunity for absolution starting this fall when regional qualifying for the 2022 tournament begins.
- After a year of inconsistency, coach Gregg Berhalter continues sifting through the player pool and implementing a playing style that has yet to take hold. He has a promising foundation of young players in Christian Pulisic, Weston McKennie, Tyler Adams, Josh Sargent and Zack Steffen, but he is running out of time to make it work.
- A restructured format means the Americans will dive straight into the Concacaf hexagonal — six teams vying for three automatic berths and one playoff slot — without the usual preliminary stage to work out the kinks. By Thanksgiving, two years before Qatar welcomes the world, the U.S. team will have played six of 10 qualifiers.
- Preparation time is precious. Berhalter will have his full squad available twice — in March for two friendlies in Europe and in June for two Nations League matches — before regathering for two qualifiers in early September. FIFA’s rankings will dictate the field. At the moment, the others are Mexico, Costa Rica, Jamaica, Honduras and El Salvador.
2. Women’s soccer conducts its major competitions in consecutive years, so after winning the World Cup last summer, the national team has quickly turned its attention to the Olympics. The Americans have won the most gold medals (four) but lost in the quarterfinals in 2016.
- First, they must qualify from the eight-team Concacaf tournament Jan. 28-Feb. 9. The group stage will take place in Houston and Edinburg, Texas. The semifinal winners in Carson, Calif., will punch tickets to Tokyo. The U.S. and Canada are heavily favored.
- Coach Vlatko Andonovski called 22 of the 23 World Cup players into a 28-strong training camp starting next week. The exception was Alex Morgan, who is pregnant. Twenty players will report to the qualifiers, and assuming the Americans advance, Andonovski will have to narrow the roster to 18 this summer.
3. While the U.S. women should advance to the Olympics without trouble, the men face a tough road to Tokyo. Unlike the women, Olympic men’s soccer is for ages 23 or under, with three exceptions in the final tournament.
- The men have qualified once in their previous four attempts (2008). The qualify-



JOHANNES EISELE/GETTY-AFP

Team USA women’s captain Megan Rapinoe celebrates next to New York Mayor Bill de Blasio in front of City Hall after the tickertape parade July 10 for the women’s World Cup champions.

- ing tournament will take place March 20-April 1 in Guadalajara, Mexico. The hosts are big favorites, followed by Honduras and the U.S. Two teams will qualify.
- Missing the Olympics is not nearly as bad as missing the World Cup, but every failure reflects poorly on the program.
4. Euro 2020 is the ultimate European competition, and Copa America is South America’s venerable tournament. In the U.S., though, the two summer competitions allow expats and unaffiliated fans alike to enjoy the show. Both will run June 12-July 12.
- The Euros will use venues in 12 countries; Copa is in Colombia and Argentina. The Euros will feature 24 teams; Copa has the usual 10, plus Australia and Qatar as guests. ABC, ESPN and Univision platforms will show the Euro matches. Copa America broadcast rights have not been announced.

5. MLS’s 25th season is scheduled to kick off Feb. 29, but with the collective bargaining agreement set to expire Jan. 31, that is no certainty. After months of serious talks, negotiations between the league and players association will intensify soon. These things typically go down to the wire or beyond. Don’t be surprised if the current terms are temporarily extended to buy additional time.
6. Off-field issues remain a sore point for the U.S. women’s national team, which is due in court May 5 regarding its gender-discrimination suit against the U.S. Soccer Federation. Mediation broke down in August, though the sides have said they hope to reach an out-of-court resolution before trial. It seems unlikely to affect Olympic preparations.

7. The video assistant referee system was introduced with good intentions, and for the most part, it serves its purposes of correcting on-field errors. But the interpretation of the offside rule, in particular, has become maddening. Is an extended toe



JOE REEDY/AP

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, from left, Liga MX Executive President Enrique Bonilla, Major League Soccer Commissioner Don Garber and LAFC President Tom Penn announce that the 2020 MLS All-Star Game will be held in Los Angeles during a news conference Nov. 20 at Banc of California Stadium.

- grounds for nullifying a goal? The VAR outrage in England is loudest, but this is something affecting the sport worldwide and must be addressed this year.
8. MLS has long been jealous of the popularity of Mexican teams in the U.S. So in an effort to capture some of that audience, MLS last year pitted four of its teams against four Liga MX sides in the inaugural Leagues Cup, which is expected to continue. This year’s all-star opponent will be a select squad of Liga MX players July 29 in Los Angeles. MLS teams this winter have also signed several well-known players from Liga MX.
9. The NWSL enjoyed a popularity bump after the World Cup last summer, but will it continue? At the very least, two teams are
- better positioned to grow: The Washington Spirit will play four matches at Audi Field, doubling the number of 2019 visits to D.C. United’s stadium, and Sky Blue FC will move 30 miles closer to New York by leaving Rutgers University and playing all games at Red Bull Arena near Newark.
10. Fans of the U.S. women’s team have traveled by the tens of thousands to the last two World Cups, in Canada and France. Where will they head next? In early June, FIFA will choose the 2023 host.
- The candidates are Brazil, Colombia, Japan and, for the first time, a joint effort put forth by Australia and New Zealand, which seems like the early favorite. That said, in an effort to lift the lagging women’s game in Latin America, FIFA voters might opt for Brazil or Colombia.



From ‘The Bachelor’ to ‘Extreme Love,’ these upcoming reality TV shows have local ties

Freckled Sky, an Evanston-based team that creates interactive multimedia shows, competes on Season 2 of “America’s Got Talent: The Champions,” which premieres Jan. 6.

TINA THORPE/NBC

# The Chicago connection

BY TRACY SWARTZ

New seasons of several reality shows and competitions are set to premiere in January, and some of these series feature people with ties to the Chicago area. Five local women compete for pilot Peter Weber’s heart on Season 24 of “The Bachelor,” which is scheduled to premiere on Jan. 6.

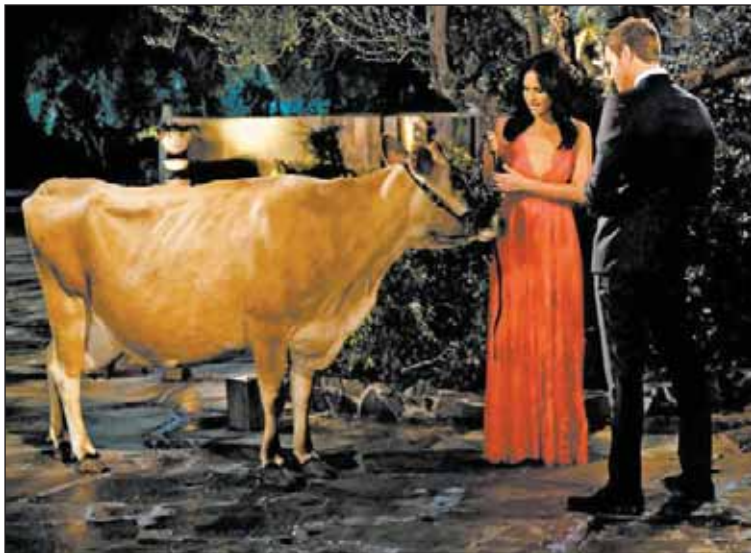
New seasons of “The Biggest Loser,” “Worst Cooks in America” and “Ink Master” each have a Chicago contestant. Mark your calendars for these upcoming TV premieres.

**“Supernanny,” Jan. 1 at 9 p.m., Lifetime network**

Professional nanny Jo Frost returns to TV to help desperate parents. The series initially aired on the ABC network from 2005-11. Lifetime ordered 20 new episodes, including one that features an Elmwood Park family. That episode, which was filmed in October, is expected to air in February or March.

**“Extreme Love,” Jan. 3 at 9 p.m., WETV**

“Extreme Love” explores unusual relationships, and the Season 2 premiere of the docuseries



JOHN FLEENOR/ABC

Nursing student Jenna Serrano, who hails from south suburban New Lenox, meets pilot Peter Weber on the premiere of “The Bachelor.”

features an exotic performer with the rare hereditary skeletal disorder Kenny-Caffey syndrome. “Tiny Texie” is 27 years old; 3 feet, 6 inches tall; and in a relationship with her makeup artist and photographer, 21-year-old Anastasia Graves, who hails from central Illinois.

Texie said she and Graves get a lot of stares when they go out, especially when they have Texie’s 5-year-old daughter with them.

“We have a lot of people who look at us, and, of course, they see

me as a person who’s little, who looks like a child, and we have (my) daughter with us so they say my girlfriend has two children. It’s a big obstacle we do have to overcome quite a bit,” she told the Tribune.

“I’m like everybody else, but I’m not like everybody else.”

Texie is from Corpus Christi, Texas, but says her home base is in the Chicago area. She recently performed at an Elgin club and

Turn to **Reality**, Page 3



HELEN SLOAN/HBO

Emilia Clarke as Daenerys Targaryen and Peter Dinklage as Tyrion Lannister in HBO’s hit fantasy series “Game of Thrones.”

**ANALYSIS**

## The decade’s most impactful pop culture debuts

From “GoT” to Kylie Jenner as a billionaire

BY TRAVIS M. ANDREWS  
The Washington Post

From the rise of the #Me-Too movement to the dominance of streaming services to the power of the Marvel Cinematic Universe, the biggest pop culture stories from the 2010s will probably affect the cultural landscape for many years to come. So rather than look at the most singular moments from the last 10 years, we picked the most impactful debuts of the decade (with a flexible definition of what constitutes a “debut,” and in no particular order).

**“Game of Thrones”**

By 1956, most Americans owned a television and watched the same programs at the same time. Many of them would discuss an episode the next day at work, while loitering around the water cooler. If it were any other decade, GoT probably would have been just another of those shows.

But the rise of the Internet/streaming/blah blah blah changed everything forever, and now an overwhelming majority of people have some sort of easy access to every television show ever created (if not actual television). So for a series — particularly one involving dragons, magic and incest, so much incest — to capture up to 20 million viewers per episode in today’s media landscape seems nearly impossible. Sure, the finale left

many of those viewers disappointed, but they watched, and that’s what counts.

We’ll probably never have another “consensus” show, but you can bet your bottom dollar that medieval fantasy-tinged stories will be ever-present during this coming decade as everyone attempts to capture lightning in a bottle a second time.

**The “living album”**

When iTunes debuted in 2001, critics argued the very fabric of the music industry was forever changed. And while that might have been correct, a much more seismic shift in the way we listen to our tunes was en route. Streaming existed before this decade — Spotify debuted in 2008, Pandora in 2005 — but one moment showed how deeply it affected what we actually listen to: the debut of the “living album.”

That’s a cute phrase given to the idea that, with streaming services, an artist can change an album even after it’s available to the public. The concept entered the mainstream when Kanye West premiered “The Life of Pablo” in 2016, only to release a slightly different version a few days later.

Kanye’s real-time, public fiddling with his record — later adopted by artists like Drake — showcased one of the many ways streaming has altered

Turn to **Impact**, Page 5



DISNEY

Baby Yoda is the breakout star of “The Mandalorian.”

## Creating irresistible ‘Star Wars’ creatures

BY MICHAEL CAVNA  
The Washington Post

Baby Yoda, the breakout Disney Plus creature of the moment, would never have snuggled into the zeitgeist if the rotors and motors and animatronic tics of his wizened green forebear hadn’t clicked into place exactly 40 years ago.

In 1979, Yoda was more than another rubber puppet coming into gradual being on the set of “The Empire Strikes Back.” The Jedi Master’s small mechanized frame embodied the hope and fate of the entire enterprise. The character was a “real leap,” “Star Wars” cre-

ator George Lucas said in a 2004 documentary, because “if that puppet had not worked, the whole film would have been down the tubes.”

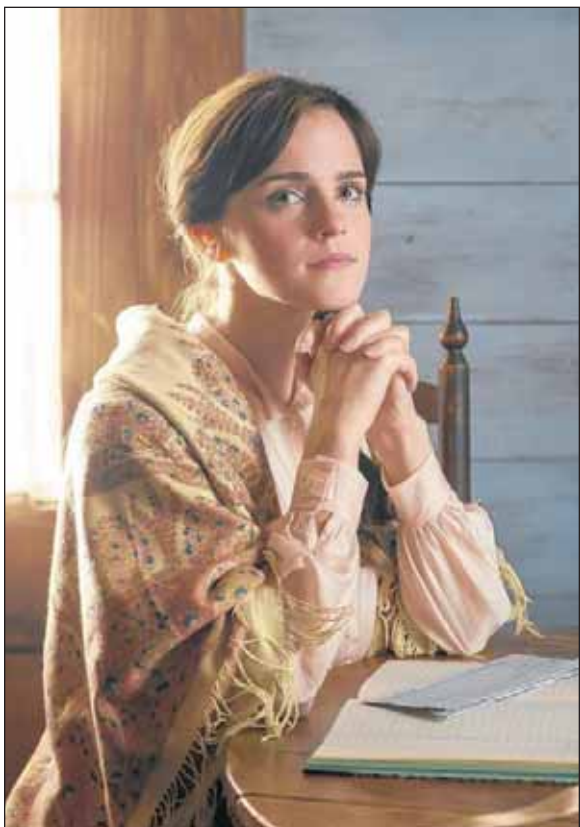
Casting the right actors is one thing, but in a space opera like “Star Wars,” getting a creature to resonate onscreen can be a far more complex undertaking, requiring the brilliance of so many veteran hands. And after more than a dozen feature films and TV projects, there is still no sure-fire formula for building the ideal “Star Wars” critter. Just ask (ahem) the minds behind Jar Jar Binks.

Turn to **Creatures**, Page 2



# CELEBRITIES

Tribune news services



WILSON WEBB/SONY PICTURES

Emma Watson stars in the big-screen “Little Women.”

## ‘Skywalker’ rises again; ‘Little Women’ go big

“Star Wars” was still rising in the last weekend of the year, while “Little Women” broke big at the box office.

“Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker” brought in \$72 million over the weekend to remain the top-earning film in North America by light-years, according to studio estimates Sunday.

In 10 days of release, it has brought in \$362.8 million for Disney, falling just short of the earnings of its predecessor, 2017’s “Star Wars: The Last Jedi” in a comparable span.

Helped by the Christmas holiday week, “Star Wars” had a smaller-than-average 59% drop-off in its second weekend after earning \$175 million in its first.

Sony’s “Jumanji: The Next Level,” earned \$35.3 million for second place and has tallied a total of \$175.5 million through its third weekend of release.

Director Greta Gerwig’s re-imagining of the American literary classic “Little Women” had a \$16.5-million weekend and a five-day total of \$29 million since its Christmas opening, a major performance for a smaller-audience film with a budget dwarfed by the top two films.

The film, also a Sony release, starring Saoirse Ronan, Emma Watson, Florence Pugh and Laura Dern, scored big with both audiences and critics and is gaining momentum as an awards-season favorite.

— Associated Press

## Box office

1. “Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker,” \$72 million
2. “Jumanji: The Next Level,” \$35.3 million
3. “Little Women,” \$16.5 million (tie)
- “Frozen 2,” \$16.5 million (tie)
4. “Spies in Disguise,” \$13.2 million
5. “Knives Out,” \$9.7 million
6. “Uncut Gems,” \$9.6 million
7. “Cats,” \$4.8 million
8. “Bombshell,” \$4.7 million
9. “Richard Jewell,” \$3 million

SOURCE: Associated Press  
Estimated sales,  
Friday-Sunday



VIANNEY LE CAER/INVISION

**Whoops:** The British government revealed Elton John’s address along with those of other famous people in an embarrassing gaffe late Friday and early Saturday. British officials published the addresses of celebrities, politicians and more than 1,000 other people as part of a New Years Honors list, the Guardian reported. In addition to Sir Elton, above, Olivia Newton-John was among those affected by the unintentional reveal. Officials addressed the issue and apologized Saturday for accidentally leaking the information.

**Dec. 30 birthdays:** Actor Russ Tamblyn is 85. Singer Mike Nesmith is 77. Singer Patti Smith is 73. TV host Meredith Vieira is 66. Actress-comedian Tracey Ullman is 60. TV host Sean Hannity is 58. Singer Jay Kay is 50. Singer-actor Tyrese is 41. Actress Eliza Dushku is 39. Singer Ellie Goulding is 33. Guitarist Eric Steedly is 29.



# ASK AMY

By AMY DICKINSON

askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter @askingamy

## Dust off the holiday glitter, and give

**Dear Readers:** Many of us are now in the recovery mode of the holiday season after gorging on gingerbread and eggnog and letting the glitter of the season release us from December’s gloom. And so I present my annual roundup of charitable groups that readers should consider supporting.

Your donation may go further at a small local nonprofit than at a large charity. All contributions count. So do non-monetary acts of kindness.

This is a subjective list, based on my interests. Your giving should reflect your interests and values. Most listed below have a top (four-star) rating on Charitynavigator.org — an excellent source for researching a nonprofit.

**Charities Helping Children:** The mission and the work of Cradles to Crayons (cradlestocrayons.org) is simple: to provide the physical necessities of childhood. From clothing, to equipment and supplies, this group takes in donations, offers community volunteer experiences, and distributes goods from its network of warehouses.

**Dolly Parton:** This hero-entertainer is providing over 1 million books each month to children through her Imagination Library (imaginationlibrary.com). She is a force for good in the world (dollywoodfoundation.org).

**Kids in Need Foundation (kinf.org):** Their motto is “School supplies. Changing lives,” and they donate school supplies nationally to schools (and kids) in need. Children who do not have the tools cannot do the work.

**College Track (college**

**track.org):** This group starts assisting students in ninth grade, making a 10-year commitment to provide services and scholarship money to students who otherwise would not be able to attend college. Being the first member of a family to attend college will change a family’s future.

**Horatio Alger Association (horatioalger.org):** Last year I was honored as a “distinguished American” by this scholarship group. Not bad for a farm kid who grew up in a single-parent household. I would not have made it to, or through, college without scholarship help, and it is the honor of my lifetime to give back through this group that provides scholarships to thousands of students each year.

**American Indian College Fund (collegefund.org):** This is the country’s largest charity supporting Native access to higher education. I am a supporter.

**Direct Relief (directrelief.org):** This group operates in 50 states and 70 countries, delivering medicine, staffing clinics and providing medical safety nets to underserved populations. Founded in California after World War II by an immigrant, the mission was spread by other immigrants.

**International Rescue Committee (rescue.org):** Founded in 1933 at the request of Albert Einstein, the IRC delivers lifesaving care to people fleeing conflict and natural disaster. The IRC worked to resettle refugees in Europe dislocated from conflict in World War II, and its work continues worldwide.

**Polaris (polarisproject.org):** I became aware of the work of Polaris through a family member’s advocacy. Human trafficking is modern slavery, and victims are often vulnerable people who are coerced, dislocated and then forced into slavery — often in the sex trade. Victims of trafficking are sometimes in our midst, at bus stops, motels and truck stops. Law enforcement, clerks and long-haul truckers are being trained to spot and rescue these individuals. Victims can text BeFree (233733) and be connected with an advocate.

**World Central Kitchen (wck.org):** Founder and chef Jose Andres and his teams of cooks bring their mobile kitchens with food supplies and water everywhere, serving storm- or disaster-ravaged populations and first responders.

**Homes for Our Troops (Hfotusa.org):** This group raises money and turns the funds into action — building a new home or adapting an existing home for accessibility. The finished home is given to a disabled veteran. All services and materials are donated.

**Travis Mills Foundation (travismills.org):** Mills is a retired soldier who became a quadruple amputee as the result of an improvised explosive device in Afghanistan. He guides other warriors and their families toward recalibration at a storybook property in northern Maine. Their work is truly inspiring.

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# Creatures

Continued from Page 1

As “The Rise of Skywalker” brings the epic family saga to a seeming conclusion, the J.J. Abrams-directed movie will remind viewers that since 1977, no mass franchise has given us more iconic new film creatures than “Star Wars” — a steady march of unique and irresistible creations.

How does “Star Wars” do it? Even if “I knew that special-sauce recipe,” said Chris Terrio, the Oscar-winning co-writer of “Rise of Skywalker,” “I certainly wouldn’t publish it.

“Whatever they’re doing with Baby Yoda,” he continued, referencing the character actually named the Child from the new streaming series “The Mandalorian,” “I want to know more.”

“Rise of Skywalker” introduces a wealth of new creatures — including the

tiny repair puppet Babu Frik and the vulnerable small droid D-O — which presented a heady challenge. “You’re not just standing on the shoulders of those who have designed before,” Abrams says by phone from the Los Angeles area. “You’re also surrounded by, and in the shadow of, all the designs that preexist you.”

To rise to that high creative bar, Abrams bore in mind that some of the qualities that make for an engaging creature are identical to the traits of an interesting human character within “Star Wars” — which, he says, is centered on “behavior and, depending on the role intended, a level of sympathy, which usually has to do with the eyes.”

“The trick is just to mock it up and keep going,” he says, “and in my case, working with amazing designers and artists who are part of that conversation.”

For some of the franchise’s beloved creatures,

naturally, the talent of the actor beneath the hardware and plastic is crucial — especially with characters that become true scene-stealers.

Muppets creator Jim Henson, brought aboard to work on Yoda, chose his right-hand man Frank Oz (Miss Piggy, Fozzie Bear) to become the character, for instance, because Oz was “admired for his ability to create characters nearly at will,” writes Brian Jay Jones in his biography “George Lucas: A Life.” Oz, as much dramatic actor as physical puppeteer, spent long months before the “Empire” shoot working out how to bring Yoda to mesmerizing life.

Oz and Yoda became so seamless that “Empire” director Irvin Kershner often “found himself giving direction straight to Yoda rather than addressing his comments to Oz,” writes Jones, adding: “Even Lucas could get caught up in the moment, sitting cross-legged in Yoda’s home,



LUCASFILM LTD.

Anthony Daniels has voiced C-3PO across 42 years.

completely wrapped up in conversation with the puppet, even with Oz in plain sight.”

Yoda represents the franchise’s pinnacle of geniuses coming together, Jones said by phone from New Mexico.

“In the creation of Yoda, Lucas and Henson were each relying on the creative expertise of the other,” Jones said of the teaming of Henson’s Creature Shop and Lucas’s Industrial Light & Magic. “Lucas needed Henson’s group of talented puppeteers and performers who could figure out to build, create and perform a believable character — and Henson wanted to get his hands on the technology that Lucas and ILM had developed for building that character.

“It was a kind of ‘tech transfer’ between the two men and their two companies, in pursuit of something bigger than just one of them — and that something that was Yoda.”

Beyond Oz, another actor who especially defined his creature is Anthony Daniels, who has voiced C-3PO across 42 years, including in “Rise of Skywalker.” Lucas initially envisioned the service droid as a slick car salesman type, Jones said, but it

was the Wiltshire-born Daniels who hit upon the “fussy English butler” sound for Threepio.

Many of the most memorable “Star Wars” creatures share a human element, even when viewers might not realize it. In the case of the droid R2-D2, for example, Lucas and Oscar-winning sound designer Ben Burtt wanted an “organic sound” within all the whirring, according to Jones, so they recorded themselves “cooing, whistling and beeping and ran it through a synthesizer.”

Kirk Thatcher, a Muppet director and writer who was a creature technician on “Return of the Jedi,” offers a related theory: Since “Star Wars” is so story-driven, the filmmakers don’t present creatures simply to flash their artistry.

“Characters in this universe have a point of view,” Thatcher said, “even if it’s just a menacing alien.” And that point of view is conveyed through whatever registers as a “face,” he said, as well as the visual “attitude” of the head and even the character’s size. Thatcher noted that “Star Wars” made sure to vary the sizes, and that too many earlier sci-fi creatures were

of similar scale to humans. (On the original “Star Trek” series, Thatcher said with a laugh, so many of the aliens were curiously close to 6 feet tall.)

“Star Wars” designers know how to lean into those size differences for powerful effect, whether the creature is as massive as the snow-walking AT-ATs or the slobbering Jabba the Hutt — or as diminutive as the cowed Jawas on the sands of Tatooine.

When you go small in “Star Wars,” though, you risk provoking fans who accuse the franchise of pandering toward the adorable — whether it’s through Lucas’ cherished teddy-bear Ewoks of Endor introduced in the original trilogy, the Keane-eyed porgs of “The Last Jedi” or even the wee rolling droid BB-8 that Disney chief Robert Iger had a hand in adding to the galaxy.

“You go too cute, and you disengage some people,” Neal Scanlan, a Muppet alumnus who now works on the “Star Wars” films, told USA Today in 2017. “Don’t go cute enough, you’re going to exclude younger viewers.”

When you weigh all those factors — the size, the human element, the character design and point of view, the unique communication sounds — perhaps no “Star Wars” film creature is greater than one: Chewbacca.

“To me, that is the perfect design,” Thatcher said. “I just kind of marvel at the simplicity — he’s not a dog, he’s not a werewolf, he’s not a gorilla. There are so many animals we can attribute his physiognomy to — it’s actually really difficult (to create) — but it’s the perfect amalgam of creatures that we like.”

And beyond the movies, Thatcher concedes the full-circle appeal of Baby Yoda.

“He’s green and cute, and humans are so programmed to love that baby kind of layout with those cheeks on a big face,” Thatcher said. “We just can’t stop going, ‘Goo-goo-gaga.’ ”

# CHICAGOLAND THEATRE DIRECTORY

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# CHICAGOLAND THEATRE DIRECTORY



# Top scene-stealer moments on film

10 performances that swept away moviegoers in 2019

BY SONIA RAO  
The Washington Post

Hello? 911? I'd like to report a crime: A scene has been stolen, and I suspect Alan Alda is to blame.

What's that, you say? This is the 11th time I've reported such a happening this year? Golly, I suppose it is. It's just that 2019 has been filled with so many wonderful performances from supporting actors in film who, in key moments, sweep the audience's attention away from everyone else. Not like those fellows Al Pacino and Brad Pitt, of course, as they were practically handed the keys to their respective star-studded vehicles.

Here are 10 of the year's top scene-stealers.

## Alan Alda and Merritt Wever in "Marriage Story"

The moments of levity peppered throughout Noah Baumbach's "Marriage Story" are a welcome addition to the film, given its primary focus on the grueling dissolution of the relationship between Charlie (Adam Driver) and Nicole Barber (Scarlett Johansson). A few such moments arrive with the introduction of divorce attorney Bert Spitz (Alan Alda), who upon meeting Charlie tells his new client, "Most people in my business, you're just transactions to them. I like to think of you as people."

Alda brings to his performance the warmth and charming sense of humor that contribute to his universal appeal in real life, positioning Bert as a foil to the hardball-playing lawyers (Ray Liotta, Laura Dern) Charlie and Nicole eventually hire.

But the film's funniest moment arguably takes place pre-Bert. After Nicole decides to divorce Charlie, she asks her sister, Cassie



NEON/CJ ENTERTAINMENT

Cho Yeo-jeong adds emotional depth and a sense of loneliness to Bong Joon-ho's "Parasite."

(Merritt Wever), to serve him the papers. What could have just been a serviceable scene becomes a comedy of errors thanks to Wever's ability to play up Cassie's nervousness. Her stilted small talk about a pecan pie, delivered as if she were an alien mimicking human behavior, recalls her endearingly bizarre acceptance speech at the 2013 Emmys: "Thank you so much! I gotta go, bye."

## Julia Butters in "Once Upon a Time ... in Hollywood"

If you've seen even the teaser trailer for Quentin Tarantino's "Once Upon a Time ... in Hollywood," you're probably familiar with the scene in which a little girl named Trudi Fraser (Julia Butters) tells jaded TV actor Rick Dalton (Leonardo DiCaprio) that what he just did was the best acting she's ever seen in her whole life. Given the meta quality of her words, it's amazing Butters is able to hold her own in the

scenes she shares with DiCaprio, such as one where Trudi wisely tells Rick, her co-star, why she stays in character on set.

## Cho Yeo-jeong in "Parasite"

Bong Joon-ho's "Parasite" is a darkly humorous drama about class division, which suggests it doesn't reflect too kindly upon the upper class. That's largely true, except perhaps when it comes to Park Yeon-kyo (Cho Yeo-jeong), the kind matriarch of a wealthy household infiltrated by the central Kim family. The struggling Kims are able to take advantage of Yeon-kyo's naivete, which Cho plays as a sympathetic quality that eventually befalls her. The actress adds emotional depth to a character who could easily have been reduced to a rich businessman's air-headed wife.

## Adam Driver in "The Dead Don't Die"

It's been a most successful year for Leading Man

Adam Driver, but we'd be remiss to skip over his role in Jim Jarmusch's "The Dead Don't Die," featuring one of the actor's finest line deliveries to date. From the act of stuffing his massive body into a tiny Smart car to his police officer character's deadpan (and correct) insistence that zombies are responsible for the topsyturviness of their small town, it's hard to look away from the man who has been commanding the screen since "Girls."

## Billy Eichner in "The Lion King"

Most critics didn't have many positive things to say about Jon Favreau's remake of "The Lion King," aside from commenting on the technological marvel of it all. Billy Eichner is the exception. The comedian famous for frenetically yelling things at people on the street lends that booming voice to Timon, a teeny meerkat who, along with his best mate Pumbaa (the warthog voiced by Seth

Rogen), livens up the film. Eichner's Timon feels wholly original, in large part because of the lines he and Rogen improvised.

## Billie Lourd in "Booksmart"

Given that Billie Lourd grew up with Carrie Fisher and Debbie Reynolds as her mother and grandmother, respectively, it's fair to say showbiz is in her genes. But the young actress is also a talent in her own right, as evidenced by her portrayal of spacey teenager Gigi in Olivia Wilde's directorial debut, "Booksmart." The film is filled with sharply written takes on high school archetypes, and Gigi is no exception, as that party girl who seems to be everywhere, all the time.

## Florence Pugh in "Little Women"

This year has been the most successful (yet) of Florence Pugh's professional career. The English actress, who wowed critics with her performance in

2016's "Lady Macbeth," officially broke out this summer as the lead in Ari Aster's "Midsommar," about American tourists terrorized by a pagan commune in Sweden. But most remarkable is how Pugh humanizes one of literature's most-hated characters, Amy March, in Greta Gerwig's adaptation of "Little Women." Bolstered by Gerwig's more sympathetic take on the character, Pugh approaches Amy with uncompromising honesty. She captures the brashness of a jealous younger sister in one scene and, in another, the practical wisdom of a long-overlooked young woman.

## Keanu Reeves in "Always Be My Maybe"

"Always Be My Maybe" stars and screenwriters Ali Wong and Randall Park probably knew Keanu Reeves would steal their thunder by popping up to play a parody of himself in their Netflix rom-com, but who could've resisted such a casting opportunity? The movie-Reeves is an obnoxious braggart dating celebrity chef Sasha Tran (Wong), who winds up making her childhood friend Marcus Kim (Park), who still has feelings for Sasha, incredibly jealous. The movie star character is quite a departure from the real Reeves's gracious self.

## Archie Yates in "Jojo Rabbit"

Regardless of how you feel toward Taika Waititi's satire "Jojo Rabbit," which centers on a Hitler youth (Roman Griffin Davis) who grapples with his blind nationalism after befriend-ing the Jewish teen his mother hides in their attic, it's hard to deny the perfect casting of Jojo Betzler's best friend, Yorki (Archie Yates). Yorki is an adorable reminder of the innocence that makes children like Jojo and Yorki so impressionable (and that, by contrast, makes most of the adults in their lives so horrifying).

## Reality

Continued from Page 1

plans to attend the Exxxotica Expo, scheduled for April 17-19 at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center in Rosemont.

## "Worst Cooks in America," Jan. 5 at 8 p.m., Food Network

Season 18's contestants include Lincoln Square resident Jefferson Goldie, who works as a musician, television personality and concierge. The 36-year-old said his worst home-cooked dish is cheeseburger lasagna with fries.

"I've been a big guy my entire life. My heaviest was 520 pounds and I've lost over 165 pounds, so I needed to learn how to cook so I can make healthy meals to get the rest of the weight off," Goldie, who grew up in Wrigleyville, said in an email. Chefs Alton Brown and Anne Burrell mentor the 16 contestants. The winner is slated to receive \$25,000.

## "America's Got Talent: The Champions," Jan. 6 at 7 p.m., WMAQ-Ch. 5

Freckled Sky, an Evanston-based team that creates interactive multimedia shows, is one of 40 acts competing on the second season of "America's Got Talent: The Champions."

The NBC competition features fan-favorite contestants from past "AGT" seasons and other "AGT" franchises around the world. Freckled Sky was a quarter-finalist on Season 10 in 2015. Former judge Howard Stern praised the dance performance that incorporated water and lights, and hit the golden buzzer so Freckled Sky could go directly to the live shows.

Simon Cowell, Heidi Klum, Howie Mandel and singer-songwriter Alesha Dixon judge Season 2 of "America's Got Talent: The Champions." Terry Crews returns as host.

## "The Bachelor," Jan. 6 at



FOOD NETWORK

Chicago's Jefferson Goldie is a contestant on Season 18 of "Worst Cooks in America."



RICHIE KNAPP/USA NETWORK

Chicago event planner Delores Tomorrow is a contestant on "The Biggest Loser" on the USA Network.

## 7 p.m., WLS-Ch. 7

Chicago medical sales rep and former Luvabull dancer Katrina Badowski; Lakeview esthetician Alexa Caves; Chicago flight attendant Eunice Cho; Loop attorney Kelley Flanagan; and nursing student Jenna Serrano, of south suburban New Lenox, are contestants on Season 24 of "The Bachelor." Pilot Peter Weber chooses the winner from 30 bachelorettes.

Some tidbits from their "Bachelor" biographies: Badowski — an alum of Loyola University and St. Charles East High School — and her hairless cat Jas-



BARCROFT STUDIOS

Exotic performer "Tiny Telex," left, and her girlfriend, Anastasia Graves, are featured on WE TV's "Extreme Love."

mine "literally do everything together, from birthday parties and shopping, to watching TV on the couch."

Caves grew up hunting on a farm in downstate Springfield. Cho, who moved from Southern California to Chicago in 2018 for a job with United Airlines, is a "reformed party girl." Flanagan works for her dad's property tax law firm, Flanagan, Bilton, and attended his alma mater, Chicago-Kent College of Law. Serrano, who was a soccer standout at Lincoln-Way West High

School, "loves to go take the Chicago nightlife by storm."

Producers typically cast one or two women from the Chicago area for "The Bachelor" each season, but it's unusual to have five local contestants.

## "Jeopardy! The Greatest of All Time" tournament, Jan. 7 at 7 p.m., WLS-Ch. 7

Naperville native James Holzhauer returns to "Jeopardy!" to face fellow big-money winners Ken Jennings and Brad Rutter in a tournament airing in prime time starting Jan. 7.

The first contestant to win three matches is slated to receive \$1 million, while the runners-up are set to each receive \$250,000.

Holzhauer won the 2019 Tournament of Champions, and his total "Jeopardy!" winnings top \$2.7 million. Jennings won more than \$3.3 million on the quiz show and had a record 74-game win streak. Rutter is the highest-winning American game show contestant of all time. He won more than \$4.6 million on "Jeopardy!" alone.

## "Ink Master," Jan. 7 at 9 p.m., Paramount Network

Bucktown resident Kelly Severtson, an artist and self-proclaimed "resident nerd king" at Goodkind Tattoo on the North Side, is one of 20 contestants on Season 13 of "Ink Master."

The competitors were split into four teams based on their hometowns for the "turf war" season theme. The 37-year-old Severtson, who specializes in bold, illustrative color work, is on the Midwest team, which faces off against the West, South and East Coast teams. The season winner is slated to receive \$100,000 and a story in Inked magazine.

"I absolutely thrive on critical examination and comparison, constantly holding myself to higher and higher standards in order to hone my skills. If you take a step back, that lines up pretty on-target with the way 'Ink Master' is designed," Severtson said in an email.

## "Very Cavallari," Jan. 9 at 8 p.m., E!

Who knew Kristin Cavallari liked Chicago so much? The Season 3 premiere of her reality TV show follows the jewelry designer to Chicago as she begins the process of opening an Uncommon James store here.

"There's a real emotional tie there," Cavallari says on the premiere about Chicago. "All three of my kids were born there. My mom is there. A lot of my best friends are there, and Jay

and I met there, so I feel like it would be a great place to open up another store."

Later, she is shown dining with Chicago friends at Momotaro in the West Loop. No spoiler here — Cavallari opened Uncommon James in that neighborhood in October.

On the home front, Cavallari said she loves her husband, former Bears quarterback Jay Cutler, again. But she is feuding with longtime friend Kelly Henderson over Henderson's response to rumors floating around on social media that she and Cutler had an affair.

They didn't — but this may be Cutler's most compelling story line to date. Elsewhere on the premiere, he and Cavallari debated who could do more pull-ups, and then he did some pull-ups.

## "The Biggest Loser," Jan. 28, USA Network

Twelve contestants, including Chicago event planner Delores Tomorrow, compete on the reboot of the longtime NBC series "The Biggest Loser." Now on the USA Network, the show is slated to focus on a "360-degree view of what it takes to make a serious lifestyle change," instead of just on weight loss. Bob Harper is the host, and Steve Cook and Erica Lugo are the new trainers.

Contestants try to win the cash prize by losing the highest percentage of weight relative to their initial weight while also learning how to make healthy choices and using group therapy to overcome obstacles. Tomorrow's starting weight was 280 pounds.

"I've never made my health a priority, and I think this journey will give me an opportunity to now zone in on the real Delores," Tomorrow said in a trailer for the show.

The last winners of "The Biggest Loser" were Chicago-area twins Roberto and Luis Hernandez in 2016.

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## WATCH THIS: MONDAY



Tom Holland

**“Spider-Man: Homecoming”** (7 p.m., ABC): He first played Peter Parker and his superhero alter-ego Spider-Man a year earlier in “Captain America: Civil War,” but this 2017 action-adventure film wiped out any lingering doubts as to whether British actor Tom Holland was up to claiming the main spotlight as the webbed one, earning glowing reviews and driving his movie to become the fifth highest-grossing film of its year.

**“Diesel Brothers”** (7 p.m., 11 p.m., Discovery): In a new episode, Heavy D dispatches Diesel Dave and The Muscle to undertake a late-night mission to his overflow lot. They’re not crazy about the idea, but they reluctantly agree. Ultimately, they reminisce about all the builds and old parts they’ve stumbled across while trying to complete their mission.

**“Her Smell”** (7 p.m., 12:30 a.m., HBO): Chameleon-like actress Elisabeth Moss (“Mad Men,” “The Handmaid’s Tale”) transforms herself again for writer-director Alex Ross Perry in his 2018 drama, which casts the actress as hard-living fictional rock star Becky Something, whose band skyrockets to dazzling but brief fame before her wildly self-destructive behavior tears the group apart. The strong ensemble also includes Cara Delevingne, Agyness Deyn, Gayle Rankin, Dan Stevens, Virginia Madsen, Amber Heard and Eric Stoltz.

**“Pavarotti”** (7 p.m., Showtime): U2 front man Bono narrates Ron Howard’s 2019 documentary celebrating another vocal superstar, the sweet-voiced, larger-than-life tenor Luciano Pavarotti, who dominated and even personified opera for a generation of classical music lovers. His ability to hit high C near the top of the tenor range multiple times during the course of an aria helped earn him the moniker “King of the High C’s.” Pavarotti was a favored co-star of coloratura soprano Joan Sutherland and also joined colleagues Plácido Domingo and Jose Carreras in a series of concerts as The Three Tenors.

## TALK SHOWS

**“Conan”** (10 p.m. 11:30 p.m., TBS): Actor Paul Rudd.\*

**“The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon”** (10:34 p.m., NBC): Actor Ryan Reynolds; singer-songwriter Niall Horan; Camila Cabello and DaBaby perform.\*

**“The Late Show With Stephen Colbert”** (10:35 p.m., CBS): Actor Adam Driver; actress Adrienne Warren; The 1975 performs; New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern; Stephen Colbert: The Newest Zealander.\*

**“Jimmy Kimmel Live!”** (10:35 p.m., ABC): Celebrity guests and comedy skits.\*

\* Subject to change

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## MONDAY EVENING, DEC. 30

MONDAY EVENING, DEC. 30										MOVIES		
		PM	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00			
BROADCAST	CBS	2	The Neighborhood ©	Bob Hearts Abishola ©	All Rise © ½		Bull: "Jury Duty." © ½		News (N) ♦			
	NBC	5	Ellen's Greatest Night of Giveaways © ½			Manifest: "Pilot." © ½		Manifest: "Estimated Time of Departure." © ½		NBC 5 News (N) ♦		
	ABC	7	Spider-Man: Homecoming (PG-13,'17) *** Tom Holland, Michael Keaton. Peter Parker harnesses his new powers to battle the Vulture. © (HDTV SAP)						News at 10pm (N) ♦			
	WGN	9	black-ish ©	black-ish © ½	Last Man Standing ©	Last Man Standing ©	WGN News at Nine (N) (Live) © ½		WGN News at Ten (N)			
	Antenna Court	9.2 9.3	Alice ©	Alice ©	B. Miller	B. Miller	Johnny Carson ©		3's Comp.			
			♦ Closing Arguments				Closing Arguments with Vinnie Politan © ♦					
	PBS	11	Chicago Tonight (N)			Antiques Roadshow: "St. Louis." ©		Antiques Roadshow: "St. Louis." ©		POV (N) © ½ ♦		
	CW	26.1	iHeartRadio Music Festival			Night 1 © ½		Broke Girl	Broke Girl	Seinfeld ©		
	The U	26.2	Dr. Phil © ½			Tamron Hall © ½		The Steve Wilkos Show		Cops ©		
	MeTV	26.3	Andy Griffith   Andy Griffith			Gomer Pyle   Green Acres		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	U.S. Marshals (PG-13,'98) ** Tommy Lee Jones, Wesley Snipes. ©								Lakeview ♦		
FOX	32	9-1-1: "Athena Begins." © ½			(8:01) Prodigal Son: "Q&A." © ½		Fox 32 News at Nine (N)		Modern Family ©			
Ion	38	Criminal Minds © ½			Criminal Minds ©		Criminal Minds ©		Criminal ♦			
TeleM	44	Decisiones: unos (N)			La Doña (N) ©		El señor de los cielos (N)		Chicago (N)			
MNT	50	Chicago P.D.: "Pain Killer."			Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Chicago ♦			
UniMas	60	The Transporter (PG-13,'02) ** Jason Statham.				Noticiero (N)		Vecinos		Vecinos		
WJVS	62	J. Savelle	K. Hagin	Joyce Meyer	Robison	Blakeman	Wonderen	Paid Prog.				
Univ	66	Ringo			El dragón (N)				Noticias (N)			
CABLE	AE	Live PD Presents: PD Cam ©					First 48 (N)	60 Days In	PD Cam			
	AMC	The Intern (PG-13,'15) ** Robert De Niro, Anne Hathaway. © (SAP)					(9:45) Mrs. Doubtfire ♦					
	ANIM	Bush People (N)			Bush People (N)			Bu. People				
	BBCA	Doctor Who ©			Doctor Who ©			Dr. Who ♦				
	BET	♦ The Bobby Brown Story				BET Star Cinema ♦						
	BIGTEN	B1G Show	B1G Show	B1G Show	B1G Show	BTN Wrestling in 60 ©		B1G Show				
	BRAVO	Below Deck ©		Below Deck (N) ©		Below Deck ©		Blind Date				
	CLTV	News at 7		News at 8		News (N)		SportsFeed ©		Politics		
	CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)			Anderson Cooper 360 (N)			CNN Tonight (N)		AC 360 ♦		
	COM	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park			
DISC	Diesel Brothers (N) ©								Twin Turbos			
DISN	Gabby	Gabby	Raven	Raven	Raven	Raven	Big City	Big City				
E!	♦ (5) Sex and the City **			Sex-City	Sex-City	Sex-City	Sex-City	Sex-City	Sex-City			
ESPN	Capital One Orange Bowl: Florida vs Virginia. (N) (Live) ♦											
ESPN2	SportsCenter (N) ©			PFL Wildest Finishes (N)			Road-PFL 2019 Champ.		PFL ♦			
FNC	Tucker Carlson (N)			Hannity (N) ©			The Ingraham Angle (N)		Fox News			
FOOD	Diners, Drive			Chopped Sweets (Series Premiere) (N) ©			Food Challenge (N)		Chopped ♦			
FREE	♦ (5:15) The BFG (*16) ***						(7:55) Shrek (PG,'01) ***		Voices of Mike Myers. ©		700 Club ♦	
FX	The Mountain Between Us (PG-13,'17) ** Kate Winslet. ©							Mountain Bet ♦				
HALL	Cherished Memories: A Gift to Remember 2 (*19) ©						Christmas at Holly Lodge (NR,'17) ♦					
HGTV	Love It or List It ©			Love It or List It (N) ©			Love It or List It (N) ©		Love-List ♦			
HIST	American Pickers			American Pick. (N)			(9:05) American Pickers		Pickers ♦			
HLN	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic			
IFC	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men			
LIFE	Tyler Perry's Madea Goes to Jail (PG-13,'09) ** ©				(9:03) Just Wright (PG,'10) ** ♦ ©							
MSNBC	All In With (N)			Rachel Maddow Show (N)			The Last Word (N)		All In With ♦			
MTV	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.			
NBCSCH	NBA Basketball: Milwaukee Bucks at Chicago Bulls. (N)			(Live) ©		Postgame		Bulls (N)				
NICK	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	Friends ©	Friends ©	Friends ©	Friends ©	Friends ©	Friends ©	Friends ♦			
OVATION	♦ (6) Movie			Movie								
OWN	Dateline on OWN			Dateline on OWN			Dateline on OWN		Dateline ♦			
OXY	NCIS: "Devil's Trifecta."			NCIS ©			NCIS: "Shabbat Shalom."		NCIS ♦			
PARMT	Cops ©	Cops ©	Cops ©	Cops ©	Cops ©	Cops ©	Cops ©	Cops ©	Cops ©			
SYFY	Mad Max: Fury Road (R,'15) *** Tom Hardy. ©							The Last Witch Hunter ♦				
TBS	♦ Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Big Bang	Conan ©				
TCM	A Star Is Born (NR,'37) **** Janet Gaynor. ©					A Star Is Born (PG,'54) **** © ♦						
TLC	90 Day Fiance: Watch Party (N)						90 Day Fiance ♦					
TLN	Supernatural	Urban	Faith Chi	Faithwire	Robison	Billy Graham	Humanit ♦					
TNT	♦ Dark Knight   The Dark Knight Rises (PG-13,'12) *** Christian Bale, Anne Hathaway. © ♦											
TOON	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Burgers	Burgers	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Rick, Morty				
TRAV	Unexplained: Caught on Camera (N) ©					Most Terrifying Places		Most ♦				
TVL	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	King	King	King	King				
USA	WWE Monday Night RAW (N) (Live) ©								Dare Me ♦			
VH1	Love & Hip Hop (N) ©			(8:06) Love & Hip Hop			Black Ink Crew: Chicago		Hip Hop ♦			
WE	Law & Order: "Amends."			Law & Order: "Thin Ice."			Law & Order: "Hubris."		Law ♦			
WGN America	♦ (6) Die Hard (R,'88) *** Bruce Willis. ©						Die Hard 2 (R,'90) *** Bruce Willis. ♦					
PREMIUM	HBO	Her Smell (R,'18) Elisabeth Moss, Agyness Deyn. ©						(9:20) His Dark Materials				
	HBO2	American Woman (R,'18) Sienna Miller. ©						Resident Evil: Apocalypse (R,'04) ***				
	MAX	Casino Royale (PG-13,'06) *** Daniel Craig, Eva Green. ©						(9:25) The American ♦				
	SHO	Pavarotti (PG-13,'19) *** Bono. ©						Five Feet Apart (PG-13,'19) ** ♦				
	STARZ	♦ (6:59) Dublin Murders		(8:02) My Days of Mercy (R,'17) Kate Mara. ©		Dublin ♦						
STZENC	♦ (6:06) Kindergarten Cop		Four Weddings and a Funeral (R,'94) *** ©		Good Will ♦							

## Impact

Continued from Page 1

traditional ways of doing business. Some artists, such as Future and Migos, now release overlong albums in hopes of racking up streams, while others such as Pusha T and Nas released shorter ones to promote replays. The phenomenon also might be responsible for shorter song lengths. Meanwhile, bands like the Hold Steady reconsidered their approaches to the industry, opting to release songs as they recorded them and later perhaps compiling them into an album.

## Netflix creating original content

In 2013, Netflix released every episode of “House of Cards,” “Orange is the New Black” and “Hemlock Grove,” three original productions, all at once. These shows hit the industry like an atomic bomb, permanently changing the way we consume television. Suddenly, waiting for a new episode each week seemed antiquated. TV was now meant to be consumed in eight- or 10-hour blocks, and the way shows were structured was altered to reflect that. (Consider the sudden prioritizing of cliffhangers.)

Then, with the ashes of traditional TV in its wake, Netflix turned its attentions to disrupting the movie industry. The result? The resurgence of the rom-com with movies such as “Set It Up” and “To All the Boys I’ve Loved Before,” along with a streaming service entering awards conversation for the first time after funding famed directors’ passion projects — such as “Roma” by Alfonso Cuarón and “The Irishman” by Martin Scorsese — that studios wouldn’t take a financial risk on.

The big trade-off, of course, is that the service wants you to watch these movies at home, which only adds fuel to the flames dancing on whatever’s left of movie theaters.

## The “new” Beyoncé

Beyoncé didn’t need to change a thing — not she of Destiny’s Child and Top 10-charting hits fame (“Halo,” “Irreplaceable,” “Single Ladies,” etc.). The pop star had already won the game by 2013, so she decided to change the rules and create a new one. She surprise released her self-titled album that year, and did the same three years later with “Lemonade,” which included an album-length music video.

The marketing of these albums was novel, but the content itself showed a new Beyoncé: angry, sad, loving, happy, horny. In other words, human. No longer was she hiding behind the mask of fame. Suddenly she put everything on display, from her then-embattled marriage with Jay-Z to her fury at the systematic racism crippling the country as evidenced by the deaths of black men such as Trayvon Martin, Michael Brown and Eric Garner. While other pop stars, such as Taylor Swift, became almost self-parodic by trying to appease every possible audience, Beyoncé crafted her pop music with the power of punk, following her own muse at all costs. She risked losing the culture entirely; instead, she ended up dominating it.

## Accountability in Hollywood

It feels odd to include something so serious on what, in the grand scheme of things, is a list of frivolous things. But behind the curtain, the industry creating these frivolous things was beset by terrifying misogyny, power imbalance and a number of monsters who used their positions to remain secret. Thanks to the reporting of Jodi Kantor, Megan Twohey and Ronan Farrow — and the bravery of the many, many victims who shared their stories — these systemic issues were finally brought to light.

The #MeToo and Time’s Up movements, which rose to prominence following the exposure of Harvey Weinstein’s alleged history of sexual abuse and assault,

quickly spread from Hollywood to nearly every field, including law, politics and academia — making it one of the largest and most important movements of the young century.

## The first “Avengers” movie

The first inkling that superhero movies would dominate the box office along with our collective consciousness appeared in 2008, the year of “Iron Man” and “The Dark Knight.” Both hits, they proved superheroes could be big business. But 2012’s “The Avengers,” which brought several characters together in one movie, arguably altered the industry by taking major cues from television. Marvel made movies episodic and intertwined in a way that never before existed. Each installment in the MCU isn’t merely a sequel or a prequel but part of a larger jigsaw puzzle, the piecing together of which requires a fan to watch every single movie — and even stick around for the credits.

As the manner in which we consume film and TV continue to merge, it’s a strategy that feels natural in the streaming era. At the same time, it’s smart business. Once a fan has invested dozens of hours watching movies that feature individual heroes, they’re more likely to plunk down a few bucks to see them all team up. Case in point: This year’s “Avengers: Endgame” became the highest-grossing movie ever at the global box office, earning \$2.8 billion.

## Internet culture becomes pop culture

For the early part of the millennium, popular culture and Internet culture coexisted like two cousins who interacted a good bit but clearly came from different families. In the last 10 years, though, the two have felt more like a married couple as pop stars were formed on social media platforms. Case in point: Shawn Mendes, the Grammy-nominated, Billboard chart-topping singer, first garnered attention on

Vine, the now-defunct platform for six-second video clips.

But the story that truly shows the Internet’s hold on “traditional” culture (skipping over Facebook’s role in the election of President Donald Trump) is the story of “Old Town Road.” The jokey country-trap song by Lil Nas X began on the video site TikTok before, with a little help from Billy Ray Cyrus (that’s another story), ending up as the longest-running Billboard chart topper of all time. The times, they are a-changin’, indeed.

## Kylie Jenner as a billionaire

Kylie Jenner became a billionaire in 2019 at just 21 years old. Her debut in the three-comma club might not seem worthy of inclusion on such a short list, but this simple (if unbelievable) fact points to the overwhelming influence the Jenners and the Kardashians have on American culture.

Just for starters, there was Caitlyn Jenner’s public transition and widely discussed Vanity



Horoscopes



**Today's birthday** (Dec. 30): Transitions inspire new possibilities this year. Dedicate yourself to steady practice before taking the stage. You're the star this winter before changes affect your partnership. Look inward for insight and fresh perspectives next summer, sparking a hot Solstice romance.

**Aries** (March 21-April 19): Today is a 6. Get productive behind closed doors. Avoid overstimulating environments. Enjoy great music or silence. Brilliant ideas are sparked. Make amazing creative discoveries. Write, sketch and create.

**Taurus** (April 20-May 20): 8. Reconnect with your community. Tap into public events and social conversations. Talk about what you're up to and what's needed.

**Gemini** (May 21-June 20): 8. Handle professional priorities. Manage tax, insurance or legal matters. Resolve a challenge for lucrative potential gain. It's all for home and family.

**Cancer** (June 21-July 22): 7. Educational adventures tempt you out. Visit friends and family. Try new flavors and ideas. Discover a brilliant insight. Get re-inspired by an old dream.

**Leo** (July 23-Aug. 22): 7. Finances have your attention. Manage shared accounts to maintain positive cash flow. Collaborate for common benefit. Replenish your reserves.

**Virgo** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): 8. Coordinate plans with your partner. Romance and travel could delight. You're especially charming and persuasive. Your creative collaboration sparkles with brilliant ideas.

**Libra** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): 8. Keep your promises, especially with yourself. Nurture your health and fitness. Set realistic goals and get family support. Practice for an upcoming challenge.

**Scorpio** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): 8. Relax and enjoy creative projects with people you love. Talk about ideas, possibilities and solutions. Make an intuitive connection with someone attractive.

**Sagittarius** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): 7. Clean, renovate and decorate your rooms. Provide comforting ambiance with color, lighting and textiles. Make repairs and upgrades.

**Capricorn** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): 8. Write your own story. Embellish creative projects with detail and elaboration. Research a subject of personal passion and edit it into a compelling piece.

**Aquarius** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): 9. Focus on generating income. Keep doing what's working. Track earnings and expenses. Harvest an unexpected windfall and give thanks. Squirrel away extra nuts.

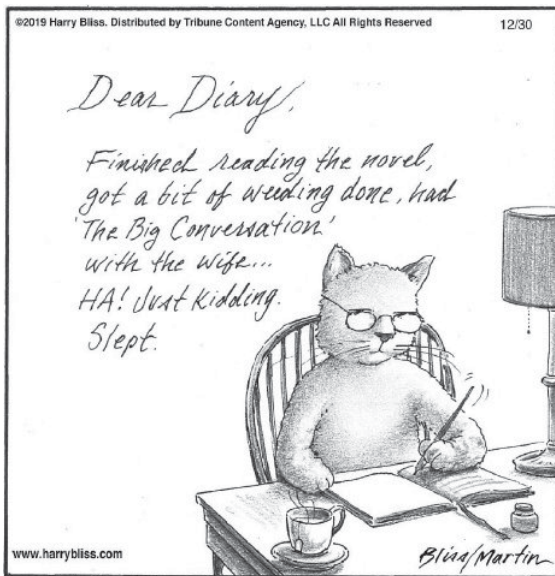
**Pisces** (Feb. 19-March 20): 9. Go for what you really want. You've got the confidence and power to make things happen. Get friends involved. Share an inspiring possibility and invite participation.

— Nancy Black, Tribune Content Agency

The Argyle Sweater



Bliss



Bridge

Here are the answers to the weekly quiz:

**Q.1**—North-South vulnerable, as South, you hold:  
♠ Q 8 2 ♥ A 10 ♦ A Q 10 8 7 5 4 ♣ 9

South	West	North	East
1♦	1♥	Pass	1NT
?			

What call would you make?

**A.1**—The opponents have you out-gunned, but we still wouldn't sell out at the two level. Bid 2D. Your playing strength should make it safe.

**Q.2**—East-West vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ K J 8 7 4 3 ♥ A 10 ♦ 10 5 ♣ A K 6

With the opponents passing, you open 1S and partner responds 1NT. What is your rebid?

**A.2**—Most would choose between 2S and 3S. We have a strong suspicion, however, that the long run winning rebid is 2C. If we had to rebid spades, we prefer 2S over 3S.

**Q.3**—Both vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ 5 4 3 2 ♥ 9 5 ♦ K Q 6 4 ♣ A K 8

South	West	North	East
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
?			

What call would you make?

**A.3**—It is surely the worst suit that you have ever bid, but it is still correct to bid 1S.

**Q.4**—North-South vulnerable, as South, you hold:

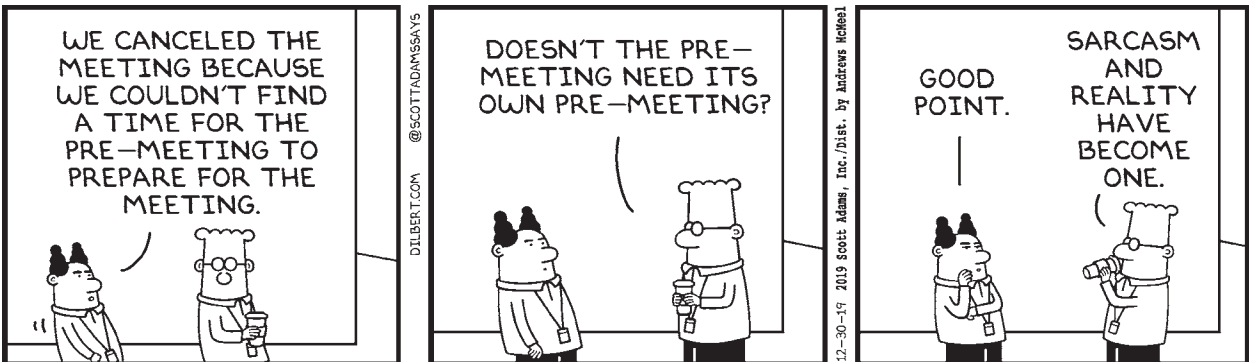
♠ 6 5 3 ♥ A 9 ♦ Q J 4 3 2 ♣ 10 3 2

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

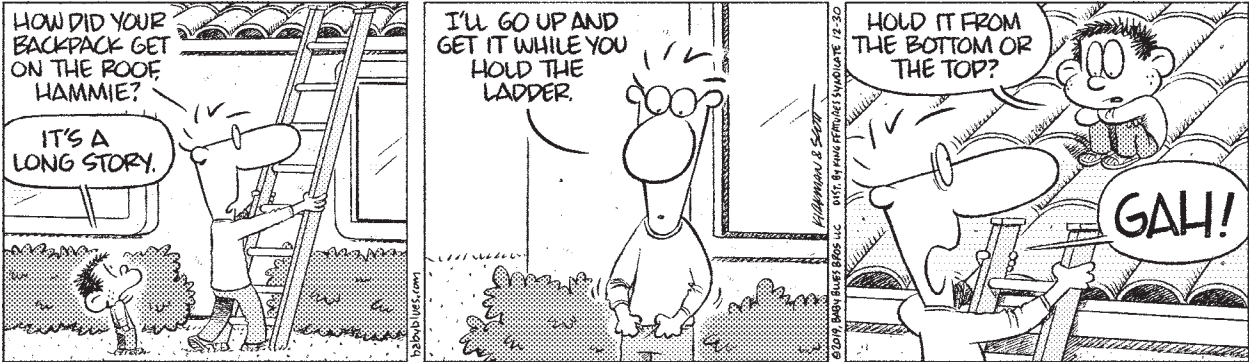
**A.4**—Bid 3D, pre-emptive. This is pretty strong for a pre-empt, but you should have a solid hand at this vulnerability.

— Bob Jones  
tcaeditors@tribpub.com

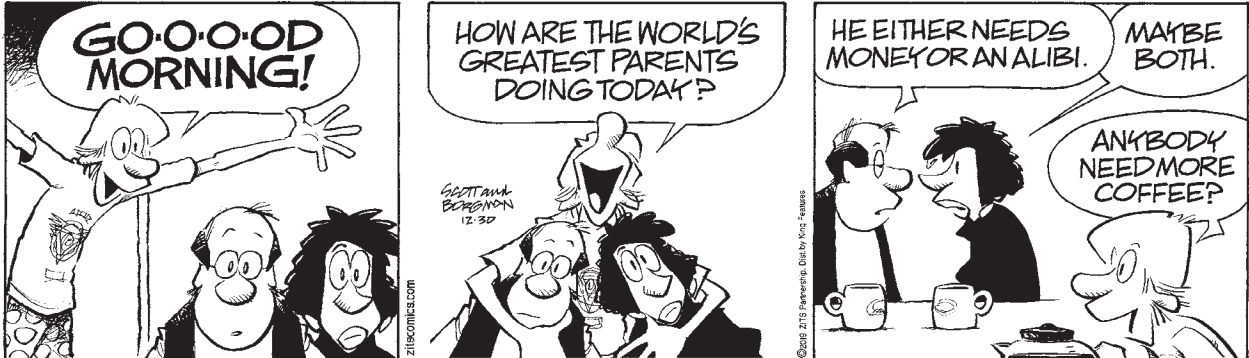
Dilbert



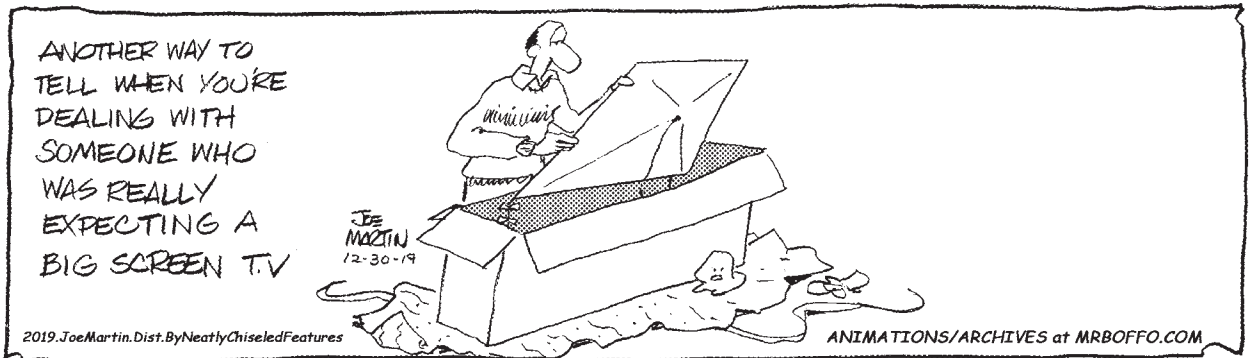
Baby Blues



Zits



Mr. Boffo



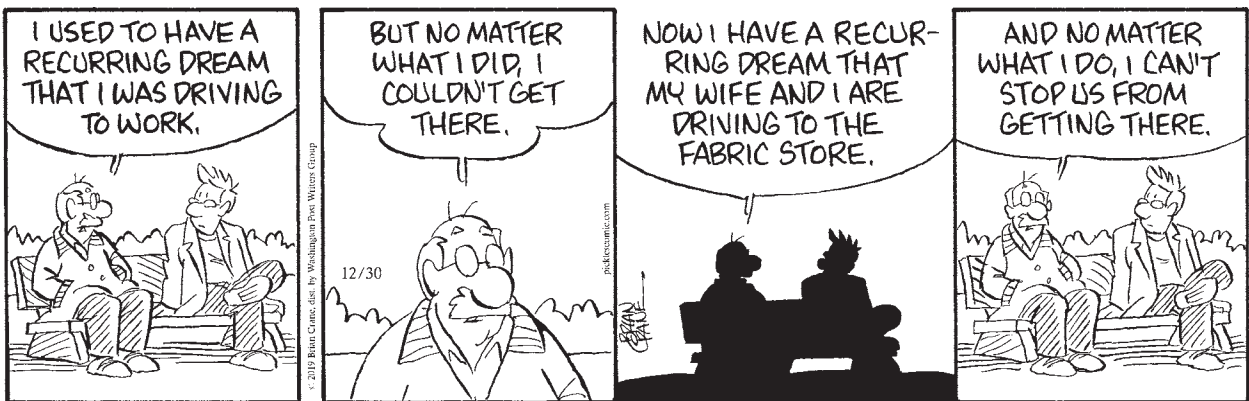
Frazz



Classic Peanuts



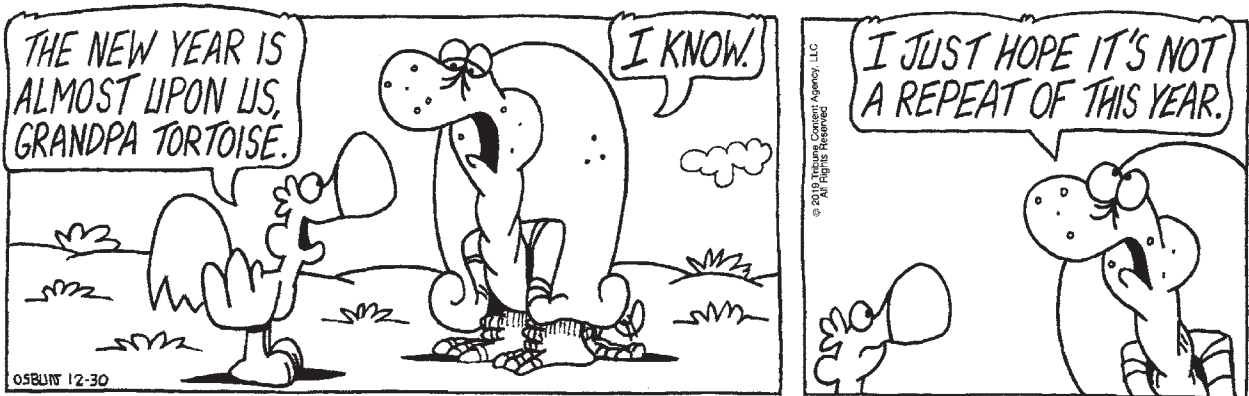
Pickles



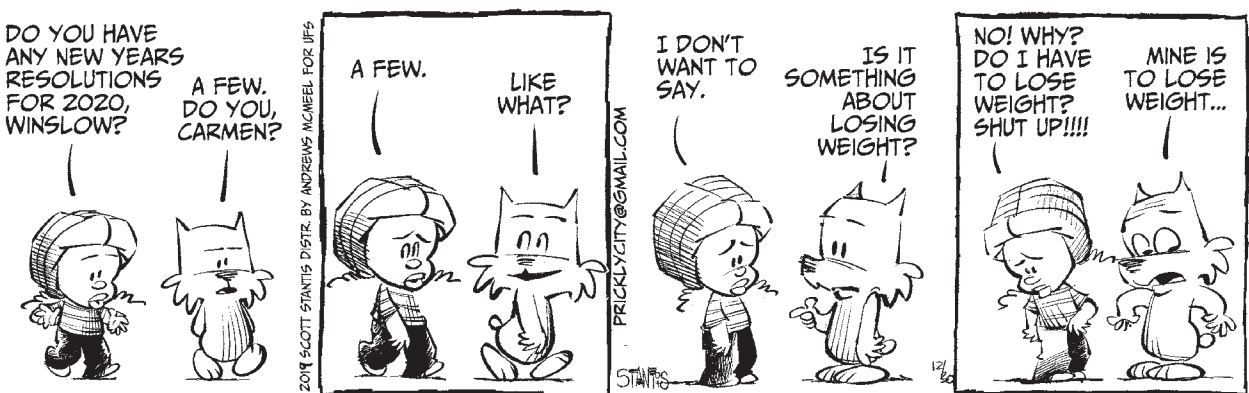
Dick Tracy

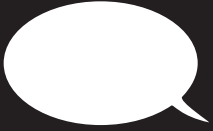


Animal Crackers



Prickly City



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