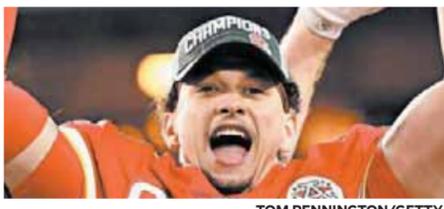


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MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 2020

BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM

Ill. Senate picks Harmon

Oak Park Democrat elected to succeed John Cullerton as chamber's president

BY JAMIE MUNKS

SPRINGFIELD — Oak Park Democrat Don Harmon was chosen as Illinois Senate president on Sunday, taking the helm of the General Assembly's upper chamber at a critical time in Springfield.

Harmon, who has had ambitions to lead the chamber since at least 2009 when retiring Senate President John Cullerton

took over from Emil Jones Jr., assumes the top leadership post in the Senate at a time when Democrats hold a supermajority in both General Assembly chambers but as the shadow of an ongoing federal corruption investigation has ensnared multiple lawmakers and left the Capitol on edge.

In his first remarks as Senate president Sunday night, Harmon said the change in leadership

marks a chance to “think about who we are, what the people need us to be and how we can reset the tone of the culture here in Springfield.”

“Choosing a new leader, especially among your peers, is a leap of faith,” Harmon said, just after being sworn in. “I stand before you humbled by your confidence.”

The selection came down to Harmon and Kimberly Lightford, a Maywood Democrat. Both have been part of Cullerton's



Harmon

leadership team and have been campaigning furiously in the two months since Cullerton announced he would retire in early January. Lightford, who is also chair of the Illinois Legislative Black Caucus, would have been the first woman to lead either chamber of the General Assembly.

Harmon's election returns the Senate presidency to the Chicago

Turn to **Harmon, Page 4**

IMPEACHMENT OF PRESIDENT TRUMP

No one giving in as trial looms

At issue are Senate ground rules and if a crime occurred

BY LAURIE KELLMAN
 Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Advocates for and against President Donald Trump gave no ground Sunday on his Senate impeachment trial, digging in on whether a crime is required for his conviction and removal and whether witnesses will be called.

But as Trump's defense team and the House prosecutors pressed their case, mystery still surrounded the ground rules for the impeachment trial, only the third in American history, when it resumes Tuesday. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., was shedding no light on what will be the same as — and different from — the precedent of President Bill Clinton's impeachment trial in 1999.

All sides agitated to get on with it, none more than the four Democratic senators running for president and facing the prospect of being marooned in the Senate heading into Iowa's kick-off caucus on Feb. 3.

“The president deserves a fair trial. The American people deserve a fair trial. So let's have that fair trial,” said Democratic Rep. Jason Crow of Colorado, one of the seven impeachment prosecutors who will make the case for Trump's removal.

But what's fair is as intractable a showdown as the basic question of whether Trump's pressure on Ukraine to help him politically merits a Senate conviction and removal from office. The stakes are enormous, with historic influence on the fate of Trump's presidency, the 2020 presidential and congressional elections and the future of any presidential impeachments.

Whatever happens in the Senate, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., has said, Trump will “be impeached forever.”

Members of Trump's team said that if they win a vindication for Trump, it means “an acquittal forever as well,” Trump attorney Robert Ray said Sunday.

For all of the suspense over the trial, some clues on what's to come sharpened on Sunday.

Turn to **Trial, Page 9**



Crow



ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Police officers patrol North Michigan Avenue on Jan. 13. Recent robberies continued a worrisome trend for those in the Near North Side.

Robberies up sharply in swanky Near North Side

Police strengthen their presence; residents and tourists concerned

BY JEREMY GORNER

A few hundred concerned citizens huddled in a gymnasium in Chicago's Gold Coast neighborhood hoping for answers from police about a recent spate of robberies in the downtown area and other parts of the Near North Side.

Police sought to bring a sense of calm while appealing for help

from the standing room-only crowd that overflowed into the lobby of the Lake Shore Park field house.

“We are having people sitting in their cars targeting people and drive around. You see the same car drive around four or five times. That is something that we need to know,” Chicago police Cmdr. Daniel O'Shea, who heads the Near North

patrol district, said in a raised voice. “Please do not hesitate to call 911.”

Several recent robberies — some of them within a block of one another near Water Tower Place — continued a worrisome trend for those at the community meeting.

Robberies have more than doubled in the last five years in this swath of Chicago's central

business district and some of the city's most affluent neighborhoods, including Gold Coast, Streeterville, Magnificent Mile, River North and several others.

Last year, robberies totaled 416 in those neighborhoods, just two more than in 2017 but more than double from 204 in 2015,

Turn to **Robberies, Page 4**

NATION & WORLD
 China plagued by mystery virus

Chinese authorities said 17 more people had been infected with a mysterious new virus, adding to concerns about the spread of the illness. **Page 8**

Bloomberg visits church in Tulsa

The Democratic presidential candidate made a pitch to black voters in Oklahoma, promoting his plan to address racial inequality. **Page 9**

Marijuana shortages may continue for year or more

Illinois' tight market is expected to linger longer than other states

BY ROBERT MCCOPPIN

Legal marijuana shortages in Illinois are expected to last six months to a year or more, industry members warn, due to a lack of production capacity in the state.

The long lines, product shortages and store closures seen since the state authorized legal sales starting on New Year's Day are not unusual for newly legal markets.

But the tight market is expected to continue longer than in other states in part because Illinois has only 21 cultivation warehouses, far fewer than in many other states with legal cannabis.

The limit on the number of growers is a result of existing medical marijuana growers maintaining that they could supply the market without any new cultivation licenses — despite studies that predicted they could not meet the demand.

Shortages also stem from other

Turn to **Shortages, Page 6**



BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Long lines continue on the second day of recreational cannabis sales on Jan. 2 along Clark Street outside Sunnyside in Lakeview.

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ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

President Donald Trump smiles during a rally at the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee's Panther Arena on Tuesday.

The Founding Fathers' hard work is lost on Trump's impeachment



DAHLEEN GLANTON

It was impossible to watch the opening of Donald Trump's impeachment trial in the Senate last week without feeling a sense of patriotism.

Regardless of where you stand on the issue, the ceremonial ritual was impressive. The pomp and circumstance was deliberate and anticipatory, every movement perfectly choreographed and steeped in tradition.

The House impeachment managers' march to the Senate chamber, the swearing in of the chief justice of the Supreme Court, the senators' oath to render "impartial justice" and then signing off on a promise to abide by their vow were designed to illustrate the magnitude of the moment.

The procession route laid out in 1868 during President Andrew Johnson's impeachment gave gravitas to what the nation was about to endure. It remains a solemn rite that demands the full attention of every American.

Perhaps until now, some of us have not thought of it that way. Perhaps we have never taken a moment away from our anger to consider the momentous act of removing a duly elected president from office. Maybe we have never really thought about why it has only happened three times in the history of our country.

Each time America has been in this place — with Johnson, Bill Clinton in 1998 and now with Trump — politics increasingly have gotten in the way of

duty. Every time a president has been brought before the Senate on charges of abusing his power, it has sliced away at our unity. But never, until now, has it ripped us apart.

The Founding Fathers, in their intuitive wisdom, knew that impeachment would be divisive. But they wrote it into the Constitution anyway, because a democracy has no place for a king, a dictator or a president who believes he or she is above the law.

They knew the seductiveness of power. And in their genius, they tried their best to shield us from anyone who might try to use the presidency to promote his self-interests over those of the American people. They understood how greed, recklessness and incompetence at the helm could destroy America. So in the Constitution, they made an exception to the balance of power among the three branches of government.

In the area of impeachment, the Founding Fathers gave Congress jurisdiction over the executive branch, allowing it to remove a president with the leader of the third branch — the chief justice of the Supreme Court — as the overseer.

What the Founding Fathers could not have envisioned more than 230 years in the future was an America with Trump as president. While barbaric kings ruled by succession, they could not have foreseen that voters would choose to be led by someone so ruthless.

Of course, the founders knew there would be fights over political ideology. The greatest one — over slavery — would prompt the 13th Amendment to the Constitution nearly eight decades later. But the founders likely could not have fathomed an impeach-

ment where truth, honor and patriotism would be so easily usurped by lies, antipathy and blind partisan loyalty.

It is not that these characteristics were entirely unexpected in power-hungry politicians. What the authors of our Constitution could not have anticipated, though, is how easily the American people would accept such aberrant behavior, much less encourage it.

The Senate majority leader set the tone before the trial began.

"I'm not an impartial juror," Mitch McConnell told reporters last month. "This is a political process. There is not anything judicial about it. Impeachment is a political decision."

Other Republicans echoed his words. Sen. Lindsay Graham called for an "end to this crap as quickly as possible."

Sen. Ted Cruz promised that his colleagues would "reach a verdict, and the verdict is going to be acquittal. The verdict is going to be not guilty."

Sen. Rand Paul said, "The verdict has already been decided ... I don't think any Republicans are going to vote for impeachment."

Despite the grandiosity of the ceremony, if we take these senators at their word, the Senate trial is a farce. The opening ritual was nothing more than an illusion. There will be no attempt to get to the truth. Impartial justice will not be on the table.

If it is left solely up to them, the hard work by our Founding Fathers to establish a sound and lasting protocol for removing a wayward president will have been in vain.

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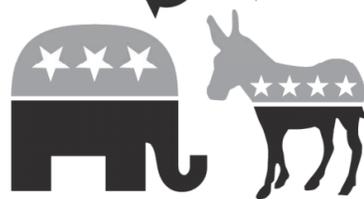
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Arthur Dixon Elementary School student Mia Roberts, 9, won first place in the MLK Jr. Oratory Competition on Friday.

MLK's vision for 2020?

'A change definitely needs to take place,' says speech contest winner

BY HANNAH LEONE

In a carefully chosen black-and-white outfit, Mia Roberts paced the stage, punctuating her words by moving her arms through the air. She recited the introduction to the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s famous "I Have a Dream" speech. Then she took a stab at the question, "What would Dr. King's vision be for America in 2020?"

Mia, 9, of Chicago's Arthur Dixon Elementary, said she almost didn't enter the oratory competition, which called on fourth- and fifth-grade students in participating Chicago Public Schools to speak on that question. She worried about memorizing such a long speech. But with two days to spare, she talked herself into it.

During long hours of practice at home, she held the microphone of her karaoke machine. She combed through her closet for the perfect "classy dress to do a performance," pairing a long black skirt with a sparkly top and shiny white shoes.

Even after being selected as one of the 13 finalists who competed Friday, Mia did not think she would win. She listened intently to the other speeches and thought many were better than hers.

When the winner was announced, Mia's jaw dropped. She smiled big all the way up onto the stage. When she returned to her school's table, her mom was waiting for her with a hug. With the \$1,000 prize, Mia said she wants to buy an iPhone 11.

If King were here today, his vision would be the same, Mia said in her speech.

"We don't know who to trust," said Mia, the daughter of a Chicago police officer. "We see police cars ride by with the words written on them ... 'to serve and protect,' but I'm not so sure anymore with all the



Parents cheer students participating in the MLK Jr. Oratory Competition at the Palmer House Hotel.



Dashawn Higgins, a student at Robert Alfred Black Magnet Elementary, participates in the competition.

bad news I hear about them and see about them on TV. Not all police officers are bad, just like ... all people are not all bad. But a change definitely needs to take place. How do we change this pattern of self-inflicted pain? I'm glad you asked."

She listed 10 "simple tips for the newer generation," including self-love, listening to understand, walking in others' shoes, politeness, agreeing to disagree, showing an interest in others, keeping an open mind and being positive.

"Good vibes are always welcome," Mia said. She ended by daring the audience to keep King's vision alive. "Be that one person who will love, pray, fight, sacrifice, and stand up for all equality as Dr. King did, so we can once again say those mighty words: 'Free at last! Free at last! Thank God almighty, we are free at last!'"

It was a proud moment for her parents and sister

Sierra Roberts, 23, who described Mia's oration as "heart-melting."

Her mother, Gloria Roberts, said she loved the humor the children brought to the speeches they took so seriously, and that her daughter's in particular inspired her. The family lives in West Pullman.

"It felt like you were listening to a grown-up," added Mia's father, Michael Roberts, the Chicago police officer.

When Kameron Green of Robert A. Black Magnet Elementary took the stage, high-pitched squeals came from some girls at his table. Green spoke about issues he experiences living in the Roseland neighborhood, like food deserts, school funding and building up black communities.

"I wanted to give recognition to what happens in my community," Kameron said.

The MLK Jr. Oratory Competition, put on by the

Foley & Lardner law firm, is new to Chicago. As students vied for the title at the Loop's Palmer House Hilton Hotel, similar speeches were delivered by their peers in Dallas and Houston.

Organizers noted the Palmer House was also the site of a 1966 meeting between King and then-Mayor Richard J. Daley following a series of demonstrations and riots.

Judges of the local competition included "history makers in their own right," the announcer said, and included a real judge: Rebecca Pallmeyer, chief judge of federal court for the Northern District of Illinois and the first woman to hold the post. Other judges were Z Scott, president of Chicago State University; Eric Reeves, managing director and head of private capital investments for Duchossois Capital Management; and Ron Childs, senior media strategist for Burrell Communications Group.

CBS Chicago traffic reporter Derrick Young announced each young performer, also noting the arrivals of public officials such as Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul and 8th Ward Ald. Michelle Harris.

As members of the Apollo Chorus performed the musical interlude between the speeches and the awards presentation, Harris posed for photos with student orators from Black Elementary. Other schools represented included Arthur Dixon Elementary, Mildred Lavizzo Elementary and Wendell Smith Elementary.

The alderman said she was struck by the social and political awareness evident in the students' remarks.

"These kids are paying attention," Harris said. "I've got to change the world they live in."

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DNA confirms coyote is culprit

Animal captured by police was same one that bit child

BY KATHERINE ROSENBERG-DOUGLAS

Chicago Animal Care and Control officials Sunday announced they used DNA testing to determine the coyote they caught was the same animal that bit a 6-year-old boy near Lincoln Park earlier this month.

With help from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, local officials tested the animal and said it was the same one that on Jan. 8 attacked the child near the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum, 2430 N. Cannon Drive, biting the child on his head. The boy had been walking along a path in a park area near the museum when he came upon the coyote on a grassy hill, officials said. The boy may have startled the animal, which responded by biting the child. His nanny and several bystanders came to the boy's aid.

In another incident later that same night, a man told police he was bitten in the buttocks by a coyote while he walked on a sidewalk in the 700 block of North Fairbanks Court in Chicago's Gold Coast neighborhood. Officials have not yet confirmed a coyote was responsible.

When a coyote was captured Jan. 9 in the 1700 block of North Dayton Street, authorities were confident it was the animal

that had attacked the boy, because that coyote also was limping.

The results of the testing that were promised at the time of the coyote's capture were released Sunday, and authorities now say the animal was limping because it had been shot with a BB gun, according to a statement from city spokesman Patrick Mullane.

"Through evaluation, it was determined that the animal had been shot in the chest with a BB gun, which could have caused the limp in its movements as well as the aggressive behavior. The animal will remain at a local wildlife rehabilitation center," Mullane said in the statement.

Mullane also said testing confirmed the animal did not have rabies.

Although Mayor Lori Lightfoot weighed in on the coyote attacks, saying, "Never did I think I'd be talking about alligators in one breath and coyote in the next," officials said there are hundreds of coyotes in the Chicago area, and it is not common for them to become aggressive and attack humans.

"Coyotes are common throughout the Chicagoland area and protected under the Illinois Wildlife Code. Residents should always take caution if they encounter a coyote and notify CACC by calling 311. It remains extremely rare for a coyote to approach or bite a person."

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Family demands justice

32-year-old nurse fatally shot in Little Village in November

BY JESSICA VILLAGOMEZ

Standing at the corner of Hamlin Avenue and 32nd Street on Sunday, family members of Frank Aguilar built a memorial for the 32-year-old nurse on top of a blanket of snow.

Aguilar's sisters, Maria Roman and Sharee Rangel, knelt on the pavement to lay framed photographs of their brother, placing several floral arrangements and a candle with a depiction of the Lady of Guadalupe on the icy ground.

"I need justice," Aguilar's mother, Elvira Aguilar, said in Spanish, holding her palms firmly together.

The family of Frank Aguilar, a nurse fatally shot in Little Village last November, held a news conference Sunday morning to demand a meeting with Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx. According to family members and community organizer Raul Montes Jr., the office had not yet returned their calls asking for a meeting to discuss new developments in Aguilar's case.

Aguilar was walking along the 3700 block of West 32nd Street with a laundry basket full of clothing, headed to his family's Little Village home late on Nov. 12, when someone driving a silver "Jeep-style" vehicle opened fire, hitting him four times, police said.

Aguilar was taken to Mount Sinai Hospital in Chicago and later was pronounced dead. An autopsy

found he died of multiple gunshot wounds and his death was ruled a homicide.

The shooting was likely the result of "some sort of mistaken identity" linked to a long-standing gang conflict in the area, Cook County prosecutors said in December. Aguilar did not have any gang ties. Nineteen-year-old Armando Lopez, a reputed member of the Latin Kings, was identified by police as the driver in the drive-by shooting. Lopez was ordered held without bond.

In December, Brendan Deenihan, head of detectives for Chicago police, said investigators "feel very strongly" they identified the shooter and were working with the state's attorney's office to collect more evidence before pursuing additional charges.

No charges have since been filed against the alleged shooter.

"They have dropped the ball!" Montes Jr. said at the news conference. "This case is inconclusive and there are many pieces missing from the puzzle."

Holding back tears, Elvira Aguilar said she has been unable to deal with her son's death because of a lack of closure and what she said is a lack of urgency in determining who is responsible for his death.

"I need justice for my son who had no reason to be targeted. I need help from the police, the community. I need justice, please," she said.

Chicago Tribune's Rosemary Sobol and Megan Crepeau contributed.

Closures planned for Red Line stations

BY MARY WISNIEWSKI

Starting this week, the CTA plans several weekend closures of three North Side Red Line stations to prepare for the massive \$2.1 billion Red and Purple Line modernization project.

The agency said track and signal construction will require closing the Granville, Thorndale and Bryn Mawr stations Friday at 10 p.m., through the following Monday at 4 a.m. More service changes along the line will take place nearly all weekends through the spring, CTA spokeswoman Tammy Chase said.

"Nearly every weekend, we'll be doing preparatory track work ahead of starting new station and track construction," Chase said.

Shuttle buses will provide service between the Loyola and Berwyn stations, stopping near the affected Red Line stations, the CTA said. The agency canceled a planned closure for this weekend because of high winds.

Chase said the CTA needs to close the stations for track work before it can begin building new stations at Lawrence, Argyle, Berwyn and Bryn Mawr and replacing century-old track structure.

During new station and track construction, the CTA will have to run Red and Purple Line trains on two tracks instead of four, so it can rebuild two tracks at a time, Chase said. To do that, it needs to add switches to the tracks to allow trains to safely

move over.

On weekends that the CTA does not close stations, it will reduce service between Howard and Wilson so that trains will not stop between those stations in one direction, either northbound or southbound, depending on what is needed to do the work, Chase said.

These are known as "back ride" closings, because if you are going northbound to, say, Loyola and trains aren't stopping northbound, you will have to ride up to Howard and then ride back on a southbound train to get to your stop.

Other work in 2020 will include building temporary rail stations at Argyle and Bryn Mawr.

The four stations to be rebuilt as part of the proj-

ect — Lawrence, Argyle, Berwyn, and Bryn Mawr — will close for construction in either late 2020 or early 2021. When they close, the temporary stations will immediately open, CTA officials say.

The Red and Purple Line modernization is the biggest project in the CTA's history.

The CTA is also digging 70-foot holes in the Lakeview area to build foundations for a bypass that will run northbound Brown Line trains up and over Red and Purple Line tracks north of Belmont station. The agency said this bypass will relieve a notorious bottleneck, and provide better service up and down the line.

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BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Elvira Aguilar, left, mother of Frank Aguilar, and his sister Sharee Rangel arrange his memorial display Sunday.

Robberies

Continued from Page 1

according to city crime data.

In 2019, the entire Near North patrol district, which also includes the Lincoln Park area, recorded 509 robberies, its most in at least 10 years, the official police statistics show.

While that pales by comparison to certain pockets of the city's South and West sides that struggle with violent crime and poverty — the West Side's Harrison District, for instance, saw at least 720 robberies last year — residents as well as tourists expect better for an area boasting the highest real estate values in the city.

O'Shea told the Chicago Tribune that robbers often target unsuspecting pedestrians talking on their cellphones while oblivious to their surroundings, snatching their phones away. In other cases, they demand money or other valuables without displaying a weapon but threatening harm. In the worst incidents, they resort to violence, beating up the victim.

One 59-year-old man, for instance, was tackled from behind as he walked in the 200 block of East Pearson Street on Dec. 30 and repeatedly punched on the head by an attacker who then rummaged through his pockets, police said.

The rash of robberies has continued into 2020 with 23 for the entire Near North patrol district in the first 12 days of January, the most over the last five years for that period, the police statistics show. Some happened within a block of each other in the tony Gold Coast, home to luxury condominiums, lavish shops and department stores, and iconic landmarks such as the Drake Hotel and the former John Hancock Center.

Some of the recent incidents involved as many as two or three suspects in their late teens or 20s teaming up on the robberies before fleeing in a white SUV or white sedan, police said.

Just last Thursday, a robber struck in broad daylight in the 800 block of North Dewitt Place near Lake Shore Park, pushing a 70-year-old woman, grabbing her purse and fleeing in a car east toward Lake Shore Drive.

In recent years, particularly during the summer, police had to deal with large groups of teens who traveled mostly on the CTA to the Magnificent Mile and other high-end spots on the Near North Side, creating disturbances and, in some cases, robbing passersby.

But police said that in the latest spate of robberies, suspects typically drive to the posh area by car, often stolen, before jumping out, holding up a passerby and then quickly driving off.

"One of the challenges that we are facing is that (the area) is right off Lake Shore Drive," O'Shea told the crowd at the community meeting earlier this month. "These people are coming in stolen cars and getting off the drive. They are attacking people, and they're getting right on Lake Shore Drive and going southbound."

Police presence around the Gold Coast, Magnificent Mile and Streeterville areas has been beefed up because of the spike in robberies, O'Shea said. In addition to plainclothes tactical officers, O'Shea has used undercover cops as well as officers used to saturate hot spots in parts of the city seeing upticks in

crime. The department also regularly assigns officers to overtime shifts along North Michigan Avenue.

Police offered practical tips on being more vigilant. Walk in well-lit areas. Don't travel alone. Wear your purse under your coat. And don't be preoccupied with that cellphone as you walk about.

"He's trying to size you up," Near North District Officer Theresa Kelly warned the crowd in a booming voice. "To him, you're just an unaware, vulnerable victim."

Victims should try their best to remember a suspect's description. Accurately recalling three features would be better than 10 vague ones, police said.

Kelly suggested some consider buying a personal alarm, a small noise-making device that fits in the palm of your hand.

"She's got five of them," the officer said of one of attendees, drawing laughter from the crowd.

O'Shea explained how police have to weigh the risk of pursuing fleeing robbery suspects in police cars with the inherent danger to the public.

Still, he said, criminals are too brazen to care about any of that.

"They have no fear of the police," he told the crowd. "No fear of prosecution."

Some at the meeting voiced concerns about whether police and the Cook County state's attorney's office were doing enough to deal with the problem.

One man talked about calling 911 after spotting a crime in progress yet no officers showed up. Others groaned when police talked about how prosecutors must approve before felony charges can be filed.

After the meeting, one woman who's lived in the Gold Coast/Streeterville area for 16 years told a Tribune reporter that she can't walk outdoors without feeling uneasy.

Most of the recent spate of Gold Coast robberies occurred near Gary Osifchin's condo building. Before moving downtown last month, he had lived in New York City for 15 years and said he never felt unsafe.

A marketing executive by trade, Osifchin was caught off guard by the robbery spree and disappointed at how vigilant he needs to be in what he thought was one Chicago's safest neighborhoods. He said he's even purchased a personal alarm that blares as loud as 130 decibels with flashing lights.

"I came home Saturday night from being out with friends, and I made sure that I just took an Uber right to my door, that I didn't take the subway and walk over," Osifchin, who attended the community meeting, said in a later telephone interview. "So I mean it's already changing my behavior."

Realtor Stephen DiPadua, a Gold Coast resident for seven years, said he worries about criminals who "will approach anyone at anytime."

He wants a more robust police presence in the area.

"When the commanders are saying, 'We're doing our best and we've identified a white vehicle,' that's great," he said in a telephone interview days after the meeting. "But why aren't there more police dispatched into this neighborhood to be able to roam the neighborhood either on foot, on bicycle, on horseback, on scooter, whatever it is, so that we can eradicate what we have going on? This is a neighborhood that is not used to it."

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ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Officers stand along North Michigan Avenue on Jan. 13. In 2019, the entire Near North patrol district recorded 509 robberies, its most in at least 10 years, the official police statistics show.



ERIN HOOLEY/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Enjoying rare snow, cold this winter

7-year-old Yehuda, last name not given, plays on top of a pile of snow Sunday in the West Rogers Park neighborhood of Chicago. Although it was colder in Chicago than it has been any time this winter — the mercury hasn't dropped this low since March 4, meteorologist Gino Izzi said — temperatures will be on an upward trend and rebound to near-normal conditions by Wednesday.

U of I campus broadens eligibility for free tuition

BY DAWN RHODES

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign is raising the minimum income to qualify for its free tuition program, one day after university trustees raised in-state tuition for the first time in six years.

The Illinois Commitment program, first implemented in the fall, awards four years of full tuition and fees for admitted in-state students whose family income is \$61,000 or less.

Now students will be able to qualify if their family makes up to \$67,000.

Gov. J.B. Pritzker said Friday the move to raise the income threshold by

10% came at his request to the board of trustees. The new eligibility rules go into effect for the fall 2020 academic term.

"A central priority for me in this office is making college affordable for those who can least afford it," Pritzker said Friday at an unrelated event. "That means now more than half of the households in the state will qualify for free tuition."

U. of I. officials confirmed Pritzker's announcement in a press release later Friday. More than 30% of students in the current freshman class and new transfer students were eligible for the program this year, according to the press release.

Illinois Commitment covers tuition for any program — areas like engineering typically charge more — but not room and board, books and course or laboratory fees, which can nearly double the cost of college.

For instance, the posted tuition and fees for an Illinois resident at Urbana-Champaign this year ranges from \$16,000 to \$21,000. Once you add room and board, course materials and other expenses, the total cost is from \$31,000 to about \$36,000.

The funding is good for up to four years of uninterrupted enrollment for new students and three years for transfer students, pro-

vided they make satisfactory progress toward a degree.

The U. of I. is spending \$4 million each of the next four years to support Illinois Commitment, officials have said. Funding comes from a mix of university, state and federal dollars.

"We are grateful for the partnership and continued support from the state that will allow us to continue to raise the qualifying income level to ensure that modest and middle-income families in Illinois had access to an affordable Illinois education," officials said in a news release.

drhodes@chicagotribune.com

Harmon

Continued from Page 1

suburbs. The late Phil Rock, who presided over the chamber from 1979 to 1993, also was from Oak Park. He was succeeded by Republican Pate Phillip of Wood Dale, then by Chicago Democrats Emil Jones Jr. and Cullerton.

Harmon, an attorney, was first elected to the Senate in 2002. Among his top legislative

accomplishments, Harmon counts campaign finance reform and putting an end to juvenile life sentences without the possibility of parole. He also pointed to his role in advancing one of Gov. J.B. Pritzker's top agenda items, a ballot question this November asking whether the state should amend the Constitution to allow for a graduated-rate income tax.

Neither Lightford nor Harmon had rounded up the necessary 30 votes going into Sunday's election. Lightford gained key public supporters early in Democratic Sens. Andy Manar of Bunker Hill and Heather Steans of Chicago. But Harmon appeared to have more momentum in the final runup to Sunday's vote.

Seven Democratic senators, largely from Chicago and the suburbs, on Friday announced they would back Harmon. Harmon said last week he was confident he had "critical mass" needed to take the leadership post.

Sen. Emil Jones III, who supported Harmon going into Sunday's selection, said that at midafternoon on Sunday negotiations were ongoing and that tensions were high.

After an initial caucus vote that put Harmon ahead of Lightford and then hours of negotiations behind closed doors, Lightford conceded to Harmon.

Two months of heavy campaigning for the job by Lightford and Harmon culminated with Lightford nominating Harmon as the next Senate president



JUSTIN L. FOWLER/THE STATE JOURNAL-REGISTER

Don Harmon takes the oath of office to become the next Illinois Senate President on Sunday.

Sunday evening, and the two veteran senators, who represent neighboring districts, embracing on the floor. Lightford will remain majority leader under Harmon, the No. 2 position in the caucus, Harmon said Sunday night.

Harmon hasn't said who else will serve on his leadership team.

"We built a coalition ticket reflecting the diversity of our caucus," Harmon said, characterizing the flurry of activity that took place over hours behind closed doors on Sunday. "We worked through some of those rough edges and I'm very pleased everyone came together in the end, and that everybody will have a voice and a role" in the Senate moving forward.

Democrats left Springfield in June after passing a number of key policy initiatives on Pritzker's agenda, but by the time lawmakers returned in the fall, multiple Democratic lawmakers had drawn federal scrutiny.

Sen. Tom Cullerton of Villa Park had been indicted on embezzlement charges for allegations he drew a salary and benefits from the Teamsters union despite doing little to no work. Federal agents had raided then-Sen. Martin Sandoval's office at the Capitol. And former Rep. Luis Arroyo had been arrested on a federal bribery charge after a state senator wore a wire for the FBI and recorded Arroyo. A source has told the Chicago

Tribune that Sen. Terry Link, a Vernon Hills Democrat, was the one wearing the wire, though Link has vehemently denied it.

Cullerton and Arroyo have pleaded not guilty. Sandoval has not been charged with any wrongdoing.

In an interview with the Tribune last week, Harmon said he thinks statements of economic interest lawmakers complete could be improved "to be more useful and clear."

"There's also the observation that people are being arrested for breaking existing laws. And I'm not yet sure what new laws we would need to stop this bad behavior," Harmon said. "Clearly, there are areas with elected officials doubling as lobbyists that causes me great concern. And some of that might come out through a better statement of economic interest. But perhaps we need to erect stronger constraints on the ability to be on both sides of the transaction."

In addition to dealing with any further fallout from the federal probe, the Senate leader will have to navigate issues from property tax relief to Illinois' massive pension debt over the coming months and years, as well as the task of redrawing legislative district boundaries after the 2020 census.

Despite hinting at retirement plans a few years ago, Cullerton surprised his caucus and

staff by announcing in November, moments after the Senate adjourned for the year, that he planned to retire in January. Cullerton submitted his resignation Sunday evening, and stepped away from the Senate podium to a standing ovation from senators on both sides of the aisle.

"I've enjoyed working with all of you — Republicans and Democrats alike — we've accomplished a great deal together," Cullerton said. "Now it's time for me to move on — my grandchildren await. And I look forward to seeing what all of you will do next."

After being sworn in as Cullerton's successor, Harmon called Cullerton "a friend and a mentor, and we will all miss you."

The new Senate president needed support from a majority of the chamber's 59 members. Democrats currently hold 40 of those seats. Republicans nominated Senate Minority Leader Bill Brady, and cast their votes for Senate president on the floor for Brady. Brady, though, voted for Harmon. The full Senate vote came down 37-12 for Harmon.

In a statement Sunday, Brady said he looks forward to meeting with Harmon "to discuss the important issues facing our state, such as the need for fair maps, policies that attract businesses and grow jobs, and real property tax relief."

The General Assembly's legislative session begins on Jan. 28.

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We know this because we hear people say this over and over again at the Joint Relief Institute in Orland Park. Comments like this . . .

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— George R.

You know how it is . . .

You start to recognize your knee is hurting, and you try pain medicines, braces, or different over-the-counter arthritis supplements. Soon enough, you realize they either cause lots of side effects, or they fail to live up to their promise of fast, long-lasting relief, and are not worth the price of the bottle they come in.

And BECAUSE you'd prefer NOT to go under the knife . . .

And can't afford to be put in bed for several weeks, and because you know people who still hurt EVEN after surgery . . . you give up, and learn to live with the pain. BUT, you miss out on things you enjoy doing, and lose your golden years one activity at a time.

With less activity, comes weight gain, and depression . . . Yes, you can put up with this ache in your knee, but the cost of doing nothing about it is HUGE. You are not doing yourself a favor by "toughing it out."

"Six months later, I found out the one thing between me and losing 20 lbs, WAS my knee pain"

— Mary T.

"Every day was hard. I couldn't enjoy my favorite activities anymore. But thankfully, now I'm back in full form. I am doing yard work for the first time in years!"

— Phil M.

What are my options if I don't want to undergo surgery?

Today we live in an age with tremendous technology advances, and that's what Joint Relief Institute doctors use to put new life and energy into failing knee joints.

Using precise, advanced imaging, they gently place an all natural joint lubricant directly inside your knee to replace the lost fluid that's causing your pain. This treatment has proven to have a very high rate of success.

However, it HAS to be done right with advanced imaging . . .

A recent study examined trained



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.

Even after missing the target, they had no way of knowing they missed, because they are not SEEING it with advanced imaging.

That means these patients went away thinking they had received a life-changing treatment, and, in fact, did not get any benefit at all. Even worse, many of them went on to have surgery they didn't need.

How did Joint Relief Institute find the Antidote to this MISERABLE failure . . .

The doctors at the Joint Relief Institute are trained in using cutting-edge low dose motion digital imaging. These highly skilled, Board Certified doctors are able to see into the knee joint. They actually watch the medicine, live, as it goes where it needs to be. This technology is so precise, so advanced, and so forefront that it was able to make a whole difference in Non-surgical treatments.

"We've had so many patients tell us they RECEIVED treatments like Synvisc or Orthovisc in the past, and it didn't work. So they were considering surgery, and some even had surgery scheduled. Luckily, we were able to save many of those people from the knife." Said Dr Mike Hana at the Joint Relief Institute.

Joint Relief Institute's proven accuracy and effective treatment is why people are traveling hundreds of miles to get knee pain treatment from their Doctors.

Why did Knee treatments from Joint Relief Institute become the talk of the town?

Many seniors walk out feeling better than they have in years! So as you might imagine, when their friends see them move easier, walk further, sleep better and are happier, they want it also.

Only days after this treatment, people usually notice a decrease in: Pain... Stiffness...Muscle weakness... Swelling... Locked joints... Reduced range of motion... and Cracking sounds.

Most patients who receive the treatment are able to live pain free for up to 6 months, and some even get relief for 3-5 years with NO additional treatments.

How does the treatment help relieve your joint pain...

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

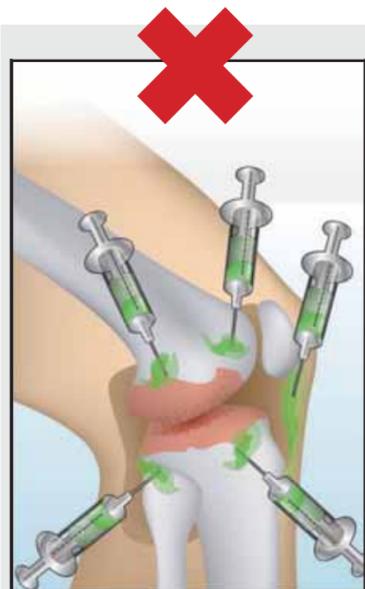
ache. If left untreated, it can keep you awake at night, and hurt with every step.

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.

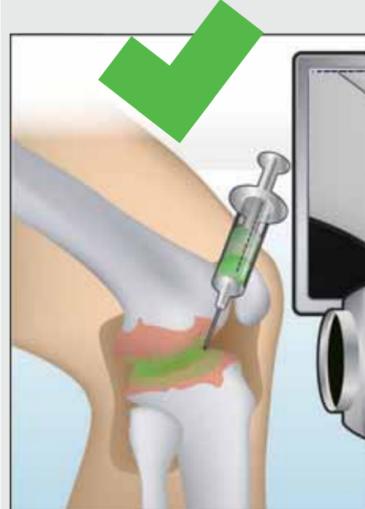
It's FDA approved and is a perfect cushion and shock absorber for your joints. Once it's correctly placed inside your knee, it can make them feel just like new again, eliminate any rubbing and friction, and make your joints glide smoothly.

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

After numbing the skin with a special spray, Joint Relief's imaging technology makes this treatment virtually painless. And because you are getting a supplement for a protein we are all born having, there are NO known after effects.



If you received this kind of treatment in the past, and it didn't relieve your pain, there is a BIG chance the medication landed somewhere around, but not INSIDE, the joint where it can't help you.



JRI Doctors see live into the knee joint. Even you will be able to tell the medicine went where it needs to be. No guess work, no poking around, the medicine cushion lubricate and help heal the damaged knee.

That is right, this is a quick, natural long-lasting, non-invasive, non-surgical treatment with NO known side effects...

Is it true? Could it be that this natural treatment cost NOTHING or very little out of pocket?

Yes! More good news besides the pain relief is that because this non-surgical pain relief program has already proven to help thousands of seniors, Medicare and other insurance plans pay for ALL or most of the cost of the treatment. So, there is very likely LITTLE or NO COST to you for this in-office treatment.

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.

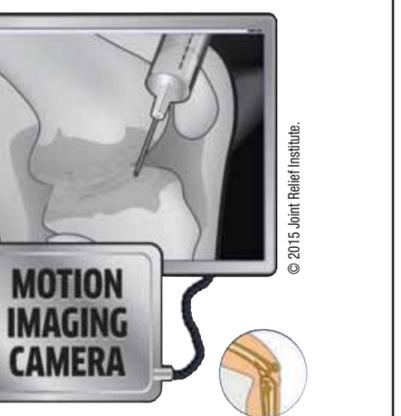
Due to high demand, they can only offer a limited number of FREE screens every month. So if you're interested, **Call now (708) 963-0064.**

Waiting will not help you feel better...

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.

Your screening will only take about 20-30 minutes of your time, as one of their doctors sits down with you and answers all the questions you have about your knees.

On the day of your treatment, you'll be able to come in on your own, and be done within 30 minutes or less. No pain. No problem driving yourself home. ■



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Shortages

Continued from Page 1

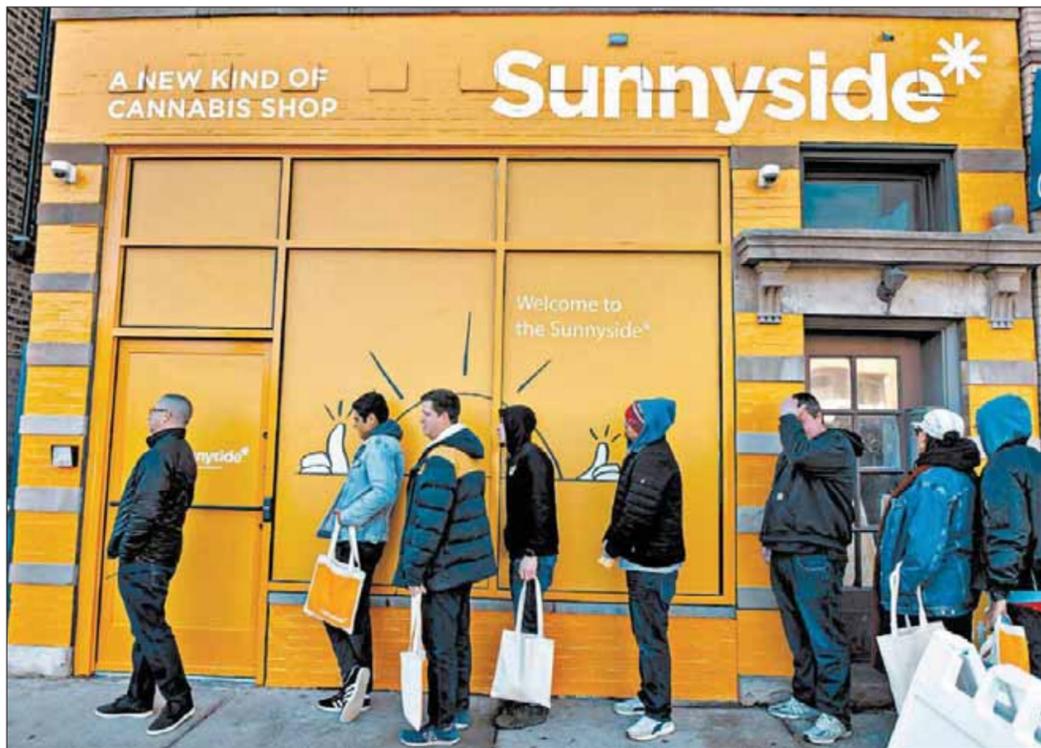
factors, including the state's previously small but rapidly growing medical market, the limited number of stores and having just six months to prepare.

One of the chief sponsors of the law, state Sen. Heather Steans, said initial shortages were to be expected following similar experiences in other states.

"Hopefully, within six months or a year or two, the supply gets ramped up so you're not having the same challenges," Steans said. "There's an initial burst of excitement from the public, so some of it is the nature of the beast."

In other states, while severe scarcities dissipated within days or weeks of the initial rush, in some cases it still took months to ramp up production to meet demand.

As in Illinois, at least one shop in Colorado ran out of weed within days of legalization in January 2014. A study showed the legal industry was supplying only about two-thirds of the total demand that first year, with the rest coming from the illicit market. But the outages were largely ironed out by springtime, and the state has since reached more of a balance between supply and demand, said



Customers wait in line to enter Sunnyside in Lakeview on Jan. 2. The tight market in Illinois is expected to continue.

Jim Burack, director of Colorado's Marijuana Enforcement Division.

The key difference with Illinois is that Colorado started its program with about 200 growers, almost 10 times as many as in Illinois. The Rocky Mountain State also opened with about 145 licensed retail

shops, compared with only 37 operating retail stores in Illinois. Colorado now has hundreds of growers and shops.

Elsewhere, other factors have slowed the rollout of legalization. When California required growers to meet new testing requirements for potency and pes-

ticides in 2018 and 2019, news media reported, increases in testing wait times and test failures caused a product shortage. Once the labs expanded capacity and cultivators were able to conform with the more stringent requirements, the supply caught up.

Washington opened its

retail pot program in 2014 with only about 20 stores, initially causing long lines, widespread shortages and high prices. But it had about 80 growers, and its market stabilized after more licenses were issued quickly, said Brian Smith, spokesman for the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board.

People initially thought the program had failed, but now the state has 1,100 growers and 500 or so stores, supplies have surged and prices have dropped steadily, Smith said.

He urged patience with the market. "There were a lot of people overreacting to how we got started," Smith said.

In Canada, which started legal pot sales of flower in October 2018, some stores began running out of product within hours. Shortages were still rampant weeks later, and provinces limited hours of operation or cut off issuing new licenses.

Late last year, Canada allowed cannabis edibles, vaping products and extracts for the first time. Yet news reports, blaming slow and strict regulatory enforcement, say it could be two years or more before Canada gets an adequate supply.

Given the history elsewhere, analysts saw supply problems coming to the Midwest. A study of the Illinois market commissioned by lawmakers last year predicted that existing growers could meet only about half of peak demand for legal weed. Even growers and lawmakers warned there would be a lack of supply. But the Medical Cannabis Alliance of Illinois, representing the industry, convinced lawmakers there was no need for new full-size licenses.

Pam Althoff, executive director of the Cannabis Business Association of Illinois, predicted that legal growers could meet demand before new licenses are issued in May. "There's always bumps with new things, but I think it's going extraordinarily well," she said.

Many factors worked against meeting the demand immediately, she said. Cultivators wanted to begin legalization in April to have time to ramp up production, but lawmakers wanted to start Jan. 1, she said. Also last year, the number of medical cannabis patients roughly doubled, increasing demand and causing shortages even before legalization.

It took months for growers to get permission to expand and start growing, with some not licensed until Dec. 23. It takes about four months to grow and process cannabis, so Althoff hopes new crops will be harvested by spring.

Other industry members are not so optimistic. Growers note the entire process of getting permits, building or expanding a warehouse, and producing a crop can take a year or more. One medical cultivator only started growing last year, four years after medical pot licenses were issued.

Lawmakers authorized up to 40 new small "craft" growers, initially limited to 5,000 square feet, compared with 210,000 square feet for existing growers. But those craft grower licenses aren't required to be

"... most people are just happy they can come into a store and buy legally. They're willing to abide by these growing pains."

— Kris Krane, president of 4Front Ventures

approved until July 1, while 75 new stores will be approved by May 1.

Business applicants will get bonus points toward a license if they are "social equity" applicants, meaning people who have been disproportionately hurt by the war on drugs, including those from poor areas or those who've been arrested for low-level pot offenses.

Social equity applicants also will pay half the licensing fees and will be eligible for startup loans. Those loans will be financed by the licensing fees paid by existing businesses — that's partly why the law allowed the medical shops to open first, Steans said. In addition, state regulators had already done background checks on the existing growers and shops, whereas new licensees will have to undergo extensive vetting.

On the other side of the equation, demand for legal cannabis in the first week of sales in Illinois was among the highest of any state, with \$20 million sold in the first 12 days. Even before recreational sales started, medical cannabis patients were stocking up, in some cases clearing out products at dispensaries.

State marijuana czar Toi Hutchinson noted the strong sales and pointed out that Illinois had far more stores than its nearest competitor, Michigan, which opened its market late last year with only four shops.

In response to concerns by some medical patients that they can't find the products they want, Hutchinson emphasized that stores are required to reserve a one-month inventory of cannabis for patients, or face fines or other discipline.

But state regulation isn't the only issue. Compounding the problem in Illinois, some medical dispensaries have gotten state licenses to sell recreational cannabis but were prevented from selling it by local governments.

Adding another degree of difficulty, it's not an ideal time to raise money for expansions.

The value of publicly traded cannabis companies in Canada, where marijuana is legal, has fallen to a fraction of what it was in 2018. Investors now want to see profits rather than just growth projections, industry members said, and are stingier with their money.

Because it can take a year to get a grow house up to full capacity, cannabis industry research firm New Frontier Data is not projecting a full supply in Illinois for one to two years, senior economist Beau Whitney said.

"You fix it by issuing additional licenses," he said. Until then, he added, "look for continued constraints on supply, higher-than-market prices and a robust illicit market."

To preserve inventory and stay open, many retailers have imposed limits on how much customers can buy. Last week, Mission Dispensary in Chicago's South Shore neighborhood held people to \$200 maximum purchases, 4.5 grams of flower, 100 milligrams of edibles and two vaping cartridges, said Kris Krane, president of 4Front Ventures, which runs the store.

For the shortest wait times, he advised shopping on a Monday or Tuesday afternoon — after lunch but before work lets out.

"You definitely get a little grumbling, 'I waited in line for an hour and all I could buy was this much,'" Krane said. "But most people are just happy they can come into a store and buy legally. They're willing to abide by these growing pains. People might be more upset three or four months from now (if shortages continue). But we can't grow the plants any faster."

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Clerk of court candidate files ethics complaint against rival

Democratic Party's pick is accused of accepting \$120K in improper donations

BY ELYSSA CHERNEY

Michael Cabonargi, the Cook County Democratic Party's pick to become the next clerk of the circuit court, is the subject of a new ethics complaint alleging he accepted more than \$120,000 of improper campaign donations from people who argued property tax appeals before him at the county's Board of Review, where he is an elected commissioner.

The complaint was filed Thursday with the Cook County Board of Ethics, submitted by the friend of another candidate, Jacob Meister, who is also running for circuit court clerk. The board's executive director has 30 days to determine if the allegations merit investigation, according to the county website.

During a news conference held outside the Board of Review on Friday, Meister described the 21-page complaint as a "fantastic dossier of Michael Cabonargi's history of engaging in pay-to-play government over many years."

Rebecca Evans, a spokeswoman for the Cabonargi campaign, said late Friday that the allegations in the complaint weren't true and accused Meister of peddling false information.

"The fundraising law has changed three times since Mike has been on the board and each time he's complied," Evans said in an email.

A Wilmette resident, Cabonargi has served on the Board of Review, a quasi-judicial body that hears appeals to property tax assessments and has the authority to lower them, since 2011. He earned the Cook County Democratic Party's endorsement to replace outgoing Circuit Court Clerk Dorothy Brown, whose of-

ice has been mired in a federal corruption investigation over the last four years.

The complaint against Cabonargi cites three letters issued to him by the county ethics board since 2017 that found a total of 126 campaign donation violations. The notices list the excess contributions that were improperly accepted — many from Chicago law firms — and instruct Cabonargi to return the money within 30 days or face a fine.

Per county regulations, candidates seeking office cannot accept more than \$750 during each phase of the election cycle from a person who has recently done businesses with the county or plans to do so.

In the notices to Cabonargi, the ethics board lists donations of \$1,500 made by people who appeared before the Board of Review. The ethics board said in the letters that it cross-referenced the Illinois State Board of Elections contribution data with the Board of Review's online case data to identify the violations.

The Chicago Tribune reported in 2018 that Cabonargi was asked by the ethics board to return nearly \$69,000 of contributions exceeding the ethics cap.

The newly filed complaint to the ethics board also claim that instead of returning the money as instructed, Cabonargi funneled thousands of dollars into another political committee, the Fund for 9th District Democrats, that is managed by associates of Cabonargi's campaign fund.

The Fund for 9th District Democrats, the complaint notes, shares many of the same contributors to Cabonargi's campaign fund, including "overlap-

ping donors specifically within the property tax legal field," and was created after Cabonargi was cited by the ethics board in 2017.

Cabonargi's campaign produced a 2018 letter from the ethics board showing the contributions that exceeded the allowed amounts had been returned.

"Our opponent has given himself \$145,000 of his own wealth to pad his campaign, and what does he have to show for it? A word document covered in lies that he's been trying desperately — and unsuccessfully — to peddle since the summertime," Cabonargi's campaign statement said. "Mike is proud to have the support of a variety of people and organizations: labor groups, progressive elected officials and Personal PAC. While our opponent obsesses over spun up fabrications, Mike is focused on the biggest issues in this race and how he can transform the Clerk of the Courts office to foster access to justice."

The field of Democrats vying to become the nominee for circuit court clerk in the March 17 primary also includes Richard Boykin, a former Cook County commissioner, and state Sen. Iris Martinez. Barbara Bellar is the sole Republican running for the position.

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Chicago Tribune NATION & WORLD

Need a sitter? Nix your campaign funds

Child care costs not always ensured for moms up for office

By LINDSAY WHITEHURST AND CHRISTINA A. CASSIDY
Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — When Kimberly Dudik ran for her fourth term in the Montana House, state officials told her she could not use campaign money to pay for child care for her four young children.

She is now running for attorney general and is trying to visit a big chunk of the sprawling state, spending hours on the road. That means she needs even more help picking up her kids at school and day care when she's away and her husband has a late night at the office.

"It just seems behind the times," said Dudik, whose family is living off her husband's income and savings from her work as a lawyer. "When it was a man campaigning, the woman was traditionally the one to stay home and take care of the children. There is not someone home just taking care of the kids."

Experts predict a large number of women will again run for office in 2020 like they did in 2018, and child care remains a hurdle for many of them.

A congressional candidate in New York successfully petitioned the Federal Election Commission in 2018 to allow campaign money to help cover child care costs. But it applies only to those running for federal office.

That leaves women in many states who are running for the Legislature, statewide positions like at-

torney general or local offices to find another way to pay for child care as they campaign, which often requires night and weekend work.

Only six states have laws specifically allowing campaign money to be used for child care. Five states are considering it. In most states, including Montana, the law is silent on the issue and up to interpretation by agencies or boards. Agencies in at least nine states have allowed child care to be a campaign-related expense, but those decisions are not law and could be reversed.

Utah is among the states that passed a gender-neutral child care expense law, which went into effect last May. Sponsored by Republican state Rep. Craig Hall, it easily passed the GOP-dominated legislature.

Luz Escamilla was one of the first candidates to use it as she campaigned to become the first Latina mayor of Salt Lake City. Escamilla had to take time off from her full-time banking job to knock on doors and shake hands as she made her case to voters.

Without a paycheck, it was hard to cover the cost of child care for her two youngest daughters. After the law was passed, she used about \$1,500 in campaign cash over two months to help pay for it. The extra time she could spend campaigning helped propel her to a spot in the general election, though she lost in November.

"Full-time campaigning during the summer with toddlers, it makes it really difficult," Escamilla said, adding of the law: "It was a great tool in our toolbox."

Lawmakers in Minne-



BRANDON CRUZ/LUZ ESCAMILLA CAMPAIGN

Utah lawmaker and former Salt Lake City mayoral candidate Luz Escamilla, shown with her husband and three of her children, was among the first candidates to use a new Utah law that allows campaign money to be used for child care.

sota added child care as an allowable expense in 2018, while Colorado, New York, New Hampshire and California passed laws in 2019.

Before Colorado allowed campaign cash to be used for child care, Amber McReynolds, a former chief elections official in Denver, was contemplating a bid for statewide office in 2017. The costs of child care were a considerable concern as a single mother of two young children.

For that and other reasons, McReynolds decided against running.

"When we look at the statistics in terms of representatives in Congress or statewide office and you don't see single moms in that category, that's why," said McReynolds, who is CEO of a nonprofit. "The circumstances are just that much more difficult when you are in politics."

The policy also can help

fathers running for office in families where both parents work.

Jean Sinzdek, associate director of the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, said the record number of women who ran for office in 2018 has helped drive the issue. Still, lawmakers in a number of states have resisted the change.

In Tennessee, the sponsor of a measure to add child care to the list of approved campaign expenses faced a skeptical audience during a subcommittee hearing last spring.

"If they aren't running for office because they can't find child care, how are they going to do the job down here?" asked state Rep. John Crawford, a Republican from Kingsport, Tennessee.

The sponsor, Democratic state Rep. Jason Powell, said he introduced the pro-

posal after people he tried to recruit to run for City Council in Nashville declined because child care needs kept them from campaigning.

"I hate that people in our state feel like they can't run for office because they may or may not be able to use their campaign funds for a child care expense," Powell said.

The measure failed to advance after a split vote of the all-male subcommittee.

In Louisiana, Democratic state House candidate Morgan Lamandre had her request denied by the state ethics board even though it allowed a Republican man to claim campaign-related child care expenses in 2000. Members, who were not on the panel two decades ago and didn't have to follow the previous decision, said they were concerned it could be abused.

States now considering proposals include New Jersey, Illinois, Ohio, Rhode Island and Massachusetts. Caitlin Clarkson Pereira tried a similar approach to Grechen-Shirley's, but ended up suing Connecticut after a board denied her request. She was told she couldn't use campaign money to pay for child care for her young daughter during her state House race in 2018, which she ultimately lost.

Connecticut officials cited a program that allows candidates to tap taxpayer money after they raise a certain amount on their own. With public money involved, the state says child care should be considered a personal expense.

After a backlash, the board reversed itself.

While she's used campaign funds to pay for child care a few times, Lamandre said it's not a panacea for smaller races where candidates might have to choose between paying a babysitter or buying basics like lawn signs.

"It's helpful, but it's not a slam-dunk," she said.

Liuba Grechen-Shirley, who unsuccessfully ran for Congress on eastern Long Island and whose FEC petition led to child care expenses being allowed for federal candidates, started a group called Vote Mama to help mothers running for public office and hopes one day the expense is allowed in every state.

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Pereira argued that it should be considered as necessary as meals or travel.

Despite an eleventh-hour push last year by Connecticut Gov. Ned Lamont, lawmakers failed to pass the policy.



STR/GETTY-AFP

Medical staff members carry a patient into a hospital on Saturday in Wuhan, China. A pneumonialike virus believed to have originated from the city has left two people dead.

17 more people afflicted by mysterious virus in China

By JAVIER C. HERNÁNDEZ
The New York Times

BEIJING — Chinese authorities said Sunday that 17 more people had been infected with a mysterious new virus, raising questions about how it is being transmitted and adding to concerns about the spread of the illness before China's busiest travel season.

The announcement — by the health commission in Wuhan, a central Chinese city where the virus originated last month — comes amid growing worry among some experts that the outbreak of the illness, the pneumonialike coronavirus, could be more severe than China's government has described.

The virus has killed two people, according to official statistics released Sunday. But authorities and media reports early Monday said the total number of infected people has topped 200, with two of the new cases reported in Beijing and another in Shenzhen.

With hundreds of millions of people in China expected to travel for the Lunar New Year holiday, which begins Friday, public

health officials are working to stop a major outbreak.

China's central government sought Sunday to reassure the public that it had the situation under control. In Beijing's most extensive remarks on the virus since the outbreak last month, the National Health Commission said that experts agreed that an epidemic was "still preventable and controllable."

Still, the commission acknowledged that the source of the virus and its path of transmission were not fully understood. "The mutation of the virus still needs to be closely monitored," the statement said.

The virus already appears to have spread outside China. Officials in Thailand and Japan have confirmed three cases involving people who have traveled through Wuhan.

The health commission in Wuhan said in a statement Sunday that the 17 infected people had begun showing symptoms of the coronavirus as recently as last week. Three are in critical condition, the commission said.

Most people with the infection have contracted it through exposure to ani-

mals at a market in Wuhan that sells seafood and live animals, authorities said.

Health experts are studying whether the virus can spread from human to human on a broad scale.

The World Health Organization said Sunday that while its analysis indicated that limited transmission of the virus is possible, it remains unclear whether it can easily spread from one person to another.

The health commission in Wuhan said Sunday that some people who had come down with the virus had no exposure to the market.

That acknowledgment raises the possibility that the virus could be present in other markets in Wuhan, experts said.

"If you cannot find the source and control the source of the virus, you cannot extinguish the fire," said David Hui, director of the Stanley Ho Center for Emerging Infectious Diseases at the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

Hui said the risk of widespread human-to-human transmission appeared to be low.

The Associated Press contributed.

Several competing groups are expected at Virginia gun rally

By SARAH RANKIN
Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. — State officials and U.S. hate-monitoring groups are warning about the potential for violence ahead of a gun-rights rally in Virginia that's expected to draw a mix of militias, firearms advocates and white supremacists to Richmond.

Citing credible threats of violence, Gov. Ralph Northam declared a temporary state of emergency days ahead of Monday's rally, banning all weapons, including guns, from Capitol Square.

Virginia's solicitor general last week said law enforcement had identified "credible evidence" armed out-of-state groups planned to come to Virginia with the possible intention of participating in a "violent insurrection."

Online, threats of violence have been "rampant" among anti-government and far-right groups, according to the Southern Poverty Law Center, which tracks white supremacists and other extremists. Conspiracy theories and other misinformation have also proliferated.

Organizers of an annual vigil at the Capitol for the victims of gun violence said Friday they have canceled their event this year because of fears of "armed insurrectionists."

Meanwhile, the gun-rights group that has planned the event is urging peace.

A look at some of the groups involved:

Virginia Citizens Defense League: The Virginia Citizens Defense League, an influential grassroots gun-rights organization with a long record in the state, has been the leading force behind Monday's rally.

Each year on the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday the group holds a lobby day,



STEVE HELBER/AP

Police patrol Capitol Square on Sunday in Richmond, Va. A gun-rights rally is slated for Monday in the capital city.

typically attended by several hundred gun enthusiasts who rally and meet with lawmakers to discuss legislation. This year's event is expected to draw an enormous crowd.

The VCDL has donated over \$200,000 to state lawmakers since 2002, records show. The group has emphasized the rally is intended to be peaceful and urged members not to bring long guns, saying they would be a "distraction."

"The eyes of the nation and the world are on Virginia and VCDL right now and we must show them that gun owners are not the problem," the group wrote in a recent email to its members.

Gun Owners of America: The influential pro-gun group Gun Owners of America describes itself as the only "no-compromise" gun lobby in Washington and enjoys a loyal following.

Founded in 1975 by a California state lawmaker, Gun Owners of America joined the VCDL to seek an injunction against enforcement of Northam's executive order banning guns from the Capitol Square. The state Supreme Court upheld the ban late Friday.

On its website, the group has urged its members to attend Monday's rally.

Oath Keepers: Founded

in 2009, Oath Keepers has become one of the nation's largest anti-government organizations, according to the Southern Poverty Law Center.

In 2014, Oath Keeper members joined an armed standoff between federal officials and Nevada rancher Cliven Bundy over grazing rights on government land.

The group urged its members in a post on its website to attend the rally and said it was sending trainers to Virginia to organize and train "armed posses and militia."

Three Percenter Movement: The Three Percents are a loosely organized movement that formed in 2008, according to the Anti-Defamation League, the Jewish civil rights organization that tracks extremist groups.

On its website, the right-wing group says it isn't an anti-government militia but "we will defend ourselves when necessary."

White supremacists: J.J. MacNab, a fellow at the Program on Extremism at George Washington University, said she didn't expect large numbers of white supremacists. But MacNab said she thinks those who do attend will try to capitalize on the large expected crowd for a moment in the limelight.

Texts suggest Rep. Nunes linked to Ukraine scheme

Lawmaker's aide and Parnas had repeated contact

By SARAH D. WIRE
Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — As the top Republican on the House Intelligence Committee, Rep. Devin Nunes, R-Calif., presented a fiery defense of President Donald Trump during impeachment hearings last month, angrily accusing Democrats of ginning up a false narrative about the president's efforts to get Ukraine to dig up dirt on a political rival.

But newly released text messages suggest Nunes' staff was aware of and involved in portions of the scheme.

Documents released by the House committee show repeated contact between Lev Parnas, who worked with Trump's personal attorney Rudolph W. Giuliani, and Derek Harvey, an aide to Nunes on the committee, about meetings with Ukrainian prosecutors to get damaging information about Democrat Joe Biden, who is running for president, and about a debunked theory about Ukrainian involvement in the 2016 U.S. election.

The messages between

Parnas, who functioned as Giuliani's emissary to Ukrainian officials, and Harvey indicate Nunes' office was aware of the back-channel White House effort that has led to Trump's impeachment.

Parnas, who is facing federal campaign finance violation charges in New York, has publicly turned on Trump and Giuliani in recent weeks. He has provided documents to the House committee and given explosive media interviews as the Senate prepares to determine whether to remove Trump from office. The trial will begin in earnest Tuesday.

In his interviews, Parnas has sought to tie Nunes closely to the attempt to unearth dirt on Biden and to gather information on an unsubstantiated theory promoted by Russia — but rebutted by the U.S. intelligence community — that Ukraine interfered in the 2016 presidential election.

A spokesman for Nunes did not return an email seeking comment Saturday.

During the House impeachment inquiry, Nunes accused Democrats of coordinating with the still-anonymous whistleblower who first alleged that Trump had blocked nearly \$400 million in military aid

to Ukraine until newly elected Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy publicly committed to announcing an investigation of Biden and his son Hunter, who had served on the board of a Ukrainian energy company while Biden was vice president, and the false claims about 2016.

The text messages appear to show that Parnas sought to set up Skype and FaceTime calls last spring between Harvey and Ukrainian officials who were assisting Giuliani in his efforts to gather negative information on Biden and to oust the U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, Marie Yovanovitch, who was seen as an obstacle.

It is unclear from the messages whether the calls took place, but Parnas' attorney has said they did. One from April 3 shows Harvey grumbling that Parnas was providing information to John Solomon, a former columnist for The Hill, rather than to him.

"Any documents for us or are you going to keep working through Solomon?" Harvey wrote.

Eight days later, Solomon published the first in a series of articles promoting the conspiracy theory that Ukraine had interfered in the U.S. election, that Biden's son had worked for a



J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/AP

Rep. Devin Nunes, R-Calif., the ranking member of the House Intelligence Committee, confers with Rep. Jim Jordan, R-Ohio, left, and Rep. John Ratcliffe, R-Texas, right, on Dec. 9.

corrupt Ukrainian company, and a story that Yovanovitch gave Ukrainian officials a list of people not to investigate. The named source in that article has since recanted his accusation.

Parnas told MSNBC in an interview last week that he was told to work with Harvey because Nunes "couldn't be in a spotlight" because of an ethics investigation.

Nunes' apparent role on the margins of the Ukraine saga has been slow to emerge.

Last month, Democrats

on the House Intelligence Committee released a report that included records showing several phone calls between Nunes and either Parnas or Giuliani in early 2019, including a call with Parnas that lasted nearly nine minutes.

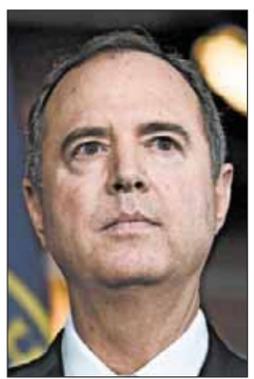
House Republicans criticized Democrats for pointing out the calls in their report, saying it was done to give the impression that Nunes had done something wrong.

Nunes brushed aside the suggestion, saying he spoke to Giuliani about special counsel Robert Mueller's

investigation, which was winding down at the time. He said he had no recollection of speaking to Parnas, and that it "seems very unlikely I will be taking calls from random people."

"You know, it's possible," Nunes told Fox News. "I don't really recall that name."

But last week, shortly before Parnas told MSNBC that he and Nunes had spoken on the phone and met in person but don't "have too much of a relationship," Nunes said he did recall a phone call with Parnas.



OLIVIER DOULIERI/GETTY-AFP
Rep. Adam Schiff, D-Calif., is also the lead House impeachment manager.

Schiff says NSA, CIA withholding Ukraine documents

By HOPE YEN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The chairman of the House Intelligence Committee is accusing U.S. intelligence agencies of withholding documents from Congress on Ukraine that could be significant to President Donald Trump's impeachment trial.

"They appear to be succumbing to pressure from the administration," Rep. Adam Schiff said Sunday on ABC's "This Week." Schiff

was selected by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., as the lead impeachment manager for Trump's Senate trial.

Schiff, D-Calif., contended that the National Security Agency "in particular is withholding what are potentially relevant documents to our oversight responsibilities on Ukraine, but also withholding documents potentially relevant that the senators might want to see during the trial. That is deeply concerning."

He also said "there are

signs that the CIA may be on the same tragic course."

The White House's National Security Council referred questions to the intelligence agencies. The CIA did not immediately respond to a requests for comment.

Democrats have previously criticized the State Department for withholding documents relevant to the impeachment inquiry. In the weeks since Trump was impeached, Democrats have sought to focus on new evidence about Trump's ef-

fort to pressure Ukraine to investigate his political rivals and are pushing the Senate to consider new documents and testimony, such as from former national security adviser John Bolton.

Schiff was also asked about a Politico report that said intelligence officials were pushing the House and Senate Intelligence committees to drop the public portion of an annual briefing on world security threats following last year's session in which Trump lashed out

over the assessments on North Korea, Iran and the Islamic State.

The request was reportedly being made in a bid to avoid a repeat in which intelligence officials might publicly disagree with Trump on the security risks.

"The intelligence community is reluctant to have an open hearing, something that we had done every year prior to the Trump administration, because they're worried about angering the president," Schiff also said on Sunday.

Trial

Continued from Page 1

The president's lawyers bore down on the suggestion that House impeachment is invalid unless the accused violated U.S. law.

"Criminal-like conduct is required," said Alan Dershowitz, author of a book about the case against impeaching Trump.

The argument refers to an 1868 speech by Benjamin Curtis, who after serving as a Supreme Court justice acted as the chief lawyer for President Andrew Johnson at his Senate impeachment trial.

In his speech before the Senate, Curtis argued that "high crimes and misdemeanors" must correspond to an actual law on the books at the time the offense was committed.

"There can be no crime, there can be no misdemeanor, without a law, written or unwritten, express or implied," Curtis told the Senate. "There must be some law; otherwise there is no crime."

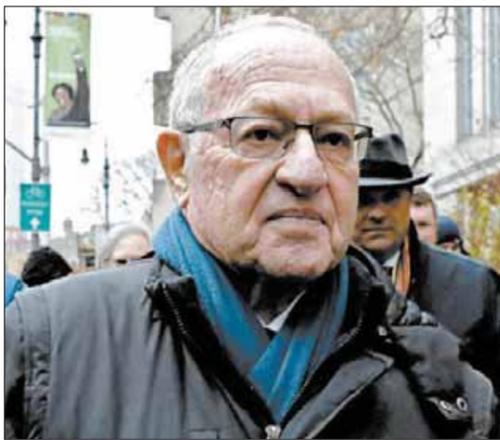
Johnson was ultimately acquitted by the Senate.

Republicans have long signaled the strategy, which has been disputed by other scholars.

"It's comically bad. Dershowitz either knows better or should," said Frank Bowman, a University of Missouri law professor and author of his own book about the history of impeachment for the Trump era.

Bowman, who said he had Dershowitz as a law professor at Harvard, added that it's "a common argument, and it's always wrong."

Dershowitz on Sunday pushed another, more personal and perhaps difficult narrative. He described himself as something other than a full member of the defense team, merely a speaker about the Constitution. He refused to endorse the strategy pursued by other members of that team or defend Trump's conduct. He noted he didn't sign the White



RICHARD DREW/AP

Attorney Alan Dershowitz has suggested that the House's impeachment of President Trump is invalid.



JOYCE NALTCHAYAN/GETTY-AFP 1999

Attorney Robert Ray said if Trump is acquitted, then it will be etched in the history books "forever as well."

House's brief for the trial.

He acknowledged that his argument really is against having new testimony introduced.

"There's no need for witnesses," he said.

Democrats strongly disagree, and a few Republicans said they want to know more before deciding. New information from Lev Parnas, an indicted associate of Trump lawyer Rudy Giuliani, is being incorporated in the House case. At the same time, Senate Democrats want to call John Bolton, the former national security adviser, among other potential eyewitnesses, after the White House blocked officials from appearing in the House.

With Republicans controlling the Senate 53-47, they can set the trial rules — or any four Republicans could join with Democrats to change course.

McConnell has said he has 51 votes to start the trial before making a decision on calling witnesses. But he hasn't released the ground rules publicly, giving him and the White House more control over their Sunday remarks. McConnell has said he's working closely with the president's team.

Crow spoke on CNN's "State of the Union" and Dershowitz was on CNN and ABC's "This Week." Ray was on Fox News Channel's "Sunday Morning Futures."

Bloomberg plan would fight racial economic inequality

By SEAN MURPHY
Associated Press

TULSA, Okla. — Democratic presidential candidate Michael Bloomberg made a pitch to African American voters the day before the national holiday honoring Martin Luther King Jr., visiting a black church in Tulsa, the site of a 1921 race massacre that left hundreds dead and the city's thriving African American community in rubble.

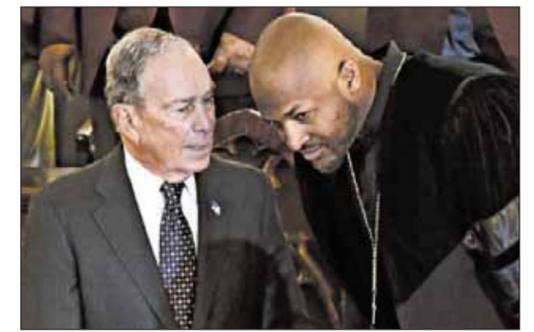
The former New York City mayor spoke out against racial income inequality and outlined an economic proposal aimed at increasing the number of black-owned homes and businesses. The plan includes a \$70 billion investment in the nation's most disadvantaged neighborhoods.

"The next president has to make the issue of economic inequality a top priority, and there's no better place for me to talk about it than right here in Greenwood," Bloomberg told parishioners Sunday at the Vernon African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Bloomberg described the initiative as a "plan for righting what I think are historic wrongs and creating opportunity and wealth in black communities."

The plan offers incentives for investment in underserved communities, increases support for black-owned banks and ties federal housing money to progress in reducing segregation. It would require bias training for police, teachers and federal contractors and address voter disenfranchisement practices such as ID requirements, poll purging and gerrymandering.

"As someone who has been very lucky in life, I often say my story would only have been possible in America, and that's true," Bloomberg said in a statement. "But I also know that



SUE OROCKI/AP

Democratic presidential candidate Michael Bloomberg, left, talks with Rev. Robert Turner on Sunday in Tulsa, Okla.

my story might have turned out very differently if I had been black, and that more black Americans of my generation would have ended up with far more wealth, had they been white."

The visit to Oklahoma, a Super Tuesday state whose primary is March 3, keeps with Bloomberg's strategy of skipping early voting states and focusing on delegate-rich Texas, California and others.

Bloomberg planned to deliver a speech later Sunday at the Greenwood Cultural Center, which houses artifacts and other memorabilia from the Tulsa race massacre, in which white mobs killed an estimated 300 black residents and injured 800 more. About 8,000 residents were left homeless after firebombs, including some dropped from airplanes, destroyed movie theaters, churches and hotels and decimated the economic and cultural mecca that had become known as Black Wall Street.

The black community rebuilt in the decade that followed, but urban renewal programs in the 1950s and 1960s wiped out much of that progress, and the city remains largely segregated.

"Although it's been nearly 100 years since the massacre took place, we are still dealing with issues of racism and inequality in our city," said Mechelle Brown,

program coordinator at the center. "I think our community, especially, is dealing with the historical trauma to that has been passed down from generation to generation, specifically as it relates to the history of the massacre."

"Those feelings of fear, anger, bitterness, resentment have been passed down."

In the past year, several presidential candidates visited the Greenwood district, including former Texas Rep. Beto O'Rourke, New Jersey Sen. Cory Booker and Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren. It was the first time that Brown could recall any major presidential candidate visiting the area. O'Rourke and Booker have seen quit the 2020 race.

While those campaign stops are undoubtedly an attempt by Democratic candidates to reach black voters, a critically important segment of the party's electorate, they also present an opportunity for residents to meet the candidates firsthand, said Judy Eason McIntyre, who represented the district in the state Legislature for a decade.

"Someone will say it's pandering, but I'm not one of those," McIntyre said. "It allows people to get to know them up close. It also maybe generates some excitement and knowledge about getting out to vote."

NEWS BRIEFING

Staff and news services

At church service, Pence honors Martin Luther King Jr.

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Vice President Mike Pence gave a speech Sunday in remembrance of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. at a church service in Tennessee.

Pence spoke at the Holy City Church of God in Memphis the day before the federal holiday named after the civil rights leader.

"I'm here to pay a debt of honor and respect to a man who from walking the dirt roads of the Deep South, to speaking to hun-

dreds of thousands on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, touched the hearts of the American people and led the civil rights movement to triumph over Jim Crow," Pence said.

The vice president added: "He touched the hearts of millions of Americans and his words continue to inspire through this day."

Before the service, Pence toured the National Civil Rights Museum.

2 police officers shot and killed in Hawaii, governor says

HONOLULU — Two police officers were killed in a shooting Sunday in the normally peaceful Honolulu, Hawaii's governor said in a statement.

The Honolulu Star-Advertiser reports officers had responded to an assault call when they encountered a male with a firearm, who then opened fire, striking two officers.

"Our entire state mourns the loss of two Honolulu Police officers

killed in the line of duty this morning," Gov. David Ige said.

The neighborhood where the shooting occurred is at the end of Waikiki Beach between the Honolulu Zoo and the Diamond Head State Monument.

A home the suspected gunman was believed to be inside caught fire. The fire spread to several other homes and a police vehicle.

2 more bodies found at Tijuana home where couple was buried

TIJUANA, Mexico — Mexican authorities say they have discovered two more bodies at a house in Tijuana where a couple with dual U.S.-Mexico citizenship were found buried, allegedly by their son-in-law.

The attorney general's office for the state of Baja California, just south of San Diego, California, said late Saturday the second set of bodies — one male and the other female — are

in a state of advanced decomposition.

Maria Teresa Lopez, 65, and her husband Jesus Ruben Lopez, 70, entered Mexico on January 10 to retrieve the equivalent of \$6,400 in rent for apartments they owned in the city and that their son-in-law had supposedly collected on their behalf.

Authorities say he confessed to burying them on one of their properties, where he lived.



HASSAN AMMAR/AP
An anti-government protester uses an ignited aerosol can to shoot a stream of fire at the riot police during protests Sunday in Beirut against the ruling political elites.

Violence escalates in Beirut as protesters clash with police

BEIRUT — Security forces fired tear gas, water cannons and rubber bullets in clashes Sunday with hundreds of anti-government protesters outside Lebanon's Parliament, as violence continued to escalate in a week of rioting.

At least 114 people were injured in the protests, according to the Red Cross and the Lebanese Civil Defense teams, with 47 taken to hospitals for treatment. Most of the wounds were from rubber bullets, some in the face and upper body, an Associated Press reporter said.

Demonstrators threw

rocks and other projectiles and even shot streams of fire from ignited aerosol cans. Security forces responded with tear gas and water cannons before turning to rubber bullets to try to disperse the crowds. A few protesters tried to climb metal barriers separating them from the riot police. Hundreds more, some chanting "Revolution," gathered farther down the blocked street that leads to the Parliament in central Beirut.

Army troops were deployed to the area briefly.

By late Sunday night, security forces and army

troops were deployed in large formations to the blocked streets. Amid a downpour of rain and the advance of security forces, protesters retreated and the situation calmed in central Beirut. Army patrols briefly roamed the streets to prevent protesters from returning to outside the Parliament.

The military made a show of force Sunday, with large numbers deployed in downtown Beirut and in southern Lebanon, patrolling ahead of the rallies. Riot police were in the front line guarding the Parliament.

Libya players agree to respect arms embargo

BERLIN — World powers and other countries with interests in Libya's long-running civil war agreed Sunday to respect a much-violated arms embargo, hold off on military support to the warring parties and push them to reach a full cease-fire, German and U.N. leaders said.

The agreement came after about four hours of talks at the chancellery in Berlin. German Chancellor Angela Merkel hosted leaders of 11 countries, with Libya's two main rival leaders also in the German capital but not at the main conference table.

Among those who attended Sunday were Russian President Vladimir Putin, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, French President Emmanuel Macron, Italian Premier Giuseppe Conte, British Prime Minister Boris Johnson and U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo.

In the Philippines: Philippine officials said Sunday the government will no longer allow villagers to return to a crater-studded island where an erupting volcano lies, warning that living there would be "like having a gun pointed at you."

Taal volcano has simmered with smaller ash ejections in recent days after erupting on Jan. 12 with a gigantic plume of steam and ash that drifted northward and reached Manila. While the volcano remains dangerous, with large numbers of local villagers encamped in emergency shelters, officials have begun discussing post-eruption recovery.

The island has long been declared a national park that's off-limits to permanent villagers.

Venezuela's Guaidó to meet Pompeo in Colombia

MIAMI — Venezuela opposition leader Juan Guaidó has traveled to Colombia to participate alongside Secretary of State Mike Pompeo in a regional counterterrorism meeting — a new show of support by the Trump administration for the man it says is the country's legitimate leader.

From Bogota, Guaidó plans to travel to Europe and possibly the U.S., two people close to the opposition leader said. They spoke on condition of anonymity.

While Guaidó's itinerary in Europe is unknown, he'll be traveling there as President Donald Trump is

scheduled to attend the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland. That could set the stage for a first meeting between Guaidó and Trump.

Pompeo told reporters en route from a meeting in Berlin that he hoped Guaidó would be at the summit.

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EDITORIALS

DNA and DuPage County

HOW SHAKING FAMILY TREES SHOULD SOLVE MORE MURDER CASES

On Monday, DuPage County authorities revealed that an amazing investigative technique has implicated Bruce Lindahl in the 1976 sexual assault and murder of a 16-year-old Woodridge girl, Pamela Maurer.

On Tuesday, the Tribune posted a report that the same technique had excluded Lindahl as the person responsible for the 1972 sexual assault and murder of a 16-year-old Naperville girl, Julie Ann Hanson.

One allegation of certain guilt, one declaration of certain innocence.

Lindahl, whom some officials suspect was a serial killer, fatally wounded himself in 1981 while stabbing to death 18-year-old Charles Huber in a Naperville apartment. Lindahl, 29 when he died, also is a prime suspect in the 1979 disappearance of a Downers Grove North High School student, Deb McCall, and the 1980 killing of Deb Colliander, whom he had been charged with previously kidnapping and assaulting.

bloodstains. Under questioning, the man denied killing Martinko. He did tell police he was familiar with genetic genealogy. And he couldn't explain why his DNA was on Martinko's dress and auto. Jerry Burns, 65, is jailed on a \$5 million bond, and will be tried next month on a charge of first-degree murder.

The Golden State Killer

Except for the extraction of DNA material after authorities got a court order to exhume his body, Lindahl is in no position to help Chicago-area authorities solve these or other cold cases. Law officers are relying instead on "genetic genealogy," also known as "forensic genealogy." It's a blend of modern science and old-fashioned research of family histories.

In April 2018 the power of this technique startled law enforcement officials nationwide when it pointed to a former police officer as the so-called Golden State Killer, a serial murderer and rapist who had eluded them since the 1970s: Joseph DeAngelo, now awaiting trial in Sacramento, is charged with 13 slayings plus 13 kidnappings related to sexual assaults. When arrested, DeAngelo was living with a daughter and granddaughter.

Police and prosecutors across the country already have used genetic genealogy to close dozens of cases. That reflects only the early identification efforts in a country estimated to have 100,000 unsolved violent crimes, and some 40,000 unidentified corpses.

How genetic genealogy solves crimes

The unique DNA in a person's blood or saliva often can quickly connect that person to another person as remote as his or her third cousin — that is, to someone who shares a couple of the first person's 16 great-great-grandparents. Each of us typically is related to 800 or more such people. So if one person in a family submits DNA to a genealogy testing company, comparing that sample to others in a master database can quickly establish a loose connection. So many of us have submitted DNA samples to databases — about 30 million Americans — that, according to a study cited by The New York Times, the DNA of 90% of Americans of European descent soon will be identifiable using genetic testing.

Working from that loose connection between two individuals, pre-existing family trees and public records, a genealogist then begins constructing a family tree of, say, a killer who left a sample of his DNA at a crime scene. Simultaneously, law officers begin excluding possible suspects from that family tree. Some people on it died prior to the crime; some are youngsters; and DNA samples given voluntarily to police by others on the tree can exclude entire branches from any connection to the killer.



Debra Colliander



Pamela Maurer



Debra McCall



Michelle Martinko

Who stabbed Michelle Martinko 21 times?

That winnowing process, though, typically doesn't isolate one person as the suspect, as an Iowa murder case painstakingly reported by the Cedar Rapids Gazette illustrates:

The month after the arrest in the Golden State Killer case, detectives in Cedar Rapids, a city of 133,000, realized that genetic genealogy might help solve a horrific case that had vexed them for four decades: Six days before Christmas 1979, 18-year-old Michelle Martinko left Kennedy High School's concert choir banquet to buy a winter coat at a shopping mall. Police found her in the mall parking lot, dead after 21 stab wounds, inside her family's Buick Electra.

The killer had left no weapon or fingerprints. But a medical examiner identified defensive wounds, suggesting Martinko had fought back vigorously. Consistent with that analysis, a stranger's blood stained the back of her black dress and the Buick's gearshift. For many years, though, DNA databases couldn't supply a match for the bloodstains; police even used DNA testing to eliminate some 125 possible suspects. In May 2018, though, a Virginia lab told Cedar Rapids investigators that the suspect's blood sample shared DNA with a

person who had uploaded a DNA profile to a family research database.

The hunt was on. Genealogy experts built a family tree topped by, yes, four sets of great-great-grandparents. Police processed DNA samples from several people on that tree, and quickly excluded descendants of two of those great-great-grandparent couples.

But a DNA sample from a third branch included a link to the suspect's DNA. The search eventually led to a Vancouver, Washington, woman. She evidently was a second cousin once removed of the still-unidentified suspect, but she had no current ties to Iowa. Further sleuthing led to a first cousin of the suspect, and eventually narrowed the likely identity of the suspect to three brothers who had been raised in Manchester, a town 40 miles north of Cedar Rapids. Police put the three under surveillance. And in October 2018, one of them, a businessman, casually sipped soda through a straw while having lunch with his son at a Manchester pizza restaurant. When the businessman left the restaurant, a Cedar Rapids investigator who had been tailing him — and monitoring who had drunk from which glass — grabbed the straw.

DNA testing of the three brothers' DNA excluded two of them, but matched the soda sipper to the 1979

Will DuPage's work solve other Chicagoland mysteries?

Because his investigation is less complete, DuPage County State's Attorney Robert Berlin tells us he can't yet disclose how genetic genealogy led to Lindahl. But he says the trajectory of his case is similar to that of the Cedar Rapids police work. Might Chicago-area authorities link other cold cases to Lindahl? Berlin asks anyone with information about the Colliander or McCall killings, or other unsolved crimes that may involve Lindahl, to call his office at 630-407-8107.

Lindahl's probably inadvertent suicide while committing a murder spares Berlin from questions that defense attorneys in other cases have raised. In the Iowa case, for example, did police have a legal right to collect the soda straw? And even if a Washington woman submits DNA to a family research database that discloses its cooperation with police in violence cases, does that entitle detectives to use her DNA to solve a murder?

As mysteries are solved, families exhale

Genetic genealogy is a breathtaking tool. Is it also an invasion of privacy? The technique is so new that there's little case law. Courts thus far are treating this as a constitutionally acceptable way of identifying suspects who leave their DNA at violent crime scenes.

The Times reported that specialists in genetic genealogy have hundreds of cases in the works — old murders, serial sexual assaults, unidentified corpses — and also reported that the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children is revisiting about 700 cases involving unidentified children's remains.

Unless the evolving case law discourages or forbids the use of genetic genealogy in criminal cases, we hope prosecutors and investigators will use it to solve more cold cases, and current ones too. DNA profiling has long been adept in doing what it has done with Lindahl: implicating him convincingly in one crime and excluding him convincingly as a possible suspect in another crime.

As the application of genetic genealogy progresses, we hope to read about more answers for the families of victims in cases gone cold. If we have a regret in the DuPage County cases, it's that in the Colliander and McCall cases, the killer or killers didn't leave behind a straw.

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

Any veteran campaign reporter watching Pete Buttigieg live for the first time will feel like an NBA scout seeing a 13 year-old in AAU ball draining 35-footers. Either this politician spent his childhood practicing president-speak in front of a mirror, or he was born with the same mutant gene for projecting warmth and ideological vagueness carried by other iconic Democrats.

In Keene, New Hampshire, Buttigieg makes the comparison explicit.

"Every time my party has won in the last 50 years," he says, "it was somebody who was new to national politics. Somebody who didn't work in Washington. ... Somebody who was holding the country to its highest values. And somebody who was opening the door to a new generation of leadership."

Translation: I'm Barack Obama and Bill Clinton. (And Jimmy Carter, but modern crowds won't make the association).

It takes stones to say this with a straight face, but Buttigieg doesn't seem lacking in that department. One could imagine him flustering Donald Trump just by being fit and having his own hair, not that this helped Marco Rubio.

Matt Taibbi, Rolling Stone



WALT HANDELSMAN/NEW ORLEANS ADVOCATE

Chicago Tribune

PERSPECTIVE

The show trial begins



CAL THOMAS

The contrast could not have been starker. One picture showed House Speaker Nancy Pelosi smiling as she signed (with numerous pens) two articles of impeachment against President Donald

Trump. She passed out the pens like souvenirs to fellow Democrats. They were embossed in gold with her signature and rested on silver trays.

The other picture was of President Donald Trump signing phase one of a new trade deal with China.

Which picture depicted events of greater long-term benefit to Americans? Unless you are a rank partisan out to remove President Trump from office by whatever means, the obvious answer is the China trade deal.

The latest wrench thrown into the machinery of government comes from Democrats who released to their compliant media friends a “note to self” written on a hotel notepad supposedly by Lev Parnas, a former associate of Rudy Giuliani, the president’s personal attorney and a frequent flyer to Ukraine. The note said, “Get (Ukrainian president) Zelensky to announce that the Biden case will be investigated.”

Democrats claim Parnas was an intermediary in the effort to get Ukraine to investigate Joe Biden and his son, Hunter.

Parnas’ credibility would be in doubt were he under oath before a court, instead of “testifying” on various cable TV programs. Parnas heads a company that claims to combat fraud. Oh, the irony!

Democrats insist the Senate trial be “fair.” How is it fair when House Democrats continue to leak documents they hope will damage the president and influence senators to vote for his removal from office? Some Democratic senators, who will sit in judgment of the president, have already declared him guilty.

It is politics at its worst and opens the door, as some of the Founders warned, for “normalizing” impeachment.

Historical background is always helpful and so I consulted the National Constitution Center, a private, nonprofit organization and a leading platform for constitutional education and debate, where I found this: The “high crimes and misdemeanors” language (in the Constitution) remains controversial today. In two essays, Neil J. Kinkopf and Keith E. Whittington looked at the Founders’ vision: “The framers meant for the phrase ‘high crimes and misdemeanors’ to signify only conduct that seriously harms the public and seriously compromises the officer’s ability to continue. If the phrase is given a less rigorous interpretation, it could allow Congress to influence and control the president and the courts.”

The article continues: “When the Founders wanted to ensure accountability, they mostly relied on elections and the voters to hold government officials responsible for their actions,” said Whittington. “But what might fall into the category of ‘other high Crimes and Misdemeanors’ was still quite unclear.”

Trump’s call to Ukraine’s president, which is at the heart of the impeachment articles, does not meet the standard of seriously harming the public or compromising the president’s ability to do his job — as shown by the China trade deal and the USMCA trade agreement between the U.S., Mexico and Canada, both signed and passed days after impeachment.

That the Government Accountability Office says the president “broke the law” by withholding \$250 million in military aid to Ukraine, aid Congress had approved, doesn’t help the president’s defenders, but does it rise to the level of a “high crime and misdemeanor”? Senators will decide. But they should recall that in 1994 the GAO ruled President Barack Obama’s prisoner deal to exchange Guantanamo Bay detainees for deserter Bowe Bergdahl violated federal law. Obama was not impeached.

Speaker Pelosi summed up the true motives of Democrats when she said that regardless of what the Senate does, impeachment will be a “permanent stain” on President Trump’s legacy.

In fact, the stain will be on Democrats. It is Democrats who have plotted ways to reverse the will of voters who elected Trump. It is Democrats who fear he will be overwhelmingly reelected in November.

Tribune Content Agency

Cal Thomas is a syndicated columnist.



BRENDAN SMIALOWSKI/AFP

Speaker Nancy Pelosi holds a pen during a ceremony Jan. 15 in Washington, D.C.



TOM KINAHAN/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Martin Luther King Jr. and wife, Coretta, with neighborhood kids in their new apartment in Chicago on Jan. 26, 1966.

King Jr.’s fight for health care equity must continue

BY BRIAN WILLIAMS AND MICHAEL W. WATERS

America celebrates a distortion of Martin Luther King Jr., void of his prophetic call to justice by any nonviolent means necessary. Particularly around the annual remembrance of his life Monday, watch for his words to be repackaged in tasty sound bites and stripped of the so-called extremism that prompted FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover to label him “the most dangerous man in America.”

Chicago was a seminal backdrop for King’s work toward justice and the place where he sounded his call for health care justice. Before a medical conference in 1966 he proclaimed, “Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health is the most shocking and the most inhuman because it often results in physical death.” National criticism ensued because this activist, two years after he won the Nobel Peace Prize, dared to articulate a prophetic truism still relevant in 2020.

Researchers at New York University found that Chicago has the largest gap in life expectancy of any city in the United States (followed by Washington, D.C., and New York). Although the national trend in the gap between blacks and non-Hispanic whites continues to improve, ZIP codes can still determine life expectancy with alarming racial disparities. Like real estate, health inequality is about location, location, location.

Dallas is another city with a dubious distinction. The Urban Institute ranked it last out of 274 U.S. cities in racial equity and racial segregation. A study by Parkland Health and Hospital System and the Dallas County Health Department found that geography is deeply linked to health inequity, where a difference of 2 miles has a life expectancy gap of 26 years. Although separated by 1,000 miles, Dallas and Chicago share similar systemic inequities that perpetuate racial disparities in health.

These glaring divides are an enduring legacy of decades of isolating black Americans seeking homeownership by marking mortgage lending maps with red lines. Today, more than 50 years since the passage of the Fair Housing Act, 91% of the communities identified as “best” on the redlined maps remain middle- to upper-class, with 85% of these communities having majority white populations. Accordingly, 3 out of 4 redlined neighborhoods remain impoverished, and 67% of redlined neighborhoods remain populated by racial minorities. Many were intentionally located in proximity to industrial areas, municipal landfills and toxic waste sites — and the subsequent negative health impacts persist across generations.

This lengthy history of systemic inequality will take time to remedy, as will the legacy of distrust of the medical establishment from the history of experimentation without consent on black Americans. A doctor known as the “Father of Modern Gynecology” performed barbaric vaginal operations on enslaved women. They were denied anesthesia, physically restrained, repeatedly mutilated. The U.S. Public Health Service denied 600 men therapeutic

There was the Pentagon-funded study of nontherapeutic, whole-body irradiation from 1960 to 1971, in which 25% of the subjects died within one month of exposure. All were poor, most were black, and the Radiological Society of North America awarded the lead physician its highest honor.

penicillin from 1932 to 1972 to allow the study of the natural progression of latent syphilis in the Tuskegee syphilis experiment. Their health was compromised, as were their partners and children who were predictably exposed to the disease. Black women, many of them teenagers, were the prime target for controlled breeding through forced sterilization. This practice of eugenics did not end until the 1980s. And there was the Pentagon-funded study of nontherapeutic, whole-body irradiation from 1960 to 1971, in which 25% of the subjects died within one month of exposure. All were poor, most were black, and the Radiological Society of North Ameri-

ca awarded the lead physician its highest honor.

Nearing his death, King was deemed “unfavorable” by two-thirds of Americans in a 1966 Gallup poll. Decades later in a 1999 Gallup poll, more than 90% of Americans had a favorable opinion and ranked him as the second most admired person of the 20th century (behind Mother Teresa). As we celebrate his legacy, we should embrace his prescient view on health care inequity and further his goal of creating a just society for all.

Perhaps King’s greatest threat was to recognize that, from Chicago to Dallas and to other cities and towns across the land, we are more alike than different. He dared to criticize health inequities embedded in communities from urban ghettos to the mountains of West Virginia. And although his life was ended while he was building bridges across racial and ethnic divides, his dream of proper health care for all should not. Because if raising his voice against persistent health inequality made King a dangerous man, add us to that list.

Health inequality remains among the greatest injustices of our time, and, as King penned in “Letter From Birmingham Jail,” “injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.” Like King, let us commit ourselves anew to eradicating these death-dealing realities “until justice rolls down like waters, and righteousness like a mighty stream” (Amos 5:24).

Dr. Brian Williams is an associate professor of trauma and acute care surgery at the University of Chicago Medical Center. The Rev. Dr. Michael W. Waters is the lead pastor of the Abundant Life African Methodist Episcopal Church in Dallas.

PERSPECTIVE



E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Aerial view of a home being rehabbed in the North Kenwood neighborhood April 17.

Don't allow anti-redlining law to be weakened

BY JANET MURGUIA, LISA RICE AND WADE HENDERSON

As a nation, we have a duty to end the lasting legacy of discrimination in housing and mortgage finance that lies at the core of the staggering and enduring wealth gap between whites and Americans of color. The Community Reinvestment Act, a historic civil rights law enacted in 1977 to stop banks from discriminatory lending practices, is one of our nation's most important tools for fighting such discrimination.

That's why it is so alarming that the Trump administration appears bent on changes that would badly weaken the CRA. The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency at the Treasury Department and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation have proposed a new CRA rule that would inflict significant harm on communities of color by making it easier for banks to shirk standards intended to undo discrimination in lending.

We're concerned the proposed changes would make lenders less, not more, accountable to the communities they are supposed to serve. These changes would allow banks to meet CRA standards with activities that are far removed from the lending — for people to buy homes, finance small businesses and build wealth — for which banks are chartered and insured.

The CRA was a landmark legislative achievement, with roots in Chicago, that forced banking regulators to monitor the lending practices of financial institutions and ensure they were not engaged in the once-government-sanctioned practice known as “redlining,” where banks deliberately marked off areas on maps to avoid investments based on community demographics. The law requires banks to do

business in all of the neighborhoods where they operate in order to be approved to open a new branch, or to grow by acquiring or merging with other banks. To determine whether banks are meeting those goals, they are graded on a range of activities.

Advocates at the Center for Responsible Lending warn that a weaker CRA rule could trigger as much as a 20% drop in lending in low- to moderate-income communities of color and a loss of as much as \$105 billion in loans over five years — a staggering decline that would disproportionately impact communities of color.

While discrimination still clearly occurs, the law's beneficial impact is undeniable.

Since 2014, the CRA has facilitated 24% of home loans to low- to moderate-income Latinos and 25% of home loans to low- to moderate-income black families. In 2017 alone, the CRA contributed \$1.7 trillion in lending to economically underserved areas, increased access to credit by 9%, and reduced the number of people with no credit scores or incomplete credit scores by 7%.

The lending increases driven by the CRA have made homeownership — a critical part of wealth building — attainable for millions, especially in communities of color. Any attempt to roll back hard-won civil rights protections and strip the CRA of its wealth-building impact must be opposed. To continue to fulfill its mission, the CRA must not be watered down.

Unfortunately, that's exactly what newly proposed rules would do.

The proposed changes would create loopholes that would allow financial institutions to skirt their responsibility of servicing the community. The new regulations would reward financial institutions

for the total amount of dollars spent, rather than on the actual impact of their investments. This creates incentives for banks to make “low-risk, high-reward” investments. The better approach is to measure the impact that the dollars have in strengthening communities.

The proposed rules also would encourage online banking over physical branches in neighborhoods. While we recognize the benefits of online banking, for many in low- and moderate-income communities, physical access to a bank is still essential to get the services they need. Research shows that there is a direct correlation between the number of bank branches and ATMs located in a neighborhood and the credit opportunities available in a community.

The regulatory agencies are not united in rulemaking. The CRA designates the Federal Reserve, OCC and FDIC to oversee the implementation of the law jointly. However, the OCC and FDIC decided to move unilaterally, without the Federal Reserve, on this rule. Before they move forward to a final rule, we encourage these agencies to work with the Federal Reserve and reopen the rulemaking process to make it more inclusive, balanced and responsive to the communities that the banks they regulate are chartered to serve.

The CRA has room for improvement and even modernization, but any changes must be guided by practices that align with the spirit of the legislation. These proposed rules don't pass the test.

Janet Murguia is president and CEO of UnidosUS. Lisa Rice is president and CEO of the National Fair Housing Alliance. Wade Henderson is immediate past president of the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights.

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Lincoln Towing on the prowl again

Steve Goodman said it best in the song “Lincoln Park Pirates”: “Way, hey, tow them away!” Yep, Lincoln Towing Service is back in business after the decision revoking its license was reversed. The ghost of Ross Cascio has risen. For those of you who don't remember Ross, he was the founder of Lincoln Towing Service, the most ruthless hook and drag car towers in Chicago. Cascio owned and ran the shop for over 20 years, and the sight of his trucks struck terror into the hearts of any driver who even thought about parking illegally. If you parked in a grocery store lot and ran across the street to pick up your dry cleaning, chances are your car would be gone before you returned and you'd have to pay a hefty fee to reclaim it.

Chicagoland's other towing services have adopted Lincoln Towing's modus operandi as a sort of badge of honor, or dishonor. So beware Chicago drivers, and especially out-of-town visitors, look carefully for any signage prohibiting parking. By law the parking restrictions must be posted, but they might be hard to spot.

— Michael Oakes, Chicago

Obama center will bring a positive light

Regarding the Obama Presidential Center, whose construction is delayed: The center would provide great resources and opportunities to the South Shore community and its people, and it will help bring a positive light to Chicago's South Side. Jackson Park is a great location for the center, whose presence will help increase the population of people who visit this historic park daily.

The Obama Presidential Center is a representation of positive change for some and a fresh start for others.

— Safiya James, co-chairwoman, health and wellness team, South Shore Works, Chicago

Putting center in park threatens birds

Applause to those helping make Chicago more friendly to migrating birds. We must stop Chicago from being the most dangerous of all U.S. cities to the millions of migrating birds. New York City passed a bird-friendly ordinance, and it also protects its Frederick Law Olmsted-designed, tree-filled Central Park. Chicago should pass a bird-friendly ordinance, and it should also protect its Olmsted-designed park, with carbon dioxide-sequestering trees, which are located in a world-famous migrating bird flight path.

Construction of the Obama Presidential Center, featuring a 23-story, glass-clad building, should not be in Jackson Park. Chicago should not permit the center to inevitably exacerbate migrating bird mortality. The Chicago Ornithological and Audubon societies and bird collision monitors should work with Mayor Lori Lightfoot to help the Obama Foundation locate a South Side neighborhood that doesn't involve a park. The location of the center should replace weedy lots and derelict buildings, not migrating bird-friendly mature trees.

— Charlotte Adelman, Wilmette

Coyotes a problem for small animals

I have to disagree with the current trend of defending the coyote. In my experience of over 40 years roaming the woods of suburban Cook County, it is my opinion that coyotes have decimated other species that used to exist in these woods. Compared to what I used to see, the woods are pretty sterile — devoid of fox and mink, and I can't recall when I last saw a pheasant or rabbit. Raccoons and opossums are diminished. Even squirrels seem fewer.

The naturalists I've spoken to about this say my observations are “anecdotal.” I only know what I see (or don't see). We have coyotes in our neighborhood regularly, and a few small dogs have been taken by them.

As far as I can tell, they kill anything they can handle, resulting in a decline in animals available to breed and keep the numbers up.

— Barry Blackmore, Thornton

Real feel? Let me determine that

I am so tired of hearing the TV weather people joyfully telling me what the wind chill temperatures will be. Just tell me what the real temperature is and let me decide how cold I will feel.

— Andy Weiss, Wheaton

Barr isn't a toady. That's the nature of his job.

BY JOSH HAMMER

Many have been all too quick to make Attorney General William Barr out to be a reflexive toady for President Donald Trump. Just last week, the New York City Bar Association took the extreme step of writing to congressional leaders to investigate Barr for political bias. And last month, he came under blistering criticism for defending the Trump campaign and characterizing the FBI's Russia investigation into the 2016 election as bogus.

Slate has accused Barr of using the Department of Justice as “a personal law firm for Trump.” Vox has bewailed “the department's politicization under Barr.” The Daily Beast has lamented how Barr has “become another of Donald Trump's personal lawyers.” The New York Times has noted that the attorney general had “reprised his role as a vocal defender of President Trump.”

Perhaps none of these media outlets recall the time when then-Attorney General Eric Holder famously described himself as President Obama's “wingman.” Curiously, Holder actually took to The Washington Post to decry Barr's ostensible self-debasement as an unfortunate “instrument of politics.”

Holder's hypocrisy aside, the new stance in favor of a strongly independent attorney general among liberals is misguided as a matter of constitutional interpretation and ahistorical as a matter of American custom.

Article II, Section 1, Clause 1 of the Constitution states that “(t)he executive power shall be vested in a president of the United States of America.” The power is vested not in numerous sources, but solely in the president. The president maintains



Barr

plenary authority over the entirety of the executive branch.

The “unitary executive theory,” which Democrats routinely excoriate, comes from the plain text of the Constitution. As Barr recently said during his remarks at the Federalist Society's 2019 National Lawyers Convention, the notion of the unitary executive “is not ‘new,’ and it is not a ‘theory.’” On the contrary, he continued, “(i)t is a description of what the framers unquestionably did in Article II of the Constitution.”

Throughout American history, attorneys general have intuited and acted upon their nonindependent subordination to presidents of the United States. In “Conflicting Loyalties: Law and Politics in the Attorney General's Office, 1789-1990,” the scholar Nancy Baker explored the historical nature of the attorney general's position. Baker devoted entire book sections to “The Attorney General as a Legal Advisor” and “The Attorney General as a Policy Advisor.” She observed that “before he became an administrator” of a sprawling Department of Justice bureaucracy, “the attorney general assumed the role of the advisor to the president.” What's more, the attorney general's “responsibility” to serve in such an advisory capacity “has antecedents in seventeenth-century England.”

Indeed, the role of the attorney general as a top presidential adviser has been a recurring theme throughout American history. When President Lincoln's attorney general, Edward Bates, famously wrote to Congress in 1861 to defend Lincoln's unilateral suspension of the writ of

habeas corpus, he did so not as a neutral arbiter of legal principle, but as Lincoln's top legal adviser who shared his superior's ultimate policy aim of a Union victory in the Civil War. In modern times, the Justice Department's Office of Legal Counsel, which was created by Congress during the New Deal, provides “legal advice to the president and all executive branch agencies” and reviews “all executive orders and substantive proclamations proposed to be issued by the president.” The president also has at his disposal the White House counsel's office, but that office tends to focus on legal issues arising from legislation, executive and judicial branch nominations and ethics questions.

Though the Office of Legal Counsel does sometimes reach legal conclusions at loggerheads with the White House, it is hardly independent in any meaningful way. Former Acting Assistant Attorney General David Barron, who led the OLC during the early years of the Obama administration, once stated that the office's legal analyses “may appropriately reflect the fact that its responsibilities also include facilitating the work of the executive branch and the objectives of the president, consistent with the law.” And legal scholarship has observed the “systematic deference” that the Office of Legal Counsel generally shows toward the president's prerogatives.

Eric Holder was correct the first time. The attorney general, in large part, actually is the president's “wingman.”

Tribune Content Agency

Josh Hammer is editor at large of the Daily Wire and of counsel at First Liberty Institute.

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Chicago Tribune BUSINESS

SUCCESS

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



JILL SCHLESINGER
Jill on Money

Market timing is not good use of your time

Just a year ago, stock investors were licking their wounds. U.S. indexes finished 2018 with losses — the S&P 500 was down 6.2%, the worst annual performance since the 2008 financial crisis.

Despite the corporate tax cut-powered economic growth of 2.9%, investors were unnerved by mercurial U.S. trade policy, the uncertainty of Brexit, a slowdown in China and perhaps most critically, the Federal Reserve's four quarter-point short term interest rate increases.

2019 started with all of those factors in play, which led many business leaders, economists and analysts to talk openly about their fears of a recession. But as we now know, that's not exactly what happened. While economic growth did downshift to the post Great Recession trend of about 2.25%, the Federal Reserve reversed course and cut interest rates by a quarter of a percentage point in August, September and October.

Those three actions, along with other global central banks' accommodating monetary policies, helped global stock markets power higher in 2019.

Given that very few were able to accurately predict the performance of 2018 or 2019, it's worth considering how the two years, along with the past two decades, make a great argument for why trying to time the market is just not worth it. In my book, "The Dumb Things Smart People Do with Their Money," I devoted a chapter to market timing, because I had encountered otherwise intelligent people trying "to predict short-term market movements--and failing. ... By trying to time the market, you're potentially making investment decisions that are based on emotions, and that are colored by your own individual biases and blind spots."

Of course, timing the market can be alluring. Who would not want to be the person who knows the exact moment when to get in and out of an investment? But it's a lot harder than it sounds.

What if you had poured over the financial press in 2018 and concluded that 2019 would be another bad year for stocks? Or what if you had bought into the idea that you could never, ever own a stock again after the horrible lost decade of the 2000s, during which the S&P 500 delivered annual returns of -2.7%? And yet, if you had bailed out of stocks before the next decade began, you would have missed out on the snappy 2010-2019 11.2% annual returns.

Even within the 2010s, there were moments when you might have doubted whether or not you should stick to your game plan. According to LPL Financial, during the past 10 years, the S&P 500 posted six corrections (a 10% decline from a 52-week high), including two 19% slides — one in October 2011, the other in December 2018.

Instead of trying to game out the peaks and valleys of any asset class, start off the new decade with a simple approach that I outlined in my book: "Decide upon your goals and your risk tolerance, craft a plan to allocate your investments accordingly across the different classes or types of investment using the appropriate index funds, and then stick with the plan. On a regular basis (quarterly, semiannually, or annually), rebalance your accounts, or activate auto-rebalancing if your retirement plan or financial institution offers it."

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.



IGOR MOJZES/DREAMSTIME

Tax prep for GIG WORKERS

Common — and costly — mistakes that freelancers make

BY JORIE GOINS | Tribune Content Agency

Tax season has begun for millions of workers across the country, and many returns will be filed by members of the growing gig economy.

Gig workers now make up 36% of the workforce, according to Gallup. These workers, who toil as artists, freelance writers, consultants, food delivery people, dog walkers, ride-share drivers and more, likely can expect a more complex tax season than those who work as employees of a company.

The Internal Revenue Service considers freelancers to be self-employed, so they must file taxes as a business owner. These workers can take additional deductions if they are self-employed, but they will also face additional taxes in the form of the self-employment tax, TurboTax notes. There also are quarterly estimated tax payments to consider. Anyone who has net earnings of at least \$400 through their gig work is required to file a tax return.

For freelance workers, especially those who do their taxes without a tax preparer's help, filing taxes can be confusing. The IRS this month launched a Gig Economy Tax Center site (irs.gov/businesses/gig-economy-tax-center) to deal with the questions that have sprung up around gig work.

A report from the IRS on the tax gap between 2011 and 2013 found that the gross tax gap (the difference between the taxes that taxpayers should pay and what they actually pay on a timely basis) for that time period was \$441 billion. Under-reporting and underpayment accounted for 80% and 11% of the tax gap, respectively, and non-filing accounted for 9% of the gross tax gap, among all groups.

These errors can lead to penalties that are especially rough for gig workers, who often are pressed for time and money.

Fortunately for gig workers who find tax season daunting, there are many CPAs who specialize in such work, including Amy Northard, CPA and the founder of The Accountants for Creatives, and Hannah Cole, an artist and the founder of Sunlight Tax.

Northard and Cole have worked with creative people, including gig workers in dance, art photography and writing. If you're a freelancer struggling with the tax rules, here are some of their tips for avoiding errors.

Remember that you are a business

Cole: Basically, from an IRS perspective, the minute you start earning a dollar as a freelancer, you're a business and you, in fact, must behave like a business in order to get the benefits of being a business, tax-wise. You have to have book-keeping, and you (also) have to track your expenses and your income. ... I think a lot of us start earning money, but we are kind of coming from a perspective of making a career in the arts, so we'll tend to not think of ourselves as a business right off the bat.

Separate business and personal money

Northard: We always recommend that people completely separate everything from their business from their personal account because it just makes the book-keeping so much easier. ... Be careful about counting owner's payments or payments to (yourself) as a business expense. In most cases that's incorrect. ... If you're just transferring money from your business to yourself, then it's just called an owner's distribution ... and not considered a business expense. The reason that can really mess people up is if you're looking at your profit to determine how much tax to save, if you think that you only have to pay tax on whatever's left after you take the money out, then it's going to be way different than when you look at the correct number.

Don't forget the self-employment tax

Cole: Self-employment tax is where I see mistakes that are in the thousands and tens of thousands of dollars. Basically, all the money that you earn as a freelancer gets reported on what's called a Schedule C and all the money on a Schedule C is not just subject to income tax, it's also subject to self-employment tax, which is a flat 15.3%. So, you might have it in your head that you're in the 20% income bracket ... but you rarely are also putting on that 15.3%, so ... someone in the 20% bracket is really owing 35.3%. ... Setting aside that money all year or paying in estimated quarterly taxes is what you have to do to take care of that. ... Usually the way that people find out about it is they get hit with an enormous tax bill that they didn't expect.

Keep track of all your income and expenses

Northard: If people are using PayPal or Stripe or Square ... (sometimes) they will only count the income that gets deposited into their checking account as a sale and they don't factor in the fact that fees were already taken out. So, if someone sells something for \$100 and they get \$95 deposited, they would only report \$95 as income, but they would instead want to do \$100 of income and then \$5 of expenses. That kind of thing can cause the IRS to reach out to you with a letter, which no one likes to have happen. So you really want to make sure you report it with the income and expense separately.

Cole: If an audit got really hairy, they could actually compel you to show them your books and you'd want to make sure you had them. ... The IRS doesn't really care if you miss a whole bunch of expenses because essentially it means you're overpaying your taxes, but I don't want people to overpay their taxes. I want people to know that they are allowed to take a mileage deduction for visiting clients or doing site visits ... or meals deductions for meeting with those clients or people that they work with and there's lots of things that if you don't track it you don't get to expense.

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Navigating SECURE Act changes

IRA beneficiaries have 10 years to withdraw funds



BY **ELLIOT RAPHAELSON**
The Savings Game

The SECURE Act, passed by Congress at the end of 2019, has a big impact on non-spouse IRA beneficiaries, especially those beneficiaries who would inherit large non-Roth IRAs.

One of the SECURE Act's most significant changes is the 10-year stretch limitation for most non-spouse beneficiaries. The rule does not apply to spousal beneficiaries or disabled beneficiaries.

Under the new regulations, beneficiaries of both traditional and Roth IRAs have 10 years to withdraw the funds. There is no required minimum distribution for traditional IRAs until the final year.

For the first nine years, the beneficiary can withdraw as much or as little as he or she wishes, but any funds remaining in

the IRA must be withdrawn by the end of the 10th year, which can mean a big tax hit.

Beneficiaries of Roth IRAs may make tax-free withdrawals for any of the 10 years subsequent to becoming a beneficiary. However, they must also withdraw all the funds by the end of the 10th year to avoid any penalties.

In order to avoid a large income tax bill for the 10th year, the beneficiary of a traditional IRA should consider withdrawals in the first nine years. Even though any withdrawals from traditional IRAs will be taxable, waiting until year 10 can create a huge tax obligation and push the beneficiary into a higher marginal tax bracket.

Considering the change, IRA owners may want to take some action to minimize the income tax burden of non-spouse beneficiaries. Fortunately, owners can still name their spouse as a beneficiary. Spouses are not subject to the 10-year stretch rule.

Accordingly, one action the IRA owner can take is to leave a larger portion of the IRA to the spouse, who can convert the IRA to his or her name. Then, the spouse can name the same non-spouse beneficiaries of his or her IRA. This approach allows the withdrawal period to continue longer as the spouse does not have a 10-year stretch limitation. Of course, it depends on the surviving spouse not changing his or her mind about the plan.

Another option an owner of a tradi-

tional IRA could consider is to convert it to a Roth IRA. Often, the marginal tax bracket of an IRA owner is lower than that of his or her beneficiary at the point when the latter would be forced to make withdrawals. A traditional IRA owner may conduct the transfer over multiple years to avoid substantial income taxes in one year. The beneficiary of the Roth IRA would avoid income taxes after the account has been open for five years.

The IRA owner could consider buying life insurance, naming the non-spouse beneficiaries who are now named as beneficiaries of the IRA. The proceeds will be tax-free, there is no investment risk, and the payment is guaranteed. If other funds are not available, funds could be withdrawn from the IRA to pay the premiums.

Conduit trusts, which are designed to provide distributions to the beneficiary greater than the required RMD, no longer work. Because the only RMD will be at the end of 10 years, there would no longer be trust protection. Accordingly, if you have used a conduit trust, you should discuss other options with your attorney.

The bottom line is that limiting the stretch option has significant financial implications, and IRA owners and non-spouse beneficiaries should be considering other options.

Elliot Raphaelson welcomes your questions and comments at raphelliot@gmail.com.



TERRY SAVAGE
The Savage Truth

Hospital admission status can cost seniors

In a health-care emergency it's difficult to think about finances. But overlooking this detail could devastate your finances.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has a three-day rule that says Medicare will not pay for care in a skilled nursing facility after a patient is discharged from a hospital unless the patient was admitted to the hospital as an inpatient for at least three days. Observation days do not count toward this three-day hospital stay.

Here's where it gets confusing. There's a big difference between "admission" and "observation."

Even if you or an aging loved one is moved out of the basic emergency room to a private room, the hospital may not have actually admitted the patient. In fact, it's growing more likely that the hospital will put the patient on "observation" status.

The reasons for this trend are pretty obvious. In 2012, Medicare started financially penalizing hospitals for "readmissions" — something that happens when a patient is sent home too early or has a relapse of some sort. The penalties are meant to be an incentive to good care. In October 2019, those penalties increased sharply for readmission of Medicare patients within a month of their discharge.

Medicare expects to collect over \$563 million in penalties this year, and last year 83% of hospitals had to pay some readmission penalty.

Clearly the hospitals must deal with the expensive issue of readmission, and the easiest way to do that is not to admit patients in the first place. That explains the growing number of patients who are placed on observation status when they arrive.

If a patient does not meet the minimum requirement of having a three-night stay in the hospital as an admitted patient, Medicare will not pay for its promised 100 days of critical inpatient nursing care. This issue doesn't just apply to emergency admissions. Medicare also pays for up to 100 days of inpatient rehabilitation services after three overnight stays as an admitted patient.

Don't let the emergency room administrator move your aging mom out of the ER until she is officially admitted. Insist upon it. The administrator will assure you that your mom will get the same care as if she were admitted. That's true — but unless the papers read "admitted," you should object.

You're entitled to fight the observation status. And you can do that by refusing to sign the papers they will bring to you before they move the patient out of the emergency room. That will make them pay attention — and you will likely win this battle, especially if an IV is involved or an MRI or more sophisticated care is needed. But seniors who are alone and hurting often don't know their rights.

Every ER has a direct connection to the financial services office and a case administrator. So if someone says he or she can't change you or a loved one's status, you can talk directly to hospital administrators. Don't let them force or threaten or promise that it will be done the next day.

Every day is valuable — unless you are prepared to pay a fortune for home health care or pay privately for a rehabilitation facility.

Medical costs are enough of a burden for seniors, even with the benefits of Medicare. Knowing your coverage, your rights and your hospital admission status can save you a fortune. And that's The Savage Truth.

Terry Savage is a registered investment adviser.

When renting makes more sense than buying

Don't underestimate costs associated with owning home

BY **MIRIAM CROSS**
Kiplinger

Many millennials face a tough housing question: rent or buy?

The nagging feeling that buying is something you should do is one big reason that millennials choose to buy, says Bill Nelson, certified financial planner near Boston. We've also been told that buying is an investment, and renting is "just throwing money away."

Many experts recommend buying only if you expect to park yourself there for at least five years. An online rent-or-buy calculator, such as those from SmartAsset.com or Zillow.com, can run some quick calculations after you enter your location, rent, target home price, size of down payment and other factors.

Don't underestimate other costs associated with buying a home. Closing costs, including the appraisal fee and loan origination fee, typically cost 2% to 5% of the home purchase price. Increases in on-going expenses such as property taxes or getting hit with a special assessment by a

condo board also can blindsides new homeowners.

Eric Simonson, a CFP in Minneapolis, advises clients to plan on spending 1% of the home's value each year for maintenance and upkeep. Finally, if you put less than 20% down, you'll need to sink even more money into private mortgage insurance.

When Simonson speaks with clients who want to buy a home, he asks them how much they pay in rent and pulls up several properties where they would pay the equivalent after factoring in monthly mortgage payments, taxes, insurance and upkeep.

"More often than not, they find they aren't getting such a bad deal renting, especially if they live in areas where the cost to purchase is very high," he says.

In some locations, renting can be cheaper than buying, depending on the size of your down payment and the length of time you stay in the home. Zillow found that renting beats buying in San Jose, San Francisco, Honolulu, Oakland, Seattle, Salt Lake City and Anaheim, assuming you put down 10% and stay in the home for five years.

Even if buying comes out ahead, renting allows you the flexibility to make big life changes and affords you the time to save up for a down payment and the cash



MONKEY BUSINESS IMAGES/DREAMSTIME

needed to cover upfront and regular expenses.

Renters could, on average, accumulate more wealth than homeowners if they invested the equivalent of a down payment plus the difference between a monthly mortgage payment and rent in a diversified portfolio, according to Eli Beracha, co-author of a study on homeownership in the Journal of Housing Research. Most renters don't do this, however, and for most people, buying is a better financial choice in the long run.

But don't rush.

"I've never met with someone and said, 'The problem with your finances is that you bought a home way too late,'" says Nelson. "But I've seen plenty of people who have messed up their financial situation by buying a home too early."

Miriam Cross is an associate editor at Kiplinger's Personal Finance magazine. Send your questions and comments to moneypower@kiplinger.com. And for more on this and similar money topics, visit Kiplinger.com.

You may be standing in the way of your success

There's a roadblock to success and happiness, and it might be your own attitude. To help free yourself to pursue real success, here are a few things to avoid.



Thinking you're not great

The main reason people do not feel successful or happy is because they keep telling themselves they are not those things. So stop doing it. When you have a bad thought about yourself, bounce it away and think about something more positive.

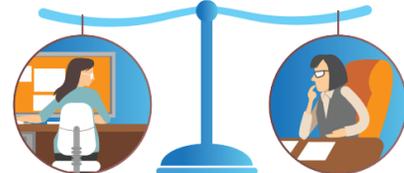
Always focusing on negativity

A tendency toward negativity is a recipe for disaster. That meeting with the new boss went swimmingly except for that one minor comment about your time management. If you default to the negative and mull over it endlessly, you will feel like a failure.

Avoiding risk

One way to ensure your own displeasure and discontentment is to never try anything new. Sadly, this risk aversion is exactly what prevents you from experiencing joy and fulfillment, because it's when we take risks and try something new that we experience an uplift in our emotions and outlook.

SOURCE: Inc.



Comparing yourself with others

End the comparison game. It doesn't work, and there are no winners. Fueled by social media, which is all about comparison, we tend to look for examples of happiness and contentment, but that ends up causing more anxiety.

SUCCESS

SCRUB YOUR SOCIAL MEDIA

Most potential employers study what candidates post online

BY MELANIE CURTIN | Inc.

Who are you, really? That's a question most hiring managers work hard to answer. Beyond your cover letter and resume, what are you about? Are you trustworthy, respectful, responsible? Are you a hard worker? Will you follow through on promises?

Because most people are on their best behavior during the interview process, it can be hard for hiring managers or employers to tell. So they do the same thing your Bumble date does: They Google you.

In particular, they look at your Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, Twitter and other social media profiles that you have publicly available.

Then they scour. According to a survey by CareerBuilder, 70% of employers "use social media to screen candidates before hiring."

Even more striking is the follow-on statistic: 54% of employers surveyed said they chose not to hire a candidate based on content found on their social media accounts.

Of those hiring managers who chose not to hire someone because of their social media presence, the top reasons given were that candidates had:

- Posted provocative or inappropriate photos, videos or information (39%)
- Posted information about drinking or using drugs (38%)
- Made discriminatory comments related to race, gender, religion (32%)
- Bad-mouthed previous company or fellow employee (30%)
- Lied about qualifications (27%)
- Had poor communication skills (27%)
- Been linked to criminal behavior (26%)
- Shared confidential informa-



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tion from previous employers (23%)

- Had an unprofessional screen name (22%)
- Lied about a work absence (17%)

In other words, getting rid of that video of you doing body shots is probably a good idea

Fortunately, when it comes to hiring practices and social media, the opposite is also true: 44% of hiring managers and employers have discovered content on a candidate's social media profile that caused them to hire the person.

- The main reasons for this, according to the employers surveyed:
- Candidate's background information supported his or her professional qualifications (38%)
 - Candidate demonstrated great communication skills (37%)

■ Candidate showed a professional image (36%)

- Candidate showed creativity (35%)

It's not a good idea to get rid of your social media profiles altogether. Many employers said they don't like candidates who lack a social media presence: 57% of employers said they were far less likely to call someone if that person was an online ghost.

If you can't be found online, you're sometimes seen as shady. So it's not about deleting unflattering profiles — it's about cleaning up your feed.

Here are some practical steps:

Google yourself

If you've never done this, it can be illuminating. You need to know what's out there and where. There are some things you have

no control over, but at least you can be prepared if asked about it in a followup interview.

Consider making some social media profiles private

Just because you're job hunting doesn't mean you need to suppress who you are. It's valid to have an outlet online where you can post about letting your hair down and connecting with friends.

You do need to be selective about where that content goes. Consider making certain social media profiles (like Instagram) private and don't accept friend requests from your old bosses there. Also consider updating your Facebook profile privacy settings so they're not fully public.

Review your profiles as if you were an employer

Look at your own social media profiles through the eyes of someone looking to hire you. Are the bios up-to-date and descriptive of you?

Is the picture dignified? A head-and-shoulders shot that looks professional is the first impression people get of you.

Now inspect the posts. Weight the most recent ones as the most important, but be sure to scroll, too.

Got questionable memes? Take them down. Could something you've posted be regarded as offensive or insensitive to a group of people? Also, be cautious about getting into nasty political arguments online.

How about pictures of yourself, or ones in which you're tagged? This can be one of the most important parts of the process. Un-tag yourself liberally if necessary. You also can ask friends to delete photos of you that are unflattering or inappropriate, for whatever reason.

Post some meaningful content

It doesn't have to be a thesis; it can be as simple as a copy of a poem you particularly like, and why. It can be a thoughtful story of a really good customer service interaction you had (that would be good on LinkedIn). It can be a meaningful question put to your community or a link to an interesting news story.

Remember that 44% of employers have found content on a candidate's social media that caused them to hire that person, so your social media accounts are a chance to show the best of who you are.

Be careful, creative and discerning. Employers are paying attention.

Melanie Curtin is a writer and sex researcher.

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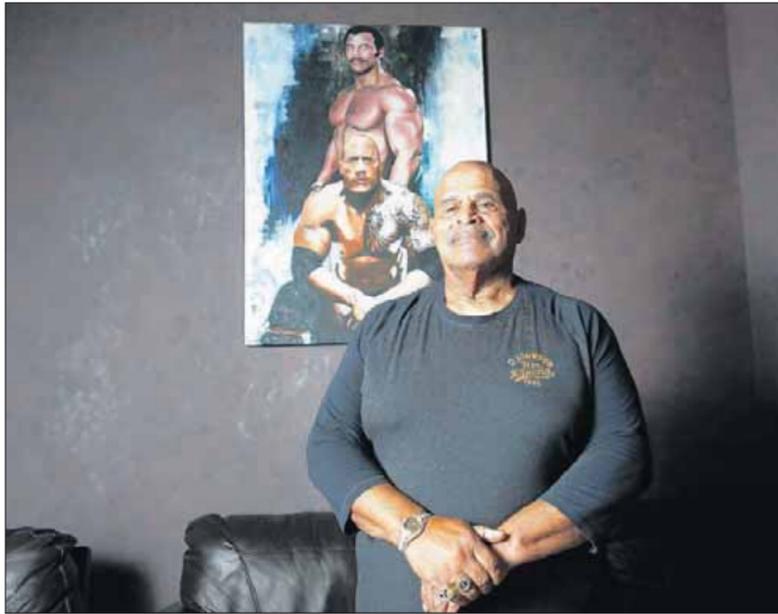
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OBITUARIES

ROCKY JOHNSON 1944-2020



OCTAVIO JONES/TAMPA BAY TIMES

Former WWE and ECW champion Rocky Johnson, father of actor Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson, in October 2019 at home in Tampa, Fla. Rocky Johnson died on Wednesday.

Professional wrestler helped to train his son 'the Rock'

BY MICHAEL LEVENSON
New York Times

Rocky Johnson, the hard-bodied professional wrestler known as Soul Man who battled racism early in his career and later helped train his son, actor Dwayne "the Rock" Johnson, has died. He was 75.

His death was announced Wednesday in a statement by World Wrestling Entertainment. No cause was given.

Johnson rose from small-town Canada to fame in the 1980s as a muscular wrestler who banded off the ropes, delivered punishing jabs and called himself "the king of the dropkick" for his ability to dispatch opponents with that singular move.

His opponents included well-known figures in the professional wrestling world, like Greg "the Hammer" Valentine, Don Muraco and Adrian Adonis. But he was perhaps best known for pairing with another black wrestler, Tony Atlas, in a tag team known as the Soul Patrol.

The two became the first black world tag team champions in WWE history when they defeated the Wild Samoans on Dec. 10, 1983, according to World Wrestling Entertainment, which released a video clip

of some of Johnson's high-lights Wednesday.

In an interview with thehannibalTV.com, Johnson recalled the many successes he had in a career that took him around the world, but said there was also racism in professional wrestling, "then as it is now."

"Now, it's more covered up," Johnson said in the interview. "But there was a lot."

Johnson said he fought against such prejudice, refusing to take part in some degrading performances.

"I was headstrong," he said in the interview. "I kept myself in shape and the stuff they were doing in the South, I wouldn't go for. They wanted to whip me on TV, like they used to do with the slaves and all that. I said, 'No, I came in as an athlete, and I'll leave as an athlete.' And they respected me for that."

When his son showed an interest in wrestling, Johnson said, he offered to train him.

"I'm going to train you 150%," Johnson recalled telling his son, in the interview with thehannibalTV.com. "And I was hard on him. But he never gave up."

Born Wayne Douglas Bowles on Aug. 24, 1944, Johnson grew up in Amherst, Nova Scotia, and moved to Toronto as a

teenager. He boxed as a young man and recalled sparring with George Foreman and Muhammad Ali.

He adopted the name Rocky Johnson, he said, as a tribute to two of his favorite boxing greats: Rocky Marciano and Jack Johnson, the first black heavyweight boxing champion.

Johnson's sports-entertainment career began in the mid-1960s with the National Wrestling Alliance. But he found his greatest success when he began his tenure with what is now the WWE in 1983, the company said.

Johnson retired from the ring in 1991. A complete list of survivors was not immediately available.

The younger Johnson eventually became the more famous member of the family, as the star of action and comedy movies.

Dwayne Johnson made his debut as a WWE wrestler in 1996, and his father was a frequent part of his act, leaping into the ring and defending his son when he looked to be in trouble.

In 2008, Dwayne Johnson helped induct his father into the WWE Hall of Fame, where the company said "he will be forever enshrined as one of sports-entertainment's most influential performers."

ference, during which they arrived at their "final solution" that called for exterminating Jews.

In 1945, President Franklin Roosevelt was sworn into office for an unprecedented fourth term.

In 1969, Richard M. Nixon was inaugurated as the 37th President of the United States.

In 1977, Jimmy Carter was inaugurated as the 39th President of the United States.

In 1981, Iran released 52 Americans it had held hostage for 444 days, minutes after the presidency had passed from Jimmy Carter to Ronald Reagan.

In 1985, President Ronald Reagan and Vice President George H.W. Bush were sworn in for second terms of office in a brief White House ceremony (because it

was a Sunday, the public swearing-in was held the following day).

In 1986, the United States observed the first federal holiday in honor of slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. **Also in 1986** Britain and France announced plans to build the Channel Tunnel.

In 1987, Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite disappeared in Beirut while attempting to negotiate the release of Western hostages.

In 1993, actress Audrey Hepburn died in Tolothenaz, Switzerland; she was 63. **Also in 1993** Bill Clinton was sworn in as the 42nd President of the United States.

In 1995, the Japanese government, criticized for being slow to respond to Kobe's devastating earthquake, admitted its initial reaction might have been "confused." **Also in 1995** the U.S. State Department announced a partial lifting of economic sanctions against communist North Korea.

In 1996, hundreds of thousands of Palestinians turned out to vote in a festive first election, solidly endorsing Yasser Arafat and his peace policies. The space shuttle Endeavour landed after a nine-day mission that included snaring a Japanese satellite.

In 2001, George W. Bush became America's 43rd president after one of the most turbulent elections in U.S. history.

Chicago Daily Tribune

ON JANUARY 20 ...

In 1649, King Charles I of England went on trial, accused of high treason. (He was found guilty and executed by month's end.)

In 1801, John Marshall was appointed chief justice of the United States.

In 1841, the island of Hong Kong was ceded to Great Britain. (It returned to Chinese control in July 1997.)

In 1887, the U.S. Senate approved an agreement to lease Pearl Harbor in Hawaii as a naval base.

In 1936, Britain's King George V died in Sandringham, England. (He was succeeded by his eldest son, Edward VIII, who abdicated the throne 11 months later to marry American divorcee Wallis Simpson.)

In 1942, Nazi officials held the notorious Wannsee conference, during which they

WINNING LOTTERY NUMBERS

ILLINOIS
Jan. 19
Lotto 05 13 18 44 45 48 / 12
Lotto jackpot: \$4M
Pick 3 midday 122 / 8
Pick 4 midday 9520 / 2
Lucky Day Lotto midday 09 13 19 28 43
Pick 3 evening 374 / 2
Pick 4 evening 6726 / 3
Lucky Day Lotto evening 01 23 31 39 43

Jan. 21 Mega Millions: \$116M
Jan. 22 Powerball: \$343M

WISCONSIN
Jan. 19
Pick 3 521
Pick 4 7667
Badger 5 08 13 18 20 31
SuperCash 05 09 10 14 21 32

INDIANA
Jan. 19
Daily 3 midday 247 / 0
Daily 4 midday 7251 / 0
Daily 3 evening 026 / 8
Daily 4 evening 0031 / 8
Cash 5 03 23 25 29 39

MICHIGAN
Jan. 19
Daily 3 midday 417
Daily 4 midday 1547
Daily 3 evening 289
Daily 4 evening 1222
Fantasy 5 04 10 18 19 24
Keno 06 07 09 11 20 25
26 30 32 43 48 53 54 55
56 58 61 66 70 71 75 80

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Chicago Tribune Death Notices

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

chicagotribune.com/deathnotice

Death Notices

Annerino, Colleen A.

Colleen A. Annerino, beloved daughter of the late August J. C.P.D. and Eileen (nee Smardo); loving sister of August retired C.P.D. (Michele), Maureen (Daniel retired C.F.D.) Cozzi, Kevin (Mary) and the late Terrence Annerino; devoted aunt of Lisa (Robert) Kaczmarczyk, Dana (Nolan) Schmelzer, Daniel (Jillian) Cozzi, Dr. Nicholas Cozzi, Michael Annerino, Christian Annerino and Elizabeth Annerino; cherished great aunt of Jack, Nora, Emily, Abigail and Robert. Colleen had 20 years of service helping blind veterans with living skills and then retired from Hines VA Blind Center. Visitation Monday 3-9 P.M. Funeral Tuesday 9:15 A.M. from **Lawn Funeral Home**, 17909 S. 94th Ave. Tinley Park, IL 60487 to St. Mary Church Mass 10:00 A.M. Interment St. Mary Cemetery. Funeral info (708) 532-3100.



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BRONEC, ELAINE STRAKA

Elaine Straka Bronec, 96 of Stickney, beloved wife of the late Frank Straka and the late Albert Bronec; devoted mother of Frank (Judith) Straka, Debra Jensen and the late Robert Straka; dearest grandmother of Frank (Brienne) and Kenneth Straka, Matthew, Daniel and Andrew Jensen; dear great grandmother of Dylan, Brady, Liam, Delilah and Bruce. Visitation Wednesday, January 22, 2020 from 9:00a.m. till time of services at 11:30 a.m. at **Ivins/Moravecek Funeral Home** 80 E. Burlington St. Riverside. Funeral info 708-447-2261 or www.moravecek.com.



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Cafferty, Michael C.

Michael C. Cafferty, age 49, at rest January 18, 2020; Beloved husband of 10 years to Karen (nee Kelleher); Loving father of Rose and Michael; Cherished son of the late Michael and Anne Cafferty (nee McLaughlin); Dearest brother of Breedge (Joel) Mills and Colleen Cafferty; Dear son-in-law of Jean and Bob Kelleher; Devoted brother-in-law of Linda and Maureen; Beloved nephew of many aunts and uncles and a cousin to many; Fond uncle of Spencer, Nora, Thomas, Laura, Kaitlyn and Sean; Mike worked for the Cook County Office of the Public Guardian, of his many accomplishments it was his day to day perseverance, patience, humor, and superhuman strength that we will remember. He was a friend, Attorney, athlete, author, mentor and motivator. Visitation Wednesday 3:00 to 9:00 p.m.; Funeral Thursday 10:00 a.m. from **Curley Funeral Home**, 6116 W. 111th Street, Chicago Ridge to St. Christina Church, 111th & Homan Ave., Chicago; Mass 11:00 a.m. Interment Holy Sepulchre Cemetery; in lieu of flowers, donations would be appreciated to the Spinal Cord Injury Association of Illinois <https://sci-illinois.org> Ph. 708-671-1808; For service information: 708-422-2700, or www.curleyfuneralhome.com



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DeStefano, Rosalie A.

nee Dioguardi. Beloved wife of the late Paul. Loving mother of Marc (Debra), Frank (Ilean), and Phillip. Proud grandma of Angela (Ben) Bishop, Joe, Matt (Angela), Paul, and Gina. Visitation Tuesday, January 21, 2020 10:00am - 11:00am at THE ORIGINAL RAGO BROTHERS FUNERAL HOME, 7751 W. Irving Park Rd., Chicago. Service at 11:00am at the funeral home, followed by a procession to St. Joseph Cemetery. For info: 773-276-7800 or ragobrothersfuneralhome.com.

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Gentile, Antoinette 'Nettie'

Antoinette "Nettie" Gentile, 99, of Westchester, beloved sister of the late Joseph (the late Jessie) the late Salvatore (the late Mary) and the late Frederick Gentile; devoted daughter of the late Frederick and Anne Gentile; loving aunt of Linda (the late Albert) Korbel, James (Susan) and Joseph (Charlene) Gentile, Diane (John) Zilke and Mary Anne (Edward) Arcuri. Visitation Wednesday, 4-8 p.m. at **Hursen Funeral Home & Crematory**, SW corner of Mannheim & Roosevelt Rds, Hillside/Westchester. Prayers Thursday, 9 a.m. from the funeral home to Divine Providence Church, Westchester, IL. Mass 10 a.m. Entombment Crucifixion Garden Mausoleum, Queen of Heaven Cemetery. In Lieu of flowers, memorials to Rainbow Hospice. Info 800-562-0082 www.hursen.com



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Gofis, Spiros 'Spike'

Spiros "Spike" Gofis, age 80, of Palos Hills, and born in Louka, Arkadia Greece, passed away peacefully Friday morning, January 17th with his family at his side. Beloved husband of Catherine nee Siampos for 55 years. Devoted father of George and Amalia Gofis. Cherished Pappou of Gabriella, Annabella, and Julietta. Youngest loving brother of Konstantina Mparkas, Dimitrios, Christ, and Dean Gofis. Dearest uncle to his nephews and nieces both in Greece and here in the United States. Spiros was well-loved, admired, and respected by many throughout his life and successful career in the restaurant and entertainment business. May His Memory Be Eternal! Visitation will take place Wednesday, January 22nd from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM at Saints Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church 11025 South Roberts Road Palos Hills, Illinois 60465. Funeral Service will begin at 11:00 AM. **Orrico Kourelis Funeral Services Inc.** handling all arrangements. Interment Bethania Cemetery Justice, Illinois. In lieu of flowers, memorials will be made to Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church. For info, please call 877/974-9201 or 815/462-0711 and www.Orricofuneral.com



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Koenig, Joseph

Joseph Koenig, 92. Beloved husband for 63 years of Jacqueline, née Cowen; devoted father of Ted (Nancy), Suzanne, Brandon (Amy) and Leonard Koenig; cherished grandfather of Michael, Stephanie, David, Jonathan, Lila, Erica, and Rory Koenig; caring son of the late Theodore and Sarah Königheit; dear brother of the late Eva and Miriam Königheit; will be deeply missed by many close friends and extended family. Joseph was a Holocaust survivor, having lost his family in the tragedy. He was a proud veteran of both the Israeli and U.S. Armies; he fought in the War of Independence for the State of Israel and the Korean War. He was active for many years in the Jewish War Veterans, Czestochowa Society, and the Illinois Holocaust Museum. Funeral service Wed, Jan. 22, 11 AM, at Anshe Emet Synagogue, 3751 N. Broadway, Chicago. Interment Memorial Park Cemetery, Skokie. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, www.ilholocaustmuseum.org, Anshe Emet Synagogue, www.ansheetem.org, or the Alzheimer's Association, www.alz.org. For info: 847-256-5700.



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Chicago Tribune Death Notices

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

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Levine, Philip A.

Philip A. Levine, age 94, World War II Veteran. Beloved husband of the late Shirley Rae Levine. Beloved father of Frank (Hollie) Levine and Andrew (Michelle) Levine. Proud grandfather of Erin (Alex Morrison), Eddie, Kayley, and Ben. Cherished uncle of many. Wonderful "Machatenem" of Heddie and Bob Romanoff. Service Tuesday 1PM, at Chicago Jewish Funerals, 195 N. Buffalo Grove Road (One block north of Lake Cook Road) Buffalo Grove. Interment Memorial Park Cemetery, Skokie. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Congregation Or Shalom, 21 Hawthorn Parkway, Vernon Hills, IL 60061, www.orshalom.org or Honor Flight Chicago, www.honorflightchicago.org. Arrangements by: Chicago Jewish Funerals - Buffalo Grove Chapel, 847.229.8822, www.cjinfo.com



CHICAGO JEWISH FUNERALS

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Liberatore, Elisabetta

Elisabetta Liberatore (nee Bruno) age 99, beloved wife of the late Cesidio Liberatore; loving mother of Antonia (Costantino) Susi, Anthony (Sharyn) Liberatore, Cathy (Anthony) DeBella, Josie (Wayne) Krause and Mary (James) Kase; devoted grandmother of Francesco (Angelica) Susi, Patrizia (Darren) Lewis, Paul (Emily) Liberatore, Tony (Call) DeBella, Marc DeBella, Lisa (Joseph) Salcedo, Jarod (Kimberly) Krause, Erica Krause, Jessica (Matthew) Hein and Monica Kase; dearest great-grandmother of 10; dear sister of Antonio (the late Diana), the late Mario (the late Lina), Gregorio (the late Ilda), Alessandro (Fernanda) and Achille (Vanda) Bruno; fond aunt of many nieces and nephews. Funeral Tuesday 2-8 P.M. Funeral Service Wednesday 10:00 A.M. at **Lawn Funeral Home**, 7732 W. 159th St. Orland Park. Entombment Resurrection Cemetery.



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Limberopoulos, Theofanis

Theofanis Limberopoulos, age 86, passed away on January 19, 2020. Beloved husband of Georgia (nee Agoura). Loving father of George, Dino, Penny (Bill) and Helen (Jimmy). Cherished grandfather of Steven (Alyssa), Nicholas and Colin. Loving brother of Tasia (the late Panagiotis) Vasilogambros, Lela (the late Wayne) Priest, Maria (the late Thomas) Mavraganis, the late Louie (Connie) Limberopoulos. Fond brother-in-law of Christos (Pota) Agouras, Irene (Pete) Vallianatos, Konstantinos Agouras, and Konstantina Agoura. Dear uncle to many nieces and nephews. Visitation, Tuesday, January 21, 2020 from 4:00PM-8:00PM at **Damar-Kaminski Funeral Home & Crematorium**, 7861 S. 88th Avenue, Justice, Illinois. Funeral, Wednesday, January 22, 2020. Visitation from 9:30AM until time of service at 10:30AM at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church, 7560 S. Archer Road, Justice, Illinois. Interment, Elmwood Cemetery, River Grove, Illinois. For more info, www.kaminskifamilyfuneralhomes.com or 708-496-0200.

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Rapp, Joel S. 'Boom Boom'

Joel "Boom Boom" Rapp, 73. Beloved father of Jessica (Aaron) Pluda; proud grandfather of Ethan and Addison Pluda; loving brother of Dr. Michael (Andrea) Rapp and Rosalyn (late Neal) Levine; cherished uncle of Lisa (John) O'Toole, Scott (June) Phillips, Dan Rapp, Dr. Jon (Laura) Rapp, and the late Benjamin Rapp; caring great-uncle of Austin, Ashley, and AJ O'Toole, Vivian, Julia, and Nathan Rapp; devoted son of the late Morton and Evelyn; dear former spouse of Beth Hyatt; treasured cousin of Happy Schmidt and Wayne Rapp and close friend of Larry Gertzfeld. Joel was a graduate of Von Steuben High School- shout out to the Anacondas! A memorial service will be held Tues, Jan. 21, 2 PM, at **Weinstein & Piser Funeral Home**, 111 Skokie Blvd, Wilmette. Interment private. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Friends of the Israel Defense Forces, www.fidf.org, or American Friends of Magen David Adom, www.afmda.org. For info: 847-256-5700.



WEINSTEIN & PISER
FUNERAL HOME

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Smith, Adele

Adele Smith, nee Sewell, age 101, died peacefully in her home, surrounded by loving family on January 18, 2020. Preceded in death by her husband of 61 years, Seymour, and brothers Jerome and Norman Sewell; loving mother of Deborah Smith (Jim DiLorenzo); adored and adoring grandmother of Julius and Leo DiLorenzo; beloved "auntie" of Barbara, Pammy, Leslie; and other nieces, nephews, and cousins. Special thanks to her devoted caregiver, Maria. Adele was a proud "Rough Rider" and graduated from Roosevelt High School, Class of 1936. Donations may be made to Roosevelt High School, for details, email debsmith56@aol.com, or to WTTW Channel 11, www.wttw.com. Service Wednesday 11am in the chapel of Westlawn Cemetery and Mausoleum, 7801 W. Montrose Avenue, Norridge, where interment will follow. Arrangements by Lakeshore Jewish Funerals, 773-625-8621



Lakeshore
Jewish Funerals

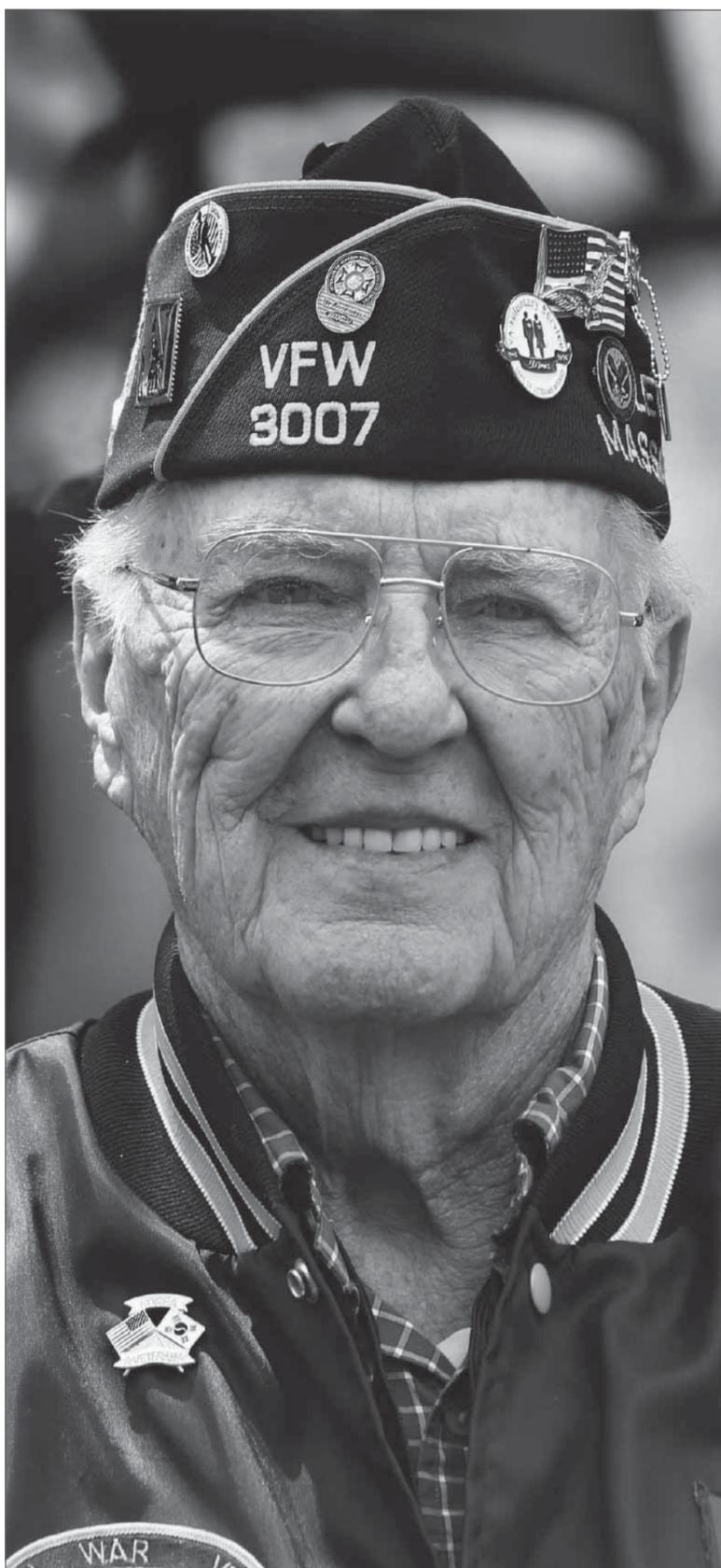
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Wilson MD, Burgess

Burgess Wilson MD, age 62. Husband of Jennifer Morgenstern. Loving father of Ariana and Alexander Wilson. Brother of Rosser Wilson, John "Randy" (Marguerite) Wilson, Wyndham Wilson (Larry Gilstrap), and Damaris Wilson. A private family service will be held. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to The Nature Conservancy, www.nature.org or The Sierra Club, www.sierraclub.org. For shiva information on Monday, please contact **Chicago Jewish Funerals** - Skokie Chapel, 847.229.8822, www.cjinfo.com

CHICAGO JEWISH FUNERALS

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GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Miracle Gal Met at Oprah event St. Paul MN We Met at the Oprah Event in the lobby before it began. We exchanged heart to hearts for 20 min. You were interested in what I was learning. You wanted the book "The Power of Now." A security guard abruptly interrupted and snatched your bag was too big to be let in. We were forced to part & I never learned your name. I'm hoping for a miracle reunion. 651-500-2549

Postage Stamp Show Free admission. Ramada Plaza Chicago Northshore, 1090 S. Milwaukee Ave. Wheeling, IL. January 25th & 26th. Sat. 10am-5pm. Sun. 10am-3pm. Selling & appraising \$133 N. 33rd Ave. Stone Park, IL 60165 project no. 19-133.

There will be a non-attendance Pre-bid meeting held on 01/29/20, 3:30PM local prevailing time located at Lincoln Elementary School 3545 S 61st Ave Cicero, IL 60804. After the meeting, a tour of the work areas will be conducted. Additional tours may be conducted by contacting Vision Construction & Consulting, Inc. attn. Jim Dombrowski, 708-590-9716, email jim@visionconstruction.us or Ashkan Mizani, 312-922-1041, email ashkan@visionconstruction.us. All bidders and their subs are invited to attend the pre-bid meeting.

Sealed bids will be received by Cicero School District 99, 511024th St, Cicero, Illinois 60804 until 11:00 AM local prevailing time, Feb. 04, 2020. Immediately thereafter the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. No immediate decision will be rendered. Bids will be tabulated, studied, and presented to the Owner. Contractors must pay prevailing wages in accordance with IDOL requirements for Cook County, Illinois. All bidders are required to submit a bid security with their bid. The security amount shall be ten percent (10%) of their total bid amount. The bid security may be in the form of a bid bond issued by a surety licensed to do business in the State of Illinois, a cashier's check or a certified check payable to the School District.

The District reserves the right to defer the award of the contract(s) for a period not to exceed sixty (60) calendar days from the date bids are received, and to accept or reject any or all proposals, and to waive technicalities. 1/20/2020 6575914

LEGAL NOTICES GOVERNMENT/EDUCATION

Notice is hereby given that Cicero School District 99 will accept sealed lump sum trade contractor bids for the Lincoln School 2020 Capital Improvements, 3545 S 61st Ave Cicero, IL 60804.

Bid packages include: BP4-Masonry The project consists of providing all work per Contract Documents dated 01/21/20 prepared by FGM Architects Inc. 1211 W. 22nd St. Oakbrook, IL 60523 project no. 20-2795-01, Bid Manual dated 01/21/20 prepared by Vision Construction & Consulting, Inc. 1733 N. 33rd Ave. Stone Park, IL 60165 project no. 19-133.

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO BIDDERS Sealed separate bids will be received by the Board of Education, Oak Park Elementary School District 97 (the "Board") for the following project:

OAK PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 97 D97 SUMMER 2020 RENOVATIONS BROOKS, HATCH, IRVING, JULIAN, LONGFELLOW, MANN OAK PARK, IL 60302

BID GROUP 1 - DEMOLITION, MASONRY, GENERAL TRADES, ROOFING, GLAZING, DRYWALL, FLOORING, PAINTING, CASEWORK, FIRE SUPPRESSION, PLUMBING, HVAC, and ELECTRICAL

Bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. CST on Tuesday, January 28, 2020 at the Oak Park Elementary School District 97 Administrative offices, 260 Madison Street, Oak Park, IL 60302, and will be publicly opened and read at 2:30 p.m. CST on that date. Bids shall be submitted in an opaque sealed envelope clearly marked:

Oak Park Elementary School District 97 260 Madison Street, Oak Park, IL 60302 Attention: Bulley & Andrews Project: D97 SUMMER 2020 RENOVATIONS - BID PACKAGE 1

Scope of work for Bid Package 1 generally includes, but is not limited to: demolition, masonry, general trades, roofing, glazing, drywall, flooring, painting, casework, fire suppression, plumbing, HVAC, and electrical.

All bids must be submitted in accordance with the bidding instructions contained in the Bidding Documents for the project. Bid security in the form of a bid bond in an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the base bid amount shall be submitted with the bid. Should a bid bond be submitted, the bond shall be payable to the Board of Education, Oak Park Elementary School District 97, 260 Madison Street, Oak Park, IL 60302. All documents and information required by the bidding instructions contained in the Bidding Documents for the project shall be submitted with the bid. Incomplete, late or non-conforming bids may not be accepted.

No bids shall be withdrawn, cancelled or modified after the time for opening of bids without the Board's consent for a period of ninety (90) days after the scheduled time of bid opening.

The Bidding Documents for the project (which include the bidding instructions for the project and other related documents) will be available Monday January 13, 2020 and are available for viewing/download on the Bulley & Andrews, LLC One Drive, located at the following link. No username or password is required.

https://bulleyandrews-my.sharepoint.com/:f/g/personal/jkrافتbulley.com/EqKvJLUKNtVEUY1RTbDfDUB4n1U-NgcMEDKce0MfYnQZ

The Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids or parts thereof, or waive any irregularities or informalities, and to make an award that in the Board's sole opinion is in the best interest of the District.

The site will be available for visits by appointment to be coordinated with Bulley & Andrews, LLC. Interested parties may inspect the existing conditions. Schedule an appointment with John Kraft of Bulley & Andrews in advance if you wish to visit the sites.

All bidders must comply with applicable Illinois Law requiring the payment of prevailing wages by all Contractors working on public works. If during the time period of work, the prevailing wage rates change, the contractor shall be responsible for additional costs without any change to the contract amount. All bidders must comply with the Illinois Statutory requirements regarding labor, including Equal Employment Opportunity Laws.

For additional information on the project, contact John Kraft of Bulley & Andrews, LLC at jkrافتbulley.com or 312-914-0351.

Future Bid Package 2 - General Trades 2, is expected to be available on or around February 10, 2020, with a bid opening date March 3, 2020.

Dated: 01/15/2020 John Kraft Bulley & Andrews, LLC 1/15, 1/20, 1/27/2020 6568985

NOTICE OF PROPOSED BANK MERGER Notice is hereby given that Royal Savings Bank, 9226 Commercial Avenue, Chicago, Illinois has made application to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Washington, D.C. 20429, for its written consent to purchase certain of the assets and assume certain of the liabilities of branches located at 1689 North Curran Road, Mchenry, Illinois, 60050 and 1301 Pyott Road, Lake in the Hills, Illinois, 60156 (the "Branches") of North Shore Bank, F.S.B., 15700 W. Bluemound Road, Brookfield, Wisconsin. It is contemplated that the Branches will continue to be operated at their present locations as Branches of Applicant following consummation of the transaction.

This notice is published pursuant to Section 18(c) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act.

Any person wishing to comment on this application may file his or her comments in writing with the Regional Director of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation at its Regional Office, 300 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 1700, Chicago, Illinois 60606, not later than February 19, 2020. The nonconfidential portions of the application are on file at the appropriate FDIC office and are available for public inspection during regular business hours. Photocopies of the nonconfidential portion of the application file will be made available upon request.

ROYAL SAVINGS BANK Chicago, Illinois NORTH SHORE BANK, F.S.B. Brookfield, Wisconsin 1/20, 2/3, 2/14/2020 6576068

NOTICE HEREBY GIVEN On March 1, 2020, a sale will be held at 2385 Kerper Boulevard, Dubuque, IA 52001, to sell the following articles to enforce a lien existing under the laws of the state of Illinois against such articles for services expended upon storage furnished for such articles at the request of the following designated persons, unless such articles are redeemed within 30 days of the publication of this notice:

Creditor/lessor: Hawkkeye Boat Sales, Inc. Article: 2007 26 Outlaw Baha Boat, hull ID AGC67087C707 Lien amount: \$39,591.85 Last Owner: Gene Gorak

Contact: Zeke R. McCartney, 110 E. 9th Street, Dubuque, IA 52001 Phone: 563-556-8000 1/6, 1/13, 1/20/2020 6561853

sell your vinyls in the chicago tribune to place your ad, call 312 222 2222 or visit chicagotribune.com/advertiser

TAKE NOTICES

TO: Heirs and Devises of Sandee Gilligan; Occupant of Unit CO-07; Park Place Tower 1 Condominium Association, c/o David Sugar, Judgment Creditors, And Decree Creditors, If Any Of The Above Described As "Unknown Owners"; Karen A. Yarbrough, Cook County Clerk; Parties In Occupancy Or Actual Possession Of Said Property; Unknown Owners Or Persons Interested In Said Land Or Lot. TAX DEED NO. 2019 COTD 004917 FILED: December 18, 2019 TAKE NOTICE County of Cook, State of Illinois Date Premises Sold: July 23, 2019 Certificate No. 195-0009668 Sold for General Taxes of: 2019 Scavenger Sale (2010-2017) Sold For Special Assessment of (Municipality) Not Applicable. And Special Assessment No. Not Applicable. Warrant No. Not Applicable. Inst. No. Not Applicable. THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES Property located at: 655 W. Irving Park Rd., Unit CO-07, Chicago, Illinois Legal Description or Property Index No. 14-21-101-054-2128 Vol. 485 This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on May 04, 2020. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the County Clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before May 04, 2020. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this County in Room 1704, Richard J. Daley Center, 50 W. Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois on May 15, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. You may be present at this hearing but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY Redemption can be made at any time on or before May 04, 2020 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois, at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. Address: 118 N. Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, IL 60602 Telephone: (312) 603-5645 JOHN GIAMBARBEREE, purchaser or assignee Dated: January 10, 2020 Judd M. Harris #55136 933 West Van Buren St. Suite 304 Chicago, IL 60607 312-795-9600 harrislaw@sbcglobal.net 1/20, 21, 22/2020 6570009

TO: Secretary of Housing & Urban Development; Martha E. Clark; Percy Clark; Loren Dupree; Xiaohua M. Liu; Occupant of 2852 W. Fillmore, Apt. 1; Occupant of 2852 W. Fillmore, Apt. 2; Iesha Null Montgomery; Travis E. Noel; Michael C. Ransom; City of Chicago, c/o City Clerk; Judgment Creditors, And Decree Creditors, If Any Of The Above Described As "Unknown Owners"; Karen A. Yarbrough, Cook County Clerk; Parties In Occupancy Or Actual Possession Of Said Property; Unknown Owners Or Persons Interested In Said Land Or Lot. TAX DEED NO. 2019 COTD 004991 FILED: December 26, 2019 TAKE NOTICE County of Cook, State of Illinois Date Premises Sold: July 23, 2019 Certificate No. 195-0009808 Sold for General Taxes of: 2019 Scavenger Sale (2015-2017) Sold For Special Assessment of (Municipality) Not Applicable. And Special Assessment No. Not Applicable. Warrant No. Not Applicable. Inst. No. Not Applicable. THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES Property located at: 2856 W. Fillmore, Chicago, Illinois Legal Description or Property Index No. 16-13-323-028-0000 Vol. 558 This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on May 04, 2020. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the County Clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before May 04, 2020. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this County in Room 1704, Richard J. Daley Center, 50 W. Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois on May 15, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. You may be present at this hearing but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY Redemption can be made at any time on or before May 04, 2020 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois, at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. Address: 118 N. Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, IL 60602 Telephone: (312) 603-5645 THOMAS CHOATE, purchaser or assignee Dated: January 10, 2020 Judd M. Harris #55136 933 West Van Buren St. Suite 304 Chicago, IL 60607 312-795-9600 harrislaw@sbcglobal.net 1/20, 21, 22/2020 6570000

TO: Secretary of Housing & Urban Development; Martha E. Clark; Percy Clark; Loren Dupree; Xiaohua M. Liu; Occupant of 2852 W. Fillmore, Apt. 1; Occupant of 2852 W. Fillmore, Apt. 2; Iesha Null Montgomery; Travis E. Noel; Michael C. Ransom; City of Chicago, c/o City Clerk; Judgment Creditors, And Decree Creditors, If Any Of The Above Described As "Unknown Owners"; Karen A. Yarbrough, Cook County Clerk; Parties In Occupancy Or Actual Possession Of Said Property; Unknown Owners Or Persons Interested In Said Land Or Lot. TAX DEED NO. 2019 COTD 004956 FILED: December 19, 2019 TAKE NOTICE County of Cook, State of Illinois Date Premises Sold: July 23, 2019 Certificate No. 195-0009867 Sold for General Taxes of: 2019 Scavenger Sale (2011-2017) Sold For Special Assessment of (Municipality) Not Applicable. And Special Assessment No. Not Applicable. Warrant No. Not Applicable. Inst. No. Not Applicable. THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES Property located at: 3251 W. Walnut, Chicago, Illinois Legal Description or Property Index No. 16-11-141-034-0000 Vol. 553 This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on May 04, 2020. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the County Clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before May 04, 2020. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this County in Room 1704, Richard J. Daley Center, 50 W. Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois on May 15, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. You may be present at this hearing but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY Redemption can be made at any time on or before May 04, 2020 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois, at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. Address: 118 N. Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, IL 60602 Telephone: (312) 603-5645 THOMAS CHOATE, purchaser or assignee Dated: January 10, 2020 Judd M. Harris #55136 933 West Van Buren St. Suite 304 Chicago, IL 60607 312-795-9600 harrislaw@sbcglobal.net 1/20, 21, 22/2020 6570006

TO: Secretary of Housing & Urban Development; Martha E. Clark; Percy Clark; Loren Dupree; Xiaohua M. Liu; Occupant of 2852 W. Fillmore, Apt. 1; Occupant of 2852 W. Fillmore, Apt. 2; Iesha Null Montgomery; Travis E. Noel; Michael C. Ransom; City of Chicago, c/o City Clerk; Judgment Creditors, And Decree Creditors, If Any Of The Above Described As "Unknown Owners"; Karen A. Yarbrough, Cook County Clerk; Parties In Occupancy Or Actual Possession Of Said Property; Unknown Owners Or Persons Interested In Said Land Or Lot. TAX DEED NO. 2019 COTD 004956 FILED: December 19, 2019 TAKE NOTICE County of Cook, State of Illinois Date Premises Sold: July 23, 2019 Certificate No. 195-0009867 Sold for General Taxes of: 2019 Scavenger Sale (2011-2017) Sold For Special Assessment of (Municipality) Not Applicable. And Special Assessment No. Not Applicable. Warrant No. Not Applicable. Inst. No. Not Applicable. THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES Property located at: 3251 W. Walnut, Chicago, Illinois Legal Description or Property Index No. 16-11-141-034-0000 Vol. 553 This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on May 04, 2020. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the County Clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before May 04, 2020. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this County in Room 1704, Richard J. Daley Center, 50 W. Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois on May 15, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. You may be present at this hearing but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY Redemption can be made at any time on or before May 04, 2020 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois, at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. Address: 118 N. Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, IL 60602 Telephone: (312) 603-5645 THOMAS CHOATE, purchaser or assignee Dated: January 10, 2020 Judd M. Harris #55136 933 West Van Buren St. Suite 304 Chicago, IL 60607 312-795-9600 harrislaw@sbcglobal.net 1/20, 21, 22/2020 6570012

TO: Secretary of Housing & Urban Development; Martha E. Clark; Percy Clark; Loren Dupree; Xiaohua M. Liu; Occupant of 2852 W. Fillmore, Apt. 1; Occupant of 2852 W. Fillmore, Apt. 2; Iesha Null Montgomery; Travis E. Noel; Michael C. Ransom; City of Chicago, c/o City Clerk; Judgment Creditors, And Decree Creditors, If Any Of The Above Described As "Unknown Owners"; Karen A. Yarbrough, Cook County Clerk; Parties In Occupancy Or Actual Possession Of Said Property; Unknown Owners Or Persons Interested In Said Land Or Lot. TAX DEED NO. 2019 COTD 004956 FILED: December 19, 2019 TAKE NOTICE County of Cook, State of Illinois Date Premises Sold: July 23, 2019 Certificate No. 195-0009867 Sold for General Taxes of: 2019 Scavenger Sale (2011-2017) Sold For Special Assessment of (Municipality) Not Applicable. And Special Assessment No. Not Applicable. Warrant No. Not Applicable. Inst. No. Not Applicable. THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES Property located at: 3251 W. Walnut, Chicago, Illinois Legal Description or Property Index No. 16-11-141-034-0000 Vol. 553 This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on May 04, 2020. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the County Clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before May 04, 2020. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this County in Room 1704, Richard J. Daley Center, 50 W. Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois on May 15, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. You may be present at this hearing but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY Redemption can be made at any time on or before May 04, 2020 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois, at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. Address: 118 N. Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, IL 60602 Telephone: (312) 603-5645 THOMAS CHOATE, purchaser or assignee Dated: January 10, 2020 Judd M. Harris #55136 933 West Van Buren St. Suite 304 Chicago, IL 60607 312-795-9600 harrislaw@sbcglobal.net 1/20, 21, 22/2020 6570012

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BLACKHAWKS 5, JETS 2

Point to record book

Kane joins Hull, Mikita, Savard as only Hawks to score 1,000 points

BY JIMMY GREENFIELD

Patrick Kane became the fourth player to score 1,000 points in a Blackhawks uniform when he hit the milestone in the third period of the Blackhawks' 5-2 victory — their fifth straight — over the Jets on Sunday night at the United Center.

Kane, 31, had an assist on Brandon Saad's goal to join Hall of

famers Stan Mikita, Bobby Hull and Denis Savard.

Kane, who is the 90th player in NHL history to hit the 1,000-point mark, did it in the 953rd game of his career. He is the seventh active player to reach 1,000 points along with Joe Thornton, Alex Ovechkin, Sidney Crosby, Patrick Marleau, Evgeni Malkin and Eric Staal.

According to the NHL, Kane is the youngest U.S. player to reach the milestone. Kane, 31 years, 61 days old, eclipsed former Blackhawk Jeremy Roenick, who was 32 years, 13 days old when he did

it.

The Hawks improved to 24-20-6 and pulled to within three points of the Coyotes for the final Western Conference wild-card spot. Robin Lehner had 36 saves for his sixth win in his last seven starts.

The Blackhawks took a 1-0 lead less than three minutes into the game on Alex Nylander's sixth goal of the season and first in his last 11 games.

Nylander took a pass from Erik Gustafsson as he was skating

Turn to **Blackhawks, Page 6**



ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Blackhawks right wing Patrick Kane celebrates with teammates after scoring his 1,000th point on an assist Sunday at the United Center.

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Chicago Tribune CHICAGO SPORTS

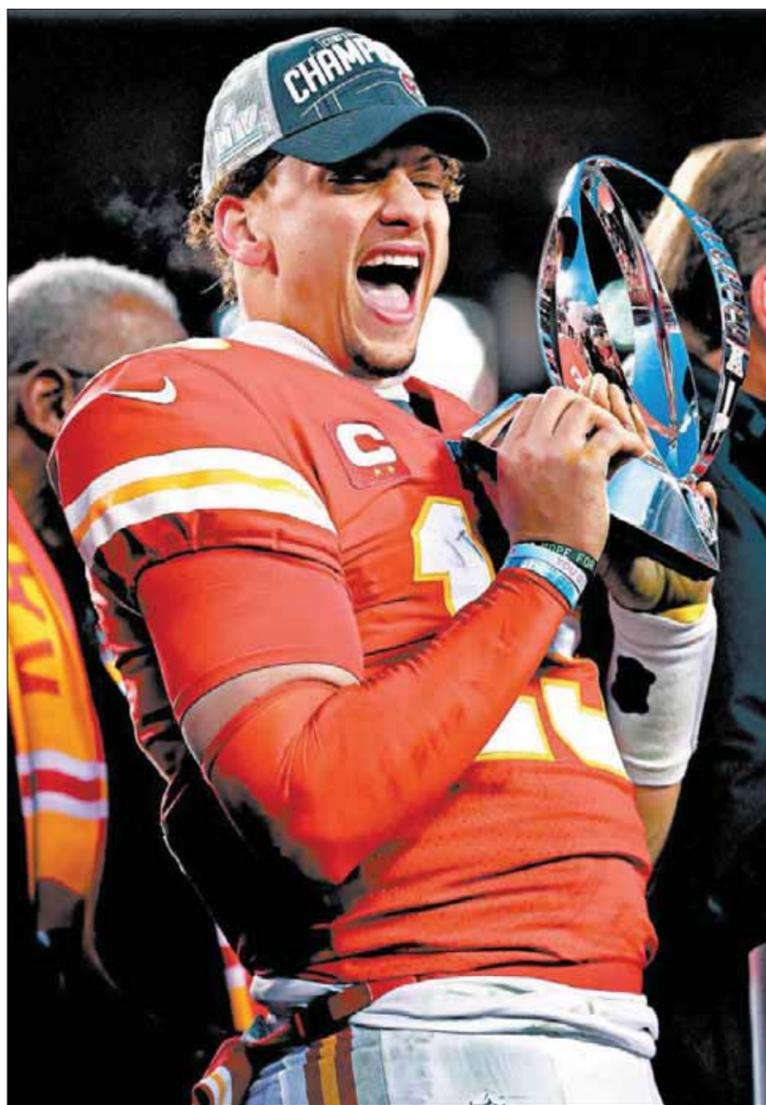
Chicago's best sports section, as judged by the Associated Press Sports Editors



SUPER BOWL LIV
HARD ROCK STADIUM, MIAMI GARDENS, FLA.
CHIEFS VS. 49ERS | 5:30 P.M. FEB. 2 | FOX-32



RED ALERT

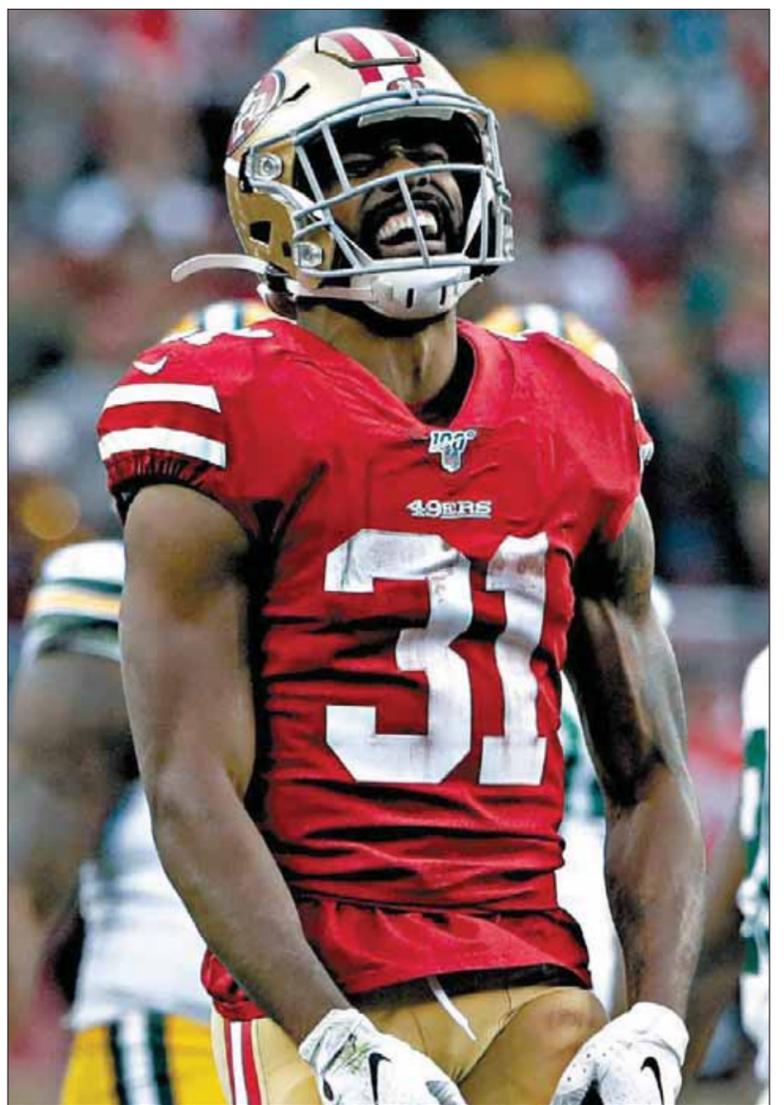


TOM PENNINGTON/GETTY

Patrick Mahomes of the Chiefs holds up the Lamar Hunt trophy after defeating the Titans in the AFC championship game on Sunday.

AFC CHAMPIONSHIP CHIEFS 35, TITANS 24

Mahomes does it all against Titans, Chiefs to first Super Bowl since 1970



MARCIO JOSE SANCHEZ/AP

49ers running back Raheem Mostert celebrates after a long run against the Packers on Sunday. He finished with 220 yards rushing and four touchdowns.

NFC CHAMPIONSHIP 49ERS 37, PACKERS 20

49ers build 27-0 halftime lead, run wild on Packers for 288 yards rushing

CHAMPIONSHIP SUNDAY COVERAGE, **PAGE 3**

Lou Piniella returns to the Cubs as an analyst

It has been nearly a decade since Lou Piniella stepped foot in Wrigley Field.

He left with tears in his eyes on Aug. 22, 2010, after deciding to retire from managing during theseason to take care of his ailing, 90-year-old mother, Margaret.

"I cried a little bit after the game," Piniella said during his farewell news conference in the cramped interview room behind the Cubs dugout. "I get emotional. I'm sorry."

A lot has happened since, including the end of the Cubs championship drought and the renovation of Wrigley Field and the surrounding neighborhood. And now, at long last, Piniella will



PAUL SULLIVAN
On the Cubs

make his return to Wrigley after the surprising announcement Saturday that he'll be part of the Marquee Sports Network's coverage of Cubs telecasts.

As the man known as "Sweet Lou" liked to say: "How about that?"

"Just talk baseball, Cubs baseball," Piniella told the Tribune on Sunday from his home in Tampa, Fla. "Chicago is a special city, and Cubs fans are just great. I look forward to coming back and having fun with this thing. Thank God I don't have to make too many decisions. I haven't been back to the ballpark. I did a couple appearances for Oracle up on the rooftops, but I

Turn to **Sullivan, Page 5**



ERIN HOOLEY/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Cubs infielder Nico Hoerner stretches with students during the Cubs Community Service Day on Thursday.

CUBS

Hoerner may lead next wave, lineup in change

Cubs varying core amid championship pressure

BY MARK GONZALES

While the Cubs face pressure to field a championship contender, there's a possibility that their core could change considerably over the next two years as Kris Bryant, Javier Baez and Anthony Rizzo could depart via trade or free agency.

But that also means the team's top prospects will have opportunities to move up.

"The last couple years they probably thought it was unattainable for them to be a part of," said Matt Dorey, the Cubs' senior director of player development. "Now it's a reality again. They can be a member of the next core."

"I hope that we can continue to add to our current and existing (core) and win this year. I really feel they have the talent to do that. But I'm excited about the opportunity, especially about the 2018 and (2019) drafts."

To prove his point, Dorey, who spent the last six seasons as director of amateur scouting, mentioned Nico Hoerner, the Cubs' first-round pick in the 2018 draft, as a future candidate for the leadoff spot.

Hoerner, 22, played impressively during a three-week stint with the Cubs in September after he was promoted because of

Turn to **Core, Page 5**

TOP OF THE SECOND

Williams pursues singles record

BY HELENE ELLIOTT
Los Angeles Times

The Australian Open is often called the “Happy Slam” for its relaxed feeling and swarms of knowledgeable fans who invest their emotions in every point of the year’s first major tournament.

But the cheer that customarily reigns has been replaced this year by anxiety over the bushfires that have ravaged parts of Australia and dispatched smoky air toward Melbourne Park, where several players complained of breathing problems last week.

Some qualifying matches were delayed because of poor air quality that triggered coughing spells and gasping. Delila Jakupovic of Slovenia collapsed during her match, Maria Sharapova and Laura Siegemund agreed to halt an exhibition match, and Australia’s Bernard Tomic needed medical attention for breathing problems.

Denis Shapovalov of Canada, seeded 13th, said he wouldn’t play if he believed conditions to be unsafe.

“Obviously it’s a Grand Slam, it’s a big opportunity, but I’m 20 years old. I don’t want to risk my life, risk my health being out there in these conditions when I can play for the next 10, 15 years,” he told reporters on Saturday. “For my own health, if it gets bad, I just don’t see what the point is.”

“I think everyone’s kind of on the same page. I don’t think I’ve seen anyone happy with the way things are being dealt with.”

Tournament director Craig Tiley said competition would start Monday as planned. “We do have three indoor arenas in which we can compete. It may look different, but the tournament will happen,” he said. “We are speculating if that would happen, but if we had to work it out we would.”

An array of elite players, including Serena Williams, Naomi Osaka, Roger Federer, Novak Djokovic and Australia’s Nick Kyrgios, united to participate in a charity fundraising event to support firefighting efforts.

Williams, seeded No. 8, is still pursuing her 24th Grand Slam singles title and a share of the record held by Australia’s Margaret Court. Williams hasn’t won a Slam event since she prevailed in Melbourne in 2017 while in the early stages of pregnancy.

She has since lost in the final of Wimbledon twice and the U.S. Open twice, but she might gain confidence from her victory in a



LEE JIN-MAN/AP

Serena Williams returns a shot in her 6-0, 6-3 victory against Anastasia Potapova in the first round of the Australian Open on Monday.

warm-up tournament in Auckland, New Zealand, her first title since she returned to competition.

Unlike the lead-up to her recent Slam appearances, she has been able to train without being hampered by injuries.

“I think if she just takes a little bit of pressure off herself and she can just play her brand of tennis, she’s got a good shot at winning it,” said Chris Evert, who won two of her 18 Grand Slam singles titles in Australia and will be on site for ESPN.

Williams is in the same quarter of the draw as her sister Venus, the oldest woman in the field at 39. Venus Williams will start by facing the youngest woman in the draw, 15-year-old Coco Gauff of Florida, who won the pair’s matchup at Wimbledon last summer in straight sets and became an instant sensation.

No. 1 seed Ashleigh Barty of Australia, last year’s French Open winner, comes in buoyed by winning a pre-Open tournament in Adelaide, Australia. Defending champion Osaka is the No. 3 seed.

On the men’s side, the “Big Three” of

Rafael Nadal, Djokovic, and Federer will try to maintain their Grand Slam stranglehold. One of the three has won the Australian Open in 13 of the last 14 years, a run interrupted by Stan Wawrinka in 2014.

Nadal, 33, ended last year as No. 1 in the world after he and Djokovic each won two Slams. He has two Australian Open titles among his 19 Slam singles championships.

Djokovic and Federer are in the same half of the draw, setting up a potential semifinal meeting.

John McEnroe, a seven-time Slam singles winner who’s now a commentator for ESPN, said the top three remain favorites despite the advances made by young challengers such as No. 4 seed Daniil Medvedev, who lost a thrilling five-set final to Nadal at last year’s U.S. Open.

“Medvedev, to me, is the guy that has the best chance of winning it right now,” McEnroe said during a conference call. “I think it’s closer than ever, obviously, that these young guys are going to make a breakthrough, but you’ve got to tip your hat to the three guys.”

LET’S PLAY 2

	Tuesday Panthers 7:30 p.m. NBCSCH	Feb. 1 @Coyotes 7 p.m. NBCSCH
	Monday @Bucks 4 p.m. NBCSCH	Wednesday T-wolves 7 p.m. NBCSCH

MONDAY ON TV/RADIO

NBA		
1:30 p.m.	Raptors at Hawks	NBA
4 p.m.	Pelicans at Grizzlies	TNT
4 p.m.	Bulls at Bucks	NBCSCH WSCR-AM 670
6:30 p.m.	Lakers at Celtics	TNT
9 p.m.	Warriors at Trail Blazers	TNT
MEN’S COLLEGE BASKETBALL		
4 p.m.	Sacred Heart at R. Morris	CBSN
6 p.m.	N.C. State at Virginia	ESPN
6 p.m.	Texas at West Virginia	ESPNU
6 p.m.	Bucknell at Colgate	CBSN
8 p.m.	Oklahoma at Baylor	ESPN
WOMEN’S COLLEGE BASKETBALL		
5 p.m.	Michigan State at Rutgers	BTN
6 p.m.	Miss. St. at South Carolina	ESPN2
7 p.m.	Indiana at Maryland	BTN
GOLF		
1 p.m.	Korn Ferry: Abaco Classic	Golf
NHL		
2 p.m.	Red Wings at Avalanche	NHL
TENNIS		
6 p.m.	Australian Open	Tennis
8 p.m.	Australian Open	ESPN2
2 a.m. (Tue.)	Australian Open	ESPN2

ASK THE REPORTER BRAD BIGGS

What do you think about Jalen Hurts if he’s there in the second round? High upside and a high-character guy. He could push Mitch Trubisky, and even if he doesn’t start right away, Matt Nagy would have a new Taysom Hill-like toy to play with. — @eric-jen98778943

It’s early, but most expect Hurts to be on the board in Round 2 and possibly later. He will come to the NFL with a ton of experience in big games, but scouts I’ve spoken to about him disagree that he’s a high-ceiling prospect. Nagy doesn’t need a Taysom Hill-like toy now. He needs a high-performing quarterback first.



CHICAGO FORWARD

YOUNG LIVES IN THE BALANCE

Presented by Chicago Tribune

Chicago Forward brings together key voices and thought leaders to explore the future of our city. Please join us on Monday, February 24 for the first of our three events focused on Chicago Forward: Young Lives in the Balance.

Chicago Tribune Publisher and Editor-in-Chief Bruce Dold will lead a discussion on empowering Chicago’s at-risk youth. The program will be followed by a reception for the speakers and audience. Panelists include:

- > **Lori Lightfoot**, Mayor of Chicago
- > **Sandra Abrevaya**, President and Chief Impact Officer, Thrive Chicago
- > **Alex Kotlowitz**, author, *An American Summer: Love and Death in Chicago*
- > **Tom Gilardi**, Vice President of Youth Programs, Mercy Home for Boys & Girls
- > **Marcelo Sanchez**, Mercy Home for Boys & Girls alum

Monday, February 24

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm | Doors Open: 5:30 pm
Venue Six10, 610 South Michigan Ave.

To purchase tickets visit
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NFL

WILD-CARD	DIVISIONAL	AFC	SBLIV	NFC	DIVISIONAL	WILD-CARD
 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> #6 Titans 20 #3 Patriots 13 #4 Texans 22 #5 Bills (OT) 19 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Titans 28 #1 Ravens 12 #2 Chiefs 51 Texans 31 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chiefs 35 Titans 24 	5:30 p.m. Feb. 2 FOX 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 49ers 37 Packers 20 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> #1 49ers 27 Vikings 10 #2 Packers 28 Seahawks 23 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> #6 Vikings 26 #3 Saints (OT) 20 #5 Seahawks 17 #4 Eagles 9 



RICH SUGG/KANSAS CITY STAR

Chiefs QB Patrick Mahomes flexes after running for a 27-yard TD on Sunday. "It's amazing," Mahomes said of making the Super Bowl.

Super Bowl teams cash in on QB gambles

By EDDIE PELLIS
Associated Press

A little more than two years ago, a pair of teams gambled on quarterbacks who had all kinds of potential but were far from a sure thing.

Both teams guessed right. The Chiefs will meet the 49ers in the Super Bowl on Feb. 2 in Miami. Odds-makers opened the line at pick 'em in a title game featuring one franchise, the 49ers, trying to win a record-tying sixth Lombardi Trophy against another, the Chiefs, making their first appearance in the big game in 50 years.

Their quarterbacks: Patrick Mahomes (KC) and Jimmy Garoppolo (SF).

Mahomes, whose gaudy college stats (his 5,052 passing yards led the country in 2016) were a byproduct of playing at pass-happy Texas Tech, was generally viewed as no better than the second-best quarterback in a 2017 draft that wasn't considered strong on quarterbacks to begin with.

Chiefs coach Andy Reid disagreed. He gave up a first-round pick in the following year's draft to move up to select Mahomes in 2017. Now, in his third season, Mahomes is a Super Bowl quarterback. He has 11 postseason touchdown passes, not a single interception, and has even led the Chiefs in rushing the last two weeks. With its 35-24 win over the Titans on Sunday in the AFC title game, the Chiefs became the first team in NFL history to go from trailing by double digits to winning by double digits in consecutive playoff games.

"Everybody liked this guy," Reid said, in 2017, about the reaction from the Chiefs front office and scouting department after they'd spent time with Mahomes in advance of the draft. "Everybody fell in love with the kid and how he went about his business and how he played. That's not something that happens every year."

Garoppolo, a second-round pick by the Patriots in 2014, was considered the quarterback-in-waiting despite a limited resume as Tom Brady's backup. But with the Patriots not ready to part ways with their franchise cornerstone, and with Garoppolo's contract running out, the quarterback became expendable. The 49ers acquired him in the middle of the 2017 season for a second-round pick.

Garoppolo won his first five starts for the 49ers and, before the season was out, he had a five-year contract extension that, at the time, included the highest average yearly salary in NFL history.

"When you find the right guy at that position, it's really good for your franchise," 49ers GM John Lynch said, not long after the trade.

Though Garoppolo's 102 passer rating this season was only 3.3 points less than Mahomes', the 49ers don't depend on its franchise QB the way the Chiefs do.

Exhibit A: Garoppolo threw only eight passes and totaled only 77 yards in the 49ers' 37-20 win over the Packers in the NFC title game Sunday. He's helped by a bruising running game recently anchored by Raheem Mostert (220 yards and four TDs on Sunday). And the 49ers have found a game-wrecking defensive end in rookie Nick Bosa. The second pick in the 2019 draft had a sack Sunday to go with the nine he recorded over the regular season to fuel a defense that gave up the fewest passing yards this season.

AFC CHAMPIONSHIP CHIEFS 35, TITANS 24

Off the waiting list

Mahomes leads Chiefs to 1st Super Bowl since winning it all 50 years ago

By BARRY WILNER
Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — With his best imitation of a tightrope walker, Patrick Mahomes high-wired the Chiefs into their first Super Bowl in a half-century.

Oh sure, Mahomes did his usual superb job passing, but it was his 27-yard tap dance down the left sideline late in the first half that gave the Chiefs their first lead. From there, they outran the run-oriented Titans and star back Derrick Henry for a 35-24 victory Sunday in the AFC championship.

At last, for the first time since January 1970 and the third time overall, the Chiefs (14-4) are Super Bowl bound.

"I mean, it's amazing. It really is," Mahomes said. "To be here, to be a part of Chiefs Kingdom and to be able to do it here at Arrowhead, these people deserve it. And, we're not done yet."

Adding to the joy of the achievement, coach Andy Reid and owner Clark Hunt accepted the Lamar Hunt Trophy — named after his father — emblematic of the AFC title. It was handed over to them by Chiefs Hall of Famer Bobby Bell, with Mahomes and safety Tyrann Mathieu jumping for joy

on the makeshift stage.

Next up: chasing the Vince Lombardi Trophy.

"Chiefs Kingdom, we are going to the Super Bowl," Hunt said.

"It's awesome," Reid said, asking the crowd to chant "How about those Chiefs?"

The Chiefs lost in the very first Super Bowl, 35-10 to the Packers. But they charged back three years later to beat the Vikings 23-7 behind Len Dawson, Otis Taylor and animated coach Hank Stram famously urging his team to "keep matriculating the ball down the field, boys!"

As they had done in their past three "elimination" games, the sixth-seeded Titans (11-8) got started quickly. The difference at Arrowhead as opposed to the Texans, Patriots and Ravens was that the Chiefs had Mahomes, Tyreek Hill, Sammy Watkins and Damien Williams on offense, and a vastly upgraded defense from when they lost in last year's AFC title game. Henry was held to 7 yards rushing in the second half.

"They were doubling all these guys," Mahomes said of his spectacular TD run on which he barely stayed in bounds. "I just ran it and got some good blocking at the end and found a way to get in the end zone."

A week after they overcame a 24-0 deficit against the Texans, the Chiefs had to rally again.

Down 10-0 and 17-7, the hosts didn't flinch, building a 35-17 lead while control-

ling the clock with a strong ground game. Naturally, Mahomes complemented that with sharp passing, spreading the ball on short and deep throws. The dagger came with a 60-yard completion to Watkins for the Chiefs' 28th straight point midway in the final period.

Mahomes thrust both arms in the air as the crowd sang "I Want To Dance With Somebody."

After taking a 3-0 lead on Greg Joseph's first field goal — with the Titans' penchant for scoring in the red zone, he hadn't been called upon in his previous four games with the team — the Titans got a huge break. Bashaud Breeland appeared to make a diving interception, but replay review showed the ball hitting the ground.

Helped by consecutive offside penalties and a fourth-down pass to Adam Humphries for his first career playoff reception, the Titans converted on, what else, Henry's 4-yard run.

Then the Chiefs got rolling, scoring on three successive series. Hill took it in on a shovel pass, later beat top Titans cornerback Logan Ryan for a 20-yard reception, and Mahomes finished the half with his brilliant jaunt down the left sideline with half the Titans defense seemingly expecting him to step out of bounds.

That gave the Chiefs a 21-17 lead. It went to 28-17 on Williams' 3-yard run to cap a seven-minute drive. Then Watkins toasted Logan for the clinching long pass.

NFC CHAMPIONSHIP 49ERS 37, PACKERS 20

Gold rush: Mostert's 4 TDs, 220 yards power 49ers win

By JOSH DUBOW
Associated Press

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — From No. 2 pick in the draft to one of the last two teams standing.

It has been a remarkable turnaround for the Super Bowl-bound 49ers.

Raheem Mostert rushed for 220 yards and four touchdowns to make quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo mostly a spectator, Nick Bosa harassed Aaron Rodgers from the start and the 49ers beat the Packers 37-20 for the NFC championship Sunday.

The 49ers (15-3) advanced to their first Super Bowl in seven years and will play the Chiefs in two weeks in Miami for the championship.

"Our team, it's incredible to be a part of," Garoppolo said. "We can win so many different ways. Raheem, those guys up front, the tight ends obviously were just dominating tonight. It was fun."

The 49ers won just 10 games in the first two seasons under coach Kyle Shanahan and general manager John Lynch, going

4-12 last season after Garoppolo went down with a season-ending knee injury in Week 3.

Now, the 49ers are one of two teams remaining after delivering a second thorough beating of the season to Rodgers and the Packers (14-4). The 49ers are the third team to make it to the Super Bowl a year after winning four or fewer games, joining the Bengals (1988) and Rams (1999).

Bosa, the prize for last year's rough season as the No. 2 overall pick, helped set the tone when he ended the Packers' second drive of the game with a 13-yard sack of Rodgers.

Mostert, a former special teams standout, did much of the rest in a remarkable redemption story for an ex-player who was cut seven times and carried the ball only eight times in his first three NFL seasons.

But he has become a key part of the NFL's top team this year, leading the 49ers with 772 yards rushing in the regular season and delivering a performance for the ages in the NFC title game.

He had the second-most yards rushing in a playoff game to Eric Dickerson's 248 for



TONY AVELAR/AP

Former special teams standout Raheem Mostert dives into the end zone for one of his four rushing TDs during the 49ers' victory over the Packers in the NFC title game Sunday.

the Rams on Jan. 4, 1986, and was the first player to rush for at least four TDs and 200 yards in a playoff game.

"I just woke up like it was any other game," Mostert said. "It was one of those things where hey, once we all get in a groove, we're just going to keep it riding, keep it going and that's what we did."

He had 160 yards rushing and three scores at the half, becoming the only player

in NFL history to rush for at least 150 yards and three TDs in the first half of a playoff game.

"It was working," Shanahan said of the run-heavy approach. "If it's working, you stay with it."

Rodgers and the Packers were unable to match that performance as they got overwhelmed by the 49ers' dominant front for a second time this season.

NBA



JONATHAN DANIEL/TNS PHOTOS

Members of the Bulls react after Zach LaVine scored the winning basket against the Cavaliers on Saturday at the United Center.

BULLS 3 TAKEAWAYS

LaVine the dream

More heroics from Bulls star in a huge comeback win over the Cavaliers

By JAMAL COLLIER

The Bulls were rescued by Zach LaVine on Saturday night as he lit up the United Center for 42 points with a 21-point fourth quarter to lead an unlikely 118-116 comeback victory against the Cavaliers.

LaVine's heroics saved the Bulls from a frustrating loss, but when a team comes back from 19 points down in the second half and 15 entering the final period, more than a few things had to go right. A night that began looking miserable for the Bulls ended with them showing signs of progress.

Coach Jim Boylen rolled out a lineup he hadn't used all season. And credit the Bulls for giving a much more inspired effort defensively in a lineup that featured Kris Dunn, LaVine and Tomas Satoransky in the backcourt with Chandler Hutchison and Lauri Markkanen in the frontcourt, a smaller lineup that turned the tide in the final period as they held the Cavs to 14 points on 27% shooting and paved the way for LaVine to go off.

"Tenacity," Dunn said. "Everybody was flying around ... we switched a little bit, changed it up on them. I love what the coaches did, gave a different look. They allowed us to go out there and fight."

Here are three takeaways from the Bulls' comeback win against the Cavs:

1. Zach LaVine bails Bulls out from a bad loss.

If not for a miss on a halfcourt shot attempt at the buzzer, the Cavs would have shot 70% in the first half in what was quickly becoming one of the Bulls' most lackluster defensive efforts of the season.

"We were just low energy in the first half," Jim Boylen said. "We were slugging uphill. Guys were trying, we were in mud a little bit."

Enter Zach LaVine to lift the Bulls out of the mud.

It's still an issue that, at times, this offense gets caught up watching LaVine and waiting for him to bail them out of possessions. But once he got hot Saturday, they were paving the way for him to succeed. And LaVine continues to show he can rise to the occasion.

It's making an awfully compelling All-Star case for LaVine, especially as he continues a red-hot January that should put him firmly in consideration to play in next month's game at the United Center. He is fourth in the NBA in scoring this month, averaging 30.6 points per game and shooting 50%, both his best for any month this season.

"He's been a monster, he's been a monster," Boylen said. "He's been talking



Bulls forward Lauri Markkanen eyes the basket under pressure from Cavs' Cedi Osman on Saturday at the United Center.

in the huddles. He's been chattering. He's been locked in. What he's doing better is he's bouncing back from maybe a poor moment or a bad stretch, he's bouncing back now. He's not playing backward at all. And that's what the great ones do, they don't even worry about that play. And that was a herculean effort."

2. The Bulls tried to get Lauri Markkanen involved.

After Lauri Markkanen disappeared down the stretch during their loss to the 76ers on Friday night, the Bulls came into Saturday's game determined to find more scoring opportunities for him in the offense. So they began the game by calling a play for Markkanen, and even though it resulted in a turnover, it showed a commitment to try and get him more involved on offense, one that continued all game.

Markkanen started the second half with a 3 and scored the first basket of the fourth quarter before Zach LaVine took over. But the Bulls got more of a contribution from their third-year forward, whose scoring and playing time have reverted to near his rookie season instead of taking a step forward.

On Saturday, he went 7-for-14 from the field with 17 points in nearly 33 minutes, playing the entire fourth quarter as the Bulls made their comeback.

"I had no problems with that," Markkanen said with a smile. "It was fun to be out there."

"He wants to help the team win," Jim Boylen said before the game. "I have to make sure he's involved. He was involved, he didn't shoot the ball enough (Friday night). It wasn't that he wasn't involved, I have to make sure that he gets more than two shots. He's fought through some injury and he's given us everything he has."

3. Wendell Carter Jr. is optimistic about his return timeline as Bulls test out new lineups.

The Bulls released an initial timeline of four to six weeks for Wendell Carter Jr.'s recovery from a sprained right ankle, and the second-year center believes he's on track to return at the shorter end of that timeline. Carter, who has not played since Jan. 6, is already feeling an improvement in his ankle and even though he is limited to upper-body workouts, he is aiming for a return by the All-Star break at the latest.

His return would be welcomed by the Bulls, who are without Carter and rookie center Daniel Gafford, sidelined for two to four weeks with a dislocated thumb.

"It's frustrating because I am a competitor," Carter said. "But on the back end, everything happens for a reason and it could've been worse."

The Bulls have been piecing together their lineups without him, which included the debut of that small lineup in the fourth quarter with Lauri Markkanen at the five and Chandler Hutchison at the four. That lineup was on the floor during most of their fourth-quarter comeback.

And even though Luke Kornet, who has been filling in as the starting center, started off hot with eight points in the first quarter and finished with 11 overall, the Bulls perhaps could use that smaller lineup more frequently as they try to survive without Carter.

"It was good, we were a lot more athletic and faster," Zach LaVine said. "And it was an aggressive lineup. We're out there making plays when we needed to. We were wearing them down, and with Hutch out there it made it big because if he gets the rebound he can push it, too, so it made it faster."

Butler is looking for the right fit on his foot

By DEANTAE PRINCE

Jimmy Butler signed with Jordan Brand in 2014 as the brightest star on the Bulls, a logical marriage with the United Center being the house Michael Jordan built. Butler was so eager to become a Jordan athlete that he reportedly took a 75% pay cut.

Five years later, Butler plays for the Heat and recently parted ways with Jordan Brand, ending his multiyear contract 10 months early, according to Nick DePaula of ESPN.com. Butler immediately becomes one of the few high-profile players on the sneaker market. His services are sure to be well sought after, and with sneaker holidays on the horizon — Martin Luther King Jr. Day games and All-Star Weekend — now feels as good a time as any to consider Butler's potential landing spots.

1. Li-Ning

Li-Ning appears to be the most obvious choice for Butler's new sneaker home.

Dwyane Wade, Butler's friend and former Bulls teammate, has an ownership stake in the Chinese company and has played a part in attracting players such as Klay Thompson and C.J. McCollum to the brand. This move would fit the fiercely-independent Butler's approach in most phases of his career. With Li-Ning, Butler also would get his own signature shoe and likely would become a higher priority than with other brands.

2. Adidas

Though he had a different profile at the time, Butler started his career with Adidas — which had an inside track because of its longstanding deal with Derrick Rose.

Adidas has since added a new crop of dynamic stars, with James Harden and Damian Lillard under the umbrella. Butler would fit the style played by these All-Star names and add a more vocal persona to the brand. One thing Adidas can present is a long line of Kobe Bryant legacy products to hold Butler over while his own sneaker is under construction.

Butler wore the Adidas Crazy 1 and Adidas Crazy 8 with the Bulls.

3. Jordan Brand

Perhaps the door shouldn't close on a potential reconciliation just yet.

While he's reportedly no longer a member of the Jordan team, Butler has continued to play in the shoe, refraining from a move to general Nike sneakers or a complete defection to another brand. Butler still could technically be under contract, but he has been photographed in the Jordan XXXI in recent Heat games.

That said, there's still a chance the pay cut Butler presented on the front end of his deal became a reason to rip up his current contract and return to the table. Butler, 30, is getting into the latter part of his career and has to make sure he doesn't leave too much money on the table. Jordan Brand also has the off-court angle working for it, with a plethora of retros and exclusives to pick from.

4. Nike

Nike proper never can be counted out. As the flagship brand that created sneaker culture as we know it today, Nike has the cache and resources to lure any NBA player.

One thing working against Nike's contention here is Butler's aversion to being just one big fish in a large pond. Although there was a time when he was content to fall back into the crowd, Butler moved on from that stage and prefers to be the center of his universe. Nike is ultra selective when deciding which players to make signature athletes. The short list includes LeBron James, Kyrie Irving, Kevin Durant, Giannis Antetokounmpo and Paul George.

5. Under Armour

They don't always win out but Under Armour typically makes a run at big stars when they become available.

They tempted Kevin Durant, vied for the services of Zion Williamson and landed Joel Embiid in recent years. Having Stephen Curry as the flagship athlete and part owner doesn't hurt, either.

Butler might be a long shot, but Under Armour has to be considered them as a player when athletes of his ilk are on the market.

6. Puma

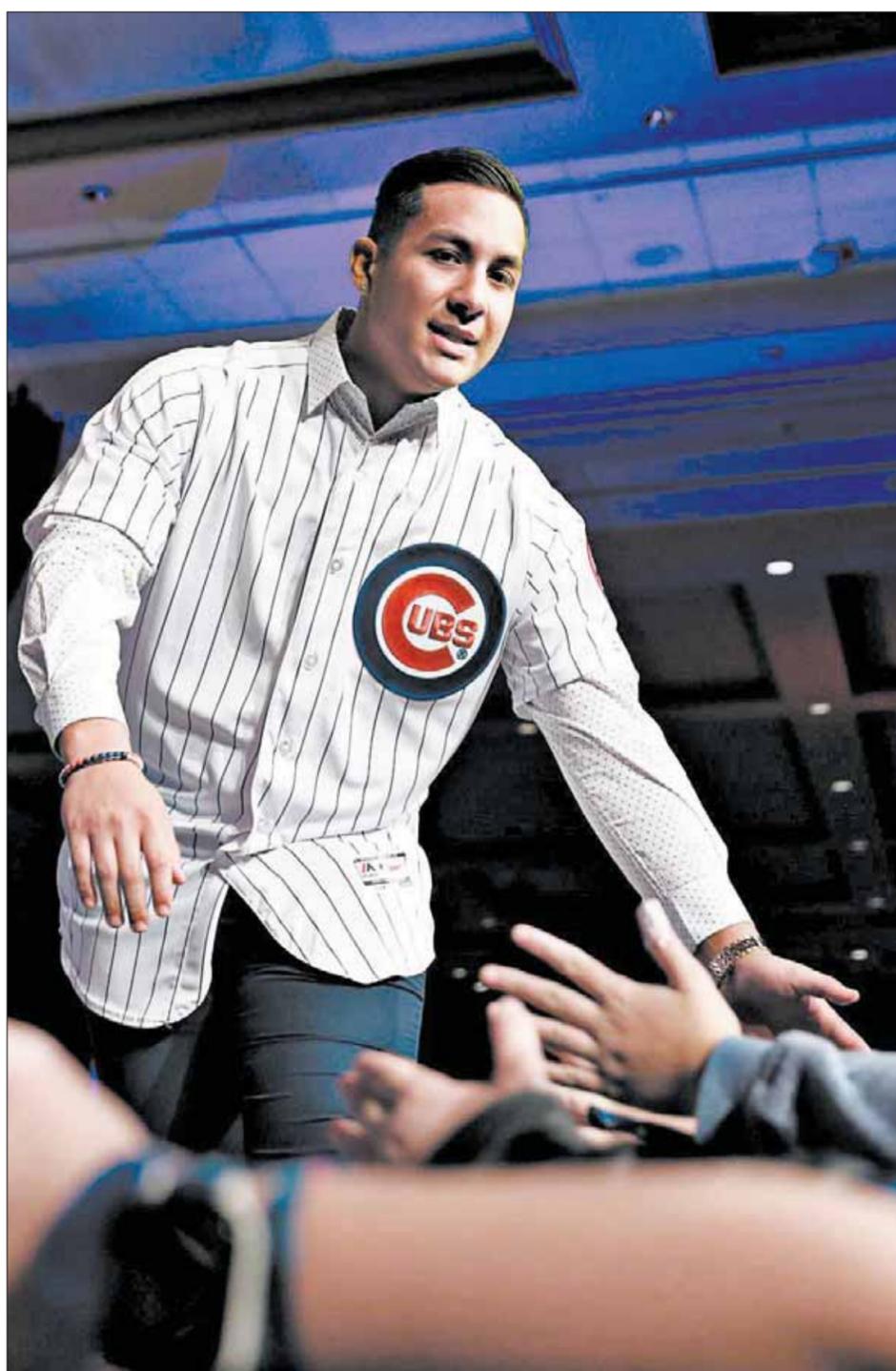
Puma and New Balance are new to this space, yet both companies have impressive names on their rosters.

Puma is heavy on young athletes with ties to New York, such as Knicks guards RJ Barrett and Kevin Knox, or notables names in Los Angeles, a la Lakers standouts DeMarcus Cousins and Kyle Kuzma. Butler would be the biggest name on the brand if he signed with Puma, which also has access to Roc Nation backing and a Jay-Z connection.

7. New Balance

New Balance threw a monkey wrench into the sneaker recruiting process when it surprisingly recruited Leonard, who didn't leave Jordan Brand on good terms and continues to litigate with its parent company, Nike, over his Claw trademark. It would be quite the feather in the cap if New Balance could steal two Jordan Brand athletes from the powerful Nike umbrella.

CUBS



JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Miguel Amaya is introduced during the opening ceremony of the Cubs Convention on Friday.

CUBS CONVENTION 4 TAKEAWAYS

Smith has plenty to say in return to Cubs

Amaya, team's top catching prospect, getting high praise

BY MARK GONZALES

Here are four takeaways from this weekend's Cubs Convention.

1. Lee Smith is back home with the Cubs and has plenty to say.

After serving as a roving minor-league pitching coach for the Giants for 20 seasons, Smith rejoined the Cubs, the team with which he embarked on a Hall of Fame career as a closer.

Smith, 62, will serve as an ambassador.

"What the hell does that mean?" Smith quipped. "When Mr. (Tom) Ricketts calls and says do something, I'm going, yes.

"I said in my Hall of Fame speech (in 2019) it's (always) good to be back home. I'm really loving it. I'll get a chance to see my old buddies in the fire department (adjacent to Wrigley Field) again."

He also weighed in on the Astros' sign-stealing scandal.

"They've probably been doing it for years," Smith said. "But the thing about it is, you're going to say they won the World Series only because they were stealing signs? I think that's bull. You've got to pitch and play, go on the road and all that."

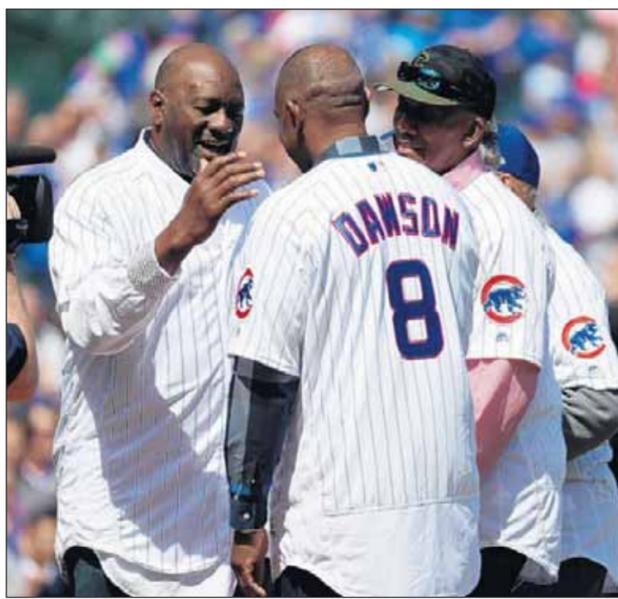
"When I was in Chicago, I remember the guys saying, 'Oh, man, they've got something going on in the (Wrigley Field) center-field clock.' You do know we lost 96 (damn) games last year? Hey, man, somebody ain't doing it right then."

Smith said he approves of baseball's new rule that relievers must face at least three batters. He believes it will be beneficial to their development.

"I like the idea of having that (rule)," Smith said. "You can see and learn how to pitch by facing hitters. If you go out and face one guy, you can make a bad pitch and a guy still makes an out. You learn how to pitch by seeing (more hitters)."

2. The Cubs' Matt Dorey encourages kids to play multiple sports.

Matt Dorey, Cubs senior direc-



BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Former Cubs Lee Smith and Andre Dawson greet one another before the 2019 home opener on April 8 at Wrigley Field.

tor of player development, encourages children to avoid specialization for more than just health reasons.

"I think you're seeing these specialized athletes at a young age that don't or haven't had the opportunity to fail in other sports," Dorey said. "What that teaches young people is how to be a part of a different team, where they might not be the best player. And the lessons that are learned like being the sixth man on a basketball team, coming off the bench, or play multiple spots on the football field, or playing lacrosse."

"Learning to compete, fail, dealing with adversity is as important in development as developing a high-level skill."

3. The team is high on top catching prospect Miguel Amaya.

Miguel Amaya, the Cubs' top catching prospect, will participate in his first major-league spring training before likely starting the season at Double-A Tennessee, where a better offensive environment might enhance his growth.

"We were really pleased with his progress offensively as well as defensively," said Bobby Basham, director of player development.

Amaya, 20, hit 11 home runs and drove in 57 runs with a .351 on-base percentage but batted only .235 in 99 games at Class A Myrtle Beach last year.

First baseman Jerrick Suiter, who was selected from the Pirates in the minor-league phase of the Rule 5 draft, will convert to pitcher. The Cubs were impressed with Suiter's potential after their research and development staff obtained data from two scoreless outings Suiter pitched for Double-A Altoona.

4. The Cubs may boost pay for their minor leaguers.

The Cubs may follow the path of the Blue Jays in paying their minor-league players more money in an effort to provide them with more security.

"I can tell you it got our attention," President Theo Epstein said, adding that Chairman Tom Ricketts took notice. "Stay tuned, because it's something that's important to Tom and something we're working on it."

Class A players around organized baseball are paid as little as \$1,200 a month before taxes.

"We agree with you," Epstein told a fan on Saturday. "It's not fair."

Core

Continued from Page 1

injuries to Baez and the since-departed Addison Russell.

The Cubs still could add a leadoff hitter before opening day, but Dorey cited many of Hoerner's skills that could eventually give them their first bona fide leadoff hitter since Dexter Fowler in 2015-16.

"I look at the skill set," Dorey said Sunday as the Cubs Convention concluded. "This is really from how we evaluated him in the draft and knowing that he has the requisite skills to hit at the top of the lineup — get on base, disrupt the flow of the game with his legs.

"He has a chance to develop into that player. Whether that happens, this year, next year or (he) ends up hitting in the two (spot), he has the skill set to do that."

Hoerner had only 375 minor-league plate appearances (none at Triple A) before his major-league debut. He held his own with a .282 batting average in 78 at-bats, but his on-base percentage slipped from .365 during his two minor-league seasons to .305 in the majors.

"He knew the league didn't know him, and he wanted to get off his A swing as early as he could in the at-bat as the league was trying to figure him out, maybe trying to steal a strike early," Dorey said.

"A big part of his development plan moving forward will be more plate discipline, making better decisions and having the ability and comfort to grind more at-bats and hitting with

two strikes. That's what we'll evaluate in spring training, and Nico is aware of that. We'll see how it plays out."

Hoerner began the 2018 season as Stanford's leadoff hitter before moving down into run-producing spots in the batting order.

Hoerner could lead a wave of players from the last two drafts who could ascend quickly, depending on how the Cubs fare.

The overhaul of the player development department, with Craig Breslow and Justin Stone serving as directors of pitching and hitting, was designed in part to maximize the skills of the minor-league players.

"It's more making sure we're the leader and not the follower," Dorey said.

Brailyn Marquez, the organization's top pitching prospect, is likely to start 2020 at Double-A Tennessee.

Marquez struck out 48 and walked eight in his final 38 innings at Class A South Bend and Myrtle Beach last year after walking 42 in his first 65 innings. He will be examined closely by several new instructors and their pitching lab in Mesa, Ariz., to ensure his mechanics are sound before they send him to an affiliate.

"This next really long season is such a big year for him," Dorey said. "But it would be foolish to put any cap on what he can do this year. We just want to have him stay healthy and get to know a lot of our new pitching coaches, which will be important."

Especially because Yu Darvish and Kyle Hendricks are the only starters signed past 2020.

Sullivan

Continued from Page 1

look forward to seeing the new Wrigley."

Piniella, 76, is one of several analysts the new network has brought in, part of a cast that includes familiar names Mark DeRosa, Rick Sutcliffe, Ryan Dempster, Dan Plesac and Carlos Pena. Piniella plans to do pregame shows for 15-16 games, and said "once in a while they might want to sneak me in (to the TV booth) for a few innings."

The announcement was greeted with loud applause Saturday at the Cubs Convention. Piniella was one of the more popular Cubs managers in recent history, helping resurrect a franchise that floundered after the 2004 collapse. Leaving without finishing the 2010 season was Piniella's only regret. He already had been told they wanted him to return in 2011.

"I always felt bad I had to leave before the season was over," he said. "I can get that off my mind now. It was important that I came home. I spent valuable time with my mom. You hate to end your career not finishing a season, but to me, it was something that had to be done. Family is always important. But I look forward to this, working with my buddies."

"The Cubs are such an institution. I never realized what I was getting into when I got there, but it was fun. I thoroughly enjoyed it. I'm so happy since I left they won a championship."

Piniella did some analyst work for Yankees telecasts on the YES Network after his retirement and later served as a consultant with the Reds. But he said he has been lying low in Tampa the last few years after suffering a stroke. Piniella said he's completely recovered and ready to get back into the game on a limited basis.

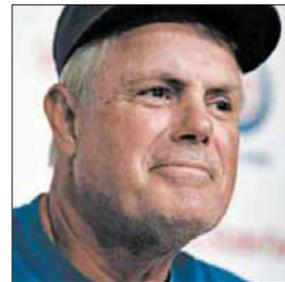
"I do a little Pilates, play some golf, a little fishing and I ride my bicycle once in a while," he said. "An old, 76-year-old guy riding a damn bicycle. People think I'm nuts."

When told people already thought he was nuts, Piniella said, "There you go."

Returning to the Cubs family was an easy decision, he said. Marquee Sports & Entertainment general manager Mike McCarthy promised Piniella he could return on his own terms, and a deal was promptly struck. Piniella admitted he hasn't watched much Cubs baseball lately but said he watched David Ross on "Dancing With the Stars" and believes Ross is a fine choice as manager.

Piniella has been following the offseason and noted the Cubs have some tough decisions to make with young stars closing in on free agency and team president Theo Epstein facing budgetary concerns in 2020.

"But every team has tough decisions," Piniella said. "It's hard to win on a continuous



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Cubs manager Lou Piniella speaks about his plans to retire after the 2010 season during a press conference.

basis in major-league baseball."

It may be only 10 years since he left, but it was a very different era when Piniella was managing in Chicago. The manager was the final word from the clubhouse, with little interference from the front office on lineups or in-game decisions. After the Cubs finished last in the National League Central with a league-worst 96 losses in 2006, Piniella took the Cubs to the playoffs with division titles in 2007 and '08, but they were swept both times in the Division Series by the Diamondbacks and Dodgers, respectively. Their '09 season was sabotaged by the many distractions caused by Milton Bradley and the team fell apart in '10 before Piniella abruptly left to tend to his mother.

Unlike Ross, Piniella's duties also entailed helping the Cubs get some media attention to help fill Wrigley. That request led to his famous hat-throwing ejection in 2007 that turned the season around.

Piniella usually was game for anything. In the spring of 2007 he stomped on a stuffed animal that was meant to represent a billy goat while yelling "I don't believe in curses" in a staged bit for a Japanese TV station.

"Baseball is a sport, baseball is a business, but baseball is also entertainment," Piniella said. "You know the amazing thing, when I went there, one of the things (former President) John McDonough wanted me to do is entertain. He really did. And I did. We had fun doing it. We only won a few divisions. I'm sorry we didn't do any better in the postseason."

"Truthfully, I didn't realize what pressure these kids had on them to perform (because of the drought). I should've handled that a little differently. I had played with the Yankees, and we thrived on pressure and big moments. I guess the Cubs, with the lack of success they had, I should've told them, 'Just relax and have fun.' ... These kids just tried too hard and they just didn't get it done. If I had to do it over again, that's the only thing I would do (differently)."

"But McDonough and (former GM) Jim Hendry hired me to get this thing turned around and get the ship headed in the right direction. It's a shame (the Cubs didn't win). ... But working with Hendry and the group of characters we had there, it was something I'll never forget."

UFC

McGregor holds all the cards after speedy comeback win

BY GREG BEACHAM
Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — After three years without a victory, Conor McGregor needed only 40 seconds to reclaim his place at the center of the mixed martial arts world.

McGregor's dynamic stoppage of Donald Cerrone in UFC 246 on Saturday night put the Irish superstar firmly in control of the future of two UFC divisions.

Every elite lightweight and welterweight will practically beg for his shot against a fighter who still commands the world's attention like nobody else. A refocused McGregor seems eager to make up for lost time after three years of inactivity and outside-the-cage misbehavior, suggesting he could fight three more times this year.

"The whole world lights up when I fight," McGregor said. "So I want to get back out there again."

He hadn't made a decision by the time he left T-Mobile Arena late Saturday night with a broad smile on his face and a bottle of his own branded whiskey in hand. McGregor plans to speak with UFC President Dana White and billionaire ex-UFC owner Lorenzo Fertitta before he decides whether to pursue a championship belt, a revenge fight, a boxing match or any combination of the three.

The contenders already are lining up. Popular welterweight brawler Jorge Masvidal would welcome a showdown, while welterweight champion Kamaru Usman would love to defend his title against McGregor. Both fighters watched McGregor's victory from cageside, and Masvidal even tried to goad McGregor in curious fashion by wearing the same

Versace robe that McGregor famously wore a few years ago to an open workout.

Lightweight contender Justin Gaethje fights in a reckless, crowd-pleasing style guaranteed to make a compelling matchup for the similarly aggressive McGregor. Another must-see bout would be a third fight with imperious veteran Nate Diaz, who fought twice in 2019 after his own three-year break.

But White wants McGregor to wait for a fight against lightweight champion Khabib Nurmagomedov, who beat McGregor in October 2018 and subsequently sparked an ugly brawl outside the cage. The bad feelings from that promotion haven't healed, and White believes the rematch could rival the profitability of McGregor's boxing match with Floyd Mayweather.

"With how Khabib won the first time and how famous Khabib has become, we're looking at Hagler-Hearns," White said. "We're looking at like Ali-Foreman, Ali-Frazier. This is a massive fight with global appeal. This is the fight that you make. This is the fight that makes sense."

But Nurmagomedov is booked to face Tony Ferguson at UFC 249 in April, and McGregor would prefer not to wait until late summer for his next bout. Instead, he half-seriously predicted the Nurmagomedov-Ferguson bout will be scrapped and he'll be forced to step in.

McGregor also could bide his time with another lucrative boxing match. While most fight fans scoff at this entire venture, the wider world still appears fascinated by these spectacles, as evidenced by the money made by McGregor and Mayweather in 2017 in one of the richest pay-per-view bouts in boxing history.



JOHN LOCHER/AP

Conor McGregor celebrates after defeating Donald "Cowboy" Cerrone in a UFC 246 welterweight mixed martial arts bout Saturday night in Las Vegas.

BLACKHAWKS



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Blackhawks players John Quenneville, left, and Slater Koekkoek, right, mob teammate Jonathan Toews, who scored a goal on Jan. 11.

'Impossible for us to take him out'

Blackhawks getting contributions from all over the lineup

BY JIMMY GREENFIELD

Slater Koekkoek began to list some of the Blackhawks' unsung players, one after another, describing their growing roles and explaining how the Hawks have started to thrive on the backs of their stars as well as lesser-known contributors.

He mentioned Ryan Carpenter, whose work on the penalty kill has helped transform the Hawks into one of the league's best units this season after being one of the worst in league history last season.

Koekkoek brought up Zack Smith, who had two goals Wednesday against the Canadiens, and Dominik Kubalik, who has nine goals in his last seven games and is probably in the final days of anonymity.

And he also mentioned his new defensive partner, Olli Maatta, who won a pair of Stanley Cups with the Penguins but has fought through some healthy scratches to the point where coach Jeremy Colliton wouldn't dream of taking him out of the lineup.

But Koekkoek forgot someone — himself.

He could have mentioned that he played a season-high 20 minutes, 16 seconds against the Senators. Or that he had an assist in each game of the Hawks' perfect road trip against the Senators, Canadiens and Maple Leafs.

Koekkoek laughed and acknowledged his strong stretch of six straight starts, including Sunday's game against the Jets.

"It feels good," Koekkoek said. "It was nice because I had my family in Toronto and Ottawa. They couldn't get to Montreal because of the snowstorm. It was great. It's too bad Chicago only goes up to Ottawa once, but it was nice to have them there."

It's typical of hockey players that even those who rarely garner publicity still tend to shy away from it. But Koekkoek deserves to be mentioned for helping to solidify the Hawks' third defensive pairing after the losses of Calvin de Haan and Brent Seabrook led to a restructuring of the defense.

Koekkoek had a hard time getting in the lineup consistently during the first half of the season despite injuries to several defensemen. Rookies Adam Boqvist and Dennis Gilbert began to get starts ahead of Koekkoek, but when he did play, Colliton was happy with his performance, and told him so.

Koekkoek, a left-handed shot, had never played a game on the right side until a preseason game against the Red Wings this season, but he has been playing on that side with Maatta and feeling extremely comfortable.

"We kind of talked with him (earlier in the season) like, 'You're still in and out, but you're doing a good job, you're on the right path. All you can do is focus on being good every time you get in,'" Colliton said. "And this latest opportunity that he's had, he's found another level to his performance and he's made it impossible for us to take him out."

"Him and Maatta, since they've been reinserted they've been great and I think really added some depth to our group and a big part of why we're having success lately."

Patrick Kane is on the verge of his 1,000th career point and is on pace for a second straight 100-point season. Jonathan Toews has been on an incredible run with 12 points in his last five games entering Sunday. But the Hawks also are getting contributions from Carpenter, Smith, Kubalik, Drake Caggiula and others, and that's a big reason they won 10 of their last 14 going into Sunday's game.

"There's a buzz in the room around those guys," Koekkoek said. "Whenever there's a third- or fourth-line guy that's getting hot or scoring goals it's a different feeling than when the superstars are going. Both are equally important, but it's a nice feeling."

Like Koekkoek, Caggiula was acquired by general manager Stan Bowman a little over a year ago in a midseason trade that didn't seem like it would pay dividends. But as the Hawks enter the stretch run, both are proving to be very useful depth players.

Caggiula, who missed nearly two months with a concussion before returning on Jan. 9, grew up near Toronto as a Hawks fan, so it has been a particular pleasure for him to watch Kane chase his 1,000th point and Toews' 800th of his career.

Those are daunting figures for Caggiula, who has 69 career points after posting a goal and an assist in each of the Hawks' last two wins of their road trip.

"I've got a lot of work to do (to catch Kane and Toews)," Caggiula said with a big laugh. "It's incredible. Being able to be a part of it and play alongside these two players that I idolized growing up, it's a pretty special thing."

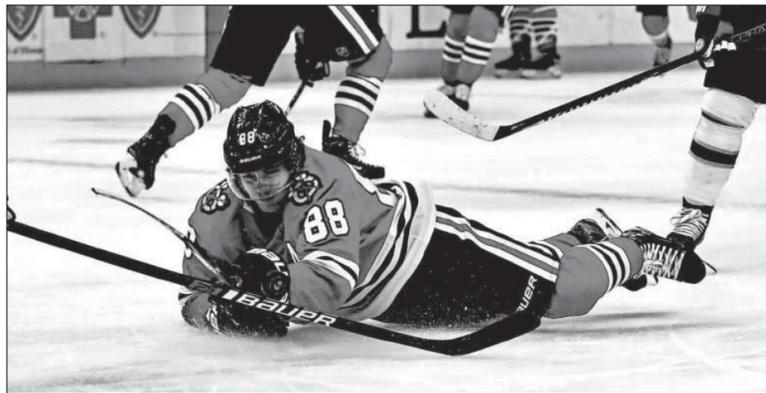
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ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Blackhawks right wing Patrick Kane falls on the ice after chasing the puck during the first period against the Jets on Sunday at the United Center.

Blackhawks

Continued from Page 1

through the slot and moved around goalie Connor Hellebuyck before deftly putting a backhand just inside the far goal post.

Gustafsson scored his sixth of the season and the first in his last 10 games on a wrist shot from near the top of the left faceoff circle to make it 2-0. Drake Caggiula took four minor penalties in the first two periods, including a double-minor that gave the Jets a four-minute power play, but

Lehner stopped 13 shots while the Hawks were down a man to keep the Jets off the scoreboard. The Hawks penalty kill has allowed just three goals in the last 39 opportunities over their last 16 games.

The Jets finally beat Lehner with 1:55 left in the second on Mark Scheifele's rebound goal to pull within 2-1.

David Kampf scored his seventh goal of the season midway through the period to restore the Hawks' two-goal lead. Kirby Dach picked up his second point and first assist in his last 29 games. Dominik Kubalik sealed the victory with an empty-net goal, his 21st of the season.

SCOREBOARD

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC	W	L	PCT	GB
Toronto	28	14	.667	—
Sacramento	27	14	.659	½
Philadelphia	28	16	.636	1
Brooklyn	18	23	.439	9½
New York	11	32	.256	17½

SOUTHEAST	W	L	PCT	GB
Miami	29	13	.690	—
Orlando	20	23	.465	9½
Charlotte	15	29	.341	15
Washington	13	28	.317	15½
Atlanta	10	33	.233	19½

CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB
Milwaukee	38	6	.864	—
Indiana	28	15	.651	9½
Detroit	16	27	.372	21½
Chicago	16	28	.364	22
Cleveland	12	31	.279	25½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

SOUTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB
Dallas	27	15	.643	—
Houston	26	15	.634	½
Memphis	20	22	.476	7
San Antonio	18	23	.439	8½
New Orleans	16	27	.372	11½

NORTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB
Denver	29	13	.690	—
Utah	29	13	.690	—
Oklahoma City	24	19	.558	5½
Portland	18	26	.409	12
Minnesota	15	27	.357	14

PACIFIC	W	L	PCT	GB
L.A. Lakers	34	8	.810	—
L.A. Clippers	30	13	.698	4½
Phoenix	18	24	.429	16
Sacramento	15	27	.357	19
Golden State	10	34	.227	25

SUNDAY'S RESULTS

San Antonio 107, Miami 102
Indiana 115, Denver 107

MONDAY'S GAMES

Detroit at Washington, 1 p.m.
Toronto at Atlanta, 1:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Brooklyn, 2 p.m.
Chicago at Milwaukee, 4 p.m.
New Orleans at Memphis, 4 p.m.
New York at Cleveland, 4 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Houston, 4 p.m.
Orlando at Charlotte, 4 p.m.
Sacramento at Miami, 4 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Boston, 6:30 p.m.
Denver at Minnesota, 7 p.m.
Indiana at Utah, 8 p.m.
San Antonio at Phoenix, 8 p.m.
Golden State at Portland, 9 p.m.

SPURS 107, HEAT 102

MIAMI: Adebayo 8-13 5-5 21, Butler 5-14 6-6 16, Leonard 1-7 2-5, Nunn 8-14 0-0 18, Robinson 4-11 0-0 12, Johnson 2-5 0-0 5, Olynyk 0-2 0-0 0, Jones Jr. 2-5 2-6, Dragic 7-13 3-5 19, Herro 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 37-86 18-20 102.
SAN ANTONIO: Aldridge 8-15 3-3 21, DeRozan 7-16 6-6 20, Lyles 4-6 0-0 9, Forbes 0-5 2-3, Murray 3-6 0-0 7, Walker IV 2-8 2-7, Poeltl 0-1 0-0 0, Bellinelli 2-6 6-12, Mills 5-11 4-4 18, White 5-10 0-0 11. Totals 36-84 23-24 107.

Miami	31	23	30	18	-102
San Antonio	28	32	26	21	-107

3-Point Goals—Miami 10-34 (Robinson 4-10, Nunn 2-4, Dragic 2-5, Johnson 1-4, Leonard 1-6, Butler 0-2, Olynyk 0-2), San Antonio 12-33 (Mills 4-10, Aldridge 2-4, Bellinelli 2-5, Lyles 1-2, Walker IV 1-2, White 1-3, Forbes 0-5). **Fouled Out**—None. **Rebounds**—Miami 46 (Adebayo 15), San Antonio 43 (DeRozan 9). **Assists**—Miami 23 (Adebayo, Butler 6), San Antonio 27 (DeRozan 9). **Total Fouls**—Miami 19, San Antonio 18. **A**—18,422 (18,581)

FOURTH QUARTER POINTS

PLAYER	TM	G	MIN	PTS
James Harden	Hou	36	330	350
Trae Young	Atl	37	327	315
Gi. Antetokounmpo	Mil	38	286	304
Zach LaVine	Chi	43	338	302
LeBron James	LAL	38	362	287
Ja Morant	Mem	35	338	265
Montrezl Harrell	LAC	42	395	265
Donovan Mitchell	Uta	39	333	264
Devin Booker	Phx	38	296	258
Damian Lillard	Por	38	293	257
Chris Paul	OKC	40	318	239
Brandon Ingram	NO	35	291	236
Tobias Harris	Phi	43	343	224
Russell Westbrook	Hou	34	305	220
Spencer Dinwiddie	Bk	40	294	216
Devonte Graham	Char	44	368	215
CJ McCollum	Por	40	394	212
Lou Williams	LAC	39	327	208
Dennis Schroder	OKC	42	380	204
Jayson Tatum	Bos	37	299	204
Nikola Jokic	Den	38	257	203

through Saturday

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Boston	28	10	12	68	166	133
Tampa Bay	29	15	4	62	175	137
Florida	26	16	5	57	174	156
Toronto	25	17	5	57	176	165
Buffalo	22	20	7	51	145	152
Montreal	22	21	7	51	155	157
Ottawa	17	23	4	42	130	163
Detroit	12	33	4	28	104	189

METRO.	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	33	11	5	71	177	144
Pittsburgh	31	13	5	67	168	133
N.Y. Islanders	28	15	5	61	139	130
Columbus	26	16	8	60	134	127
Carolina	28	18	3	59	155	131
Philadelphia	26	17	6	58	155	150
N.Y. Rangers	23	20	4	50	156	155
New Jersey	17	24	7	41	126	173

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
St. Louis	30	11	8	68	158	134
Colorado	27	15	6	60	173	140
Dallas	27	17	4	58	125	120
Minnesota	25	19	4	54	146	147
Chicago	23	20	6	52	147	155
Nashville	22	18	7	51	156	154
Minnesota	22	20	6	50	148	159

PACIFIC	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Vancouver	27	18	4	58	162	149
Edmonton	26	18	5	57	155	153
Calgary	26	19	5	57	135	147
Vegas	25	19	7	57	159	156
Arizona	26	20	5	57	146	138
San Jose	21	25	4	46	130	167
Anaheim	19	24	5	43	122	150
Los Angeles	18	27	5	41	125	158

2 pts for win, 1 pt for shootout/OT loss

SUNDAY'S RESULTS

Pittsburgh 3, Boston 3
Carolina 2, N.Y. Islanders 1, SO
Winnipeg at Chicago, 7 p.m.
Columbus 2, N.Y. Rangers 1
MONDAY'S GAMES
Detroit at Colorado, 2 p.m.
Florida at Minnesota, 7 p.m.
TUESDAY'S GAMES
Vegas at Boston, 6 p.m.
Winnipeg at Carolina, 6 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at N.Y. Rangers, 6 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, 6:30 p.m.
Florida at Chicago, 7:30 p.m.

BLACKHAWKS 5, JETS 2

Winnipeg	0	1	1	- 2
Chicago	2 <td>0 <td>3 <td>- 5</td> </td></td>	0 <td>3 <td>- 5</td> </td>	3 <td>- 5</td>	- 5

FIRST PERIOD: 1, Chicago, Nylander 6 (Gustafsson, Murphy), 2:51. 2, Chicago, Gustafsson 6 (Nylander, Highmore), 14:11. Penalties: Kubalik, Chi (Hooking), 8:27; Kulikov, Win (Unsportsmanlike Conduct), 8:27; Caggiula, Chi (Interference), 19:44.
SECOND PERIOD: 3, Winnipeg, Scheifele 23 (Ehlers, Sbisna), 18:17. Penalties: Caggiula, Chi (Unsportsmanlike Conduct), 4:20; Caggiula, Chi (Interference), 4:20; Bitetto, Win (Holding), 12:13; Caggiula, Chi (Tripping), 14:16.
THIRD PERIOD: 4, Chicago, Kampf 7 (DeBriencat, Dach), 9:29. 5, Chicago, Saad 13 (Carpenter, Kane), 14:14. 6, Winnipeg, Laine 16 (Pionk, Wheeler), 17:51. 7, Chicago, Kubalik 21 (Toews, Murphy), 18:26 (en). Penalties: Scheifele, Win (Hooking), 10:33; Maatta, Chi (Hooking), 19:23.
SHOTS ON GOAL: Winnipeg 8-20-10—38. Chicago 8-14-11—33.
POWER PLAYS: Wpg 0 of 5; Chi 0 of 2.
GOALIES: Winnipeg, Hellebuyck 21-15-4 (32 shots-28 saves). Chicago, Lehner 15-7-4 (38-36). **A:** 21,487 (19,717). **T:** 2:22.

TENNIS

108TH AUSTRALIAN OPEN

At Melbourne Park; Melbourne, Australia; outdoors-hard
MEN'S FIRST ROUND SINGLES
#8 Matteo Berrettini d. Andrew Harris, 6-3, 6-1, 6-3.
Marton Fucsovics d. #13 Denis Shapovalov, 6-3, 6-7 (7), 6-1, 7-6 (3).
#22 Guido Pella d. John-Patrick Smith, 6-3, 7-5, 6-4.
Sam Querrey, d. #25 Borna Coric, 6-3, 6-4, 6-4.
#30 Daniel Evans d. Mackenzie McDonald, 3-6, 4-6, 6-1, 6-2, 6-3.
Ricardas Berankis d. Roberto Carballes Baena, 6-4, 6-2, 6-2.
Yoshihito Nishioka d. Laslo Djere, 6-4, 3-6, 6-2, 7-6 (1).
Gregoire Barrere d. Mohamed Safwat, 6-7 (8), 7-6 (1), 6-4, 7-6 (5).
WOMEN'S FIRST ROUND SINGLES
#3 Naomi Osaka d. M.Bouzkova, 6-2, 6-4.
#8 Serena Williams d. Anastasia Potapova, 6-0, 6-3.
#13 Petra Martic d. Christina McHale, 6-3, 6-0.
#14 Sofia Kenin d. M. Trevisan, 6-2, 6-4.
#25 Ekaterina Alexandrova d. Jill Teichmann, 6-4, 4-6, 6-2.
Sorana Cristea d. #32 Barbora Strycova, 6-2, 7-6 (5).
Paula Badosa d. Jo. Larsson, 6-1, 6-0.
Julia Goerges d. Vik. Kuzmova, 6-1, 6-2.
Zheng Saisai d. A. Kalinskaya, 6-3, 6-2.
Zhu Lin d. Vik. Golubic, 4-6, 6-1, 7-6 (5).
Tamara Zidansek d. Han Na-lae, 6-3, 6-3.
Ann Li d. Liz. Cabrera, 7-6 (4), 7-6 (10).
Caroline Wozniacki d. Kris. Ahn, 6-1, 6-3.
Barbora Krejickova d. Kaia Kanepi, 7-6 (3), 2-6, 6-3.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

MEN'S AP TOP 25 SCHEDULE

1. **Gonzaga** (20-1) did not play. Next: vs. Pacific, Saturday.
2. **Baylor** (15-1) did not play. Next: vs. Oklahoma, Monday.
3. **Duke** (15-3) did not play. Next: vs. Miami, Tuesday.
4. **Auburn** (15-2) did not play. Next: vs. South Carolina, Wednesday.
5. **Butler** (15-3) did not play. Next: at No. 14 Villanova, Tuesday.
6. **Kansas** (14-3) did not play. Next: vs. Kansas State, Tuesday.
7. **San Diego State** (19-0) did not play. Next: vs. Wyoming, Tuesday.
8. **Oregon** (15-4) did not play. Next: vs. USC, Thursday.
9. **Florida State** (16-2) did not play. Next: vs. Notre Dame, Saturday.
10. **Kentucky** (13-4) did not play. Next: vs. Georgia, Tuesday.
11. **Louisville** (15-3) did not play. Next: vs. Georgia Tech, Wednesday.
12. **West Virginia** (14-3) did not play. Next: vs. Texas, Monday.
13. **Dayton** (16-2) did not play. Next: vs. St. Bonaventure, Wednesday.
14. **Villanova** (14-3) did not play. Next: vs. No. 5 Butler, Tuesday.
15. **Michigan State** (14-4) did not play. Next: at Indiana, Thursday.
16. **Wichita State** (15-3) did not play. Next: at South Florida, Tuesday.
17. **Maryland** (14-4) did not play. Next: at Northwestern, Tuesday.
18. **Seton Hall** (14-4) did not play. Next: vs. Providence, Wednesday.
19. **Michigan** (11-6) did not play. Next: vs. Penn State, Wednesday.
20. **Colorado** (14-4) did not play. Next: vs. Washington State, Thursday.
21. **Ohio State** (12-6) did not play. Next: vs. Minnesota, Thursday.
22. **Memphis** (14-3) did not play. Next: at Tulsa, Wednesday.
23. **Texas Tech** (12-5) did not play. Next: at TCU, Tuesday.
24. **Illinois** (13-5) did not play. Next: at Purdue, Tuesday.
25. **Creighton** (14-5) did not play. Next: at DePaul, Wednesday.

SUNDAY'S SCORES

EAST
Canisius 95, Rider 86
Davidson 74, Fordham 62
Maine 86, Binghamton 63
Marist 83, Iona 73
Niagara 72, Siena 71
Rutgers 64, Minnesota 56
Wake Forest 80, Boston College 62
MIDWEST
CS Bakersfield 72, Chicago St. 54
Cincinnati 82, E. Carolina 57
Grand Canyon 69, UMKC 66
Loyola of Chicago 62, Illinois St. 50
N. Dakota St. 83, N. Dakota 74
S. Illinois 66, Drake 49
S. Dakota 99, S. Dakota St. 84
Hawaii 70, UC Santa Barbara 63

HOW WOMEN'S AP TOP 25 FARED

1. **South Carolina** (17-1) did not play. Next: vs. No. 10 Miss. St., Monday.
2. **Baylor** (15-1) did not play. Next: at TCU, Wednesday.
3. **Stanford** (16-2) beat No. 8 Oregon State 61-58. Next: vs. Colorado, Friday.
4. **UConn** (16-1) beat Tulsa 92-34. Next: vs. No. 24 Tennessee, Thursday.
5. **Louisville** (18-1) beat North Carolina 74-67. Next: vs. Virginia, Thursday.
6. **Oregon** (14-2) vs. California. Next: vs. No. 8 Oregon State, Friday.
7. **UCLA** (16-1) did not play. Next: vs. Washington, Friday.
8. **Oregon State** (16-2) lost to No. 3 Stanford 61-58. Next: at No. 6 Oregon, Friday.
9. **N.C. State** (17-1) beat Wake Forest 59-45. Next: at Pittsburgh, Thursday.
10. **Mississippi State** (16-2) did not play. Next: at No. 1 South Carolina, Monday.
11. **Kentucky** (15-3) lost to LSU 65-59. Next: vs. Auburn, Monday, Jan. 27.
12. **Texas A&M** (15-3) beat Florida 69-42. Next: at Alabama, Thursday.
13. **Florida State** (15-3) did not play. Next: at Wake Forest, Thursday.
14. **DePaul** (17-2) beat Butler 80-65. Next: vs. Villanova, Friday.
15. **Indiana** (14-4) did not play. Next: at No. 20 Maryland, Monday.
16. **Gonzaga** (18-1) did not play. Next: vs. Pepperdine, Thursday.
17. **West Virginia** (13-3) did not play. Next: vs. Oklahoma State, Wednesday.
18. **Arizona State** (15-4) beat Wash. St. 65-56. Next: at No. 21 Arizona, Friday.
19. **Missouri State** (14-3) did not play. Next: at Indiana State, Friday.
20. **Maryland** (13-4) did not play. Next: vs. No. 15 Indiana, Monday.
21. **Arizona** (15-3) beat Washington 66-58. Next: vs. No. 18 Arizona State, Friday.
22. **Iowa** (15-3) beat Wisconsin 85-78. Next: at Ohio State, Thursday.
23. **Arkansas** (15-3) beat Vanderbilt 100-66. Next: vs. Georgia, Thursday.
24. **Tennessee** (14-3) did not play. Next: vs. Alabama, Monday.
25. **South Dakota** (18-2) beat S. Dakota St. 83-48. Next: vs. Purdue Ft Wayne, Fri.

EAST

Drexel 63, Delaware 59
Elon 69, Hofstra 56
La Salle 67, St. Bonaventure 61
Northwestern 61, William & Mary 55
Rhode Island 69, UMass 66
Seton Hall 97, Providence 55
St. John's 63, Creighton 58
Syracuse 69, Pittsburgh 51
SOUTH
Boston College 55, Georgia Tech 48
Clemson 62, Duke 58
Georgia 61, Auburn 50
James Madison 87, Coll. Charleston 53
Missouri 71, Mississippi 57
UCF 64, S. Florida 57
Virginia Tech 69, Virginia 61
MIDWEST
Bradley 75, Valparaiso 61
Dayton 48, Saint Louis 47
Drake 108, Evansville 44
Green Bay 73, Illinois-Chicago 36
IUPUI 75, Milwaukee 62
Loyola of Chicago 69, Illinois St. 64
Marquette 80, Xavier 60
Minnesota 72, Purdue 59
N. Iowa 73, Michigan St. 43
Nebraska 74, Indiana St. 71
Northwestern 85, Penn St. 59
Notre Dame 76, Miami 53
Ohio St. 77, Illinois 47
Texas 71, Kansas St. 63
Wichita St. 72, Temple 70
Iowa St. 64, Oklahoma St. 63

NFL PLAYOFFS

CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

SUNDAY'S RESULTS
AFC: Kansas City 35, Tennessee 24
NFC: San Francisco 37, Green Bay 20
PRO BOWL
Sunday, Jan. 26 in Orlando, Fla.
AFC vs. NFC, 2 p.m. (ESPN)
SUPER BOWL
Sunday, Feb. 2 in Miami Gardens, Fla.
Kansas City (14-4) vs. San Francisco (15-3), 5:30 p.m. (FOX)

CHIEFS 35, TITANS 24

Tennessee	10	7	0	7	- 24
Kansas City	7	14	0	14	- 35

First quarter A: 73,656.
Ten: FG Joseph 30, 11:29.
Ten: Henry 4 run (Joseph kick), 5:52.
KC: Hill 8 pass from Mahomes (Butker kick), 4:46.
Second quarter
Ten: Kelly 1 pass from Tannehill (Joseph kick), 6:39.
KC: Hill 20 pass from Mahomes (Butker kick), 4:03.
KC: Mahomes 27 run (Butker kick), :11.
Fourth quarter
KC: D.Williams 3 run (Butker kick), 14:50.
KC: Watkins 60 pass from Mahomes (Butker kick), 7:33.
Ten: Firkser 22 pass from Tannehill (Joseph kick), 4:18.
<

BASEBALL



ERIC GAY/AP

The Astros' Jose Altuve and Alex Bregman walk to the dugout after a double play in Game 1 of the ACLS against the Yankees in October.

Stealing the show

Former Sox pitcher was one of the first to have suspicions about Astros

BY LAMOND POPE, TIM BANNON

The Mets announced Thursday that Carlos Beltran will not be their manager, the latest fallout from Major League Baseball's sign-stealing scandal featuring the Astros.

The Mets became the third team to begin the search for a new manager last week. The Astros fired manager AJ Hinch and general manager Jeff Luhnow on Jan. 13.

The Red Sox and manager Alex Cora "mutually agreed to part ways," according to a team statement Tuesday. Cora was the bench coach for the Astros in 2017.

Here's a breakdown of story that has rocked the sport.

1. How did the news break?

Four people who were with the Astros in 2017, including pitcher Mike Fiers, alleged in a Nov. 12 article from The Athletic's Ken Rosenthal and Evan Drellich that the Astros stole signs during home games with the assistance of a camera positioned in the outfield.

The Astros won the World Series that season.

According to the article, a camera at Minute Maid Park was connected to a television monitor in the tunnel between the Astros dugout and clubhouse. Team employees or players would communicate expected pitches by banging a trash can with a bat to signal off-speed pitches.

Fiers confirmed the setup to The Athletic and said he passed the information on to his next teams, the Tigers and Athletics.

"I had to let my team know so that we were prepared when we went to go play them at Minute Maid," he told The Athletic.

Fiers' allegations were mentioned in the first sentence of Commissioner Rob Manfred's statement regarding the Astros' case and ruling on Jan. 13.

2. Wasn't former White Sox pitcher Danny Farquhar one of the first to notice the Astros were up to something?

Yes. Farquhar pitched for the Sox twice at Minute Maid Park in 2017 — on Sept. 19 and Sept. 21 — and he told The Athletic that "there was a banging from the dugout, almost like a bat hitting the bat rack every time a changeup signal got put down. After the third one, I stepped off. I was throwing some really good changeups and they were getting fouled off. After the third bang, I stepped off."

He said "the banging stopped" after the Sox switched to more complex signals.

According to MLB's investigative report released Monday, "There was a sense of 'panic' in the Astros dugout after Farquhar appeared to notice the trash can bangs. Before the game ended, a group of Astros players removed the monitor from the wall in the tunnel and hid it in an office."

Farquhar, now a minor-league pitching coach for the Sox, suffered a brain hemorrhage during a game against the Astros at Guaranteed Rate Field in 2018 and did not pitch again in the majors.

Sox general manager Rick Hahn spoke generally about the topic when asked about it at the general managers meetings in Scottsdale, Ariz., on the day the story broke.

"Look, most of this stuff, let's call it club-on-club crime so to speak, that usually gets handled pretty quietly between the two clubs and the league involved if need be," Hahn said on Nov. 12. "I know over the last couple years the league has been very diligent in this category of sign-stealing, and certainly any concerns that the White Sox or any other club has had over that period time have been heard."

3. Is sign-stealing illegal?

Stealing signs always has been a part of the game. But some actions cross the imaginary line that divides gamesmanship from cheating.

In August 2017, the Red Sox were caught



JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Danny Farquhar pitches for the White Sox against the Astros on April 20, 2018.

transmitting sign information from their replay-review room to individuals in the dugout wearing smart watches. They were fined that September.

"A memorandum that same day to all clubs reiterating the rules regarding the use of electronic equipment to steal signs, and putting all clubs on notice that future violations would be taken extremely seriously by my office," Manfred said in Monday's statement.

A March 2018 memorandum included: "Electronic equipment, including game feeds in the Club replay room and/or video room, may never be used during a game for the purpose of stealing the opposing team's signs. In this respect, MLBR 1-1 expressly provides that 'under no circumstance may electronic equipment or devices be used for the purpose of stealing signs or conveying other information designed to give a Club a competitive advantage.' **To be clear, the use of any equipment in the clubhouse or in a Club's replay or video rooms to decode an opposing Club's signs during the game violates this Regulation.** (Emphasis in original.) Clubs (and Club employees) who are found to have utilized equipment in the replay or video rooms for such purposes during a game will be subject to discipline by the Commissioner's Office."

4. What were the findings?

MLB's Department of Investigations interviewed 68 witnesses, including 23 current and former Astros players, according to Monday's statement from Manfred. Emails, Slack communications, text messages, video clips and photographs also were reviewed.

According to Monday's statement, Astros employees in the team's replay room attempted to decode signs using a center-field camera at the start of the 2017 season. A player would act as a "runner" to bring the information to the dugout, where a signal would be sent to a baserunner on second. The runner would decode the catcher's sign and signal the batter. At times, an employee in the replay room would pass along the information by text message to the watch or phone of a staff member on the bench.

Cora began calling the replay room for the information early in the season. Two months into the season, a group of players that included Beltran discussed how to improve the system, and Cora arranged for a video monitor of a center-field camera to be installed next to the dugout. Players would communicate pitches by banging a bat or message gun on a trash can. Generally, it was one or two bangs for certain off-speed pitches and no sound for fastballs.

For parts of 2018, the Astros replay-review room staff continued to decode signs using the live center-field camera feed, and to transmit the signs to the dugout through in-person communication.

5. What was the fallout for the Astros?

Manager AJ Hinch and general manager Jeff Luhnow were suspended for a year by Major League Baseball on Jan. 13. Later that day, the Astros owner Jim Crane announced the two had been fired.

The Astros were fined \$5 million, the maximum allowed under the Major League

Constitution, as punishment. They also will forfeit their first- and second-round picks in the 2020 and 2021 drafts.

No Astros players will be disciplined, Manfred said, because he decided in September 2017 to hold a team's manager and general manager responsible for sign-stealing infractions.

6. How does this compare to the Black Sox scandal?

Last year was the 100th anniversary of the White Sox team that threw the 1919 World Series against the Reds, and people are still talking about it.

Will people in 2120 be talking about the Astros sign-stealing scandal?

"The Astros will now carry the stigma of cheaters, of course, and be used as an example of how not to play the game," Paul Sullivan wrote in the Tribune. "While the Black Sox scandal may remain a black mark in baseball history, the upcoming 'Field of Dreams' game pitting the White Sox and Yankees playing in an Iowa cornfield proves the legend is still marketable in MLB's eyes."

The Sox had trouble recovering from the scandal, which led to the banning of eight players by Commissioner Kenesaw Mountain Landis after the 1920 season. They had only one winning season in the next 15 years and didn't return to the World Series for 40 years.

The Astros still have a lineup filled with All-Stars, many of whom apparently were involved in the sign-stealing scheme, not to mention a rotation with Justin Verlander and Zack Greinke, two of the game's best starters.

7. Isn't there buzz about a buzzer?

The Astros were back in the news Thursday with a fresh allegation.

Speculation picked up steam on Twitter that some players wore buzzers inside their uniform as another device to gain a hitting edge, with Jose Altuve's walk-off home run in Game 6 of the 2019 American League Championship Series and his refusal to let teammates tear off his jersey as apparent evidence.

Responding to a tweet, Reds pitcher Trevor Bauer wrote he had heard that was the case "from multiple parties too."

According to the New York Post's Joel Sherman, MLB responded: "MLB explored wearable devices during the investigation but found no evidence to substantiate it."

8. What's next?

MLB is investigating a report from The Athletic centering on the Red Sox and their possible use of a replay room during their 2018 World Series championship season.

Cora became the team's manager that season.

According to an MLB.com report, the Astros' list of managerial candidates could include Cubs coach Will Venable and Astros coach Joe Espada. Both were in the running this offseason for the Cubs job that went to David Ross.

With pitchers and catchers set to report to spring training in less than a month, the chaotic story will continue to be a major topic at spring training camps.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

GOLF

ROUNDUP

Westwood holds on for victory

Associated Press

Lee Westwood secured his 25th European Tour win with victory at the Abu Dhabi HSBC Championship on Sunday in the United Arab Emirates.

Westwood, who had a one-shot overnight lead, has now won in four different decades starting in the 1990s. The Englishman's 5-under par final-round 67 gave him a two-shot margin over a chasing pack of France's Victor Perez (63) and England's Tommy Fleetwood (63) and Matthew Fitzpatrick (67) who all finished on 271.

Bernd Wiesberger and second-round leader Francesco Laporta, who both started the final round one back of Westwood, had their challenge fall away after rounds of 72 and 74.

Top-ranked Brooks Koepka finished joint 34th with an 8-under 280 after a 69 in the final round, 11 back of Westwood.

It was Koepka's first tournament since returning from a knee injury he aggravated in October when he slipped while walking off the tee at the CJ Cup in South Korea. He previously had stem cell treatment for a partially torn tendon in his patella.

Westwood, a former world No. 1-ranked player, was challenged throughout the final round.

Fitzpatrick, who was two shots off Westwood before the start of the day, got off to a strong start and an impressive front nine saw him pile on the pressure but the 46-year-old former world No. 1 kept his cool and continued to putt well to secure his victory.

"It's been a good week," Westwood told europeantour.com. "I wasn't really paying any attention to what other people were doing."

"I was trying to control me ... my emotions and what I'm working on in the golf swing. Just managed to do that."

Westwood was ranked No. 63 going into the event, but the first victory by an English player on the 2020 Race to Dubai should move him into the top 30.

Sergio Garcia of Spain finished six off Westwood to come tied for eighth alongside Austria's Wiesberger.

PGA: Andrew Landry regrouped to win The American Express in La Quinta, Calif., after blowing a six-stroke lead on the back nine.

Landry broke a tie with Abraham Ancer with a 7-foot birdie putt on the par-3 17th hole and made a 6-footer on the par-4 18th for a 5-under 67 and a two-stroke victory.

Landry won the pro-am event at PGA West two years after losing a playoff to Jon Rahm. The 32-year-old Texan has two PGA Tour victories, also winning the 2018 Texas Open.

Trying to become the third Mexican winner in PGA Tour history and first since 1978, Ancer matched the Stadium Course record with a 63. Playing two groups ahead of Landry, Ancer birdied the par-5 16th and the island-green 17th and parred the 18th.

LPGA: The final round of the Tournament of Champions in Lake Buena Vista, Fla., featured a little bit of everything. Clutch shots, bold play, lead changes, a few costly mistakes and even bonus golf.

It did everything but decide a winner. Nasa Hataoka and Gaby Lopez matched par five times in a playoff at the 197-yard 18th hole until it was too dark to continue. They will return Monday morning to see who gets the trophy.

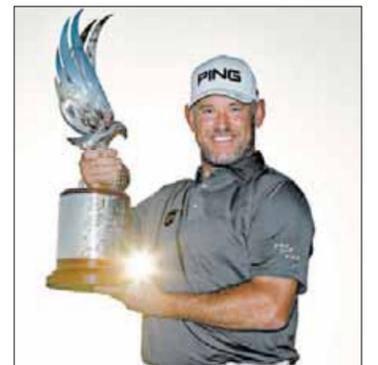
LPGA Hall of Famer Inbee Park also was in the playoff, but was eliminated on the third extra hole.

Champions: Miguel Angel Jimenez made a 12-foot birdie putt on the second hole of a playoff Saturday with senior newcomer Ernie Els to win the PGA Tour Champions' season-opening Mitsubishi Electric Championship in Kaupulehu-kona, Hawaii.

Fred Couples, 60, dropped out on the first extra trip down the par-4 18th at windy Hualalai, missing a short par putt.

Jimenez, paired with Couples in the second-to-last group, birdied Nos. 13-15 in a 5-under 67. The 56-year-old Spaniard has nine victories on the 50-and-over tour, also winning at Hualalai in 2015. He has won in all seven his senior seasons.

Els, 50, shot an even-par 72 in his first senior round to fall eight strokes behind leaders Jimenez and Bernhard Langer, then rallied with consecutive 65s.



WARREN LITTLE/GETTY

Former world No. 1 Lee Westwood won his 25th title on the European Tour.

eNEWSPAPER BONUS COVERAGE



ASHLEY LANDIS/TNS

The Mavericks' Dwight Powell (7) goes up for a basket during the third quarter against the Trail Blazers on Friday at American Airlines Center in Dallas. The Mavs won, 120-112.

NBA embraces 'trash' defense

BY MARC STEIN
New York Times

A new year, at the start of a new decade, makes this a natural time for NBA teams to search for innovative ways to combat the offensive flourish of the previous decade.

Yet as dissonant as it sounds, especially for a league reputed to be as progressive as the NBA, its coaches are increasingly dipping into the past for a defensive alignment that tends to be branded as antiquated or, worse, collegiate.

"There's definitely more use of zone this season," said Dallas Mavericks coach Rick Carlisle. "Offenses are getting so good that if you can come up with some kind of defense that can upset rhythm a little bit, it's viewed as a positive thing."

Overall usage of zone defenses — schemes that call for defenders to guard a specific area of space rather than an opposing player — is up 50% from last season, according to Synergy Sports data. The increase per possession is 10.8%, according to data provided to NBA teams by Second Spectrum. A leaguewide average of 2.3 zone possessions per game remains modest, but the rise Carlisle referenced is more tangibly reflected by the number of teams regarded as regular zone practitioners.

Dallas, Toronto, Washington, Charlotte and the Los Angeles Clippers have joined Miami and the New Jersey Nets as teams known to utilize zone schemes 4% to 10% of the time, according to Synergy. The Heat and Nets were outliers last season, employing zone schemes on 10.9% and 8.4% of their defensive possessions, according to Second Spectrum.

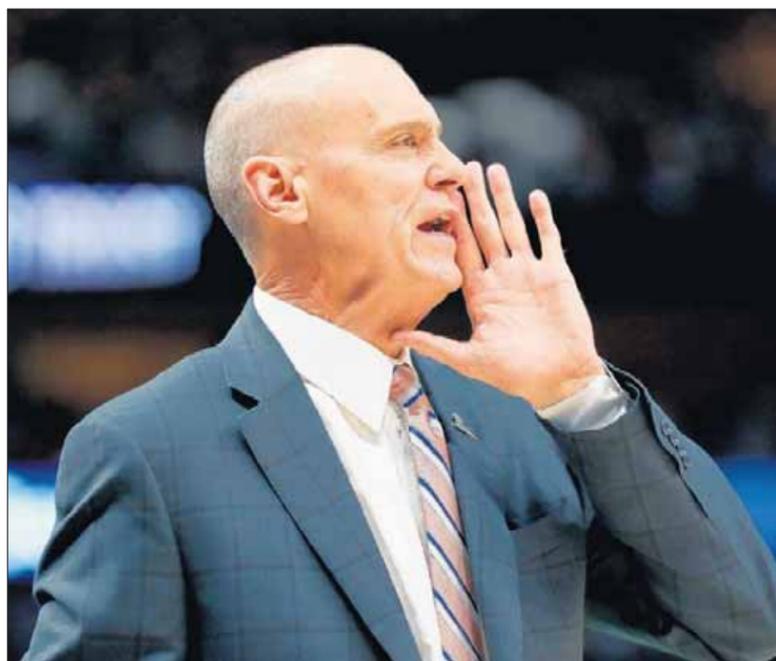
The stigma against zone schemes is strong, because turning to a zone alignment has long been regarded in the NBA as a sign of weakness — gimmickry to cover up for poor individual defenders. Clippers coach Doc Rivers recently suggested that Glenn Whittenberg, his former high school coach at Proviso East in Maywood, Illinois, was likely "rolling over in his grave right now" in response to the amount of zone Rivers is using.

"He thought zone was a weak man's game," Rivers said.

Hall of Fame guard Gary Payton still does. Payton retired in 2007, but the smothering guard unforgettably known as "The Glove" remains a passionate critic of zones at the pro level — even though his son Gary Payton II of the Washington Wizards happens to play for the NBA team using more zone than anyone (9.8% of the time, per Synergy).

"Trash," Gary Payton said in a phone interview. "That's a cop-out. Why do college teams go to a zone? Because they can't guard anybody."

The Wizards' No. 30 defensive rating



TOM PENNINGTON/GETTY IMAGES

Rick Carlisle of the Mavericks reacts as the Mavericks take on the Trail Blazers in the first quarter at American Airlines Center on Friday in Dallas, Texas.

through Thursday (Washington was allowing 115.4 points per 100 possessions) appears to support Payton's contention. Yet in Toronto, coach Nick Nurse has a roster filled with elite defenders, which has encouraged Nurse to not only embrace zones but also experiment with a variety of defenses rarely seen at the pro level.

In one memorable Game 2 sequence of the 2019 NBA finals, Nurse unleashed "box-and-one" coverage on Golden State's Stephen Curry — four players in a square-shaped zone, with Fred VanVleet shadowing Curry as closely as possible.

As the league's defending champion, Toronto has countered injuries to key figures such as Pascal Siakam, Marc Gasol and Kyle Lowry this season with half-court double-teaming of Houston's James Harden, 1-2-1-1 zone pressing and more box-and-one that, according to conventional NBA wisdom, should not work against the most skilled offensive players on the planet.

The Raptors have also mixed in a good bit of 2-3 zone — two defenders at the top with a row of three behind them — in securing the No. 2 spot in defensive rating despite all of their health woes.

"I think we have seen that some of these other defenses have worked," said Nurse, whose Raptors are on a surprising 53-win pace even after losing finals MVP Kawhi Leonard in free agency. "For parts of games, anyway."

After Leonard's arrival — along with the acquisition of Paul George to join the tenacious Patrick Beverley and mobile frontcourt players such as Montrezl Harrell, Maurice Harkless and JaMychal Green — Rivers decided that the Clippers' roster composition compelled him to think more openly about zones.

"We have a switchable basketball team for the first time in my career," Rivers said, referring to the ability of similarly sized players to easily switch onto a different offensive player in the midst of a possession.

The Clippers, as a result, have used zone looks on 4% of their defensive possessions, according to Second Spectrum, and, like Carlisle's Mavericks, have held the opposition to less than a point per possession when in a zone setup.

Beverley has said that, despite his own Payton-like determination to harass other guards, he has no issues when Rivers calls for zones. He played for nearly four seasons in Europe before establishing himself in the NBA, and zone defense is much more prevalent in leagues overseas.

Rivers, though, admits he will sometimes refer to it as a "flex zone" — or "more of a switching defense than a zone" — to encourage player acceptance.

The potential payoff of a well-executed zone is clear, despite the vulnerabilities it exposes in terms of rebounding and surrendering open shots. A good zone, at least for a

time, can create confusion, inspire hesitation and potentially dislodge offensive supernovas such as Harden and Curry from their comfort zones.

Thanks to a lack of dependable perimeter shooters around the All-Star big man Joel Embiid, no team faces more zones than the Philadelphia 76ers. The most notable culprit for inviting that strategy is Ben Simmons, Embiid's fellow All-Star, who has attempted only five 3-pointers all season — sinking two after shooting 0-for-17 from deep over his first two NBA seasons.

The Athletic reported in December that the Sixers saw a zone on 156 possessions in a three-game stretch against Miami, Dallas and Washington over a four-day span. According to Synergy Sports data used in the report, 21 of the league's 30 teams faced fewer than 156 possessions of zone defense for the entire 2018-19 season.

"We've seen so much innovation and change offensively over the last five years," Toronto's Nurse said. "It only makes sense that teams are going to try things and look for things defensively to counter that."

The limited practice time teams enjoy in the modern game makes it challenging for coaches to implement zone coverages, because they typically require additional preparation and increased communication among the defenders. But that didn't stop the Los Angeles Lakers, No. 3 in the league in defensive rating, from springing a surprise on Carlisle's Mavericks on Jan. 10.

In a move right out of the Mavericks' playbook, with former Dallas guard Jason Kidd now on the bench as an assistant to Lakers coach Frank Vogel, Los Angeles used a zone for numerous possessions in the second quarter in an attempt to short-circuit rising Dallas star Luka Dončić's usual pick-and-roll effectiveness — and then fell back into man-to-man coverage as soon as the Mavericks made their first pass. It's a ploy Dallas used frequently against LeBron James and the Miami Heat in the 2011 NBA finals, in which the Mavericks upset Miami in six games.

But James was on the winning side this time, with the Lakers rolling up a 21-point lead in the first half in an eventual 129-114 road win despite the absence of an ailing Anthony Davis.

The Mavericks, to this day, believe they would not have won their lone championship without substantial doses of zone. For all the talk that NBA shooters are simply too proficient for teams to stay in zones for long, Carlisle expects zone defense to continue its comeback in the second half of the season.

"It's been very cyclical in the last eight or nine years," Carlisle said. "But the teams that are using it are using it with effectiveness. And you have to prepare for it. If you're not prepared for it, you're going to be up against it."

— eNEWSPAPER BONUS COVERAGE —



SCOTT CUNNINGHAM/GETTY

TCU's Josh Doctson completes a touchdown reception in the third quarter against the Ole Miss Rebels during the Chik-fil-A Peach Bowl at Georgia Dome on Dec. 31, 2014.

COMMENTARY

Elite Eight in college football?

BY DREW DAVISON | Fort Worth Star-Telegram

If the College Football Playoff included eight teams, instead of four, maybe TCU wins the national championship in 2014 instead of being left out and settling for a dominant Peach Bowl victory.

Maybe TCU's Josh Doctson, not Ohio State's Ezekiel Elliott, is leaving as the star of the championship game at AT&T Stadium. Maybe TCU gets back in the playoff mix in 2015 when it overcame a 31-point deficit to defeat Oregon and finish as the No. 7-ranked team.

Those are questions TCU athletic director Jeremiah Donati asks himself. And those are just a couple reasons he's a full proponent of expanding the CFP format to an eight-team field.

"It'd be huge for our conference and our university if we knew the winner of our conference had a guaranteed spot in the playoffs," Donati said. "Even a close second place might get in. Just think back in 2014 with us and Baylor. If we expand to eight, we're both competing. No one would argue that we were two of the best football programs in the country that season and could have easily played for the national championship."

"Having an automatic qualifier would be huge. One, for the long term viability of the conference and, two, in short term for our next big television deal. I'm absolutely 100% in favor."

Expanding the CFP remains a talking point throughout the college football world. Donati said it is among the three-most discussed issues facing the college sports world, along with student-athletes profiting off their name, image and likeness, and the next TV contract.

It's surely going to be a hotly-debated subject this off-season with the 2019 campaign officially in the books. This year produced little controversy with LSU demonstrating it to be the top team in the country behind Heisman Trophy winning quarterback Joe Burrow.

Most, though, seem to be in favor of CFP expansion. Or at least recognize it's just a matter of

time.

The questions on the issue of expansion have more to do with how such a system would actually work. College football is proud of its long tradition of offering a slate of meaningful bowl games. The obstacle is to ensure that those contests remain as relevant as possible.

That might mean having the New Year's Six bowls, for instance, hosting the quarterfinals and semifinals, rather than playing on-campus quarterfinal games.

Cotton Bowl president and CEO Rick Baker played it down the middle when it came to his thoughts. North Texas' premier bowl game would like to serve as a host for playoff games, but that might come at the expense of producing the traditional bowl week experience for schools as has been the practice for decades.

The fear is that quarterfinal games likely would be treated as business trips for most teams - they fly in a day or two before the game, play and then head out immediately afterward to get ready for the next opponent.

"The Cotton Bowl collectively is really down the middle on expansion," Baker said. "We're proud to be a part of the College Football Playoff. We were on the outside looking in during the BCS years, so having an opportunity to be in the highest level of the post-

season is important to us.

"We've heard the talk about the possibility of the playoffs expanding and, quite frankly, the devil will be in the details in how it might and how much it does impact us," Baker continued. "We like the setup now because everyone gets the bowl experience."

"But there's been a lot of changes in college football over the years and everybody has adjusted. We want to be at the very top of the postseason and we want to have a game of relevance. We're very interested bystanders in what the commissioners and leaders do moving forward."

As of now, playoff expansion has been more of a talking point than anything of substance. The current CFP model has been in place since 2014 and is halfway through its 12-year deal with ESPN.

The current format has been widely viewed as a success. There is inherent drama every year with the Power Five conferences chasing four playoff spots. But that's not a plus in a year when your conference is left out.

Last month, there was a chance that a one-loss Big 12 champion would be left out of the playoff mix. If Utah had won the Pac-12, it likely would have received a bid over eventual Big 12 champion Oklahoma.

"There's some good theater in having five A5s chasing four spots," Big 12 Commissioner Bob Bowlsby said at the conference championship game.

"There's a lot that's right about the four team playoff. I think one of the things we've found is that it's harder to be on the outside looking in when it was just two teams. We're halfway through it and it's a good time to take a look at it."

"I wouldn't jump to any conclusions on it. I think we'll take a look at what's right about it and take a look at ways it might be improved."

For most, improvement would center on expansion.

TCU coach Gary Patterson is a fan of the idea, especially after seeing his team get passed over in 2014. This is a guy who believes every team deserves an opportunity.

The 2010 TCU team that went 13-0 and won the Rose Bowl should have been given a chance even though it wasn't in a Power Five conference at the time.

"Everybody deserves an opportunity," said Patterson, who became president of the American Football Coaches Association (AFCA) on Jan. 13.

"It allows for every Power Five champion to be in, and then you have two more and a Cinderella. That's what people like," he said. "This world is about opportunity."

As far as on-campus games or bowl games as host sites, Patterson is a believer in bowl games. He doesn't want the bowl system to become further diluted than it already has.

"We've made bowls not be very important. That's not the way it should be," Patterson said. "It's a great life experience for kids. You always want a destination."

At the end of the day, it remains to be seen what college football's decision makers will do. There's no perfect answer.

Six teams? Eight teams? Heck, some would argue that four was the perfect number this season. Whatever you expand to - whether it's the fifth-best team in today's model or potentially No. 7 or No. 9 in future models - someone is going to feel left out.

But there seems to be enough chatter about expansion that it almost feels like a question of when, not if. Maybe it doesn't happen until the current TV deal expires, or maybe it happens sooner.

As Baker, the Cotton Bowl CEO, said, "We've got six years left on this contract. No one has indicated to us that the system

was going to change during that time. I don't feel any momentum. I haven't felt any momentum to change things quickly. All the contracts are in place and everyone seems to be genuinely pleased with the transition from the BCS to the College Football Playoff. "But, like I said, we're very interested bystanders. It's a wait-and-see."

Our new CFP model

Nobody quite knows how an expanded CFP model would look like. On-campus matchups make sense in terms of rewarding teams with home-field advantages, but that would come at the expense of bowl games having marquee games.

For instance, the Cotton Bowl struggled with attendance this season when it hosted Penn State and Memphis. If it's hosting a playoff game every year, maybe attendance and interest improves.

With that being said, here's six bullet points on how the Star-Telegram would put together an expanded playoff.

■ New Year's Six hosts quarterfinals and semifinals: Rotate the playoff games between the Cotton Bowl, Peach Bowl, Rose Bowl, Orange Bowl, Fiesta Bowl and Sugar Bowl.

■ A rotation of New Orleans, North Texas, Atlanta, Los Angeles and Las Vegas as the national championship site.

■ Eliminate conference championship games. This would address concerns of too many games for student athletes.

■ Quarterfinal games during the conference championship week-end.

■ Semifinal games on the Monday and Tuesday following the final NFL regular-season games.

■ National championship on the Monday night following the AFC and NFC championship games.

Relax. It's just a proposal, people.



MARK SOMMERFELD/THE NEW YORK TIMES 2019

The crew behind the newest batch of "Star Trek" shows: Akiva Goldsman, from left, Alex Kurtzman, Heather Kadin and "Picard" showrunner Michael Chabon.

Can 'Star Trek' chart a way FORWARD?

'Picard,' coming to CBS All Access, revisits the intrepid Starfleet captain from 'The Next Generation'

BY DAVE ITZKOFF | The New York Times

SANTA CLARITA, Calif. — Michael Chabon's job used to consist of writing novels, earning literary acclaim and receiving the occasional prestigious award. But this past June, he was racing around the soundstages here at "Star Trek: Picard," where he was working as an executive producer.

Chabon, a 56-year-old Pulitzer Prize winner, strode through hallways decorated with timelines that chronicled the fictional histories of alien empires and stepped onto the set of a futuristic spacecraft. He giggled to himself as he toyed with some of the fake technology, occasionally exclaiming "Engage!" and flashed a thumbs-up across the room to "Picard" star Patrick Stewart as he rehearsed a scene.

These were all welcome perks in Chabon's new line of work. But what drew him to "Star Trek" as a fan in his teens and kept him invested as a producer, he said, was an underlying message about humanity that was hopeful within reason.

"It's not saying human beings are basically wonder-

Turn to 'Picard,' Page 3



CARLY HOOGENDYK

Comedian Megan Stalter performed two sold-out shows Saturday night at The Hideout.

IN PERFORMANCE

Comedian Megan Stalter offers evening of mayhem at Hideout

BY ZACH FREEMAN

"Megan is ... well, she's Megan."

So goes the extremely accurate opening of a brief introductory video played before comedian Megan Stalter took the stage for the first of two sold-out shows Saturday night at The

Hideout for "A Night of Mayhem with Megan Stalter." It's her signature live show and part of the comedic arm of the 16th annual Tomorrow Never Knows festival, which features a number of outstanding comedy shows this year.

I've spent some time trying to figure out exactly how to de-

scribe Stalter's unique (and captivatingly infectious) blend of improv, sketch, stand-up and music, and always feel like I come up a bit short. But this pithily silly intro (though clearly too vague to offer any true guidance for the uninitiated) gets

Turn to *Stalter*, Page 3

A piñata version of Thompson Center

But memories, not candy, will fall out of it

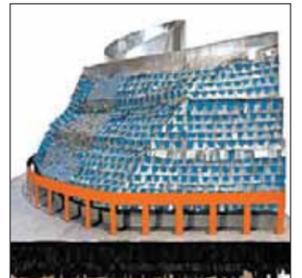


BLAIR KAMIN

The James R. Thompson Center is both a landmark of postmodern architecture and an architectural piñata — a building many Chicagoans love to hate and probably wouldn't mind beating with a stick.

On Monday, three historic preservationists trying to save the controversial state office building will open an exhibition in a gallery in the downtown Pedway that actually presents it as a piñata — not to foreshadow its demolition, they say, but to broaden the public's understanding and (perhaps) appreciation of it.

Instead of being filled with candy, like a piñata at a child's birthday party, the piece will be stuffed with written memories and impressions of the center, some collected by its artist, 25-year-old Chelsea Lombardo of Chicago. The plan is to break it open on Thursday, perhaps



HANDOUT

Chelsea Lombardo transformed the controversial James R. Thompson Center into a piñata.

with a baseball bat, then display the responses.

So much for the earnest, old-school tactic of picketing a building that wrecking crews are tearing apart.

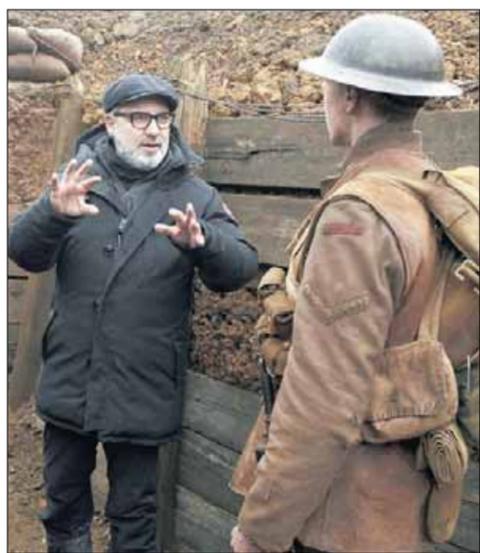
In this case, preservationists are using humor to draw attention to their cause. That's fitting since postmodernists like the late Chicago architect Stanley Tigerman championed that quality in their rebellion against the steel-and-glass sobriety of modern architecture.

"You have to be somewhat lighthearted with this," Lombardo, a graduate of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, told me in a telephone interview

Turn to *Kamin*, Page 4

CELEBRITIES

Tribune news services



FRANCOIS DUHAMEL/UNIVERSAL PICTURES

Sam Mendes, center, on the set of "1917" which took the top honor Saturday at the Producers Guild Awards.

'1917' captures win at Producers Guild

LOS ANGELES — If the Producers Guild Awards are a true predictor of the Oscars' best film category, then the World War I film "1917" is poised to come away with best picture in a few weeks.

The Sam Mendes film won the award for theatrical motion picture at the untelevised ceremony Saturday night at the Hollywood Palladium in Los Angeles. Many in the crowd seemed stunned after Reese Witherspoon announced the winner of the Darryl F. Zanuck Award, which has gone on to win the best picture Oscar 21 out of 30 times — including the past two years, with "Green Book" and "The Shape of Water."

"This film was inspired by my grandfather, Alfred Mendes, and my hope was to honor his experience," said Mendes, who co-produced and directed the project. He also said it was his first time attending the awards, and thanked the guild for recognizing his film. "This was best experience of my professional life," he added.

Released late last month, "1917" has made a splash during awards season, including another surprise victory in the best drama picture category at the Golden Globes.

— Associated Press

Box office

1. "Bad Boys for Life," \$59.1 million
2. "Dolittle," \$22.5 million
3. "1917," \$22.1 million
4. "Jumanji: The Next Level," \$9.5 million
5. "Star Wars: Rise of Skywalker," \$8.3 million
6. "Just Mercy," \$6 million
7. "Little Women," \$5.9 million
8. "Knives Out," \$4.3 million
9. "Like a Boss," \$3.8 million
10. "Frozen 2," \$3.7 million

SOURCE: Associated Press
Estimated sales,
Friday-Sunday



WILLY SANJUAN/INVISION

'Law & Order: Kardashian-style'

Kim Kardashian West is a step closer to becoming a lawyer, having finished her first year of study as an apprentice. She said on Saturday that her next step is taking the "baby bar," so-called because it's a one-day exam. If she passes, she plans to study for another three years and then take the California bar exam. "I'm super-motivated, and I really want to see it through," she said in an interview. "There's obviously times where I'm overwhelmed and stressed and feel like I have a lot on my plate." "Kim Kardashian West: The Justice Project" airs April 5 on Oxygen. The two-hour documentary shows her being visibly moved by prison inmates recounting their stories of landing behind bars. She talks to their families and friends, lobbies public officials and consults with their attorneys as well as her own.



ASK AMY

By AMY DICKINSON

askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter @askingamy

Social media bully embarrasses family

Dear Amy: My father is a stubborn man. He has a lot of energy and many strong opinions. We do not have a close relationship. He has recently retired and now spends much of his time on social media, posting long-winded political rants and engaging in emotional arguments with anyone who dares to comment on his posts.

I am disgusted by this highly public airing of false information and closed-minded views. It was getting to the point that merely opening the social media app was giving me anxiety, with the anticipation of a new bigoted diatribe from my father. I deactivated my account, and I've never felt better!

My immediate family continues to feel mortified by his behavior. This has led to some awkward family gatherings, and his behavior seems to have gotten even worse. I'm afraid to discuss this directly with him, due to his short temper and the high likelihood that he will share our conversation publicly on social media. I want to keep our family matters private.

What should I do? Is there a way to make it clear to my extended family that his closed-minded beliefs do not align with my own, without descending into the drama myself? How can I bring myself to spend time with a person who causes me so much embarrassment?
— Embarrassed

Dear Embarrassed: I applaud you for deactivating your social media account in order to avoid being triggered by your father's (and others')

abusive online behavior.

Now that you are removed from your father's noxious postings, you are going to have to learn to trust other people. Your family members know him, and they know you. You should trust that they understand and can differentiate between you.

I don't think it is useful to issue blanket or public apologies for someone else's behavior. Your father embarrasses himself, but you shouldn't give him the power to embarrass you.

Your father sounds like a bully. You should not trust him to keep anything private. All the same, you might feel better if you stood up to him: "Dad, I wish you would find a different hobby. Your online ranting is quite disturbing."

It would be wise for him to get a mental health screening. Being a bigoted bully does not necessarily indicate mental decline, but because your father's behavior seems to be getting worse, there is reason to wonder.

Dear Amy: My son just gave us the great news that he's getting married.

Our daughter is in a serious, five-year relationship with "James." We expect they will be engaged in the near future (within the next two years). We have met James' parents several times.

Should we invite James' parents to our son's wedding?
— Wondering

Dear Wondering: Does your son or his future bride know James' parents? This marrying couple may want to have some say over who

attends their nuptials.

Traditionally, with larger weddings, the marrying couple will get half of the total guest list to invite those close to them, while each set of parents will get a fourth of the guest total to invite people from their own list.

If you have been granted a number of seats to fill at will at this wedding, and if you have developed a friendship with your daughter's boyfriend's parents, then by all means invite them. However, you are not socially obligated to issue this invitation.

Dear Readers: I've received many positive responses to my annual giving column. Since that column was published, the world has become aware of the devastation caused by wildfires sweeping through parts of Australia. As of this writing, 20 people, including three firefighters, have died. Millions of animals have perished — some estimates bring the toll as high as 1 billion animals.

Please do not send food or material goods — transporting goods brings on more hazards.

- Here are some ways to give money.
- Helping fire victims: St. Vincent DePaul Society: donate.vinnies.org.au.
 - Helping "firies" (firefighters): Rural Fire Service, New South Wales: rfs.nsw.gov.au.
 - Helping wildlife: RSPCA of Australia: rspcansw.org.au.

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Crossword

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By Jacqueline E. Mathews. © 2020 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved. 1/20/20

- ACROSS**
- 1 Run away
 - 5 Woes
 - 9 "Beat it!"
 - 13 ___ a job; gets hired
 - 15 Thrown for a ___; suddenly confused
 - 16 In one's birthday suit
 - 17 Uneasy feeling
 - 18 Pakistan's capital
 - 20 Arthur of "Maude"
 - 21 Battery size
 - 23 Compensates
 - 24 Make sausage
 - 26 Dr. Dre's music
 - 27 Dismal
 - 29 Abnormal tissue growths
 - 32 Skateboarder's inclines
 - 33 Talons
 - 35 Common street name
 - 37 "Law & Order: SVU" actor
 - 38 Housekeepers
 - 39 Cheese similar to Camembert
 - 40 Bic product
 - 41 Office cabinet contents
 - 42 Secure storage boxes
 - 43 Delays purposely
 - 45 Rolls out the red carpet for
 - 46 Kauai accessory
 - 47 Lunch spot
 - 48 Pad of paper
 - 51 "___ Lazy River"
 - 52 As cool ___ cucumber
 - 55 Fair; just
 - 58 ___ tots; cylindrical potato bites
 - 60 Draw in
 - 61 Tack
 - 62 State Farm employee
 - 63 Potato chip brand
 - 64 Little boys
 - 65 ___-on favorite; likely winner

- Solutions**
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- DOWN**
- 1 Spare tire
 - 2 Highway division
 - 3 Reason to buy a ring
 - 4 Asner & O'Neill
 - 5 Epic about Achilles
 - 6 ___ Alamos, NM
 - 7 He-he alternative
 - 8 Small songbirds
 - 9 "Make it ___!" request for haste
 - 10 Castro's nation
 - 11 "Queen for ___" of old TV
 - 12 Kennedy & Turner
 - 14 Escalator alternative
 - 19 Repasts
 - 22 Word attached to body or way
 - 25 Engrossed
 - 27 Faucet problem
 - 28 Marathons
 - 29 Upholstery supplies
 - 30 Punctured
 - 31 More devious
 - 33 Coolidge's namesakes
 - 34 Commit perjury
 - 36 Disarray
 - 38 Combative; aggressive
 - 39 Source of misery
 - 41 Armada
 - 42 Piano piece
 - 44 Axis foes
 - 45 Trendy; stylish
 - 47 Sword fights
 - 48 ___ on; reveal the misdeeds of
 - 49 Filled swimming pool's color
 - 50 Inter
 - 53 ___ on; forward
 - 54 Carney & Garfunkel
 - 56 Cry from the flock
 - 57 Eye's protector
 - 59 Not long ___; recently

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Stalter

Continued from Page 1

close. Stalter — a Chicago comedy scene standout who relocated to New York City last August — has a stage persona that is both endearing and off-putting at the same time. She comes across as a self-indulgent, delusional diva who stumbles through her lines, blames her backup band (and the audience) for any perceived slip-ups and is obsessed with her own impressiveness.

In *The Hideout's* green room before the show, Stalter describes her stage persona as “If somebody crazy got famous. From the past. And the future. Like a kid and an old lady.”

On stage — and in her YouTube series, the self-titled “The Megan Stalter

Show,” which is filmed at *The Hideout* — Stalter plays a fame-hungry entertainer eager for a spotlight but perhaps not quite ready for one. Something like a more playful, likeable Tony Clifton. The real Stalter, who moved to Chicago from Ohio in 2014 to pursue comedy, is more than ready for several spotlights, and any number of microphones (she worked several throughout the course of the hourlong show).

“An Evening of Mayhem with Megan Stalter” is a surreal alt-comedy experience. The (very loose) story follows an egocentric performer (Stalter) as she sings a few ridiculous songs, banter with the crowd and tells stories about herself. But when she starts to take calls — with both good news and bad — on stage from her agent Charcoal Drawling (played with

absorbing aloofness by fellow comedian Caleb Hearon in a pre-recorded audio and video cameo), things start to spin out of control.

There's commentary on the madness of seeking celebrity, the willful deceit of being a successful performer and, as things truly spiral into madness, the true cost of fame. The Book of Mark says “For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul?” The Book of Megan, essentially, asks the same thing, but with more country music ditties, fake Sonic commercials and staged auditions for dramatic high school movies. And in the end, despite the threat of fire and brimstone, a little spilled blood and a seeming demonic possession, Stalter makes it clear that she still wants “fame, fortune, rib-

bons.”

“I was really bad for like three years, truly. I just thought I was good,” Stalter said, discussing her start in comedy before the show. “I was like, ‘They don't get it. I'm good.’ And looking back, it's like, ‘No. I was so bad.’ But I was delusional.”

She took classes at both Second City and iO but never felt she truly fit in at either (“I got in trouble at iO for using so much blood,” she said). The *Hideout* always felt like the place where her style of comedy made sense. “It's like if you don't fit in at those other places, you come here and get to do your own thing or whatever you want to do,” she said. “I don't know if it's because this is a music venue, but it's kind of punk. I've seen the craziest stuff on this stage ... they let you do whatever you want.”

And that seems to be Stalter's main comedic drive: doing whatever she wants. On Twitter — where, at the time of this writing, she has more than 46 thousand followers — she is known as one of the best at the increasingly popular front-facing video format, a comedic form that is especially good for showcasing characters and finds Stalter posting short videos as characters like “The girl who won't stop flirting with the barista” or “The mean girl at your church.”

Early on, she tried doing straight stand-up and never felt like it suited her. In contrast, her hilariously over-confident Twitter characters feel alive and fully realized. And working the pompous, exaggerated alter ego Megan Stalter makes her feel comfortable on stage. “It sounds cheesy, but once I'm in this crazy

character, nothing can go wrong because everything's gonna go wrong,” she said. “It doesn't matter. But with stand-up I feel like ... they know exactly what jokes they're going to say, and you have to hit it at exactly the right ...” Here she trails off. “And I can't. I can't do anything the same way twice.”

And that quality is what makes Stalter such a joy to watch. In “An Evening of Mayhem,” there are times when the mayhem feels controlled and manageable, but there are just as many moments where it truly feels like anything could happen. In some ways, her career feels that way too; we'll just have to see what happens next.

Zach Freeman is a freelance critic.
ct-arts@chicago.tribune.com

'Picard'

Continued from Page 1

ful and if we just learn to agree, all our problems will go away,” he explained. “It takes work. It takes effort.”

So, too, does keeping alive a venerable science-fiction franchise like “Star Trek,” which has been in the public consciousness for nearly 54 years. What began in 1966 with a little-seen television series that was often didactic and deliberately paced has endured as a cultural institution, even as its fortunes have risen and fallen over the years. Its humble beginnings gave rise to a vibrant and dedicated fan base, multiple TV spinoffs and a film franchise that has expanded and contracted many times over.

“Star Trek” is also trying to rediscover its place in a universe it effectively invented. It helped bring genre entertainment into the mainstream and gave its fans a voice in the conversation about what it should be and where it should go. But it has been eclipsed by its successors — from long-time rivals like “Star Wars” to more recent competitors like the Marvel movies — and is striving to stay relevant.

Now a new era of serialized narratives and streaming content has provided “Star Trek” with that opportunity. On Thursday, the first episode of “Picard,” a series that revisits Stewart's intrepid Starfleet captain from “Star Trek: The Next Generation,” will be released on CBS All Access, the network's streaming service. There, the show joins “Star Trek: Discovery,” whose third season begins later this year. This is an expansive period for “Star Trek,” with at least three more new series in the works, and also a potentially perilous one: There's no telling yet whether audiences will have an appetite for all of these new shows.

But at a time when entertainment franchises have become the lifeblood of media conglomerates, “Star Trek” — by no means the hippest or flashiest of these pop-cultural juggernauts — journeys on. And the people in charge of the property believe it still has plenty of longevity, as well as pliability and potential for further growth, if they stay true to its idiosyncratic values.

“If you feel that each piece is handcrafted with care, then I think people really appreciate it,” said Alex Kurtzman, an executive producer of the many new “Star Trek” series. “If you feel like a universe is being shoved down your throat for speed and dollars, there's no faster way to lose an audience.”

A few years ago, at a time when Kurtzman was encountering professional challenges — he had split with his longtime creative partner, Roberto Orci, and an update of “The Mummy” that he directed had floundered at the box office — he was approached by CBS to help create a new “Star Trek” TV series.

“Star Trek” was similarly in need of navigational aid. The rebooted film series, which started with a splash, had gone dormant after the muted reception to the movie “Star Trek Beyond”



Patrick Stewart 79, said it was appropriate that Jean-Luc Picard should change over time, just as the actor himself has.

in 2016. The franchise had no TV presence since 2005, when “Star Trek: Enterprise” ran aground.

“We needed each other,” Kurtzman said. “‘Star Trek’ was at a place where it needed to be — reinvented is the wrong word — but rebirthed, in a way.”

“I did not want ‘Star Trek’ to go down on my watch,” he added. “That was something that I knew I could never live down.”

CBS, too, saw fresh television potential for “Star Trek” as the network entered the crowded marketplace of streaming services, where the franchise's name recognition, along with its iconography of spaceships, phaser guns and pointy-eared extraterrestrials, could help the subscription-based All Access stand out.

“Discovery,” created by Kurtzman and Bryan Fuller (“Hannibal,” “American Gods”), centered on a Starfleet officer, Michael Burnham (played by Sonequa Martin-Green), whose earliest adventures precede the original “Star Trek” by a few years.

The series faced personnel problems, ballooning costs and production delays, and Fuller left the show before its launch in 2017. His successors, Gretchen Berg and Aaron Harberts, were pushed out before the debut of Season 2, amid more runaway budgets and allegations of an abusive management style. (Michelle Paradise is the acting showrunner for the coming third season.)

CBS All Access said that “Discovery” is its most-watched original series, although it has not released viewership data. It was sufficiently heartened by the show's performance to increase its “Star Trek” output.

“It came less from us saying, ‘Let's take over the

world with multiple ‘Star Trek’ shows,’ and more from the fact that these good ideas started to pop out of the creative process,” said Julie McNamara, executive vice president of original content at CBS All Access.

“Picard” will be the next show to test the resilience of the “Star Trek” brand. This series, which has already been renewed for a second season, is perhaps the biggest swing that the TV franchise has taken in years, resting largely on the popularity of its title character and the actor who plays him.

Stewart's last official onscreen appearance as Jean-Luc Picard occurred in the 2002 film “Star Trek: Nemesis,” and since then he had consistently turned down any overture to return to the fold.

“It was a chapter — several chapters — of my life and career that had a powerful impact on me, and I had moved on,” Stewart said of his “Star Trek” experience. Having trained as a stage actor, he said, “You get used to saying goodbye to something, knowing the chances you will ever return to that world again are very, very unlikely.”

Despite Stewart's professed reluctance, Kurtzman, Chabon and fellow producers Kirsten Beyer and Akiva Goldsman approached him about two years ago with an idea that had emerged from their brainstorming on “Short Treks,” a current series of “Star Trek”-theme vignettes.

The producers had started to sketch out a story that would find Picard many years after his glory days. A mystery in his life would draw him back to old allies and old enemies — and, eventually, back into space — while forcing him to confront the past cir-

cumstances that drove him out of Starfleet.

At their first meeting, Stewart said, he told the producers, “I respect you all very much. But that book is closed.” Yet by the end of their conversation, Stewart said he was intrigued by their vision of a world — and a protagonist — changed significantly since “The Next Generation.”

Stewart said he appreciated how the story allowed for “the profound psychological differences in the character, who felt abandoned, distrusted and unnecessary,” rather than presenting a valiant Picard who was in command of every situation he faced.

“Where is he now?” he asked. “What matters to him? What control does he have over his life? Very little, as it turned out.”

Stewart, who is 79, said it was appropriate that Picard should change over time, just as the actor himself has. “I'm still Patrick inside this guy, and yes, there are noticeable differences from how I was 19 years ago,” he said.

As “Star Trek” has evolved over its half-century history into a monolithic and omnipresent institution, it can be easy to forget its scrappy origins. The original series, created by Gene Roddenberry, was never a ratings hit at the time of its network broadcast, which ran three seasons. But during its sustained syndication run in the 1970s, it found a wider fan base — viewers who were passionate about keeping it alive and celebrating it in whatever settings they could find.

Goldsman, a producer of several “Trek” shows and the Academy Award-winning screenwriter of “A Beautiful Mind,” has been a “Trek” devotee long enough to remember at-

tending his first fan convention as a teenager in 1976, when a guest appearance by even one cast member — in this case, Walter Koenig, who originated the role of the excitable Chekov — was regarded as a solemn consecration.

Not everything about the show has aged well. “Things that were bold then, we would find potentially insulting now,” Goldsman said — like its depiction of female officers who dressed in miniskirts. But, he added, “What's weird about ‘Star Trek’ is that it abides.”

Central to its mission, Goldsman said, is an ethos that Roddenberry helped cultivate, one that is inherently broad-minded and representative of human diversity. “It's not value-neutral,” he said. “‘Star Trek’ has always been upfront about going forward in a good, decent, inclusive way. That's always its answer.”

What has changed significantly since the introduction of “Star Trek” is the degree to which media companies have grown reliant on franchises — and are reluctant to give up on old properties that might have any familiarity to audiences. “Today, anything, apparently, is worth retrying,” Goldsman said. Looking down at his lunch, he observed, “We could take this plate and reboot it.”

The Marvel movies, which have grossed billions of dollars worldwide, have provided a modern-day template for franchise success: Start with fantasy or science-fiction source material and create a shared universe in which its characters coexist and cross paths.

“Star Trek” helped set these cultural and financial dynamics in motion many years ago, but its rivals have

surpassed it. Even “Star Wars,” whose path as a movie series isn't immediately clear following “The Rise of Skywalker,” is learning to extend its reach into streaming shows like the Disney Plus series “The Mandalorian.”

Goldsman said he felt that “Star Wars” was the only natural franchise competitor that “Star Trek” faces, and even then it's not a fair fight. “Because I think ‘Star Wars’ wins,” he said. “‘Star Wars’ has a much bigger footprint. I think they coexist beautifully.”

Chabon said he was still nursing old wounds from the era of “Enterprise,” which underwent several changes in its creative direction during its four-season run on the low-rated UPN network. “I had gotten excited, like, oh, this sounds cool, and then I felt burned by that one,” he said.

Even when “Discovery” was first announced, Chabon said, he was doubtful about it, “in that inherently conservative way that fans are skeptical.”

“I was like, eh,” he said. “On the basis of nothing. I didn't look at it.”

Although Chabon might not seem like an obvious candidate for a career in franchise entertainment, he said that after he turned 50, he told himself, “I'm going to start saying yes to things that I probably would have said no to in the past.” (That included a project where he helped Goldsman create a shared media universe for forgotten toys like Micronauts and Rom the Spaceknight.)

The pleasure of working on “Star Trek,” Chabon said, lies in the push-and-pull of honoring its complex internal history while trying to innovate and add to that canon. “You can let your imagination run wild, and yet, you're trying to hook onto previously existing stuff in a way that feels consistent and coherent,” he said.

If “Star Trek” ever reaches a point of “super-saturation,” Goldsman said, then people will turn it off. “And then it will do what ‘Star Trek’ does, which is, it'll go away,” he said. “And hopefully it'll come back again.”

It also remains to be seen how the “Star Trek” TV team will cooperate with the franchise's film operations, which were resuscitated this past November when Paramount chose Noah Hawley, creator of TV's “ Fargo,” to write and direct a new “Star Trek” movie. (The movie and TV units became siblings again when Viacom, Paramount's parent company, merged with CBS last year.)

Kurtzman said that there had not been “any real conversations” between the “Star Trek” movie and TV hemispheres for nearly a decade, adding: “The ink's not quite dry on the merger, so it'll take a bit of time for the integration of the two companies to bear fruit. Time will tell. I think a shared universe could be great for ‘Star Trek.’”

Not even the makers of “Star Trek” know exactly what the future holds. But Martin-Green expressed confidence that, whatever shape or form the series takes, there will always be a place for the imaginative parables that it has helped pioneer.

COMMENTARY

Changing the narrative

Why viewers of 'The Crown' could see Prince Harry and Meghan's exit coming

BY KARLA PETERSON
The San Diego Union-Tribune

"Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown." You know this already if you are a reader of William Shakespeare, who slips this cogent observation into "Henry IV, Part I" in which he explores the challenges facing both the man at the top of the royal food chain and the son who is next in line for the throne.

You also know this if you are a viewer of "The Crown," Netflix's ongoing dramatic series chronicling the risks and rewards of being on the throne and the lifetime balancing act that comes with being throne-adjacent. Now in its third season, the series from creator Peter Morgan focuses on the reign of England's Queen Elizabeth II (still on the throne at the age of 93) and the very long shadow her position casts over every member of her family tree. Including the modern-day apples who are doing their best to fall as far away from that old tree as possible.

That would be the Duke and Duchess of Sussex, better known to most of us as Prince Harry and his American-born wife, actress Meghan Markle. Or as they are now known in the U.K., the architects behind the national outrage known as "Megxit."

Less than two years after their star-studded, gospel-fueled royal wedding, Prince Harry and Meghan announced last week that they are "stepping back" as senior members of the royal family. They plan to split their time between the United Kingdom and North America and work to be-

come financially independent, while also honoring their "duty to The Queen, the Commonwealth, and our patronages."

Judging by the headlines, the couple's desire to reshape their royal duties to fit their actual lives came as quite a shock to the members of the U.K. media, who were apparently too busy giving Meghan grief for every move she makes and every fashion/parenting/lifestyle step she takes to watch "The Crown." Because if they were watching "The Crown," they might have seen this plot twist coming.

From the beginning, "The Crown" has portrayed Queen Elizabeth, her husband, Prince Philip, and the other members of the royal family as dutiful fish trapped in a large, public fishbowl. With the possible exception of the flamboyant (and therefore totally unsuitable) Princess Margaret, the members of the royal family never seem at home in their roles. And who can blame them? No one seems to know what, exactly, the jobs of the royal family should entail, but everyone is happy to point out when those jobs are being done wrong.

True, "The Crown" is not a documentary. But while Morgan and his writers play with timelines and invent plenty of fictional dialogue, the characters' emotional lives spring logically from the history that we do know. And one of the things we do know is that the uneasiness starts at the top.

Queen Elizabeth II became queen at the young age of 25, after the sudden death of her father, King



DES WILLIE/NETFLIX

Marion Bailey portrays the Queen Mother, left, and Helena Bonham Carter plays Princess Margaret in the third season of "The Crown," which stars Oscar-winning actress Olivia Colman as Queen Elizabeth II.



LIPINKSI DOMINIC/PA PHOTOS

The Duke and Duchess of Sussex, who are stepping back from their royal duties, show their baby son, Archie.

George VI. And he had only become king under duress, when his older brother, King Edward VIII, gave up the crown to marry American divorcee Wallis Simpson. Elizabeth inherited a legacy of reluctance, and the first two seasons of "The Crown" (with Claire Foy as Elizabeth) show a young woman trying to assume a role that requires intellectual prowess and emotional reserves that she might not have. She never

wanted this job, and now she's afraid she can't do it.

Meanwhile, the restless and ambitious Prince Philip (Matt Smith) chafes under the rules and protocol that keep him in a supporting role to his wife, regardless of the setting. And Princess Margaret (Vanessa Kirby) — whose role is even more ill-defined than Philip's — ends up spinning her wheels and generating controversy for her attrac-

tion to unsuitable men and love of parties.

The going gets tougher in the third season, which debuted in November. In the swinging, unstable 1960s, with the Labour Party back in power, a monarchy seems increasingly beside the point. In one of this season's best episodes, Queen Elizabeth (now played by the Oscar-winning Olivia Colman) goes off on a globetrotting tour of racehorse breeding facilities, where she ponders her dream life as a horse-breeder. In the meantime, a group of right-wing conspirators is plotting to overthrow Prime Minister Harold Wilson's government, until the queen is called upon to intervene.

As a member of the royal family, you are beside the point, until you aren't. And woe to the kingdom if you make a wrong move.

It's an impossible position to be in, regardless of the many creature comforts and perks that come with the territory. So it is no surprise that the Duke

and Duchess of Sussex — the prince whose service with the British Army included two tours of Afghanistan and the outspoken biracial American actress — came to the conclusion that the royal life they inherited from multiple generations of uneasy rulers is not for them.

It certainly didn't help that Meghan has been the subject of racial slurs and media bullying from the moment she was on the royal watchers' radar. But even if the Duchess of Sussex had been treated with the same respect extended to Prince William's wife, Kate Middleton, the Duchess of Cambridge, it's clear that this unconventional couple weren't being served by that same old story. Morgan and "The Crown" are still many seasons away from this part of the royal saga, but Prince Harry and Meghan Markle are more than capable of changing the narrative on their own.

Throwing away that hand-me-down script was a great way to start.



MICHAEL TERCHA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Architect Helmut Jahn's Thompson Center opened in 1985 with a \$172 million price tag.

Kamin

Continued from Page 1

Friday. "This is more of a celebratory process than a destructive process. It's a way to bring the building down to a tangible scale."

To be sure, many observations about the Helmut Jahn-designed building, perhaps even a majority, are bound to be negative. But that's not deterring the preservationists — architectural historian Elizabeth Blasius, architectural writer A.J. LaTrace and School of the Art Institute associate professor Jonathan Solomon.

The three, who call themselves the James R. Thompson Center Historical Society, first came to public attention when they formed the group last fall. Since then, they have been giving public tours that emphasize the center's architectural merits, especially its soaring atrium.

It's a "postmodern people's palace," Blasius said.

Their work assumed fresh urgency in December when state officials indicated they are preparing to ask developers to submit plans to redevelop the center. While the officials have indicated no preference for whether a new owner preserves or tears down the 1.2 million-square-foot structure, demolition remains a pos-

sibility. The state wants to be under contract with a buyer by the end of this year.

Like the center, whose future remains uncertain, pinatas are "fragile and delicate," Solomon said. "And they are, quite literally, punching bags."

When the 17-story center made its 1985 debut as the State of Illinois Building, its \$172 million price tag was more than double the original estimate. An inadequate air conditioning system was no match for heat spikes caused by sunlight pouring through the building's ample glass. Tawdry colors like salmon and robin's egg blue cheapened the exterior walls — a slap at the dignity of the City Hall-County Building across Randolph Street from the center.

The building, which was renamed for former four-term governor James R. Thompson in 1992, has never lived down those problems, even though some have been corrected and the center's interior, particularly its basement food court, is heavily used by the public. State officials have made the building's condition worse by failing to perform routine maintenance.

The heart of the planned exhibition, the piñata, measures 30 inches tall by 24 inches wide by 36 inches long, and is made of a cardboard composite ma-

terial, papier-mache and tissue paper. The design conveys the exterior's tiered curving glass as well as its truncated dome, which, Lombardo said, is made of "cardboard covered in silver wrapping paper that I got on sale at CVS after the holidays."

Despite the whimsy of the exhibition display, the preservationists are deadly serious about saving the Thompson Center.

Aiming to make the building a protected city landmark, they plan to speak about the center Wednesday during a public meeting of the Commission on Chicago Landmarks. And working with local groups like Landmarks Illinois and Preservation Chicago, they plan to submit nominating papers by the end of March to get the building listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The exhibition, titled "What is the Thompson Center," will be on view at a small gallery, Space p11, along the downtown Pedway. The gallery can be found in the Pedway level of the Heritage at Millennium Park, 130 N. Garland Ct., just south of Randolph Street. It will appear through Friday morning.

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IN PERFORMANCE 'The Gulf' ★★

Southern women fish for happiness at About Face

BY CHRIS JONES

In Audrey Cefaly's "The Gulf," the new play at About Face Theatre, it's a hot, steamy night deep in the Alabama Delta. Two local women are trolling for redfish in the wetlands.

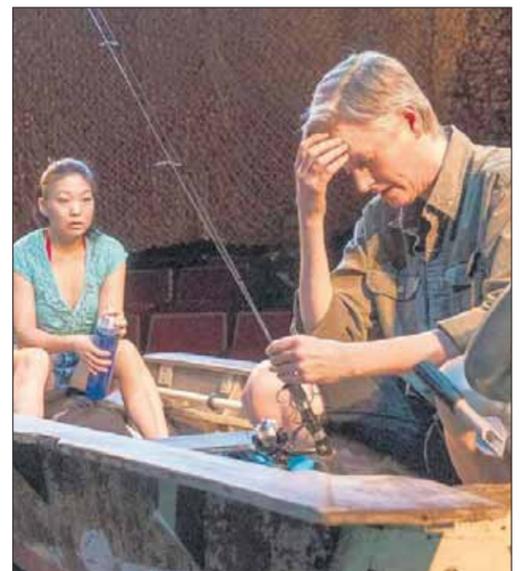
As they wait for bites from their little boat, Betty (Deanna Myers) and Kendra (Kelli Simpkins) dissect the problems of their six-year romantic relationship. Betty is a positive and ambitious personality with hopes of getting out of their rural environment; she's a bit of a control freak, in a charming way. Kendra is laconic and less emotionally available, constantly craving peace and quiet contentment, and thus, in Betty's eyes, willing to settle.

Metaphors abound: The flaky motor on their boat mirrors the realization that their relationship is stuck in the mud. During the production, directed by Megan Carney, the craft turns in a big circle, even as the conversation unspools and the women come to see that they can't do much to change each other. (Which is, of course, a truth about marriage and other relationships that you tend to come to later in life).

So, at this juncture, Cefaly has two interesting, contrasting characters, a deft turn of phrase, and an isolating situation that throws the women together.

What she does not have is anything interesting happening in real time.

For the first few minutes of the piece, you wait in vain for some kind of dramatic incident — something that can spark excitement or rapid change or surprise. Maybe a third character. A sudden storm. A thunderbolt.



MICHAEL BROSILOW

Betty (Deanna Myers) and Kendra (Kelli Simpkins) dissect the problems in their six-year relationship in "The Gulf."

When: Through Feb. 15

Where: Theater Wit, 1229 W. Belmont Ave.

Running time: 1 hour, 30 mins.

Tickets: \$15-32 at 773-975-8150 or www.theaterwit.org

A confession. A narrative revelation. Anything, really, to make the show less soporific. That something never comes.

For sure, subtle character studies and probings of relationships can be effective theater. But they are very hard to write, especially when the metaphor in hand is so circuitous. The American theater is short on plays about lower-middle-class characters, especially lesbian characters, living in the rural South and, for the record, this author can write rich dialog and, furthermore, both of these performers are skilled and

accomplished artists. And the sculpted environment, designed by Joe Schermoly, is a very cool piece of design.

But despite these clear attempts at immersion, the show lacks pace and its overly chilly trajectory never feels organic. The conversational conflict comes in fits and starts that feel mostly arbitrary and tentatively connected; there is no clear variance in tone. You don't really believe the women have huge emotional stakes in each other's happiness, even in the steamier scenes, and there is no other palpable source of dramatic tension.

Inevitably, then, a further gulf opens up between the characters and the audience, even though we're all fishing for connection.

Chris Jones is a Tribune critic.
cjones5@chicagotribune.com

WATCH THIS: MONDAY



Erin and Ben Napier

"Home Town" (8 p.m., 11 p.m., HGTV): The Season 4 premiere sees Hollywood come to Mississippi as an actor and his wife, who have fallen in love with the small-town charm, want to make an investment in their new community. The couple asks Erin and Ben Napier to help them find a historical home with "good bones" that could use a colorful makeover — on an "all-in" budget of \$75,000.

"Hidden Figures" (6 p.m., 9 p.m., FX): One of the biggest sleeper hits of 2016, this biographical drama resonated profoundly for many moviegoers with its account of how NASA mathematicians Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan and Mary Jackson (Taraji P. Henson, Octavia Spencer, Janelle Monae) managed to cross gender and race lines in 1961 to help launch astronaut John Glenn into outer space.

"All American" (7 p.m., CW): Aware that Dillon (Jalyn Hall) is upset that he hasn't been around more, Spencer (Daniel Ezra) tries to make amends by helping him sell tickets for Coop's (Bre-Z) show, only to wind up facing the police in the new episode "One of Them Nights." Meanwhile, Coop is shaken by a confrontation with Tyrone (guest star Demetrius Shipp Jr.), although she knows Preach (guest star Kareem J. Grimes) has her back.

"Bob Hearts Abishola" (7:30 p.m., CBS): Bob (Billy Gardell) seriously ruffles Abishola's (Folake Olowofoyeku) feathers when he offers her some decidedly unwelcome advice about how to parent her "unhappy son" in a new episode called "The Canadians of Africa." Tony Tambi, Kimberly Scott and Bayo Akinfemi guest star; Matt Jones, Maribeth Monroe and Vernee Watson also star.

"Amazing Winter Romance" (8 p.m., Hallmark): Julia (Jessy Schram), noted as a writer of inspirational pieces, is in a professional slump, so her boss sends her back to her hometown to write about the charm of small towns, hoping the upbeat topic will help rekindle Julia's creative mojo. She does, in fact, quickly find inspiration back among familiar faces.

"Spy Games" (9 p.m., 11:31 p.m., Bravo): Mia Kang hosts this decidedly offbeat reality competition series that's inspired by an actual World War II espionage program named Station S. In this game version, 10 contestants share quarters on a compound, where former intelligence professionals train them in spycraft, which they then use to spy and gather intel on their rivals and other targets. The ultimate winner takes home a \$100,000 jackpot.

TALK SHOWS

- "Conan"** (10 p.m. 11:30 p.m., TBS): Actor Josh Gad.*
- "The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon"** (10:34 p.m., NBC): Actor Ken Jeong; model Kate Upton; Old Dominion performs.*
- "The Late Show With Stephen Colbert"** (10:35 p.m., CBS): The comic interviews guests and introduces musical performances.*
- "Jimmy Kimmel Live!"** (10:35 p.m., ABC): Celebrity guests and comedy skits.*

* Subject to change

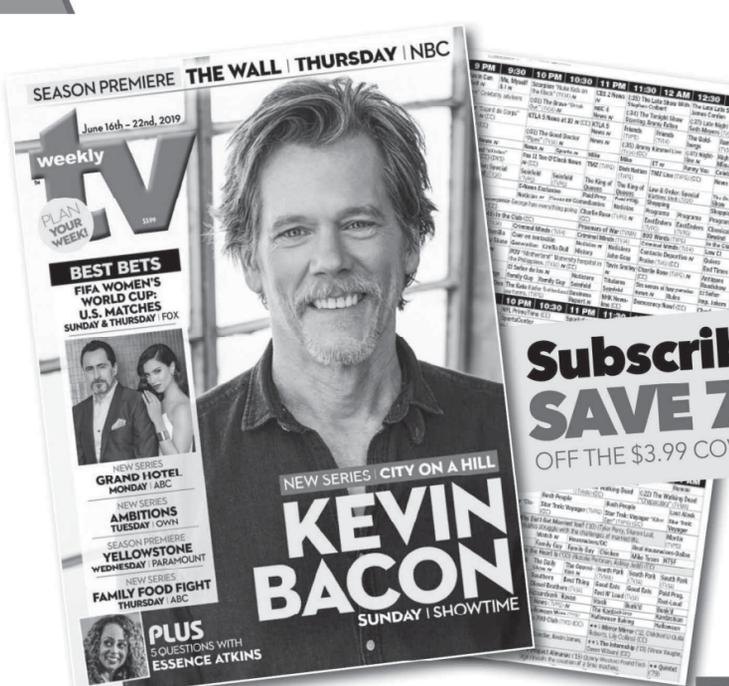
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MONDAY EVENING, JAN. 20

	PM	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00
BROADCAST	CBS 2	The Neighborhood (N)	Bob Hearts Abishola (N)	All Rise: "What the Bailiff Saw." (N) ©		Bull: "Behind the Ivy." (N) ©		News (N) ♦
	NBC 5	America's Got Talent: "The Champions Three." (N) ©				(9:01) Manifest: "False Horizon." (N) ©		NBC 5 News (N) ♦
	ABC 7	The Bachelor (N) ©				The Good Doctor: "Mutations." (N) ©		News at 10pm (N) ♦
	WGN 9	Six Principles (N)	black-ish ©	Last Man Standing ©	Last Man Standing ©	WGN News at Nine (N) (Live) ©		WGN News at Ten (N)
	Antenna 9.2	It's a Living	3's Comp.	Family Ties	Growing	Designing	Murphy	Carson ♦
	Court 9.3	Closing Arguments (N)		Closing Arguments with Vinnie Politan ©				
	PBS 11	Chicago Tonight (N)		Antiques Roadshow (N) © (Part 3 of 3)		No Passport Required: "Los Angeles." (N) ©		Independent Lens (N) ♦
	CW 26.1	All American (N) ©		Black Lightning (N) ©		Broke Girl	Broke Girl	Seinfeld ©
	The U 26.2	Dr. Phil ©		Tamron Hall (N) ©		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	The Nomads (NR,'19)	Tika Sumpter. ©			Freedom Writers (PG-13,'07)		*** © ♦	
FOX 32	9-1-1: Lone Star: "Yee-Haw." (N) ©		(8:01) Prodigal Son: "Alone Time." (N) ©		Fox 32 News at Nine (N)		Modern Family ©	
Ion 38	Law & Order ©		Law & Order ©		Law & Order: SVU		Law-SVU ♦	
TeleM 44	Exatón EE. UU. (N)		La Doña (N) ©		El señor de los cielos (N)		Chicago (N)	
MNT 50	Chicago P.D. ©		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Chicago ♦	
UniMas 60	Enamorádonos				Noticiero (N)	Esta historia me suena		
WJYS 62	J. Savelle	K. Hagin	Joyce Meyer	Robison	Blakeman	Wonderen	Paid Prog.	
Univ 66	Ringo (N)		Amor eterno		El dragón (N)		Noticias (N)	
CABLE	AE	Live PD (N)	Live PD (N)	Live Rescue: "Live Rescue -- 01.20.20." (N) ©				Live PD ♦
	AMC	♦ (6) Rocky III (PG,'82) ***	Mr. T ©	Rocky IV (PG,'85) **	Sylvester Stallone. ©			
	ANIM	Alaska- Last Frontier		Alaska- Last Frontier (N)		Alaskan Bush People (N)		Alaskan (N)
	BBCA	Star Trek: Deep Space 9		Star Trek: Deep Space 9		Star Trek: Deep Space 9		Trek: DS9 ♦
	BET	♦ (5) Set It Off (R,'96) ***		(7:55) Love & Basketball (PG-13,'00) ***	Sanaa Lathan. © ♦			
	BIGTEN	Women's College Basketball: Indiana at Maryland. (N)		B1G Show	B1G Show	B1G Show		Big Ten ♦
	BRAVO	Below Deck (N) ©		Below Deck (N) ©		Spy Games (Series Premiere) (N) ©		Watch (N)
	CLTV	Sign-off						Sign-off
	CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)		Anderson Cooper 360 (N)		CNN Tonight (N)		Tonight (N) ♦
	COM	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	Nora (N)	Daily (N) ♦
	DISC	Street Outlaws: "8-City Showdown." (Season Premiere) (N) ©						Street Out. ♦
	DISN	SHOOK ©		(7:55) SHOOK ©		Coop	Sydney-Max	Gabby ♦
	E!	Botched (N) ©		Botched (N) ©		Frasers (N)	Botched ©	
	ESPN	College Basketball (N)		College Basketball: Oklahoma at Baylor. (N) (Live)				SportCtr (N)
	ESPN2	Wm. Basketball (N)		2020 Australian Open Tennis: First Round. (N) (Live) © ♦				
	FNC	Tucker Carlson (N)		Hannity (N) ©		The Ingraham Angle (N)		Fox News
	FOOD	Kids Baking (N)		Kids Baking (N)		(9:01) Challenge (N) ©		Challenge ♦
	FREE	♦ (5) Coco	Grown Ups (PG-13,'10) ♦	Adam Sandler, Kevin James. © (SAP)				700 Club (N)
	FX	♦ (6) Hidden Figures (PG,'16) ***	Taraji P. Henson.			Hidden Figures (PG,'16) *** © ♦		
	HALL	Winterfest-Celebration		Amazing Winter Romance (NR,'20)	Marshall Williams.			Golden Girls
	HGTV	Home Town: Stay (N)		Home Town (N) ©		(9:06) One of a Kind (N)		Home ♦
	HIST	American Pickers		American Pickers (N)		(9:03) Pawn Stars (N)		Pawn ♦
	HLN	Vengeance: Killer		How It Really Happened		Forensic	Forensic	Forensic
	IFC	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men
	LIFE	The Holiday (PG-13,'06) **		Cameron Diaz, Kate Winslet. ©				Nanny ♦
	MSNBC	All In With (N)		Rachel Maddow Show (N)		The Last Word (N)		11th Hour (N)
	MTV	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous. ♦
	NBCSCH	Bulls (N)	Poker Night	NBA Basketball: Chicago Bulls at Milwaukee Bucks.				
	NICK	SpongeBob SquarePants	Friends ©	Friends ©	Friends ©	Friends ©	Friends ©	Friends ♦
	OVATION	♦ (6) Mommie Dearest (PG,'81) **	Faye Dunaway. ©			Along Came a Spider (R,'01) ***		
OWN	Dateline on OWN ©		Dateline on OWN ©		Dateline on OWN ©		Dateline ♦	
OXY	NCIS: "House Rules."		NCIS: "Check." ©		NCIS: "The Enemy Within."		NCIS ♦	
PARMT	Indiana Jones		Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade (PG-13,'89) *** © ♦					
SYFY	♦ (4:57) Bad Boys II (R) **		Hancock (PG-13,'08) **	Will Smith. ©			Futurama ♦	
TBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Conan (N)	
TCM	Nothing But a Man (NR,'64) ***	Ivan Dixon.			Edge of the City (NR,'57) *** © ♦			
TLC	90 Day Fiance: Watch Party (N)				90 Day Fiance: "Blindsided." ♦			
TLN	Supernatural	IMPACT	Prayer & Praise		Robison	Billy Graham	Humanit ♦	
TNT	♦ NBA Basketball (N Subject to Blackout)				NBA Basketball (N Subject to Blackout)		NBA Basketball (N Subject to Blackout) ♦	
TOON	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Burgers	Burgers	Family Guy	Family Guy	Boondocks	
TRAV	Unexplained: Caught on Camera (N) ©				Beyond the Unknown (N)		Unknown ♦	
TVL	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	King	King	King	
USA	WWE Monday Night RAW (N) (Live) © ♦							
VH1	Love & Hip Hop (N) ©		Love & Hip Hop Miami (N)		Love & Hip Hop ©		Hip Hop ♦	
WE	Criminal Minds ©		(7:57) Criminal Minds		(8:54) Criminal Minds		Criminal ♦	
WGN America	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Carter (Season Premiere) (N) ©		Last Man	
PREMIUM	HBO	♦ The Day After Tomorrow		The New Pope (N) ©		The Outsider ©		Pope ♦
	HBO2	♦ (6:57) The New Pope		Green Lantern (PG-13,'11) **	Ryan Reynolds.		Favourite ♦	
	MAX	Halloween (R,'18) **	Jamie Lee Curtis. ©			(8:50) Halloween II (R,'81) **		
	SHO	Shameless ©		God	The L Word		(9:45) Ray Donovan ♦	
	STARZ	(7:01) Power ©		(8:02) Emanuel (NR,'19) ©			(9:24) Power ©	
STZNC	Reservoir Dogs (R,'92) *** ©				(8:42) Pulp Fiction (R,'94) ****	John Travolta. © ♦		

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Horoscopes



Today's birthday (Jan. 20): Benefits arise this year through community connections. Disciplined planning and organization produce results. Winter inspiration shifts long-term plans before an obstacle impacts your work and health. Resolve a group challenge next summer before your energy and vitality surges.

Aries (March 21-April 19): Today is an 8. Take a trip with someone fun. Team projects get farther this month, with the sun in Aquarius. Enjoy social life and make new connections. **Taurus** (April 20-May 20): 9. Profitable opportunities arise. Take on a professional challenge this month, with the sun in Aquarius. Advance your position. Your status and influence rise.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): 8. You're eager to leap boundaries, push limitations and discover. Conditions are favorable, so go! Travel and studies beckon this month under the Aquarius sun. **Cancer** (June 21-July 22): 8. Maintain healthy routines. Discuss long-term goals and plans. Strengthen family finances, with the sun in Aquarius. Sort, file and organize over the next month. **Leo** (July 23-Aug. 22): 8. Romance is distinctly possible. Collaborate, compromise and negotiate win-win deals. Partnership multiplies your efforts this month under the Aquarius sun.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): 7. Home recharges you. Grow your physical work, health and energy, with the sun in Aquarius this month. Raise your performance level with practice. **Libra** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): 9. Enter a highly creative period. You're lucky in love this month, with the Aquarius sun. Enjoy diversions with friends and family. Cook up some romance. **Scorpio** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): 7. Recharge for later financial productivity. Focus on home and family this month, with the sun in Aquarius. Comfortable surroundings nurture your creativity. Make improvements.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): 9. You feel a logical shift. You retain information especially well over the next month, with the sun in Aquarius. Learn and retain complex material. Your communications thrive, and words come easily. **Capricorn** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): 8. Generate a positive financial balance. Money comes more easily with the sun in Aquarius. Take advantage of lucrative conditions. **Aquarius** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): 9. Friends can help. Go for a personal win. Enjoy an advantage this month with the sun in your sign. Use your power and talent for good.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): 8. Take care of business. Savor peaceful productivity, with the Aquarian sun. Enjoy solitude and introspection. Restore energies through rest, nature, beauty and meditation.

— Nancy Black, Tribune Content Agency

The Argyle Sweater



Bliss



Bridge

Here are the answers to the weekly quiz:

Q.1—Neither vulnerable, as South, you hold:
♠ 10 6 ♥ A Q 3 ♦ 10 ♣ J 10 8 7 4 3 2

Partner opens 1C and right-hand opponent bids 2D, pre-emptive. What call would you make?

A.1—Get it up there fast, before the opponents can share any more information. Bid 5C.

Q.2—North-South vulnerable, as South, you hold:
♠ 8 ♥ Q J 9 8 6 ♦ 9 5 ♣ A K Q 10 2

South	West	North	East
1♥	Pass	2♦	Pass
?			

What call would you make?

A.2—Bidding 3C, or “breaking the three level”, requires a little extra and this hand doesn't have it. Bid 2H. It's OK to rebid a five-card suit in this situation.

Q.3—East-West vulnerable, as South, you hold:
♠ A Q 5 ♥ J 9 7 3 ♦ A J 9 3 ♣ A Q

Partner opens 1H and right-hand opponent passes. What call would you make?

A.3—Should you and partner play that 2NT shows a game-forcing heart raise, then that's the bid. Without that agreement, start with 2D.

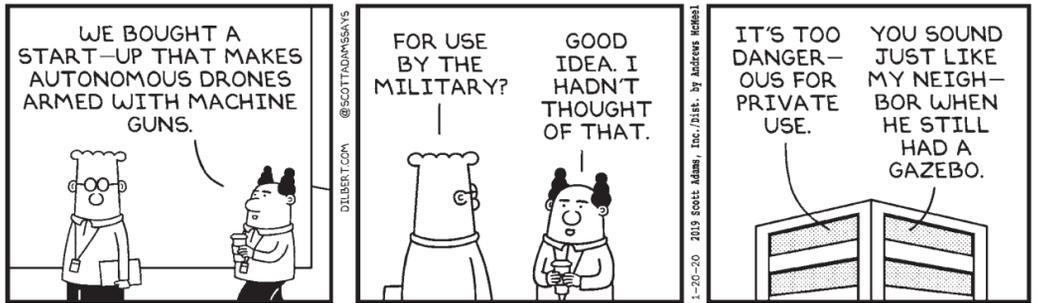
Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South, you hold:
♠ Q J 10 ♥ K 5 2 ♦ J 10 8 7 2 ♣ 8 7

Partner opens 1D and right-hand opponent makes a takeout double. What call would you make?

A.4—3D would be pre-emptive and the hand is too strong for that. Bid 2D, and be prepared to compete to the three level if necessary.

— Bob Jones
tcaeditors@tribpub.com

Dilbert



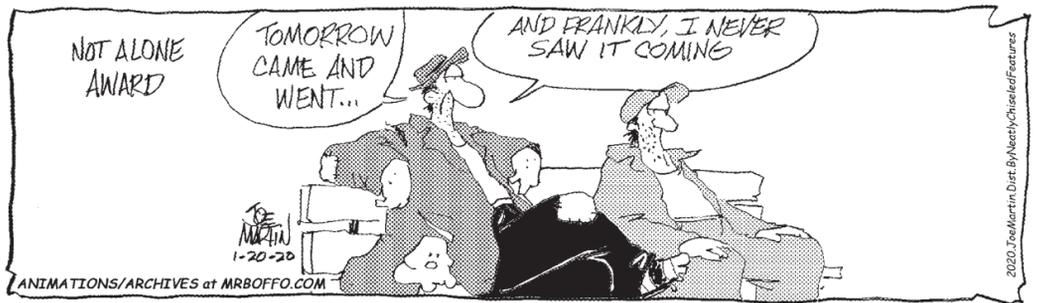
Baby Blues



Zits



Mr. Boffo



Frazz



Classic Peanuts



Pickles



Dick Tracy



Animal Crackers



Prickly City



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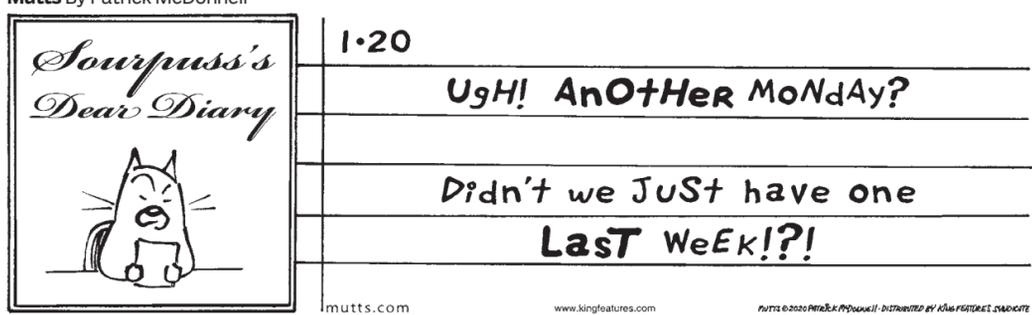
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WuMo By Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler



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Broom-Hilda By Russell Myers

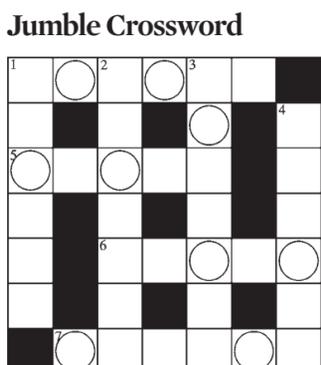


Trivia Bits

Which of these buildings resembles an Egyptian obelisk?
 A) Lincoln Memorial
 B) National Museum of African American History and Culture
 C) U.S. Capitol
 D) Washington Monument

Saturday's answer: The Latin phrase "caveat emptor" means "buyer beware."

Jumble Crossword



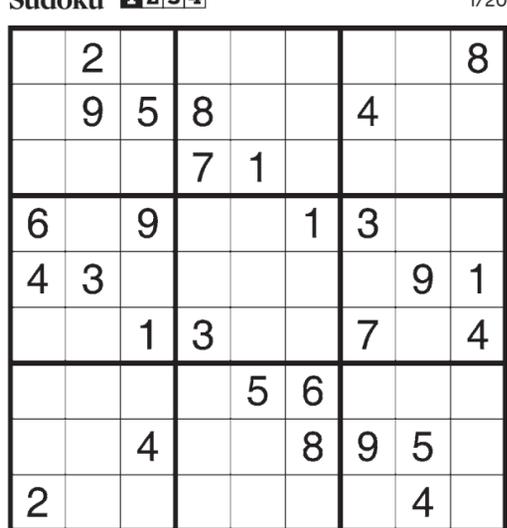
CLUE ACROSS
 1. Mountainous
 5. Employed
 6. Permit
 7. Fuel

CLUE DOWN
 1. Carrying
 2. Lumpy
 3. Lumpy
 4. Masonry tool

BONUS [Grid] **CLUE:** This company was founded as the Upton Machine Company in 1911.

Sudoku 1 2 3 4

1/20



7	9	4	2	3	6	8	5	1
5	3	6	8	1	7	2	9	4
8	2	1	5	4	9	7	3	6
3	1	9	7	8	4	6	2	5
4	5	2	9	6	1	3	8	7
6	7	8	3	2	5	4	1	9
9	8	7	4	5	3	1	6	2
1	4	3	6	9	2	5	7	8
2	6	5	1	7	8	9	4	3

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box in bold borders contains every digit 1 to 9.

Saturday's solutions

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Jumble

Unscramble the four Jumbles, one letter per square, to form four words. Then arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by this cartoon.

XONTI
 GALEE
 DMTOEH
 SRYUTT

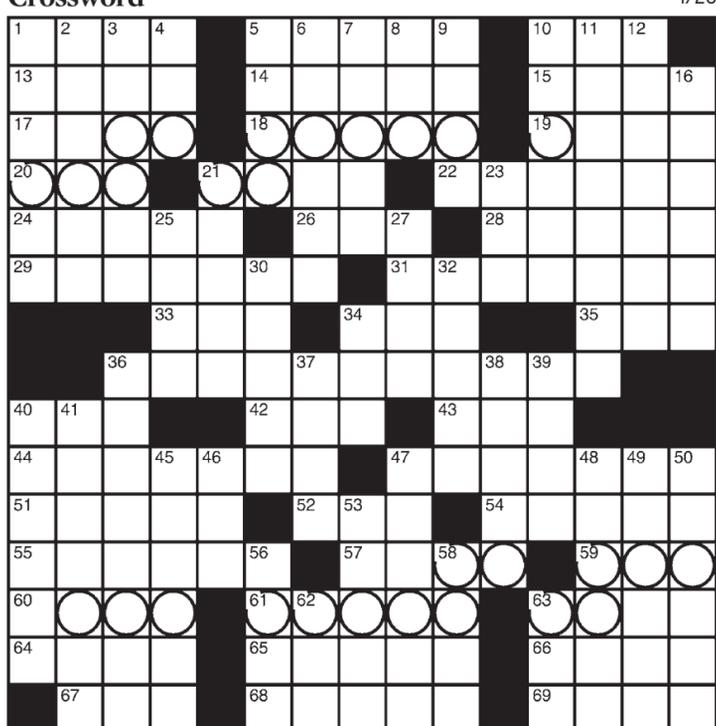
Answer here
 [Circles] OF "[Circles]"

Saturday's answers
 Jumbles: AROMA SCARF DECEIT HUMANE
 Answer: For Ringo, replacing Pete Best as the Beatles' drummer — MADE HIM A "STARR"

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Crossword

1/20



Across
 1 Drains of strength
 5 Hoops player
 10 Immortal Middle-earth dweller
 13 Suffix with switch
 14 Gladiator's realm
 15 Henry __, who had six marriages
 17 Gets an A on, as a test
 18 Bench __: exercise
 19 Red sky at morning, to a sailor
 20 Long, crosser
 21 Darjeeling and oolong
 22 Fire stirrers
 24 Writer Wharton
 26 "Indubitably!"
 28 Hawk's nest
 29 Shrinks back
 31 Like a student arriving ten minutes after the bell, as opposed to five
 33 "Golly!"
 34 Greek cross
 35 Old PC component

Down
 36 Midmorning work time-out, and a hint to this puzzle's circles
 40 Santa __ winds
 42 Convert (hide) into leather
 43 Dada pioneer Jean
 44 Roasted holiday birds
 47 Clickbait links, e.g.
 51 Movie critic, when giving stars
 52 As well
 54 Religious belief
 55 Hider's location-revealing words
 57 Japanese wrestling
 59 Half a Latin dance
 60 Put __ on: limit
 61 Fashion designer Emilio
 63 Christmas carol
 64 Toy building block
 65 Sir __ Newton
 66 Word-of-mouth
 67 Bear's shelter
 68 Chili con __
 69 Moistens

Saturday's solution



Down
 1 Putty, for example
 2 Video game area
 3 Written in verse
 4 Sailor's "Help!"
 5 Flowing garb for Batman
 6 Orderly arrangements
 7 Sextet after the golden rings
 8 USN rank
 9 Abrasive tool
 10 Brought to mind

Want more puzzles?
 Go to chicagotribune.com/games

