

Michael Glasder, a 2008 Cary-Grove graduate who trains at the Norge Ski Club in Fox River Grove, qualified for the first round of the large hill competition at the 2018 Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea, Friday.
KIRSTY WIGGLESWORTH/AP



Olympic script ripped

As Chen and Shiffrin struggle, NBC scrambles. **Coverage in Sports**



Chicago Tribune



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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2018

BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM

13 Russians, 3 companies indicted

Charges include defeating lawful functions of the government through deceit

BY DAVID S. CLOUD
AND JOSEPH TANFANI
Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Special counsel Robert Mueller indicted 13 Russians and three Russian companies Friday, accusing them of using stolen identities, fake campaign events and hundreds of social media accounts while

spending millions of rubles to interfere in the 2016 presidential election in a secret effort to aid the Trump campaign.

The 37-page indictment, the first charges by Mueller's office accusing Moscow of illegal meddling in the election, says that the Internet Research Agency, a Russian firm known for using troll accounts to post on news sites,

orchestrated the interference campaign and that its operatives tried to communicate with at least three unnamed Trump campaign officials using fake identities.

"By early to mid-2016, Defendants' operation included supporting the presidential campaign of then-candidate Donald J. Trump ... and disparaging Hillary Clinton," says the indictment.

Although the indictment alleges that the Russians contacted unnamed people in the Trump campaign, it does not allege that any Trump campaign officials knowingly cooperated with the effort.

"There is no allegation that any American was a willing participa-

Turn to **Indicted, Page 2**



WIN MCNAMEE/GETTY

Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein announces charges.



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Superintendent Eddie Johnson salutes as Cmdr. Paul Bauer's casket arrives Friday at Nativity of Our Lord Catholic Church in Bridgeport.

Top cop: 'Healing process starts today for CPD and the family'

Hundreds gather in Bridgeport for slain commander's wake

BY ESE OLUMHENSE
AND GREGORY PRATT
Chicago Tribune

Hundreds of people formed a line three blocks long outside a Bridgeport church Friday for the wake of police Cmdr. Paul Bauer, who was shot and killed earlier in the week while confronting a suspect in the Loop.

The mourners came from all parts of Chicago and the state, driving from as far as Bloomington and Wisconsin to pay their respects. Federal agents, including U.S. marshals and customs officials, stood in the cold outside Nativity of Our Lord Catholic Church. Groups of officers from suburbs including Cicero, Waukegan, Park Ridge, Des

■ Saturday's funeral route and information. **Page 4**

Plaines and Oak Brook mingled with Chicago cops of all ranks.

Mayor Rahm Emanuel came early, as did former Mayor Richard M. Daley. Also arriving as the wake got underway were two other Daley brothers, Cook County Commissioner John Daley and former White House chief of staff William Daley. Former police Superintendent Garry McCarthy petted a police horse on the backside while greeting an officer outside the church.

Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White said he knew Bauer and considered him a friend. The fact that Bauer took it upon himself to join in pursuit of a suspect shows how deeply Bauer took his responsibility to keep the

Turn to **Wake, Page 4**



JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Chicago police at Bauer's wake wore buttons honoring the slain commander.

Dart sues to identify sender of accusations

Emails to pols, media alleged he attacked wife

BY STEVE SCHMADEKE
AND JEREMY GORNER
Chicago Tribune

Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart is going to court to unmask the person who alleged in emails to politicians, Chicago police investigators and journalists that Dart attacked his wife at their South Side home.

Dart filed the legal papers Wednesday in his personal capacity, not as sheriff, and hired lawyer John F. Winters Jr., who specializes in defamation cases. Such court filings are often a prelude to a defamation lawsuit filed against the person behind anonymous emails or web postings.

Rumors have swirled for months about the alleged domestic incidents in October, but Chicago police and sheriff's officials have said there was never a police response to the Mount Greenwood neighborhood home on the alleged dates. Chicago police have gone so far as to check GPS data to confirm officers did not go to Dart's home, a spokesman previously told the Tribune.

Turn to **Dart, Page 2**



ANDREW HARNIK/AP

President Donald Trump visits doctors who treated the victims.

FBI ignored tip on Fla. shooting suspect

Attorney General Jeff Sessions ordered a review of the Justice Department's processes after it was revealed the FBI was warned about Nikolas Cruz's "desire to kill." **Nation & World, Page 5**



Tom Skilling's forecast High 40 Low 26

Chicago Weather Center: Complete forecast on **Page 16**

\$2.50 city and suburbs, \$3.00 elsewhere
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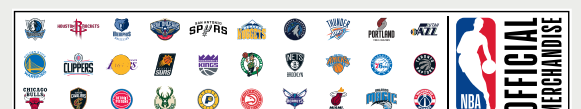


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Charges issued in Russians actions

Indicted, from Page 1

nt” in the Russian plan, and there is no allegation that it altered the outcome of the election, Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein said in a brief news conference discussing the indictment.

But the indictment undermines President Donald Trump’s repeated contention that the Russia investigation is a “hoax” or “witch hunt.” It details activities the Russians took, initially focused on creating general discord in the U.S., but eventually focused specifically on boosting Trump’s campaign.

At least some of the indicted people have previously been identified as having close ties to Russian President Vladimir Putin.

White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said Trump had been briefed on the indictment.

Trump later responded with a tweet, suggesting that the indictment resolved questions about whether his campaign collaborated with Moscow.

“Russia started their anti-US campaign in 2014, long before I announced that I would run for President. The results of the election were not impacted. The Trump campaign did nothing wrong — no collusion!” he said.

The indictment, apparently quoting internal Russian documents, says the operation began with a “strategic goal to sow discord in the U.S. political system” in general before focusing on backing Trump.

The Russians also undertook activities disparaging Trump’s GOP rivals, includ-



ALEXEI DRUZHININ/SPUTNIK

One of those charged was Yevgeniy Prigozhin, a wealthy Russian businessman and caterer who has been publicly identified as a close associate of President Vladimir Putin’s.

ing Sens. Ted Cruz of Texas and Marco Rubio of Florida.

The Russians also worked to help Sen. Bernie Sanders, the independent from Vermont, in his effort to defeat Clinton in the Democratic primaries, and Jill Stein, whose Green Party campaign reduced Clinton’s votes in the general election in some states.

Though the indictment does not allege that the Russian activities altered the outcome of the election, it doesn’t foreclose that possibility. Given how close the election was in several key states, proving whether any particular activity might have changed the outcome is all but impossible.

“There’s no way to know what the impact was. We really don’t know the scale, we really don’t know whose minds were changed,” said Clint Watts, a former FBI analyst and researcher on cyberinfluence campaigns.

But one key element of the campaign clearly might have worsened a Clinton vulnerability. The Russians aimed a significant part of their effort toward alienating minority voters, with an eye toward getting them to stay home rather than vote.

Low minority turnout

was one element of Clinton’s loss in some major states, such as Michigan.

The details in the indictment shows that the Russian campaign was far more sophisticated and serious than previously known, Watts said.

The ways in which the Russians made their operation look “authentically American” in order to trick Americans into helping them provided evidence of a sophisticated operation with ties to Russian intelligence, he said.

“This is not what just any goofball could do,” he said. “They got real Americans to do influence for them, unwittingly. That’s next-level.”

The indictment accuses the 13 Russians and three businesses of “impairing, obstructing and defeating the lawful functions of the government through fraud and deceit for the purpose of interfering with the U.S. political and electoral processes, including the presidential election of 2016.”

One of those charged was Yevgeniy Prigozhin, a wealthy Russian businessman and caterer who has been publicly identified as a close associate of Putin’s.

A company controlled by

Prigozhin, Concord Management and Consulting, funded and directed the interference campaign in the U.S. and other countries, employing the Internet Research Agency, an internet troll factory from St. Petersburg in Russia, according to the indictment, which refers to the agency as “the organization.”

“Concord was the organization’s primary source of funding for its interference operations,” the indictment says. “Concord controlled funding, recommended personnel and oversaw organization activities.”

In 2014, the organization created a special department focused on using YouTube, Facebook and other social media platforms to influence the U.S. presidential election.

More than 80 employees were assigned to the project and by 2016, its monthly budget exceeded \$1.2 million a month, the charging documents say.

The Russians created fake social media accounts, posing as Americans, using stolen identities of real Americans, to post messages about issues such as guns and immigration.

The attempts to sow divi-

sion continued after the election, Rosenstein said.

Democrats said the indictment vindicated Mueller’s investigation.

“For all of those who have been asking ‘where is the evidence of a crime?’ — this is it. This is the criminal conspiracy,” said Rep. Elijah Cummings, D-Md., the senior Democrat on the House Oversight Committee.

“This is what President Trump and his allies have repeatedly called a ‘hoax’ and ‘fake news.’ This is what they tried to cover up,” Cummings said.

The indictment suggests that Mueller’s investigators have obtained internal documents from the Internet Research Agency which shed light on its internal operations. The charging documents also quote from personal emails of Russians involved in the interference, indicating that Mueller has gotten access to sensitive U.S. intelligence communications intercepts.

“We had a slight crisis at work, the FBI busted our activity (not a joke),” one of the Russians, who was working in the U.S., wrote in September to family members back home.

The apparent FBI raid came after Facebook and other social media platforms began cooperating with Mueller’s investigation, supplying information about Russian-controlled accounts.

According to the indictment, the Russian operatives bought credit card and bank account numbers online to evade the security checks at PayPal.

On Friday, Mueller’s office revealed that one of those who sold account numbers, Richard Pinedo, 28, of Santa Paula, Calif., had pleaded guilty to one count of identity fraud.

The criminal charge against Pinedo says he knowingly dealt with people outside the U.S., both in buying and selling account numbers, but a law enforcement official said there is no evidence that he knew he was dealing with a Russian

intelligence operation.

The indictment describes how several defendants in 2014 “traveled to the United States under false pretenses for the purpose of collecting intelligence to inform the organization’s operations,” making stops in California, Nevada, New Mexico, Colorado, Illinois, Michigan, Louisiana, Texas, New York and Georgia.

The visit was conducted with many of the trappings of an intelligence operation, complete with drop phones, evacuation scenarios and a virtual private network to allow the Russians to conceal the origin of their social-media posts.

Concealment of their identities was key to the Russian effort, Rosenstein said. “The nature of the scheme was, the defendants took extraordinary steps to make it appear that that they were ordinary American political activists,” he said.

The indictment includes considerable detail of some of the Russian activities. In June 2016, for example, several of the Russians, posing as Americans, communicated with a “Texas-based grass-roots organization, who told them to focus on closely contested states,” the indictment says.

“Defendants and their co-conspirators learned from the real U.S. person that they should focus activities on ‘purple states like Colorado, Virginia & Florida,’” the indictment reads.

The indictment describes how Russian “specialists” were organized into day and night shifts, so they could post on social media sites around the clock.

The fake pages referred to immigration, the Black Lives Matter movement and Muslim rights, as well as right-wing causes and regional grievances, including one called “South United.” By 2016, many of the pages had “hundreds of thousands of followers,” the charging document says.

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Dart sues to unmask his accuser

Dart, from Page 1

The discovery petition filed in Cook County Circuit Court asks a judge to order Yahoo to turn over the IP addresses and other identi-

fying information from the email account used to send the messages. The author of the emails allegedly wrote them “knowing the statements were false or authored with a reckless disregard for their truth,” the petition asserts.

“Tom has been subjected to sustained attacks on his integrity and even threats to his life, during his tenure as sheriff,” said Dennis Culloton, who is acting as Dart’s

personal spokesman, in a statement. “Over the past several months, these attacks have escalated to include false and vicious rumors involving his wife and family, perpetuated by cowards who hide behind fake email addresses and anonymous blogs. Through this filing we hope to hold those people accountable.”

The first of two October emails cited in the filing allege Dart “committed a Domestic Battery” on his wife “causing visible injuries to her face” that were seen by responding Chicago and Cook County sheriff’s police on Oct. 11 or 12. They allege a police report was taken but that the attacker was listed as “unknown” and that a 911 call was placed to Dart’s home.

“This incident is being attempted to be swept under the rug,” the email’s author, who describes himself as a “Cook County taxpayer” named “Dan,” writes. “Tom Dart should not be able to get away with this!”



Dart

The email cited in the filing alleges a second incident occurred Oct. 17 and city and county police responded again, “but just like the first incident, no media attention and hush hush.” Another email identifies one domestic incident allegedly occurring on Oct. 10.

Among the recipients of the October emails were Cook County State’s Attor-

ney Kim Foxx, County Board President Toni Preckwinkle, Chicago police, Cook County commissioners, the county inspector general, and reporters at CBS, CNN and the Chicago Sun-Times.

Records show a complaint was also made to a Chicago police oversight agency in October alleging that police refused to act or take reports “in regards to an incident that occurred at Sheriff Tom Dart’s home that involved his wife and his girlfriend.”

The complaint to the Civilian Office of Police Accountability, which in-

vestigates police misconduct, was not cited in the lawsuit but obtained by the Tribune under an open records request.

A COPA spokeswoman did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

A 911 call said to be linked to the alleged incidents was obtained by the Tribune through an open records request. In the recording, a man says he’s an officer from the Morgan Park patrol district and asks the dispatcher for an “event number” for a police call to Dart’s home. The dispatcher sounds puzzled and says there’s no history of a call to that address.

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ACCURACY AND ETHICS

MARGARET HOLT, standards editor

The Tribune’s editorial code of principles governs professional behavior and journalism standards. Everyone in our newsroom must agree to live up to this code of conduct. Read it at chicagotribune.com/accuracy.

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

■ A Business story on Friday about how most Americans will see a bump in take-home pay as a result of the new tax law misstated the relationship between personal allowances and deductions. Generally, the higher number of personal allowances one claims, the less taken out of take-home pay, and the smaller the tax refund.

■ The name of Meera Lee Patel, author of “My Friend Fear,” was misspelled in a review in the Feb. 15 Chicago Tribune Arts & Entertainment section.

The Tribune regrets the errors.

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WINNING LOTTERY NUMBERS

ILLINOIS
Feb. 16
Mega Millions 218 / 7
Daily 3 midday 4448 / 7
Daily 4 midday 204 / 6
Daily 3 evening 0386 / 6
Daily 4 evening 03 05 23 28 34
Cash 5 03 05 23 28 34
Lucky Day Lotto midday 03 07 10 34 35

INDIANA
Feb. 16
Daily 3 midday 218 / 7
Daily 4 midday 4448 / 7
Daily 3 evening 204 / 6
Daily 4 evening 0386 / 6
Cash 5 03 05 23 28 34

MICHIGAN
Feb. 16
Daily 3 midday 293
Daily 4 midday 9738
Daily 3 evening 264
Daily 4 evening 7584
Fantasy 5 04 15 16 17 36
Keno 10 20 22 28 29 32
36 39 41 43 44 45 50 52
54 56 63 70 72 76 77 78

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CHEWING

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FACT #341

The folks who brought us Reddi-wip whipped cream had another brainstorm in the 1960s: Reddi-Bacon.



10 Things You Might Not Know About Nearly Everything contains a plethora of tidbits and trivia that will appeal to everyone, from history buffs to sports fans to foodies. From lighthearted topics such as misspellings and extreme eating, to serious subjects such as WWII and prison, this book leaves readers brighter and wittier than ever before.

FACT #84: A cardigan worn by a man is sometimes called a mandigan.

FACT #178 : Genuophobia is the fear of knees.

FACT #238: Actress Marilyn Monroe colored her hair using a shade of blond called dirty pillow slip.

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Chicago Tribune CHICAGOLAND

Judge irked in Burge-related case

Special prosecutor ripped for going easy on ex-cop

BY MEGAN CREPEAU
Chicago Tribune

A Cook County judge castigated a special prosecutor Friday for his handling of a case involving disgraced former Chicago police Cmdr. Jon Burge and appeared troubled upon learning that a lawyer for that team had left to represent Burge in a lawsuit.

Judge William Hooks ripped the special prosecutor, Michael O'Rourke, for going easy on Burge and a former detective and prosecutor by letting them repeatedly take the Fifth Amendment and refuse to answer questions.

Lawyers for Jackie Wilson, who is seeking a new trial on allegations that Burge and his crew tortured him into confessing to the

1982 fatal shooting of two Chicago police officers, revealed in court for the first time that Brian Stefanich, once part of O'Rourke's team, had begun representing Burge in recent months in a lawsuit brought by another alleged torture victim.

O'Rourke defended Stefanich's move, saying he believed that "the interests" of the special prosecutors and the defendants in the lawsuit "are aligned."

That drew a murmur from spectators in the courtroom, and Hooks raised his eyebrows and leaned back in his seat on the bench.

"After hundreds of thousands of dollars of taxpayers' (money has) been spent ... you're stating that convicted federal felon Jon Burge's interests are aligned with the special prosecutors' interest in this matter before this court?" Hooks asked.

O'Rourke, though, told the judge he was talking only about the lawsuit that Stefanich joined, not Wilson's case.

Hooks called Stefanich's representation of Burge in the lawsuit "a very big complication" that deserves further scrutiny.

The judge told O'Rourke to prepare a report detailing how much money Stefanich billed the county for work on Burge-related cases — and instructed him not to bill the county for the time spent preparing that review.

Stefanich could not be reached Friday for comment, but attorney G. Flint Taylor, who represents Wilson, later scoffed at O'Rourke's explanation.

"You can parse it in this case and that case and any case you want, but that is not the role of the special prosecutor," he told the Tribune. "It should be to do justice. ... They're supposed to bring an independent eye

to this."

Hooks also expressed frustration that O'Rourke never sought immunity from prosecution for Burge and the others in an effort to force their testimony on their interrogation of Wilson decades ago.

Last month, Wilson's lawyers played video showing Burge taking the Fifth Amendment during three depositions. Former police Detective Thomas McKenna and a former assistant state's attorney, Lawrence Hyman, also have invoked their right to remain silent in Wilson's case.

"What's special about the special state's attorneys?" Hooks said.

The judge questioned the wisdom of assigning special prosecutors to Burge-related cases years ago because of a court ruling that the Cook County state's attorney's office has an inherent conflict of interest going back to former Mayor

Richard M. Daley, the county's top prosecutor when allegations of the torture first came to light.

"What have you all brought to the table that all these so-called disqualified state's attorneys (couldn't)?" Hooks said. "We could resurrect (Daley) and appoint him to be the state's attorney, bring him back, he would have his assistants let the officers take the Fifth."

Wilson confessed in 1982 to being present when his now-deceased brother, Andrew, fatally shot officers Richard O'Brien and William Fahey.

The hearing before Hooks was ordered after the Illinois Torture Inquiry and Relief Commission found "credible evidence" that Wilson was tortured after his arrest.

Wilson's lawyers allege he was tortured and want his confession tossed — a development that would

likely make it difficult for prosecutors to retry him.

Scores of African-American men have accused Burge, who is white, and detectives working under him of torturing or abusing them during the 1970s and '80s on the South Side. The scandal has stained the city's reputation and so far cost taxpayers at least \$115 million in lawsuit settlements, judgments and other compensation to victims. Disciplinary authorities fired Burge in 1993 after determining he had tortured Andrew Wilson.

Burge was convicted in federal court of perjury and obstruction of justice in 2010 after jurors found he lied when he denied witnessing torture or abusing suspects in connection with a lawsuit. He was sentenced to 4 1/2 years in prison.

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ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

A woman is treated in an ambulance Friday after a gunshot sent tile fragments flying at the Hyatt Regency Chicago.

Man sought after 3 hurt by accidental gunshot at hotel

BY WILLIAM LEE AND DAVID HEINZMANN
Chicago Tribune

Theresa Nicholls was eager to get back home as she packed her bags at the Hyatt Regency Chicago on Friday.

Her weeklong conference of school psychologists had been rocked by the mass shooting at a Florida high school. A day earlier, a Chicago police officer had been shot and killed in the Loop, just blocks from where she and her colleagues were staying.

As she was getting ready to check out, a friend texted her: There had just been a shooting in the lobby of her hotel.

"What the hell is going on?" she thought. "What is happening? It's like the world is falling apart

around us."

Police say a guest was at the service desk in the lobby of the hotel at 150 E. Wacker Drive when a gun fell out of his pocket and went off around 10 a.m. The bullet struck the floor tile, sending fragments flying toward three women, hitting them in the legs, according to Central District police Cmdr. Michael Pigott.

Police sources said the man picked up the gun and pointed it at security guards before running away. The women suffered minor injuries. Two of them were taken to Northwestern Memorial Hospital, and the other was treated at the scene, officials said.

The guest, described only as a 24-year-old man, remained at large Friday evening. Sources said a

gun was later found on Lower Wacker that apparently belonged to him.

The sources said the guest had been smoking marijuana in a hotel room and had been escorted to the service desk when the gun dropped to the floor. The suspect has a criminal record that includes convictions for theft and burglary. He lives in the south suburbs.

"We are actively looking for him at this time," Pigott said. "We have his identification."

Nicholls said the conference drew school psychologists from across the country. Usually these meetings are good places to compare notes, share techniques or just let off steam from their demanding careers, she said. But this week was different.

"It's always very val-

idating to get together at these national conferences and kind of have that opportunity to network and counsel each other and sort of commiserate a little bit," she said while waiting for a flight back to Tennessee at Midway Airport. "And to have all of this going on, in the world and in Chicago, while we're here feels very surreal. It's just almost like you're in a different world."

Nicholls said the week made her excited to see her high school-age children. "I'm definitely ready to be home, more so just because I want to go home and hug my family," she said. "Tell them that I love them, just be where I feel at home (and) safe."

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Charter backs out of Hirsch High move

BY JUAN PEREZ JR.
Chicago Tribune

Supporters of a South Side charter school have abandoned plans to move into Hirsch High School, one of Chicago's most underenrolled neighborhood high schools, citing financial issues.

Chicago Public Schools had been moving ahead with plans to locate the Art In Motion Charter School inside Hirsch in the Grand Crossing neighborhood. The charter — a joint project of the New Life Covenant Church, the Distinctive Schools organization and hip-hop artist Common, had obtained a five-year deal from the Chicago Board of Education to start opera-

tions.

But the co-location plan has met strong resistance from the Chicago Teachers Union as well as opposition from students and parents who feared the effort was the first step in a plan to close the emptying neighborhood school and hand the building over to a privately run operation.

Now the charter's board says it has decided to open a school somewhere else.

"Through the Illinois state code's required action process for AIM's co-location with Emil G. Hirsch Metropolitan High School, we determined that the financial investment required of AIM is not feasible," backers of the charter said in a state-

ment Friday. "Therefore, we have made the decision to pursue another facility in the community to serve as the home to AIM starting this fall."

The organization's application to CPS said the school could also be located on the site of New Life's planned \$26 million, 100,000-square foot church and performing arts facility.

An AIM spokeswoman, meanwhile, said the school had other "Plan A" options that it was assessing. "We also plan to support Hirsch High School in any way we can and want nothing but the best for Hirsch students," Art In Motion said.

Charter officials said it was up to CPS to specify

the unexpected costs that prompted the organization to abruptly back off the Hirsch site.

In a statement, CPS spokesman Michael Passman said the district "is not in a position to confirm potential programmatic investments that would have been made at Hirsch," saying charter operators are responsible for determining those costs. But Passman also said Art In Motion would have been responsible for about \$5 million in accessibility upgrades for disabled students.

Art In Motion has submitted hundreds of pages of detailed policy information to CPS.

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Rauner's guest at speech struck by Legionnaires'

Troubled veterans home has 3 new cases of disease

BY MONIQUE GARCIA AND BILL LUKITSCH
Chicago Tribune

SPRINGFIELD — An Air Force veteran who was a guest of Gov. Bruce Rauner at his recent State of the State speech is among the three new cases of Legionnaires' disease at the Quincy Veterans' Home.

Ivan Jackson, 79, was first hospitalized Saturday, according to daughter Marianne Jackson. She said he initially was admitted for pneumonia, but tests confirmed days later that he has Legionnaires'.

Ivan Jackson was one of two residents Rauner invited to his Jan. 31 speech at the Capitol. Jackson and the governor met when Rauner spent a week at the state-run veterans home to meet with staff, learn about operations and spend time with residents.

"I love it. I live in independent living quarters, and there's me and five other guys and 30 women," Ivan Jackson told WGN-TV in January with a laugh.

Jackson said Rauner "came and introduced himself and, well, I got up. He says, 'Don't get up! My parents always taught me to respect my elders.'"

The veteran also had praise for his accommodations. "Oh, I got TV in my room, I got a recliner, I got a refrigerator, I'm good to go," he added.

The Republican governor has come under intense criticism from lawmakers and re-election challengers about his administration's response to Legionella bacteria outbreaks at the home that first started in 2015. Since then, 13 residents have died and dozens have been sickened.

Rauner repeatedly has defended his handling of the situation, saying the state called in outside experts, including the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The CDC has said bacteria causing the disease may be present in water pipes and might never be eradicated. The governor has called for spending \$50 million to replace pipes and conduct other upgrades at the home, which was founded in 1886 and is the state's largest and oldest veterans home.

"The men and women who reside there put it all on the line for us," Rauner said during his State of the State speech. "We must now do the same for them."

Marianne Jackson said her father moved to the Quincy home from California in 2016. Originally from Springfield, he wanted to be closer to home. Jackson was inducted into the Springfield Sports Hall of Fame in 2014 and was the all-time top scorer for Laphier High School's basketball team when he graduated in 1957.

He continued to play ball in the Air Force and helped coach youth programs for many years, said Marianne Jackson, who lives in New Mexico. He served in the Vietnam War and worked in aircraft scheduling, according to his daughter.

She said she read up on the Legionnaires' outbreak after her father called to let her know about Rauner's visit. She said most of the information about her father's health was coming from staff at Blessing Hospital in Quincy.

Marianne Jackson said the family was optimistic about her father's prognosis, saying his condition has improved each day. But she said she was worried about him returning to the home.

"After all of this, provided he is physically able to and amenable, if something is not done, I feel that I need to move him," Marianne Jackson said. "That is my personal preference. His health has been poor for years, and that would make him susceptible."

Rauner spokeswoman Rachel Bold said Friday that she "couldn't comment on personal details of any resident."

The Illinois Department of Public Health announced Thursday that three people were diagnosed with the disease at the home this week. The agency said in response it is "boosting disinfection levels in its water to further reduce any potential exposure to residents and staff" and will put in place "modified water restrictions" across the campus.

Rauner was asked about the new cases at a stop Thursday in Peoria.

"Oh, so frustrating. So we have done everything that the national experts have said we should do. We have, it's extraordinary what the team has done. We've acted quickly and decisively ... and still we got a couple cases," he said. "We may look at completely ripping out every type of plumbing, we may look at building a completely new building and looking at a completely different water source."

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REMEMBERING CMDR. PAUL BAUER

Police funeral to follow somber traditions

Memorial rituals include bagpipe music, rifle salute

BY DAWN RHODES
Chicago Tribune

It is an image that has not been seen for years in Chicago: a cortege ushering the body of a fallen police officer through the city's streets, as thousands of fellow officers and mourners look on.

There is a ritual to it, much of it with roots in military tradition dating back centuries. Just about every aspect of the memorial process — from the officer's body leaving the hospital to the funeral and the burial — is meticulously prepared.

On Saturday, Chicago will renew that somber tradition in honor of Cmdr. Paul Bauer, killed Tuesday while pursuing a suspect at the Thompson Center downtown. Not since 2011 has the Chicago Police Department had to bury one of its own.

When a Chicago police officer dies in the line of duty, arrangements start almost immediately, according to department protocol and current and former

officers.

It's all to prepare for a turnout that can be overwhelming. At the funeral for Michael Ceriale, a young Chicago police officer killed in the line of duty in 1998, more than 500 vehicles joined the procession from the church to the cemetery. It took two hours.

Police officers begin by clearing a route from the hospital to the Cook County medical examiner's office, so fellow officers can escort their fallen colleague in a procession.

For Bauer, the highest-ranking officer killed in decades, officers lined West Harrison and South Leavitt streets near the coroner's office and saluted him in unison as the ambulance passed under the raised ladders of two fire engines adorned with American flags.

Once they are notified of an on-duty death, commanding officers collect the officer's star, shield and ID card for safekeeping. When the police superintendent confirms the officer indeed died on duty — as Bauer did — department leaders meet to begin coordinating what is called an honors funeral, according to Chicago police regulations.

Police funerals routinely draw massive contingents of officers, many from around the country, and the traditions that are observed can be a way for fellow law enforcement members to grieve as a unit.

But the officer's relatives have the final say on any arrangements, according to current and former police officials, and the ultimate role of the Police Department is to facilitate a service that best matches the family's own wishes and traditions.

"It's not about the Police Department; it's about the family," said Howard Lodding, a retired deputy chief who formerly led the police academy. "Whatever the family wants, the Police Department will accommodate."

As that planning begins, other police officials are charged with requesting that the governor order the American flag be flown at half-staff; in the case of Bauer, Gov. Bruce Rauner ordered that government buildings covered by the Flag Display Act lower their flags from sunrise Thursday until sunset Saturday.

Funerals are held at the church a family requests, officials said, and the most

recent ceremonies for fallen officers took place at churches of varying denominations throughout the city.

The wake and funeral for Bauer — a religious man, said former police Superintendent Phil Cline — are to be at Nativity of Our Lord Catholic Church in his Bridgeport neighborhood.

Once a location is selected, department leaders arrange down to the most precise detail — which streets need to be closed off when, who will sit where during the funeral itself, where everyone parks their vehicles, Lodding said. In one funeral, Lodding said, a police official visited the church for a planned funeral to measure the entryway and ensure that the pallbearers could safely fit through as they carried in the coffin.

Since the memorial will be in Bridgeport, a tight-knit community, most of the neighborhood will be involved in commemorating Bauer, said Sgt. James Walsh.

"Bridgeport probably will be locked down for it," said Walsh, who also is part of the Chicago not-for-profit Brotherhood for the Fall-

en. "It'll be a big event. They'll paint light poles in the neighborhood and clean up the whole area."

Cline said that since there are usually too many mourners to fit into a sanctuary, the department usually provides an overflow area and external speakers so that all who attend can hear the proceedings.

"There will be officers from all over the country," Cline said.

The police honor guard usually meets the hearse at the funeral site and carries the casket into the funeral while a superior officer calls out commands for officers to salute.

A frequent feature is the Bagpipes & Drums of the Emerald Society, a band of officers that has regularly played at police funerals since its formation in 1982.

Wearing the blue, green and white kilt in the Modern Douglas design, the band has about 10 to 15 songs it will play at the family's request usually as they escort the hearse to the church, while the officer's coffin is being carried into and out of the funeral, and at the burial site, said band manager Thomas Cody.

"We're requested by the family, and as soon as that

comes through the chain command, we're all volunteers, we drop whatever we're doing to play," Cody said.

Who speaks at the funeral is mostly at the discretion of the family, police officials said, but it often includes the superintendent and the mayor. After the funeral, the honor guard again will carry the coffin back to the hearse.

At the cemetery, officers perform a rifle salute. The police superintendent will present an American flag folded in the military tradition to the officer's spouse.

Later, the officer's star and shield are enshrined at police headquarters at a special ceremony, according to department rules.

"Being a soldier and dying for your country or being a police officer and dying in the line of duty is not the worst thing that can happen to you," said Cody, of the Emerald Society. "The worst thing that can happen to is to be forgotten. And we don't do that. We don't forget."

Chicago Tribune's Todd Lighty contributed.

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JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Mourners line South Lowe Avenue and West 38th Street in the Bridgeport neighborhood Friday. A woman arriving home told officers at her steps, "I'm sorry for your loss."

Hundreds pay respects at commander's wake

Wake, from Page 1

public safe, he said.

"We lost a hero," White said.

Inside the church, Bauer's wife, Erin, his 13-year-old daughter, Grace, and his father and sisters greeted the stream of well-wishers who filed by the coffin. Flowers lined the church, and family photos were on display.

Bauer, 53, was shot six times Tuesday near the Thompson Center downtown. The shooting suspect, Shomari Legghette, is being held without bond.

A 31-year veteran of the department, Bauer had worked all over the city, including a stint with the department's elite mounted patrol unit. He was most recently commander of the Near North District and was the highest-ranking officer killed on the job in decades.

He was downtown when he heard over his radio that officers working a drug detail on Lower Wacker Drive had confronted a suspect who took off running. Bauer apparently confronted a man who matched the suspect's description, leading to a tussle and the fatal shooting.

Chicago police Deputy Chief Kevin Ryan, who was Bauer's boss, said he could always count on him "to do the right thing for the right reasons."

"He never broke the public trust," Ryan said.

Ryan said "guys like Paul" represent "the real police."

"It's not always glamorous, but every day he made a difference for somebody," Ryan said.

Earlier Friday, dozens of police officers stood outside the doors of the church. The officers, along with members of the Chicago Fire Department, lined up in carefully ordered rows flanking the entrance of the building. Fifteen mounted officers



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Cmdr. Paul Bauer had worked a stint with the Police Department's mounted patrol unit. Horsemen in formation arrive to greet the hearse carrying the commander's casket.



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

A flag in the 3600 block of South Lowe Avenue conveys the sentiment in Bridgeport, where Bauer lived.

lined up across the street. All wore buttons on their coats bearing a photograph of Bauer.

The silver hearse containing Bauer's casket arrived at the church just before 12:30 p.m., led by four officers on foot. Swathed in a Chicago flag, the copper-colored casket was carried into the church by eight pallbearers, all from the Police Department, as those assembled outside saluted.

Almost every home on the block displayed a blue ribbon in solidarity. A

woman walking home told every officer she came across, "I'm sorry for your loss," including the officers in line outside her steps.

Police Superintendent Eddie Johnson came out afterward to talk to reporters. He thanked the public for its support during what he said was a "very difficult" time.

"The healing process starts today for CPD and the family," he said.

Johnson encouraged those along the route of Saturday's funeral procession to wear blue in sup-

port of the late officer's family.

As the sky darkened late Friday afternoon, the line inching into the church numbered about 1,000 people at any given time. Those who braved the cold repeatedly expressed their respect for the police and Bauer.

One officer from Palatine said Bauer's death reverberated beyond Chicago and called it a "national tragedy."

Four members of the Milwaukee Police Department's honor guard drove south to pay their respects. "It's a brotherhood," said Elvis Lock, one of the Wisconsin officers. "We consider this our family."

Retired Chicago police Officer Anthony Ortiz said he didn't know Bauer particularly well except by reputation. But he felt he needed to come out and show respect for his fellow officer, and the job.

"Always a good man. Always a good policeman," Ortiz said. "Can't ask for more than that."

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Saturday's funeral procession route

1 Funeral: Begins at 10 a.m. at Nativity of Our Lord Church, 653 W. 37th St.
Procession: Starts afterward.

2 Proceeds:
• East on Pershing Road
• East on Interstate 90/94
• South on Interstate 57
• West on 111th Street

3 Ends: Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, 6001 W. 111th St. in Alsip.



SOURCES: Chicago Police Department, Esri

CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Officials ask public to 'turn the route blue' to honor slain officer

Chicago Tribune

With large crowds expected to attend the funeral of slain Chicago police Cmdr. Paul Bauer on Saturday, members of the public who want to show support are being asked to wear blue and gather along the route of a procession from the Bridgeport neighborhood to Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in south suburban Alsip.

The procession route runs east on Pershing Road to the Dan Ryan Expressway, then to Interstate 57 south before exiting at 111th Street. It will continue south on Vincennes Avenue to Monterrey Avenue, then west on Monterrey to the cemetery.

City officials are encouraging the public to "turn the route blue" in a show of support to Bauer's family and colleagues by wearing blue and displaying blue ribbons, Chicago flags, American flags and Chicago Police Department flags.

Bauer's wake Friday was open to the public, but the funeral Mass will be limited to law enforcement officers, family, friends and dignitaries, a police spokeswoman said. An overflow area will be available for others.

Bauer was fatally shot Tuesday afternoon while pursuing a suspect near the Thompson Center in the Loop. The 31-year police veteran is survived by his wife, Erin, and daughter, Grace, 13.

Chicago Tribune

NATION & WORLD

FBI fumbled warning about shooting suspect

Agency says January tip that gave info about weapons, Cruz's 'desire to kill' was ignored

BY KELLI KENNEDY,
CURT ANDERSON
AND TAMARA LUSH
Associated Press

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — The FBI received a tip last month that the suspect in the Florida school shooting had a “desire to kill” and access to guns and could be plotting an attack, but agents failed to investigate, the agency said Friday.

Florida Gov. Rick Scott called for the FBI's director to resign because of the missteps.

Attorney General Jeff Sessions said the shooting that killed 17 people Wednesday was a “tragic consequence” of the FBI's failure and ordered a review of the Justice Department's processes. He said it's now clear that the nation's premier law enforcement agency missed warning signs.

In more evidence that there had been signs of trouble with the suspect, Broward County Sheriff Scott Israel said at a Friday news conference that his office had received more than 20 calls about Nikolas Cruz in the past few years.

A person close to Cruz called the FBI's tip line on Jan. 5 and provided information about Cruz's weapons and his erratic behavior, including his disturbing social media posts. The caller was concerned that Cruz could attack a school.

In a statement, the agency acknowledged that the tip should have been shared with the FBI's Miami office and investigated, but it was not. The startling

admission came as the agency was already facing criticism for its treatment of a tip about a YouTube comment posted last year. The comment posted by a “Nikolas Cruz” said, “I'm going to be a professional school shooter.”

The FBI investigated the remark but did not determine who made it.

Cruz also cut his arms on Snapchat and said he wanted to buy a gun in September 2016, records obtained by the South Florida Sun Sentinel show.

The incident on the digital social network prompted an investigation by sheriff's deputies and adult welfare investigators from the Department of Children & Family Services.

“Mr. Cruz has fresh cuts on both his arms. Mr. Cruz stated he plans to go out and buy a gun. It is unknown what he is buying the gun for,” the DCF report reads.

Investigators concluded there were “some implications” for Cruz's safety but determined he was receiving adequate support from his school and outpatient care from Henderson Mental Health in Broward County.

The documents provide further evidence that Cruz was a troubled teen who repeatedly went without help before he stalked the halls of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School with an AR-15 rifle Wednesday.

The DCF investigation came four days after Cruz's 18th birthday, meaning he could legally purchase a rifle. About five months later, he bought the AR-15.



People hug as they pay their respects Friday to the 17 victims of Wednesday's shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla.



President Donald Trump shakes hands with Dr. Igor Nychiporenko while visiting Broward Health hospital.

“(Cruz's) final level of risk is low as (he) resides with his mother, attends school and receives counseling through Henderson,” the investigator wrote.

Cruz, 19, has been

charged with killing 17 people at the school in Parkland, north of Miami.

FBI Director Christopher Wray said the agency, which received an average of 2,101 calls to the tip line

each day in 2017, was still reviewing its missteps on the January tip. He said he was “committed to getting to the bottom of what happened,” as well as assessing the way the FBI responds to information from the public.

“We have spoken with victims and families and deeply regret the additional pain this causes all those affected by this horrific tragedy,” Wray said in the statement.

Florida's governor criticized the federal law enforcement agency Friday, calling the FBI's failure to take action “unacceptable.”

On Friday night, Trump visited doctors and nurses who treated victims of the shooting.

Trump traveled directly to North Broward Hospital

from the Palm Beach International Airport, where he landed aboard Air Force One, along with U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio, White House chief of staff John Kelly and first lady Melania Trump.

“The job they've done is incredible and I want to congratulate you,” Trump said as he shook a doctor's hand. The doctor was identified as Dr. Igor Nychiporenko.

When asked, the president said he met with victims: “Yes I did. I did indeed.”

The Trumps paid their respects to medical personnel who treated some of the injured. The hallway, a long corridor with white floor tiles and off-white walls, was empty aside from a doctor and security officers. “It's sad something like that could happen,” Trump said.

Also Friday, mourners gathered for the first funeral for a shooting victim, packing the Star of David chapel to honor Alyssa Alhadeff, 14.

From outside the chapel, other mourners strained to hear the voices chanting Jewish prayers and remembering the star soccer player as having “the strongest personality.” She was also remembered as a creative writer with a memorable smile.

At a later funeral for Meadow Pollack, 18, her father's anger boiled over. With more than 1,000 mourners packed into Temple K'ol Tikvah, Andrew Pollack looked down at the plain pine coffin of his daughter and yelled, in reference to the gunman, “You killed my kid!”

South Florida Sun-Sentinel contributed.

Brazil puts military in charge of Rio security

Intervention comes after violence during Carnival celebration

BY MARINA LOPES
The Washington Post

SAO PAULO, Brazil — Brazil's military will take over security in Rio de Janeiro after a spike in violence tainted the city's Carnival celebration, President Michel Temer announced Friday.

The military intervention, the first of its kind since the end of Brazil's military dictatorship in 1988, will be in effect until December. Brazil's Congress is expected to ratify the measure next week.

In a televised speech, Temer labeled the intervention an “extreme measure” necessary to crack down on organized crime and drug trafficking that have overtaken the city of 6.5 million people, the country's second most populous.

“Enough,” he declared. “We won't allow them to kill our present and assassinate our future.”

Rio's secretary of security resigned following the announcement. Gen. Walter Souza Braga Netto, who coordinated security in Rio during the 2016 Summer Olympics, will be at the helm of the intervention.

Infamous for its spells of violence, Rio enjoyed a four-year respite in homicides at the start of the decade. But as Brazil sank into its worst recession on record, the city's police budget dried up, leaving areas that were once heavily policed at the mercy of warring gangs.

The surge in crime has had serious repercussions for residents. In the past year, homicides, assaults and thefts in the city spiked to levels not seen in 15 years. Nearly 400 schools canceled classes because of



Brazil's government is putting Rio de Janeiro's police force under military control after a spike in violence.

violence last year, and 70 percent of the city's residents have contemplated moving.

The chaos came to a head this week when gunfire, assaults on tourists and mass muggings marred the city's largest event, Carnival. Both Rio's mayor and the state governor were widely criticized for skipping town, as 6 million people gathered for the weeklong party that has become synonymous with the city.

“The failure to restore public security is due in part to a fundamental lack of leadership from the state governor and the mayor. They have shown no interest or appetite to mount a serious response,” Robert Muggah, director of the Igarape Institute, a Rio-based think tank that specializes in security issues, told The Washington Post. “The (state's) disastrous handling of public security

during this year's Carnival is symptomatic of deep, systematic neglect.”

Luiz Fernando Pezao, governor of the state of Rio de Janeiro, told local media that the state miscalculated the amount of policing the city would require during the holiday. “We were not prepared,” he said.

Violence is on the rise in Brazil as a whole. Security woes have propelled tough-on-crime candidates, such as former military officer Jair Bolsonaro, to the fore in this year's presidential race. Temer's deeply unpopular government hopes the military intervention in Rio will address voter concerns about violence ahead of the October elections.

Residents of Rio are used to soldiers patrolling their streets. The measure would mark the 13th time that the city has called for the military to help with chronic security issues.

Pentagon watchdog raises doubts on Afghan progress

BY ROBERT BURNS
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A Pentagon watchdog agency raised fresh doubts Friday about progress in the 16-year U.S. war in Afghanistan and suggested that restrictions on the public release of information make it difficult to gauge the effectiveness of U.S. strategy.

The Pentagon's office of the inspector general, in a report done jointly with the State Department and the U.S. Agency for International Development, said the Afghan government by the end of 2017 had not expanded its areas of control, even as the U.S. added 3,500 troops and intensified airstrikes against the Taliban.

“On the sole quantifiable metric discussed publicly to date — expanding security to 80 percent of the Afghan population by the end of 2019 — Afghanistan made no significant progress in 2017,” the report said.

That assessment underpins doubts expressed by others, including members of Congress impatient for progress.

Sen. Richard Burr, chairman of the Senate intelligence committee, said this week that recent Taliban attacks killing scores of people in Kabul make it appear the Taliban insurgency is “nowhere near folding,” and that the government is incapable of protecting its own citizens.

Deputy Secretary of State John Sullivan this month said after visiting Kabul and meeting with President Ashraf Ghani and other Afghan government officials that he realized it wasn't a “rosy situation.” He told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that the Taliban attacks in January were “a real shock to many people in the government.”

Dan Coats, the director



A Pentagon watchdog agency says 3,500 more U.S. troops didn't help Afghans expand areas of control in 2017.

national intelligence, told Congress this week that militant groups based in Pakistan are using that country as a haven to conduct attacks in India and Afghanistan. He said the Pakistani government is likely to maintain ties to those groups while restricting its counterterrorism cooperation with the United States.

More than 2,400 Americans have died in Afghanistan since the U.S. launched its war in October 2001 in response to the al-Qaida 9/11 attacks.

The administration touts its Afghan strategy, announced by President Donald Trump in August, as a realistic and more aggressive approach to achieving the goal prior administrations have pursued — to bring the Taliban to an Afghan peace table and to prevent extremist groups like al-Qaida or the Islamic State from using the country as a launch pad for attacks on the West.

In its report Friday, the Pentagon watchdog said it is too early to judge whether the Trump strategy will compel the Taliban to reconcile with the government. It said it's difficult to measure the plan's effectiveness because useful pieces of information — such as Afghan military casualty rates — are being

withheld from public release at the request of the Afghan government.

Also withheld from public release, the report said, are data on the size, status and combat readiness of Afghan security forces. The U.S.-led coalition also “classified or otherwise restricted information” about the possible creation of a new Afghan National Army militia force, it said.

“This force is designed to be an evolution of the Afghan Local Police which has a mixed record of improving security in some areas and committing human rights abuses in others,” the report said.

The report appeared skeptical of U.S. military assertions that the tide of battle has turned against the Taliban.

Gen. John Nicholson, the top U.S. commander in Kabul, told reporters in November, “we have turned the corner,” with the Taliban changing their tactics from trying to seize control of district population centers to “guerrilla-style warfare,” which he defined as suicide attacks designed to inflict casualties.

The report said that in 2011-13, U.S. commanders and officials had made similar claims of Taliban weaknesses.

NEWS BRIEFING

Staff and news services

Chief of staff at VA retires after trip furor tied to Shulkin's wife

WASHINGTON — The Department of Veterans Affairs announced Friday that the agency's chief of staff has stepped down after an investigation alleged she had doctored emails to justify Secretary David Shulkin's wife accompanying him on a European trip at taxpayer expense. The internal investigation by the department's inspector general found "serious derelictions" by Shulkin and his staff and

urged administrative action against chief of staff Vivieca Wright Simpson. Veterans Affairs spokesman Curt Cashour said Simpson "elected to retire." He said the VA is opening an investigation into her actions and left open the possibility of "additional personnel accountability actions." Shulkin has said he would pay back more than \$4,000 for his wife's airfare.



PAUL VERNON/AP

Ohio funerals: Chief Joseph Morbitzer brings a U.S. flag to the family of Anthony Morelli during a ceremony Friday for two Westerville officers killed Feb. 10. Officers Eric Joering, 39, and Morelli, 54, were fatally shot while responding to a domestic dispute. They returned fire, wounding Quentin Smith, 30, who has been charged with aggravated murder.

USS Cole attack case now on indefinite hold at Guantanamo

MIAMI — A military judge on Friday placed an indefinite hold on proceedings at the Guantanamo Bay naval base against a Saudi man accused in an attack on a U.S. warship. Air Force Col. Vance Spath ordered an abatement of the military commission for Abd al-Rahim al-Nashiri, saying he needed a higher civilian or military court to weigh in on a series of legal issues

that have emerged over the decision by most of the defense team to quit the case. No further hearings will be held and one scheduled for March at the U.S. base in Cuba has been canceled. The government is studying the ruling, said Navy Cmdr. Sarah Higgins. Al-Nashiri is accused of orchestrating the 2000 bombing of the USS Cole, which killed 17 sailors.

Puerto Rico to reduce power generation amid cash shortfall

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico — Puerto Rico's electricity utility said Friday that it will dial down the power generation starting this weekend as a federal control board seeks a \$300 million loan for the troubled utility after a judge rejected a previous \$1 billion loan request. The announcement comes as nearly 400,000 power customers across the island remain in the dark more than five

months after Hurricane Maria hit the island, causing the longest blackout in U.S. history. Ernesto Sgroi, president of the governing board of Puerto Rico's Electric Power Authority, said the reduction in power generation would start Sunday and was not expected to interrupt service. But he warned it could destabilize a power grid still being repaired after Hurricane Maria.

Kelly memo outlines changes in White House intel clearance

NEW YORK — Under pressure over his handling of abuse allegations against a top aide, White House chief of staff John Kelly on Friday ordered changes in how the White House clears staff members to gain access to classified information, saying the administration "must do better" in how it handles security clearances. Kelly issued a five-page memo that acknowledged White House mistakes but also put the onus on the FBI and the Justice Department to provide more timely updates on background investigations, ask-

ing that any significant derogatory information about staff members be quickly flagged to the White House counsel's office. The issue has been in the spotlight for more than a week after it was revealed that former staff secretary Rob Porter had an interim security clearance that allowed him access to classified material despite allegations of domestic violence by his two ex-wives. "We should — and in the future, must — do better," Kelly wrote in the memo. Dozens of White House aides have been working under interim clearances

for months, according to administration officials, raising questions about the administration's handling of the issue and whether classified information has been jeopardized. Kelly's plan would limit interim clearances to 180 days, with an option to extend them another 90 days if background checks had not turned up significant troubling information. The memo also recommends that all Top Secret and SCI (Sensitive Compartmented Information) clearances that have been pending since last June be discontinued in a week.

Lawmakers tap into campaign funds for NRA dues

WASHINGTON — Many members of Congress receive campaign donations from the National Rifle Association. In some cases, though, the funds flow the other way, too: Lawmakers use campaign money to pay membership dues to the organization. Two sitting U.S. senators

and nine current members of the House have used campaign money to pay the cost of membership to the gun rights lobby or its related entities since 2004, with the outlays ranging from \$25 to \$1,500, according to Federal Election Commission records. John Fleming, an official

at the Department of Health and Human Services, was among nine former members of Congress whose campaign committees also paid for NRA membership. He is a Donald Trump appointee. Ethics experts say the expenditures are likely legal, but fall into a gray zone.

R.I. senator charged in voyeurism, extortion case

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — A Rhode Island state senator under investigation by state police since January was arrested Friday on charges of video voyeurism and extortion. Republican Sen. Nicholas Kettle faces one count of video voyeurism brought by state police for sending pictures of his ex-girlfriend's "private parts," Lt. Col. Joseph Philbin said. He also was indicted on two counts of extortion. Kettle was being held in jail over the weekend and is to appear in court Monday, he said. Kettle's lawyer, Paul DiMaio, called the video voyeurism charge "nonsense." He also blasted state police for their tactics, saying they deliberately took Kettle into custody at his workplace on a Friday afternoon, which meant he likely would be held over the weekend.

Venezuela crisis: A leading party in Venezuela said Friday that it won't take part in the presidential election against President Nicolas Maduro, exposing divides in the opposition coalition. The Popular Will party said it refuses to validate what it called the fraudulent April 22 election by participating.

Utah race: Former presidential hopeful Mitt Romney launched his campaign for the Utah Senate seat being opened by Sen. Orrin Hatch's retirement. Romney, 70, will be the favorite. He noted Friday that Utah "welcomes legal immigrants from around the world," while "Washington sends immigrants a message of exclusion."



YURI CORTEZ/GETTY-APP

Mexico City residents embrace after a powerful earthquake struck Friday.

7.2 earthquake slams south, central Mexico

By Peter Orsi and Christopher Sherman
Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — A powerful magnitude-7.2 earthquake shook south and central Mexico on Friday, causing people to flee buildings and office towers in the country's capital, where residents were still jittery after a deadly quake five months ago. Crowds of people gathered on Mexico City's central Reforma Avenue in Mexico City as well as on streets in Oaxaca state's capital, nearer the quake's epicenter.

immediate reports of damages from Friday's quake. The Red Cross reported the facade from a building in the Condesa neighborhood, which was hit hard on Sept. 19, collapsed. And at least one strong aftershock shook buildings again in Mexico City. In Oaxaca, Gov. Alejandro Murat said via Twitter that damage was being evaluated, but there were no reports of deaths so far. The U.S. Geological Survey put its preliminary magnitude at 7.2 and said its epicenter was 33 miles northeast of Pinotepa in Oaxaca state. It had a depth of 15 miles. The epicenter is a rural area of western Oaxaca state near the Pacific coast and the border with Guerrero state. The Oaxaca state civil protection agency said via Twitter that it was monitoring the coastline. In the Condesa neighborhood, which was hit hard Sept. 19, frightened residents flooded into the streets, including one woman wrapped in just a towel, but there were no immediate signs of damage. "I'm scared," Rojas Huerta said. "The house is old."

"It was awful," said Mercedes Rojas Huerta, 57, who was sitting on a bench outside her home in Mexico City's trendy Condesa district, too frightened to go back inside. "It started to shake; the cars were going here and there. What do I do?" She said she was still scared thinking of the Sept. 19 earthquake that left 228 people dead in the capital and 369 across the region. Many buildings in Mexico City are still damaged from that quake. Mexican Civil Protection chief Luis Felipe Fuente tweeted that there were no

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Chicago Tribune BUSINESS

Trader charged with fraud in city's first bitcoin prosecution

BY SAMANTHA BOMKAMP
Chicago Tribune

A 24-year-old Chicago trader has been charged with fraud for allegedly stealing \$2 million in bitcoin and another cryptocurrency from his employer to cover personal trading losses.

It is the first criminal prosecution in Chicago involving digital currencies,

according to federal prosecutors.

Joseph Kim appeared in U.S. District Court in Chicago on Friday, flanked by his attorneys, as U.S. Magistrate Judge Daniel G. Martin presided over the brief hearing. Kim, wearing a rumpled blazer and dark pants, was charged with one count of wire



Kim

fraud. He did not enter a plea.

Kim was an assistant trader for Consolidated Trading, a Chicago firm that recently formed a group to trade in increasingly popular cryptocurrencies, according to the complaint.

From September to November, the complaint

claims, Kim transferred at least \$2 million of the firm's bitcoin and Litecoin for his personal use, and then made false statements to conceal the theft, until it was uncovered by Consolidated's management.

Kim's bond was set at \$100,000, and he was limited to travel between northern Illinois and Arizona, where he has a residence. He relinquished his passport and agreed to

other restrictions as part of the bond deal, including not communicating with his former co-workers.

Bitcoin has seen a meteoric rise — and a fair amount of volatility — in the last year as its popularity became more mainstream and the price of a single bitcoin surged from about \$1,000 in early 2017 to around \$15,000 at year's end. The price now stands around \$10,000. Litecoin is

valued at about \$220.

In December, the Chicago Mercantile Exchange and the CBOE Futures Exchange became the first traditional exchanges to begin trading cryptocurrency futures, lending legitimacy to the digital asset and opening the door for more traditional traders to bet on its future.

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NG HAN GUAN/AP 2016

President Donald Trump could impose tariffs or quotas on imports of steel from China and other countries.

Trump urged to impose tariffs on aluminum, steel

BY DON LEE
Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — The Commerce Department is urging President Donald Trump to consider hefty tariffs and quotas to limit the import of steel and aluminum, after concluding the rising flow of those foreign-made products constitutes a threat to America's national security.

The recommendations were in a report released Friday by Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross, whose agency tapped a rarely used provision of U.S. trade law in investigating whether steel and aluminum imports could pose harm to the country's defense or security interests.

Trump has promised to take more aggressive trade actions to protect U.S. manufacturers, and the findings by Commerce give him wide discretion to curb imports, although he could decide not to take any ac-

tion at all. He has until mid-April to decide.

Domestic steel and aluminum manufacturers, along with lawmakers from big steel-producing states, have been pressing Trump to apply stiff measures against foreign producers, particularly China.

The Commerce department's recommendations to Trump listed three options for steel: a 24 percent tariff on all imports from all countries; a targeted tariff of at least 53 percent on imports from a dozen trading partners, plus quotas on steel shipments from other nations; or a global quota that equals 63 percent of each country's steel exports to the U.S. in 2017.

Ross also recommended three options on aluminum tariffs and quotas, although they were less restrictive. During a news briefing Friday, Ross would not say which of these options he preferred, noting that Trump would be the "sole

judge" of that.

"Now that Secretary Ross' report has been released, the president must act urgently to stop trade cheats from undermining our steel companies and steelworkers," said Sen. Sherrod Brown, D-Ohio, who, with 18 other legislators, met with Trump this week to discuss the steel and aluminum cases.

Some lawmakers urged caution. And U.S. metal importers, carmakers and other users of steel and aluminum have warned that tariffs and quotas would lead to higher prices for American consumers and lost jobs.

"We are concerned that the Department of Commerce's recommendations may have unintended consequences for domestic tire manufacturers and the workers and industries they support," Anne Forristall Luke, president of the U.S. Tire Manufacturers Association, said in a statement

Friday. Domestic steel mills are unable to produce the kinds of quality steel necessary to make tires, she said.

Trade analysts worry that severe actions could trigger retaliation from other countries, especially given the controversial nature of justifying trade restrictions based on national security grounds. If Trump levies restrictive tariffs or quotas, the U.S. will almost certainly face challenges brought to the World Trade Organization.

In preparing the report, Ross said his department had gone through the usual inter-agency consultations, but he acknowledged that not everybody in the administration agreed with his conclusion.

Since the early days of the Trump White House, there have been signs of deep internal divisions on how aggressively to follow through on the president's promise to overhaul an American trade policy.

Chicago Stock Exchange sale is still possible

SEC rejects deal led by Chinese investors

BY ANNIE MASSA AND BEN BAIN
Bloomberg News

The decision by federal regulators to reject a bid by a Chinese-led investor group to buy the Chicago Stock Exchange is a major blow to its international aspirations, but it may not derail the sale entirely, the exchange's chief executive said Friday.

John Kerin, CEO and president of the Chicago Stock Exchange, expressed disappointment in the decision from the Securities and Exchange Commission, but he said the \$20 million deal may move forward without the Chinese investors.

"This investment is an investment group," Kerin said. "Two members happen to be Chinese. We'll have to see what this investment group does going forward."

The SEC's decision ends a process that lasted two years and took place in the crucible of a presidential campaign and a new administration that has expressed skepticism over China's policy motives. The exchange, founded in 1882, handles less than 1 percent of daily U.S. stock trading. Thursday's decision means it will miss out on an audacious project to court smaller companies, particularly those based in China.

In a document posted on the SEC's website Thursday, the regulator said the deal did not comply with U.S. rules governing stock exchanges. The SEC said it couldn't resolve concerns about the proposed ownership structure, which would have given 29 percent of the company to a China-based shareholder. The Chicago Stock Exchange couldn't supply documents the regulator requested about relationships among the proposed buyers, according to the SEC. Castle YAC Enterprises — a related ownership group, according to the SEC — would have had an 11 percent stake in the Chicago Stock Exchange.

The remaining 60 percent was to be divided among a number of U.S.-based investors, including five members of the CHX Holdings management team, who were going to take about an 8 percent stake in the company collectively.

"We're very disappointed," Kerin said. "There are a lot of factual inaccuracies in their disapproval." Though the transaction was relatively small, it drew outside attention because of the country of origin of the lead investor, Chongqing Casin Enterprise Group Co. SEC Chairman Jay Clayton, who joined the agency this year after a career as a deals lawyer, has fretted publicly that it's too hard for companies to go public in the U.S. The exchange had hoped to address that

situation by selling itself, while also creating a conduit to China.

But opponents of the takeover, including a number of U.S. lawmakers, said letting a Chinese firm invest in a U.S. exchange was a bad idea. On the campaign trail, Donald Trump blasted the transaction after it was announced in early 2016. A year ago, the sale was cleared by a panel that reviews foreign takeovers for national security threats.

In August, the SEC said its commissioners would review the sale, a surprise announcement that overrode the recommendation by the regulator's staff that it should be approved.

After the process stalled, several investors dropped out. Two Chinese entities, Chongqing Jintian Industrial Co. and Chongqing Longshang Decoration Co., left the consortium along with U.S.-based Xian Tong Enterprises. Together, they'd planned to buy 36.44 percent of the exchange. Other investors in the buyers' group had agreed to purchase those stakes. In rejecting the takeover Thursday, the SEC said those three firms dropped out after the regulator asked for more information on their financial ties.

Chongqing Casin wanted to serve as a conduit to bring Chinese companies to the U.S. to raise capital. Hundreds of enterprises are waiting for IPO approval on exchanges in China, according to the China Securities Regulatory Commission. The Chicago Stock Exchange planned to leverage the Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act, a 2012 law Congress passed to make it easier for smaller companies to go public.

"I'm not too surprised," Richard Johnson, an analyst at Greenwich Associates, said of the rejection. "I thought this deal would always get additional scrutiny."

He added that the exchange's plan to help Chinese companies go public in the U.S. didn't require owning an exchange. "They didn't need to buy a stock exchange to do that necessarily, so that motivation was a little unclear."

While the national and international implications of Chinese owners taking a stake in a U.S. stock exchange took center stage, the impact of Thursday's SEC decision will be felt the hardest in Chicago, where the small exchange has made a home for 136 years.

"This was good for us, it was good for the city, it was good for the United States," Kerin said. "It presented significant opportunity for these two very large world economies to come a little closer together. But it doesn't look like that is going to happen just yet."

Chicago Tribune's Robert Channick contributed.

Kraft Heinz does delicate deal-talk dance

BY GREG TROTTER
Chicago Tribune

Kraft Heinz, maker of Kraft Mac & Cheese and Heinz ketchup among other brands, could soon acquire another major food company, thus forming a processed food giant that once again changes the entire food industry.

Then again, it might not. On Friday, executives at Kraft Heinz — co-headquartered in Chicago and Pittsburgh — continued the delicate dance of assuring investors that they don't need a deal to grow revenue and profits over the long haul, while also saying the company wants to be a force for consolidation. Since Kraft Food Group and H.J. Heinz merged in 2015, the combined company has slashed \$1.7 billion from spending and emerged as the industry leader in growing profit margins.

But Kraft Heinz has struggled to grow sales, particularly in the U.S. where it does most of its business, mirroring the plight of the rest of the packaged food industry. Increasingly, consumers are buying fresh food at the perimeter of

grocery stores, as well as upstart brands that they consider to be healthier.

CEO Bernardo Hees emphasized that Kraft Heinz would be ramping up investments in manufacturing, sales and distribution in the year to help jump-start sluggish sales.

"There is no question that our financial results in 2017 did not meet our potential," Hess said on the quarterly earnings call with investors.

Kraft Heinz reported U.S. sales of about \$4.78 billion for the fourth quarter ending Dec. 30, down from \$4.83 billion in the same period a year ago — a decline of about 1.1 percent, driven by weak sales of nuts and cold cuts.

Overall, the company reported sales of about \$6.9 billion for the quarter — a slight increase of 0.3 percent from a year ago, but still below what analysts, on average, expected to see. The company's earnings also missed expectations.

Kraft Heinz is backed by Warren Buffet's Berkshire Hathaway and largely controlled by the Brazilian private equity firm 3G Capital, which has a well-earned

reputation for acquiring companies and squeezing costs. Last year, Kraft Heinz's \$143 billion bid for Unilever was rejected, leaving many investors in anticipation of the next attempt at a major deal.

On Thursday night, Kraft Heinz took the unusual step of posting a 90-minute narrated slideshow on its website, just before its Friday morning earnings release. The presentation touted the company's ability to transform the ingredient profile of old brands like Kraft Mac & Cheese, while also highlighting the warmer, fuzzier side of Kraft Heinz, such as its charitable contributions.

The slideshow struck a similar tone as the earnings call: The company is ready to pounce on the right deal, but it's also prepared to grow the business organically if that doesn't happen.

On Friday morning, analysts questioned the possibility of acquisitions, particularly given that the expectation of Kraft Heinz making a deal has added value to the company's stock in the past two years, although the share price has diminished lately. Hees noted that valuations were

more attractive now than just two months ago and said that, in general, Kraft Heinz would look for strong brands that could do well internationally.

Kraft Heinz's deep cutting appears to be done; now is the time for investment and growth, executives said.

So far, Wall Street appears unimpressed. Shares of Kraft Heinz stock closed at \$70.80 on Friday, down more than 2.5 percent.

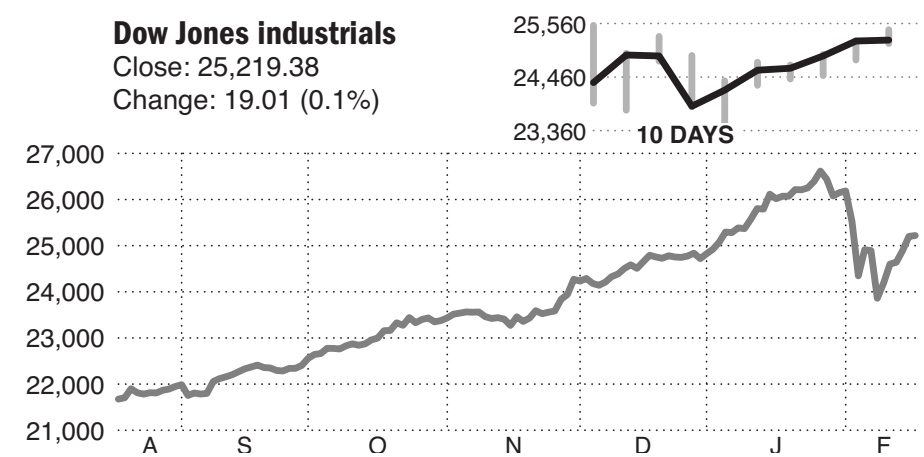
Large food companies with legacy brands used to be able to dominate the grocery shelves and airwaves, said Adam Caplan, a partner at Kantar Consulting. But in recent years, fragmentation of the industry has hurt Kraft Heinz in categories like salad dressing, cheese and processed meats. Smaller brands, or "ankle biters," as Caplan called them, have been able to steal market share.

In such an environment, companies have to become more daring to expand into new categories and more willing to make a run at a "big bet" acquisition, Caplan said.

gtrotter@chicagotribune.com

MARKET ROUNDUP

Dow High: 25,432.42 Low: 25,149.26 Previous: 25,200.37



Nasdaq	S&P 500	Russell 2000
Close: 7,239.46 High: 7,303.26 Low: 7,226.38 Previous: 7,256.43	Close: 2,732.22 High: 2,754.42 Low: 2,725.11 Previous: 2,731.20	Close: 1,543.55 High: 1,551.51 Low: 1,532.22 Previous: 1,537.20

10-yr T-note	Gold futures	Yen	Euro	Crude Oil
Close: -0.03 to 2.88%	Close: +1.10 to \$1,353.20	Close: +0.03 to 106.30/\$1	Close: +0.0060 to .8056/\$1	Close: +0.34 to \$61.68

Major market growth and decline

5-day % change			30-day % change			1-year % change		
DOW	NASD	S&P	DOW	NASD	S&P	DOW	NASD	S&P
+4.25	+5.31	+4.30	-3.27	-1.32	-2.78	+22.28	+23.99	+16.21

COMMODITY	AMOUNT-PRICE	MO.	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	SETTLE	CHG.
WHEAT (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	Mar 18	463.50	464.50	456.75	457.75	-4
CORN (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	Mar 18	368	368.50	366.50	367.50	-.25
SOYBEANS (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	Mar 18	1023.50	1028.25	1012	1021.50	-2.75
SOYBEAN OIL (CBOT)	60,000 lbs- cents per lb	Mar 18	31.78	31.84	31.48	31.54	-.16
SOYBEAN MEAL (CBOT)	100 tons- dollars per ton	Mar 18	373.70	379.30	368.30	373.30	-.40
LIGHT SWEET CRUDE (NYMX)	1,000 bbl- dollars per bbl.	Mar 18	61.45	61.99	60.88	61.68	+.34
NATURAL GAS (NYMX)	10,000 mm btu's, \$ per mm btu	Mar 18	2.584	2.589	2.539	2.558	-.022
NY HARBOR GAS BLEND (NYMX)	42,000 gallons- dollars per gallon	Mar 18	1.7426	1.7581	1.7284	1.7509	+.0151

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LOCAL STOCKS

STOCK	XCHG.	CLOSE	CHG.	STOCK	XCHG.	CLOSE	CHG.
Abbott Labs	N	60.17	+67	Equity Commonwith	N	29.62	+67
AbbVie Inc	N	118.60	+3.71	Equity Lifesty Prop	N	85.50	+18
Akorn Inc	O	31.85	-10	Equity Residential	N	57.97	+06

MOST ACTIVE STOCKS

STOCK	CLOSE	CHG.
AK Steel Hold	5.96	+73
Gen Electric	15.05	+21
Bank of America	31.97	-15

LARGEST COMPANIES

STOCK	CLOSE	CHG.
AT&T Inc	37.14	+14
Alphabet Inc C	1094.80	+5.39
Alphabet Inc A	1095.50	+3.66

LARGEST MUTUAL FUNDS

FUND	NAV	CHG	1-YR %RTN
American Funds AMCpA m	33.11	-01	+21.2
American Funds AMRnBAlA m	27.26	...	+12.3
American Funds CptWldGrInCA m	62.56	+11	+22.4

NASDAQ STOCK MARKET

STOCK	CLOSE	CHG.
Micron Tech	44.21	+31
Adv Micro Dev	11.82	-77
Apple Inc	172.43	-53

TREASURY YIELDS

DURATION	CLOSE	PREV.
3-month disc	1.57	1.57
6-month disc	1.77	1.77
2-year	2.19	2.19

SPOT METALS

	CLOSE	PREV.
Gold	\$1352.20	\$1352.10
Silver	\$16.695	\$16.777
Platinum	\$1012.30	\$1001.10

INTEREST RATES

Prime Rate	4.50
Discount Rate Primary	2.00
Fed Funds Target	1.25-1.50
Money Mkt Overnight Avg.	0.27

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

A U.S. Dollar buys...	
Argentina (Peso)	19.7668
Australia (Dollar)	1.2649
Brazil (Real)	3.2305
Britain (Pound)	1.7133
Canada (Dollar)	1.2553
China (Yuan)	6.3490
Euro	0.8056
India (Rupee)	64.412
Israel (Shekel)	3.5504
Japan (Yen)	106.30
Mexico (Peso)	18.5117
Poland (Zloty)	3.35
So. Korea (Won)	1067.81
Taiwan (Dollar)	29.09
Thailand (Baht)	31.32

FOREIGN MARKETS

INDEX	CLOSE	CHG./%
Shanghai	3199.16	+33.0/+1.0
Stoxx600	380.62	+4.1/+1.1
Nikkei	21720.25	+255.3/+1.2
MSCI-EAFE	2077.53	+18.5/+0.9
Bovespa	84524.58	+234.0/+0.3
FTSE 100	7294.70	+59.9/+0.8
CAC-40	5281.58	+59.1/+1.1

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EDITORIALS

Is this about helping kids or making Illinois schools look better?

Many teachers, students and parents have railed about Illinois' math and reading exams for third- through eighth-graders. The tests, known as PARCC, are long and hard. Many students don't pass. Educators complain that the results are slow to reach them, so they can't adjust lessons to help students.

Now Illinois is developing a shorter test that will produce results more quickly, reports the Tribune's Diane Rado. Illinois State Board of Education officials seek to create a new "computer adaptive" format that adjusts the difficulty of test questions as kids provide right or wrong answers. That's meant to provide a more precise assessment of student achievement.

"PARCC as we know it — it is obviously going to need to evolve," says A. Rae Clementz, ISBE's director of assessment and accountability.

There's a word we often invoke: accountability.

Accountability in statewide standardized tests is built on a bedrock concept: Give students essentially the same test, year after year. So that results are comparable across time. So that parents, students and teachers can see whether kids are learning and progressing, or not. So that citizens can judge, collectively, how their schools are performing against other schools.

After three years, Illinois now has comparative results within PARCC — the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers. Unfortunately, students' test results have been dismal: In 2017, fewer than 40 percent of some 900,000 test-takers passed the reading and math exams.

No wonder PARCC has become a blame-the-test lightning rod in Illinois and other states: It delivered bad news to many parents, students and teachers.

The new test is still in planning, but elementary schools could see changes to state exams as early as spring 2019.

ISBE officials indicate that they intend to make the new test results comparable to the first three years of PARCC. That's vital. Because changing tests every few

years can easily thwart accountability. New tests create a danger that previous results could eventually carry a big asterisk — no longer exactly comparable. That relieves pressure on administrators and teachers to explain why students score so poorly — and on educators to lift student achievement year over year. *Hey, there's a new test. Clean slate. Let's just forget that nasty PARCC test and all those low scores. Look over here! Shiny new test!*

PARCC was supposed to give a more honest, accurate account than the previous Illinois Standards Achievement Test of how well students are prepared for the next grade level. We have questions: If PARCC looked so good then, why dump it so quickly? Will the post-PARCC test be better than ISAT and PARCC? Or will it be designed to make teachers, principals and district honchos *look* better, so they can claim they're doing a great job?

Let's recall recent history here so we are not doomed to repeat it. For years, the federal No Child Left Behind law threatened to hold districts accountable for the failure of students. The law mandated that all students would eventually pass standardized tests. Illinois and other states found crafty ways to evade, yes, accountability and avoid penalties.

In those days, Illinois students took the relatively easy ISAT test. Even then, state officials kept finagling ISAT scoring to inflate the results, fooling many parents into thinking their children were doing just fine.

We supported switching to PARCC because students and parents deserved stronger assessments that would measure achievement and growth over time. PARCC did that. And now, Illinois wants a new test.

As ISBE tells it, that new test will preserve year-to-year comparability. ISBE says it will better measure student performance and provide teachers actionable results quicker.

We hope so. Because the last thing Illinois students need is another accountability dodge from complaining administrators in school district offices and compliant educators in Springfield.

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

The poor may not always be with us. The world is about a hundred times wealthier today than it was two centuries ago, and the prosperity is becoming more evenly distributed across countries and people. Within the lifetimes of most readers, the rate of extreme poverty could approach zero. Catastrophic famine, never far away in the past, has vanished from all but the most remote and war-ravaged regions, and undernourishment is in steady decline.

Within developed countries, inequality is rising, but real poverty is not. A century ago, the richest countries devoted 1 percent of their wealth to children, the poor, the sick and the aged; today they spend almost a quarter of it. Most of their poor today are fed, clothed and sheltered and have luxuries like smartphones and air conditioning that used to be unavailable to anyone, rich or poor. Poverty among racial minorities has fallen, and poverty among the elderly has plunged. ...

Life has been getting safer in every other way. Over the past century, Americans have become 96 percent less likely to be killed in an auto accident, 88 percent less likely to be mowed down on the sidewalk, 99 percent less likely to die in a plane crash, 59 percent less likely to fall to their deaths, 92 percent less likely to die by fire, 90 percent less likely to drown, 92 percent less likely to be asphyxiated, and 95 percent less likely to be killed on the job. Life in other rich countries is even safer, and life in poorer countries will get safer as they get richer.

Steven Pinker,
The Wall Street Journal

We just passed Groundhog Day on the calendar, but it feels like we're still living it; we can't break free from the gnashing and rehashing of the 2016 election. It's not just the Mueller probe and legitimate questions about Russian influence. It's the emotional notes of triumph and defeat. President Donald Trump hasn't dropped the subject, which is as perplexing as anything else Trump has done. But Clinton hasn't dropped it, either. And at this point, she should. ...

If she does commit herself to reinvention, Clinton will find that she is better-positioned than ever to make a difference. She'll be free from the daily trench warfare

of Washington. Her every move will still attract attention. And her experiences as senator and secretary of state have prepared her for roll-up-your-sleeves work on policy issues, from the child-welfare matters that started her career to the status of women worldwide. ... She could dive into the private sector, creating a market solution for any number of problems. She could follow Gore's path and take on a single cause as a public advocate. Naysayers be damned, she could run for office again. She's the same age as Romney — and younger than Joe Biden. ...

There are plenty of people willing and able to analyze the 2016 race and point out the absurdities of Trump.

Clinton doesn't need to be a voice in that mix. She has the chance to go down in history as much more than the almost-first-woman-president. It starts with changing the subject.

Joanna Weiss, *Politico*

These two factors — the need to save more for a longer retirement and the changes in the age distribution of a population — have the potential to raise the asset income of a nation.

So maybe the aging of the population, if that population remains healthy, might prove unproblematic after all? It might if it weren't for the factor of generational succession. Within most societies, there is a clear concept of the generational transmission of status, assets, power, and wealth down through the generations at a steady rate. What will happen when, due to the extreme longevity of a population, people are in their 80s when they inherit from their parents and grandparents? What happens to our workforces — as well as our communities — when healthy, active individuals are still in full employment in their ninth decade? ...

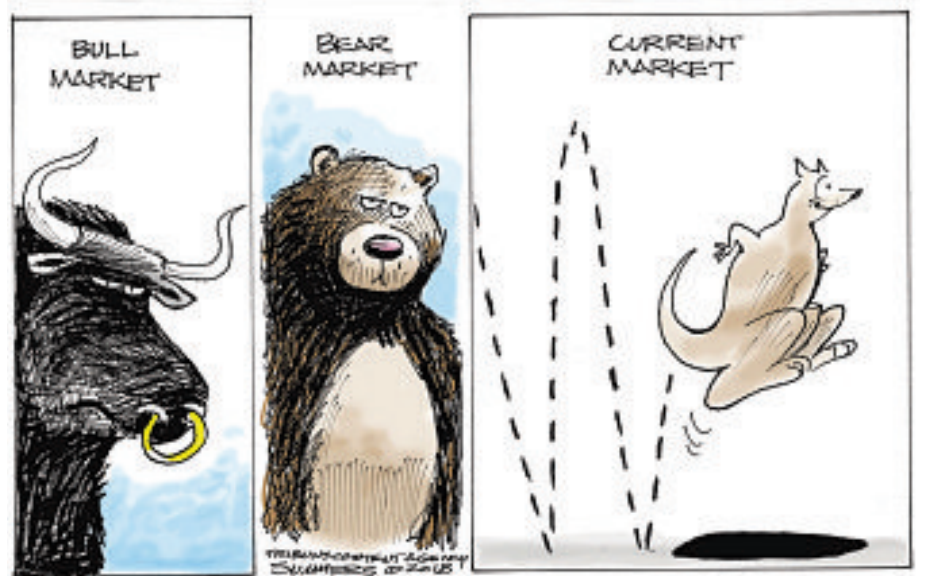
This requires a move away from seeing a clear progression along a linear line of work and income, to a more fluid life course. In this version, education and re-training continue throughout everyone's lives, parents are able to withdraw from full-time, pressure-filled employment to care for young children, and return in their late 40s refreshed and ready for 30 more years in the workforce.

Sarah Harper, *Trend*

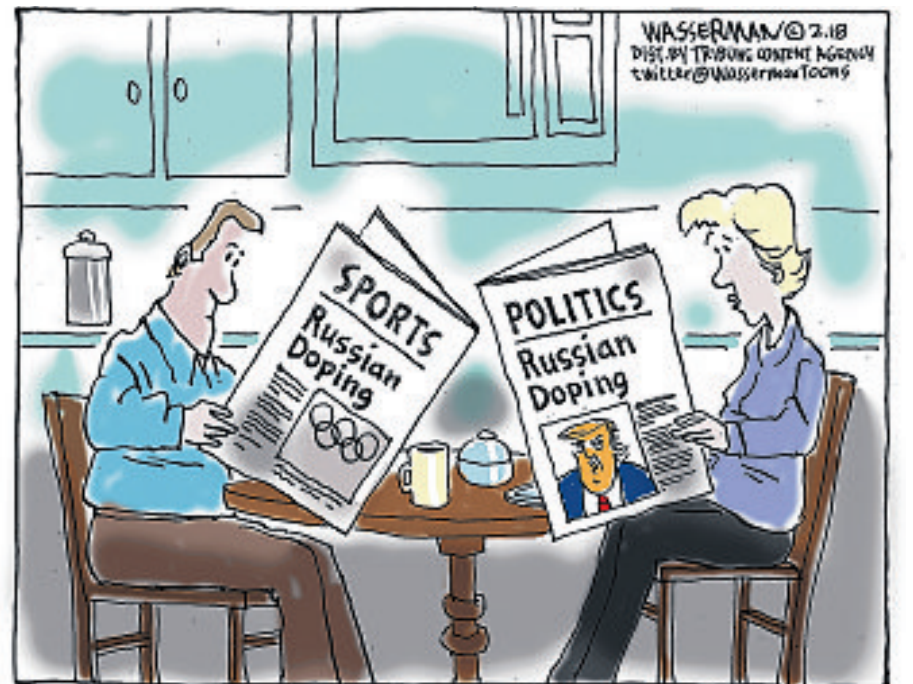
Cartoon gallery



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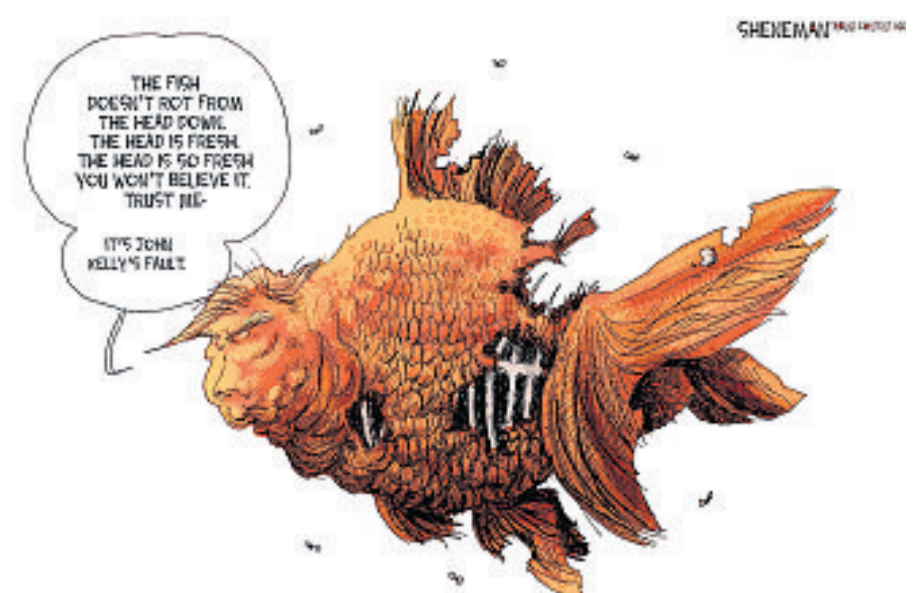
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VOICE OF THE PEOPLE



EVAN VUCCI/AP

President Donald Trump announced his budget plan on Monday, cutting funding to several federal agencies and increasing funding for the Pentagon and a Mexican border wall.

Budget bloat

President Donald Trump is the fellow whose business ventures famously stiffed small suppliers, so it should come as no surprise that his newly released budget plan “calls for big cuts to domestic programs that benefit the poor and middle class, such as food stamps, housing subsidies and student loans,” as the Tribune reported Tuesday.

He's also the guy with a record of multiple bankruptcies, so it makes similar sense that he and his cronies are now admitting that the numbers they used to sell their tax plan were unrealistic. They've given the U.S. Treasury increased, rather than diminished, deficits. The Trump family, of course, and others like them, will do well from the scheme.

What is surprising is that Congress is playing along in this game. If you want to increase our already bloated military budget, then you had better be raising rather than cutting tax revenue. Republicans used to understand the logic of balancing the budget. They used to chide Democrats for their “tax and spend” ideology. But “tax and spend” beats “don't tax but keep right on spending” any day.

— John Podulka, Winfield

What's left?

I'm responding to the Feb. 13 article “Trump retreats on fiscal pledge” that was on Page One. It stated that Trump's plan would eliminate funding for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the National Endowment for the Arts, National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The administration also wants NASA out of the International Space Station.

What's left? Corruption and greed. Florida U.S. Rep. Matt Gaetz said: “This budget continues too much of Washington's spending — it does not balance in 10 years, and it creates a deficit of over a trillion dollars next year. We cannot steal from America's future to pay for spending today.”

Profits at all costs — Americans' cost. We will become a wasteland instead of the America we can and should be. Have those who hold the power lost all ability to have a conscience? Give us back our art, music and science; the ability to seek out knowledge in space exploration and medicine; and defend social justice.

Oh the humanity!
— Marsha Magala, Chicago

Honest leadership

Donald Trump. Hillary Clinton. Bruce Rauner. J.B. Pritzker. Michael Madigan. Rahm Emanuel. Ed Burke. What do all these politicians have in common? They are all rich. Who ever said politicians had to be filthy rich? I know one thing for sure: Having inordinate amounts of money does not make you a good leader. The list above is proof of that.

Unfortunately, some of the best leaders in this country, state or city are not dripping in money, nor do they run with a crowd that does. They are extremely good citizens who would love to fix our problems, but they don't have the money or influence to do so. And we as voters let the good leaders fall by the wayside and elect self-centered, egotistical liars to dictate our futures.

I have a friend who is one of the finest men I've ever known. He is a father of four and a terrific husband and provider. He has worked in both the private and public sectors; he has served his country for 30 years as an Army reservist; and he is one of the smartest, most level-headed individuals I have ever had the pleasure of knowing. But would he have a chance at leading our state or city? No, because he is not a multimillionaire, and I doubt he has many friends who are.

Do you see the problem with our country? All the good leaders and problem-solvers are those who go to work every day attempting to make an honest living. They don't lie to their friends or their co-workers, and they certainly don't buy their friends' loyalty or patronage. We all know many people like this who would serve our

country, state and city far better than those who are in office or seek office. Unfortunately, political power starts at the \$10 million threshold.

God bless and watch over all of us.
— Mark Zavagnin, LaGrange

Fare caps

With a fare increase recently enacted, now more than ever would be an appropriate time to re-evaluate how the CTA structures fare payment to provide the most value for all citizens, not just those who have more advantageous financial situations. Implementing daily, weekly and monthly fare capping is one of the most effective ways to incentivize ridership, provide value to riders, and bring confidence to riding CTA.

For many citizens of Chicago who depend on CTA exclusively, one of the best transit values CTA offers — the \$105 30-day unlimited ride pass — is an inaccessible expense upfront. A one-time, \$105 payment is out of reach with many rider's budgets, and as a result, riders default to purchasing smaller amounts of transit value more frequently. In many situations, riders will often eclipse the \$105 that the pass costs throughout 30 days of riding, just because purchasing smaller, pay-as-you-go fares is more palatable for an average budget.

Enabling daily, weekly and 30-day fare capping would help people of all incomes take advantage of these savings, not just those who can afford \$105 upfront. In essence, CTA would be providing a guarantee to riders that within a 30-day period, riders would never pay more than \$105. And, this is something that could be relatively easy to accomplish: Cubic, the company that operates and manages Ventra, also operates Transport for London's Oyster contact-less program, incorporating various forms of fare capping.

Those who can afford the upfront cost of these passes get the best value. In many situations, higher-paying jobs in this city also offer pre-tax transit benefit programs, further reducing the cost of riding CTA. And yet, citizens and riders who need these discounts the most have little hope in accessing these benefits. This, unfortunately, discriminates against less wealthy riders.

The recent fare increase was necessary to reconcile a \$33 million deficit due to the state of Illinois' funding cut to CTA, and I'm appreciative of all the cost-saving measures that CTA took to prevent a fare increase for the past eight years. Even with this fare increase, we want to see fares collected equitably in a less financially discriminatory way. I encourage Mayor Rahm Emanuel and the board to implement fare capping through Ventra in this new year — not just for the reasons mentioned in this letter, but to also show that Chicago has heart and cares about all citizens in our city.

— Matthew Merz, Chicago

Homegrown violence

President Donald Trump's State of the Union address was designed primarily to appeal to the fears and base instincts of those concerned about their way of life being threatened and fearful of the country being overrun by foreigners crossing our borders.

More precisely, the president was trying to drum up support for a stupid wall. One would gather from the speeches that there is an MS-13 member hiding behind every bush and that the country must mobilize to fight them.

In reality, we have more to fear from homegrown murderers, rapists, drug dealers and street gang members than from anyone coming across the border.

The might and resources of the federal government are needed to not only combat MS-13 members but to combat the street gangs terrorizing parts of Chicago, shooting and killing thousands over the years.

Countless police strategies, marches, prayers and demonstrations have had little or no effect.

This ongoing carnage calls for drastic action.

— Ned L. McCray, Tinley Park

Chicago Tribune

A+E

ARTS+ENTERTAINMENT

IN PERFORMANCE 'Love Never Dies' ★★ ½

Phantom back on the prowl

Lloyd Webber musical highlights include opening power ballad

By **CHRIS JONES**
Chicago Tribune

Most shows save their full-throated power ballads for late in the night. But at "Love Never Dies," the sequel to Andrew Lloyd Webber's mega-smash "The Phantom of the Opera," the lush strings are emoting at full pelt from the pit before you've even had proper chance to extract yourself from your coat.

At curtain rise, the culture's most famous masked disrupter is right there at center stage, silhouetted in his creepy, curvy, swirling, hazy world — a hunk of throbbing, retro-goth love come back to haunt us from the 1980s, lamenting the loss of his truest amour, staring at her visage in the kind of portraiture that never is good for an ex's mental health.

"My Christine, my Christine," Gardar Thor Cortes sings at, oh, I don't know, 7:36 p.m., hitting notes for which any union actor should demand a warmup to reach, especially when working in Chicago in February. "Lost and gone! Lost and gone!"

How you feel about that initial moment likely will prove emblematic of your response to the night. It's excessive and melodramatic to a fault, not unlike being catapulted into a Citroen already traveling at 95 mph down the highway of irony-free passion. But then, "Till I Hear You Sing" is also a magnificently theatrical song, performed in aptly bravura fashion, and penned by the only composer who could even remotely pull it off. It's not the only such number, either.

The score to "Love Never Dies" (lyrics are by Glenn Slater) stacks up nicely with the Lloyd Webber oeuvre and there is a trio of songs that truly are tours de force. "Before the Performance," especially the part sung by the Phantom, is extraordinary. If you're a student or aficionado of Lloyd Webber's savvy skills, and I'm kinda both, you'll hear echoes of many other shows and still maybe think this to be some of the Lord's best compositional work, overall.

And since "Love Never Dies" has yet to play Broadway, where the 30-year-old "Phantom" still parties like it's 1988, this company of actors is stacked with ambitious, top-drawer, mostly operatic vocalists, nailing these compositions at the very highest level. (Meghan Picerno of the New York City Opera is Christine Daae; a supervised former Christine, Mary Michael Patterson, plays Meg.) It's not your usual road company. Not by any means. Lloyd Webber, whose sense of ambition remains acute, is haunting this whole thing. Very



JOAN MARCUS PHOTO

Gardar Thor Cortes plays the Phantom and Meghan Picerno is Christine Daae in "Love Never Dies," a musical sequel from composer Andrew Lloyd Webber, with lyrics by Glenn Slater. It's directed by Simon Phillips.

When: Through March 4

Where: Cadillac Palace Theatre, 151 W. Randolph St.

Running time: 2 hours, 30 minutes

Tickets: \$35-\$100 at 800-775-2000 or www.broadway-inchicago.com

closely. And he's picky about the singing.

Having conveniently vanished at the end of "The Phantom of the Opera," much to the chagrin of the angry mob, Mr. P left room for the central premise of "Love Never Dies," which is that Christine went ahead and married her Raoul (Sean Thompson), while the masked one was spirited away by Madame Giry (Karen Mason, no less) and her daughter Meg and has for a decade been chilling at Coney Island with the freaks and the bathing beauties.

Well, not exactly chilling (see above). He lures Christine and Raoul — sadly impecunious and now boringly married — from Europe to Brooklyn with the promise of mucho cash for a sweet ditty. What the P of the O doesn't know is that his muse now has a kiddo, Gustave (Casey Lyons, who is just fantastic). The kid doesn't have his own mask or anything but doubts are rapidly cast about his true parentage. Is Gustave the walking consequence of what may or may not have gone on inside that boat, down there in the first show, inside Hal Prince's candlelit, PG-13 tunnels of love? Hmmm.

All else you need to know is

that Madam G remains loyal to her man (Mason goes all out for her art) and her daughter Meg holds her own candle for the sensitive, misunderstood one, so you have a complex sextet of romantic complication.

If you could not give a darn, not your show, pal. Thanks for reading. Hope you're not dating/married to someone who differs.

But if you, or yours, lust for a new, "Phantom"-like experience, well, by all means. "Love Never Dies" was widely viewed as a bore in London, but this first U.S. tour is based on a much livelier Australian production, directed by Simon Phillips. There is plenty of fault to find therein — more sins of omission than fault, really — but you won't be bored, nor disappointed by the level of old-school spectacle, as designed by Gabriela Tylesova in the time-honed Freudian fashion.

If they want to take this show to Broadway — and why not, the show is fixable and there's a global "Phantom" mailing list — job one has to be paying far more attention to the emotional lives of the three main characters, the core of the potential appeal of the show. It's jarring to see Christine and her Raoul so mutually snarky and out of love — marriage and kids, I know, I know — but the piece would be far more interesting if we saw Mr. P arouse the dormant side of Mrs. Raoul while her hubby still had skin in the marital game, and for that he needs more vulnerability and more to sing. There's no tension if he's ready for a divorce. Which is how it feels.

The other massive missed

opportunity, both in Ben Elton's book and Phillips' production, is sufficient contemplation of Phantom as daddy. The show blows past all of that potential. There's no song that really lets the Phantom warble about what a kid would mean for his life, even though the setup is there, nor is there a badly needed scene that would make us feel like he'd be an OK dad for the nice kid. They hardly talk and they need to share and sing.

Instead, Phillips concentrates on a high but removed style as he runs through the plot, especially in the dramaturgically confusing Act 1 that never makes clear whether we're in Manhattan or Brooklyn. Act 2 is smoother, and the excellent last 10 minutes finally reach what I am talking about here, but what gets forgotten overall is that what really matters in a melodramatic romance like this one is how each party feels. (This is why "Fifty Shades Freed" is grossing the megabucks.) We love seeing beloved characters as they age and face issues of mentorship and commitment. The original "Phantom" had an exquisitely honed emotional and sensual vocabulary and, for all the truly bravura performances and genuinely admirable theatrical pleasures, this one is not even remotely on the same plane. Yet.

But if (and only if) you're a "Phantom" geek, I'd still go. Absolutely. You'll have romantic fun with the music of another night.

Chris Jones is a Tribune critic.

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CRITICS PLANNER



MARVEL STUDIOS-DISNEY

Michael B. Jordan stars in "Black Panther."

MICHAEL PHILLIPS MOVIES

"Black Panther"

"Black Panther" in brief: Wakanda was blessed by a magical substance called vibranium. The metal provides superhuman ability, and turns the king of the moment into Black Panther. King T'Chaka expires and his son, T'Challa, is crowned. There are two antagonists: Andy Serkis is vibranium fanatic Ulysses Klaue, and Michael B. Jordan is the American black ops ace known as Killmonger. He's got ambitions for the throne, and a belief in getting stunningly advanced weaponry in the hands of oppressed people of color throughout the world. May Marvel learn its lesson from "Black Panther": When a movie like this ends up feeling both personal and vital, you've done something right. *PG-13, 2:20, action*

CHRIS JONES THEATER

"Skeleton Crew"

Playwright Dominique Morisseau's "Detroit Project" is a three-play cycle made up of "Detroit '67," "Paradise Blue" and "Skeleton Crew," the last of which you can see at the Northlight Theatre in Skokie. Set in a Detroit auto plant on the brink of closure, "Skeleton Crew" is told through the eyes of Faye (Jacqueline Williams), a worker on the brink of retirement; Shanita (AnJi White), a mid-career worker with a kid on the way; Dez (Bernard Gilbert) a young worker who can't decide what to accept and what to fight; and Reggie (Kelvin Roston Jr.), who has made his way into middle-management. Williams inhabits the conscience of the play, a really fantastic performance. *Through March 3 at Northlight Theatre, North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie; \$30-\$81 at 847-673-6300 and www.northlight.org*

JOHN VON RHEIN

CLASSICAL

Northshore Concert Band

Mallory Thompson conducts music inspired by literature, including works of Bernstein, Humperdinck and John Williams. *3 p.m. Sunday, Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, Northwestern University, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston; \$20, \$15 for seniors, \$10 for students and children; 847-432-2263, www.northshoreband.org*

GREG KOT

ROCK

MGMT, "Little Dark Age"

"Little Dark Age" does return to some of the "form" of "Oracular Spectacular" with its greater pop accessibility, but it also embraces a less obvious and more intriguing path on several songs. The album lands with deceptive gentleness on the final song, "Hand it Over." It could apply to any number of scenarios: the band's art-vs.-commerce relationship with the music industry, a certain political process gone haywire or something even more sinister and disorienting. "If everyone's confused, which door do we open?" MGMT asks. That's called a cliffhanger ending, and the music is strong enough to make worthwhile the wait to see how it turns out.

'Let me hear ya!' — Harry's still a staple

By **TRACY SWARTZ**
Chicago Tribune

It's hard to believe that Sunday marks 20 years since **Harry Caray's** death — perhaps in part because comedians are still fond of impersonating the colorful Chicago baseball announcer on stage and TV.

Will Ferrell is probably the most famous Caray impressionist. The actor donned a curly white wig and thick black glasses to play Caray when he auditioned for "Saturday Night Live" in 1995 and continued to portray him as an enthusiastic goof beyond his seven-season "SNL" run. When Ferrell returned to host the NBC sketch show last month, cast member **Leslie Jones** channeled Ferrell in his classic "SNL" roles, including Caray.

Country music star **Brett Eldredge** made headlines last year for his "crazy" Caray impersonation, and various baseball players have weighed in with their own versions over the years.

Then there's South Side native **John Caponera**, who has made impersonating Caray a part of his comedy act for more than 35

years. He plays him when he's performing in the Midwest and working cruise ships, and he plans to do the bit when he's at Zanies in St. Charles in April.

"I can't come to Chicago and not do him because people eventually yell it out," said Caponera, who moved to California more than three decades ago. "A lot of people still remember him and a lot of people ask for it."



Caponera

The flamboyant broadcaster spent a decade with the White Sox and 16 years with the Cubs.

He died Feb. 18, 1998, at 83.

Caponera said he grew up listening to Caray announce White Sox games and began mimicking him while performing at Zanies. The stand-up comic has been lauded for nailing Caray's facial expressions and raspy voice.

He said he hung out with Caray a few times, and even played him in a series of AT&T commercials



NUCCIO DINUZZO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

A Cubs fan hoists a Harry Caray cutout during the 2016 World Series. The beloved announcer died 20 years ago, but impersonations live on.

that aired a decade ago, albeit briefly, because the ads upset Caray's widow, **Dutchie**.

"The way I did Harry Caray, I did it to show his sense of humor. I didn't do it like ... Will Ferrell made him, like, out to be a big boob and I didn't. I had a lot more respect for the guy. I just did him as a fun-loving personality," said Caponera, adding that he and Ferrell never talked about playing Caray. A Ferrell rep didn't return a Tribune request for comment.

"I really believe deep down it's Will Ferrell doing me doing

Harry, I think. I was doing Harry since 1981, when nobody was doing him. I think a lot of those Second City kids that became writers on 'SNL' used to come in and watch me at Zanies, so I don't know. I don't want to say they stole from me. ... I'm not patting myself on the back, but I think I did the best Harry. Even Harry Caray told me that. He said that mine was the best impression, and I took pride in that because I really like the guy."

tswartz@tribpub.com

This weekend, Hallmark gives Jack Wagner fans a double dose

BY RICK BENTLEY
Tribune News Service

Those who've been fans of Jack Wagner from his work on a variety of daytime dramas to his stint on "Melrose Place" or through his musical career can get a double feature with the actor this weekend on the Hallmark Channel. The Wagner weekend whammy begins with the made-for-cable film "Wedding March 3: Here Comes the Bride" on Saturday, and the fifth season of his series "When Calls the Heart" kicks off Sunday.

The "Wedding March" franchise, which Wagner brought to the network, features him and Josie Bissett playing a loving couple who run a small Vermont inn that hosts wedding ceremonies. In "When Calls the Heart," Wagner plays the sheriff in a small town in western Canada at the beginning of the 20th century.

"The Hallmark Channel really has become a nice home for me," Wagner says. "It's become a relationship of actors that they feel are an asset to their network and vice versa. Hallmark's audience fits the demographic we have built over the past 30 years."

"People want a safe place where they can sit down as a family — or as a couple — and watch something where there is not going to be a lot of blood, gore or backstabbing. There aren't going to be a lot of wild sex scenes or profanity. Hallmark is that safe place."

Wagner's not condemning programs that have backstabbing, sex and language. He's had a very successful career dealing with those elements on "General Hospital," "Santa Barbara," "The Bold and the Beautiful" and "Melrose Place." But now that the Missouri native is 58, he has a great respect for movies and TV shows that offer positive messages about family and love.

In "Wedding March," Wagner plays Mick Turner, a onetime pop star-turned-innkeeper who reunites with his college sweetheart, Olivia (Bissett), after decades apart.

Wagner says he knew Bissett would be the perfect person to play Olivia because she could handle both the comedy and drama in the films. It didn't hurt that they're among television's best-looking couples.

The drama this time around has the innkeepers planning a Valentine's Day date only to have it interrupted by his sister, who wants to get married. Her fiancé is the last person Mick would pick for his sister, but he forges ahead with the wedding plans.

When Wagner talks about actors who have generated large fan bases over the past few decades, he's talking about him-



KAY BLAKE/ZUMA PRESS

Jack Wagner will appear in two Hallmark Channel shows this weekend. He calls Hallmark "a nice home for me."

'Wedding March 3: Here Comes the Bride'

8 p.m. Saturday, Hallmark Channel

'When Calls the Heart'

8 p.m. Sunday, Hallmark Channel

self, Bissett and his "When Calls the Heart" co-star, Lori Loughlin. Wagner, who wasn't part of the series until late in the first season, points out that the show began to see its loyal fan base — known as the Hearties — grow as he and Loughlin brought a more mature element to the series.

"The show was primarily about the schoolteacher (Erin Krakow), the Mountie (Daniel Lissing) and Abigail Stanton, the character Lori was playing," Wagner says. "When I signed on, I was joining a show in progress. But what I brought to the project was something I think was missing: an older male lead."

The two projects are very different in design, but Wagner sees one very basic element at the heart of both his Hallmark projects.

"It's always about the obstacles that the two romantic leads face," Wagner says. "All the storylines filter through that. It's about how people help each other to deal with the obstacles. Also, my character in 'When Calls the Heart' is about standing up for injustices, and I think that really resonates with the people who follow this show."



ASK AMY

By AMY DICKINSON

askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter @askingamy

Dad wants kids and new wife to meet

Dear Amy: I am a father with two adult children from a 25-year marriage that ended six years ago.

I got remarried 18 months ago to a woman who my adult children suspect ended my marriage to their mother (in reality, there were huge issues with my marriage).

I accepted that my children would have nothing to do with the woman who is now my wife.

I have had therapists tell me that it may take years for adult children to accept a stepmother.

I continued to stay in touch with my children and have visited them without my wife, which wasn't easy for her. Obviously, she sees this as rejection. I was doing it because I love and miss my kids.

For the last six months, however, my 30-year-old son stopped communicating with me entirely. He made weak excuses during his recent trip home that he was too busy to meet me (and me alone), for dinner.

This will devastate me until it is rectified.

Thankfully, my daughter continues to have a solid relationship with me. I emailed my son to try and "clear the air" but he does not respond.

I always try to take the high road, but there are only so many times one can reach out before it is unhealthy for both individuals. I just hope he comes around soon and talks to me. Is there anything I can do with dignity to have my son stop ostracizing me?
— Devastated

Dear Devastated: One perspective on this is that you have permitted your

son to try to punish you (and blackball your wife) for 18 months, but when that didn't give him personal or emotional traction, he decided to up the ante.

Both of your adult children might be torn by loyalty to their mother, or their mother might be making things very difficult for them. (This is one reason to try to maintain an amicable relationship with your ex.)

There is a very tough balance between understanding this rejection of your current wife, and reckoning with your own desire to see your children — and the necessity for adults to eventually accept one another's partners. It is a tough truth that your marriage will suffer if you continue to allow your adult children to remain estranged from your wife.

You should keep in touch with your son periodically with personal updates, tell him you miss him and encourage him to get in touch when he is ready. If you have something to apologize for, then apologize and offer to talk. If you created extra sadness for your ex-wife by leaping into your current relationship quickly, then you should acknowledge and apologize to your ex, also. What you should not negotiate over is the fact that you are now married to someone else. At some point, both children must let your wife accompany you into their lives.

Dear Amy: My husband looks at his phone, dialing numbers, sending and reading texts, etc. while driving. I believe this is unsafe, even for a second.

Our child will be driving in a few years and this is dangerous behavior to model.

My husband's response is, "You could never be a pilot" (he is) because, "you can't do two things at once." My response is that he could kill or injure us, plus there are safety alarms, etc. in airplanes not found in cars.

I would be OK with driving all the time, but that doesn't fix when he does drive with my child or others in the car. I'm a critical care nurse and all about safety. Any advice?
— Worried Pilot's Wife

Dear Worried: According to the National Safety Council (NSC.org), an estimated 1.6 million car crashes were caused by texting in 2017.

How many major airlines experienced crashes in 2017? Zero.

Your husband is presumably a data guy. Point him toward the data and ask him to treat his family members like the precious cargo you are.

Dear Amy: "Anguished Mother" reported that a stranger approached her young adopted son and suggested DNA testing for the boy.

I would not have believed this, except I am the parent of an adopted child of a different race. You would NOT believe the things strangers say to us!
— Been There

Dear Been There: I'm in the same boat. And yes, I would believe it.

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A+E NOTES

Victory Gardens announces 2018-19 season

Victory Gardens Theater will stage the Chicago premiere of Paula Vogel's Tony Award-nominated drama "Indecent" as part of its 44th season, the Lincoln Park company announced Friday. The play-within-a-play is inspired by the true story of a 1923 Broadway premiere that featured a forbidden lesbian romance and sparked an obscenity trial. "Indecent" plays Sept. 21 to Nov. 4.

Next up will be a world premiere from Chicago playwright Ike Holter: "Rightlynd." Lisa Portes will direct the latest addition to Holter's play cycle set in Chicago-inspired

neighborhoods (Nov. 9 to Dec. 23).

Opening in the new year will be Dominique Morriseau's "Pipeline," an examination of our public school system (Feb. 1 to March 3). In the spring, Marti Lyons will direct "Cambodian Rock Band," Lauren Yee's rock mystery about a father and daughter facing the past (April 5 to May 5). The world premiere of Madhuri Shekar's "Miriam for President" about a student council candidate who escaped a sex trafficking ring, will close out the season (June 7 to July 7). All performances take place at Victory Gardens Theater, 2433 N. Lincoln Ave.
— Morgan Greene

'Golden Girls' returns to Hell in a Handbag

The Golden Girls will make their return in Hell in a Handbag's 2018 season, along with a revival of

"L'Imitation of Life" and a Charles Ludlam play, the campy Andersonville company announced Thursday.

"L'Imitation" (March 31 to May 6), a parody of the 1959 melodrama "Imitation of Life," opens the season in the spring.

Dorothy, Rose, Blanche and Sophia will make a summer splash in "The Golden Girls: The Lost Episodes, Vol. 2" (June 19 to Sept. 7). Written by artistic director David Cerda and directed by Becca Holloway, "The Golden Girls" will feature Cerda as Dorothy.

In the fall, Shade Murray will direct Charles Ludlam's film-noir throwback "The Artificial Jungle" (Sept. 20 to Oct. 28). And, for Halloween: "The Golden Girls: Bea Afraid!"

"L'Imitation of Life," "Artificial Jungle" and "Bea Afraid!" will take place at Stage 773, 1225 W. Belmont Ave. "Golden Girls" will run at Mary's Attic, 5400 N. Clark St.
— Morgan Greene

If you were treated at Silver Cross Hospital and Medical Centers between January 1, 2002 and October 17, 2017 you may be affected by a Class Action Settlement.

What is the Settlement about?

A settlement has been reached in a class action lawsuit involving Silver Cross Hospital and Medical Centers d/b/a Silver Cross Hospital (Silver Cross) in which Silver Cross has agreed to take certain remedial measures relating to its billing practices and liens on third-party liability claims.

The lawsuit alleges that Silver Cross has a practice of placing a lien against claims that patients treated at Silver Cross have against third parties for injuries causing the patient to be treated at Silver Cross, and that Silver Cross' practice violates its contractual obligations and certain Illinois laws.

Silver Cross denies any and all wrongdoing in connection with the claims that have or could have been brought against it in this lawsuit.

All claims against Silver Cross except for the Consumer Fraud Act claim have been dismissed with prejudice and all appeals have been exhausted.

Plaintiff and Silver Cross have agreed to settle to avoid the costs, distraction, and uncertainty of continued litigation.

Who is a Class Member?

You are a Class Member if you were treated at Silver Cross, and at the time of your treatment were insured by a health insurance company of which Silver Cross was an in-network provider between January 1, 2002 and October 17, 2017.

Will I get a payment?

No, the Settlement calls for remedial relief, so there will be no payment to Class Members.

What are my rights?

If you are a Class Member and do not opt out, you will release certain legal rights against Silver Cross,

as set forth in the full Notice and in the Settlement Agreement. If you do not want to take part in the Settlement, you have the right to opt out. To opt out, you must do so by April 20, 2018.

Class Members have the right to object to the Settlement. If you want to object, you must do so by April 20, 2018. Information on how to opt out or object is contained in the full Notice and available at www.illinoislienactlitigation.com. You do not need to hire your own lawyer, but you may do so at your own expense.

When is the Approval Hearing?

A Final Approval Hearing to consider approval of the Settlement is scheduled to be held in Courtroom A236, Will County Annex, 57 North Ottawa Street, Joliet, IL 60432, on April 25, 2018, at 9:30 a.m. At that time, the Court will also consider Plaintiff's Counsel's request for attorneys' fees, which is included as part of the Settlement Agreement. You may appear at the hearing, but your attendance is not required. The date and location for this hearing may be changed on further Order of the Court. Check the website below for updates.

This is a Summary, where can I get more information?

You can get complete settlement information, including a copy of the full Notice and the Settlement Agreement, by visiting www.illinoislienactlitigation.com or by contacting Plaintiff's Counsel: Larry D. Drury, Ltd., 100 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2200, Chicago, IL 60602, (312) 346-7950, ldd@larrydrury.com or John H. Alexander & Associates, 55 West Monroe Street, Suite 2455, Chicago, IL 60603, (312) 263-7731, john@jalexanderlaw.com.

www.illinoislienactlitigation.com

WATCH THIS: SATURDAY



Lizzie Brochere

"Falling Water" (9 p.m., 12:01 a.m., USA): Sabine (Brittany Allen), the older sister of Tess (Lizzie Brochere), begins to show symptoms that suggest she is falling apart in a new episode called "Love Is a Dreamer." Meanwhile, Taka and Alex (Will Yun Lee, Sepideh Moafi) pay a visit to Shadowman's family, and Burton (David Ajala) struggles with his increasing guilt. Bennett puts out a contract on Woody (Kai Lennox).

"2018 Winter Olympics" (2 p.m., NBC): Biathlon is all about control as competitors must calm down after skiing great distances in order to be able to accurately shoot a rifle. A gold medal is on the line today in the women's 12.5K mass start. Team USA's Susan Dunklee, who won silver at the 2017 World Championships, is the only U.S. bi-athlete to medal in an Olympics or a World Championship biathlon competition. Also, the men's aerials will be featured in freestyle skiing.

"MacGyver" (7 p.m., CBS): Though they're unsure whether a Navy SEAL is still alive, MacGyver (Lucas Till) and his cronies head for the Middle East to try to find him in "DIY or DIE." As usual, our hero has to improvise a rescue through unlikely means — with only a cell phone and a soccer ball to use in this case. George Eads, Justin Hires, Tristin Mays and Meredith Eaton co-star.

"Oceans of Crime" (7 p.m., 10 p.m., CNBC): This new documentary examines ongoing criminal activity being carried out in an unexpected location: the world's oceans, where illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing is wreaking havoc on the environment. Roughly 90 percent of American seafood is imported, and more than a quarter of that is caught illegally, with complete disregard for laws, national sovereignty or the future of the species in question. This epidemic is taking a heavy toll on fishing communities and, ultimately, the world's food supply.

"Planet Earth: Blue Planet II" (8 p.m., 11:30 p.m., BBCA): The "slow motion" underwater world is actually bustling with competition for food, as the new episode "Green Seas" vividly illustrates. Vast kelp forests thrive under the sun's rays from the surface, but a common octopus must master the tools of a great escape artist to elude its chief nemesis, the pajama shark. Elsewhere, a Garibaldi fish forms an instinctual alliance with sea otters to fend off marauding sea urchins from its seaweed garden.

"Wedding March 3: Here Comes the Bride" (8 p.m., Hallmark): Jack Wagner and Josie Bissett reprise their now-familiar roles as college sweethearts Mick and Olivia, who now run a wedding resort together in this third entry in the romantic comedy movie franchise. The Inn is expecting a full house on Valentine's Day weekend, as both of the couple welcome various family members and prospective in-laws. Comic chaos ensues, though, when Mick's daughter announces her plans to drop out of college, while his sister is moving ahead with her own wedding plans.

Hey, TV lovers: Looking for detailed show listings? TV Weekly is an ideal companion. To subscribe, go to www.iwantmytvmagazine.com or call 1-855-604-7004.

SATURDAY EVENING, FEB. 17

	PM	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00
BROADCAST	CBS 2	MacGyver: "DIY or DIE." ©	NCIS: New Orleans: "Down the Rabbit Hole."	48 Hours ©				News (N) ♦
	NBC 5	2018 Winter Olympics: Alpine Skiing, Short Track, Skeleton, Ski Jumping. (N) (Live) ©						NBC 5 News at 10pm (N)
	ABC 7	The Middle: "The Setup."	The Middle ©	blackish ©	blackish ©	20/20 ©		Eyewitness News (N) ♦
	WGN 9	Blackhawks Extra (N) ©	NHL Hockey: Washington Capitals at Chicago Blackhawks. From the United Center in Chicago. (N) (Live)					WGN News (N) ©
	Antenna 9.2	Morning	McHale	Knows Best	Jack Benny	Burns/Allen	Jeannie	Bewitched
	This TV 9.3	The Magnificent Seven	The Magnificent Seven	The Young Riders ©				Y'ng Rider ♦
	PBS 11	800 Words (N) ©	Father Brown: "The Mask of the Demon." ©			Death in Paradise ©		Victoria-Master ♦
	The U 26.1	King of Hill	King of Hill	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Family Guy	Family Guy	Burgers
	MeTV 26.3	Svengoolie: "Mysterious Island of Beautiful Women."				Batman ©	Batman ©	Star Trek ♦
	H&I 26.4	Hunter ©	Hill Street Blues ©			Hill Street Blues ©		Wiseguy ♦
CABLE	Bounce 26.5	♦ (6) Phone Booth '02) ♦ ♦	Exit Wounds (R,'01) ♦	Steven Seagal, DMX.				Glimmer ♦
	FOX 32	Boxing: Premier Boxing Champions. (N) (Live) ♦			Fox 32 News (N)	Inside the Bears		Hell's Kitchen ♦
	Ion 38	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU			Law & Order: SVU		Law-SVU ♦
	Telem 44	♦ (6) Epic ♦ ♦	The Expendables 3 (PG-13,'14) ♦ ♦	Sylvester Stallone. ©				Noticiero
	CW 50	AHL Hockey: San Antonio Rampage at Chicago Wolves. (N) (Live)						Crimes ♦
	UniMas 60	El barrendero (NR,'82) Cantinflas, María Sorté.				Vice (R,'15) ♦	Bruce Willis. ♦	
	WJYS 62	Paid Prog.	Moses	Bishop	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Ultimate
	Univ 66	♦ (6:55) Fútbol Mexicano Primera División (N) (Live)						Fútbol Mexicano Primera División (N) ♦
	AE	Live PD: Rewind (N) ©				Live PD: "Live PD -- 02.17.18." (N) (Live) © ♦		
	AMC	♦ (6:30) Independence Day (PG-13,'96) ♦ ♦ ♦	Will Smith. ©					Independence Day ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦
ANIM	Pit Bulls and Parolees	Pit Bulls and Parolees (N)	(9:03) The Vet Life (N)				Pit Bulls ♦	
BBCA	Planet Earth: Blue Planet	Planet Earth: Blue Planet II (N) ©					Planet Earth: Blue Planet	
BET	♦ (6:30) Big Momma's House 2 (PG-13,'06) ♦				A Madea Christmas (PG-13,'13) ♦ ♦			
BIGTEN	College Basketball: Rutgers at Maryland. (N) (Live) ©		The B1G	The B1G			The B1G	
BRAVO	♦ (6:44) Next Friday (R,'00) ♦ ♦	Ice Cube. ©			(8:52) Next Friday (R,'00) ♦ ♦ ♦			
CLTV	News at 7	News (N)	News at 8	News (N)	Chic.Best	Weekend	News (N)	
CNBC	Oceans of Crime (N) ©	American Greed ©			American Greed ©		Oceans of ♦	
CNN	CNN Special Report (N)	The Radical Story			The Radical Story		Eighties ♦	
COM	♦ (5:20) Horrible Bosses	(7:50) Horrible Bosses 2 (R,'14) ♦ ♦	Jason Bateman. © ♦					
DISC	Street Outlaws: "Racing in the Streets." (N) ©						Outlaws ♦	
DISN	♦ (6) Zombies! Andi Mack	Disney	Stuck		Stuck	Andi Mack	Bunk'd ©	
EI	♦ (6:30) He's Just Not That Into You (PG-13,'09) ♦ ♦						He's Just Not That Into You '09) ♦ ♦ ♦	
ESPN	College Basketball: North Carolina at Louisville. (N)						College Basketball (N) ♦	
ESPN2	College Basketball: Oklahoma State at TCU. (N) (Live)						College Basketball (N) ♦	
FNC	Watters' World (N) ©	Justice With Jeanine (N)			Greg Gutfeld (N)		Watters ♦	
FOOD	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive			Diners, Drive		Diners ♦	
FREE	♦ (6:25) Despicable Me (PG,'10) ♦ ♦ ♦		The Goonies (PG,'85) ♦ ♦ ♦				Sean Astin. © ♦	
FX	Captain America: The Winter Soldier (PG-13,'14) ♦ ♦ ♦	Chris Evans. ©					Gianni Ver	
HALL	♦ (6) Cooking With Love	Wedding March 3: Here Comes the Bride (NR,'18)					Golden Girls	
HGTV	Fixer Upper ©	Fixer Upper ©			House Hunters Reno (N)		Log Cabin	
HISTV	Black Mass (R,'15) ♦ ♦ ♦	Johnny Depp, Joel Edgerton. ©				Pawn Stars	Pawn ♦	
HLN	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	
IFC	Enemy of the State (R,'98) ♦ ♦ ♦	Will Smith, Gene Hackman. ©					Enemy ♦	
LIFE	Stalked by My Ex (NR,'17) Yves Bright. ©				(9:02) Who Killed My Husband? ('16) ♦			
MSNBC	The Last Word	The 11th Hour			Deadline: White House (N)		Hardball (N)	
MTV	♦ (6) Hitch (PG-13,'05) ♦ ♦ ♦	Will Smith, Eva Mendes. ©			Pitch Perfect (PG-13,'12) ♦ ♦ ♦			
NBCSCH	Pregame (N)	Bensinger	College Basketball: Bradley at Valparaiso. (N) (Live)				Postgame	
NICK	Thunder (N)	Nicky (N)	Full House	Full House	Goldbergs	Goldbergs	Friends ©	
OVATION	♦ (6:30) Two Weeks Notice (PG-13,'02) ♦ ♦				Artful Detective (N)		Who-Rogr ♦	
OWN	Iyanla, Fix My Life ©	My 600-Lb. Life ©			My 600-Lb. Life ©		Iyanla ♦	
OXY	Killer Couples ©	Snapped: Killer Couples			Killer Couples ©		Killer ♦	
PARMT	Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade (PG-13,'89) ♦ ♦ ♦	Harrison Ford. ©					Raiders ♦	
SYFY	♦ Tomorrow	The Chronicles of Riddick (PG-13,'04) ♦ ♦	Vin Diesel. ©				Futurama	
TBS	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Full Frontal	
TGM	For Whom the Bell Tolls (NR,'43) ♦ ♦ ♦	Gary Cooper, Ingrid Bergman. ©					Passage ♦	
TLC	Say Yes to the Dress (N)	Say Yes to the Dress ©			Say Yes to the Dress ©		Say Yes ♦	
TLN	Exalted	Pacific Garden Mission	In Grace		Humanitarian		Pure Pas	
TNT	2018 NBA All-Star Saturday Night (N) (Live) ©						Final Space (N) ©	
TOON	Cleveland	Family Guy	Rick, Morty	Rick, Morty	Family Guy	Dragon (N)	Dragon (N)	
TRAV	Ghost Adventures ©	Ghost Adventures (N) ©			The Dead Files (N) ©		Dead Files ♦	
TVL	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Mom ©	Mom ©	King	
USA	NCIS: "Gut Check."	NCIS: "Rogue." ©			Falling Water (N) ©		NCIS ♦	
VH1	Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby (PG-13,'06) ♦ ♦				Joe Dirt (PG-13,'01) ♦			
WE	Criminal Minds ©	Criminal Minds ©			Criminal Minds: "Poison." ©		Criminal ♦	
WGN America	Blue Bloods ©	Blue Bloods: "Payback."			Believe ©		Person ♦	
PREMIUM	HBO	The House (R,'17) ♦ Will Ferrell.	Silicon	Silicon	Here and Now ©			
	HBO2	2 Dope Queens ©	High Main.	The LEGO Batman Movie (PG,'17) ♦ ♦ ♦			Real Time ♦	
	MAX	The Last Boy Scout (R,'91) ♦ ♦ ♦	Bruce Willis.			(8:50) Die Hard (R,'88) ♦ ♦ ♦		
	SHO	♦ The Chi ©	(7:20) Collide (PG-13,'16) ♦			Boxing (N) ♦		
	STARZ	Bedtime Stories (PG,'08) ♦ ♦		(8:42) Counterpart ©		Coming to America ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦		
STZNC	♦ (6:58) The Birds (PG-13,'63) ♦ ♦ ♦	Rod Taylor.			Spartacus: Blood & Sand		Legally Bl ♦	

Oliver talking shop as 'Last Week Tonight' returns

BY MEREDITH BLAKE
Los Angeles Times

NEW YORK — "Thank you for coming," John Oliver told a room full of reporters who gathered this week at HBO's Midtown headquarters to query him about "Last Week Tonight." "I realize the Westminster Dog Show is on today. The fact you're here and not there means a great deal."

Such self-deprecation is typical for the British comedian, yet as "Last Week Tonight" heads into its fifth season Sunday on HBO (10 p.m. Central), even Oliver would find it hard to deny his cultural cachet. His show has won a slew of praise, including back-to-back Emmys for variety talk series, and perhaps even more remarkably, gotten Americans fired up about such seemingly bone-dry subjects as net neutrality and civil asset forfeiture.

Oliver talked about the show's labor-intensive creative process, Dustin Hoffman and Alec Baldwin and how fatherhood has influenced his comedy.

The interview has been edited for clarity and length.

Q: You're heading into

your fifth season. What's the biggest lesson you've learned so far about putting on the show?

A: The big lessons are less about the show that you see than the machine that produces that show. How you staff up, how you keep people interested. Those are the harder tricks. It's running the thing underneath the show that is the steepest learning-curve part of it.

Q: You haven't been on the air since November, but you've been working most of that time. I am guessing the ratio of stories that get killed versus what makes it to air is pretty high. Can you talk a little bit about that process?

A: The thing that no one sees is the depth of things you don't see in a story. We research and check stories beyond what I think most people would assume so that we're usually calling and contacting people in each clip to make sure the story is being presented accurately. We speak to every company that we're talking to at length, repeatedly, just to make sure there's a dialogue in place so that we can run what we're going to say by them so they can ... have their say.



ERIC LIEBOWITZ/AP

"It's running the thing underneath the show that is the steepest learning-curve part of it," host John Oliver said.

Q: In December, you made news when you asked Dustin Hoffman about the sexual harassment allegations against him during a panel discussion about "Wag the Dog." Afterward, Alec Baldwin criticized you and Stephen Colbert on Twitter, saying you've turned your talk shows into "grand juries" — never mind that Hoffman wasn't appearing on your show. What did you think of what he said? And as a host with a prominent platform, do you feel any responsibility in the wake of #MeToo?

A: I think it's a personal

decision. I didn't feel like I had a choice. I can only speak for myself and that one example. There was a fully reported-out sequence of stories (about Hoffman). I knew that others were coming. I just don't feel like there was an

option not to bring that up. A grand jury in (Baldwin's) analogy is the journalism that takes place before the story comes out. I don't want to litigate something which is incomprehensible, because there's no point. But yeah, that is an absurd analogy. Those stories had come out, (Hoffman) had dodged red carpet questions (at the Gotham Film Awards the week before). I couldn't believe he was turning up to a conversation about a film about sexual harassment being covered up. I just cannot envision a world in which you don't think it's going to come up.

Q: You did a segment last year about vaccines that ended with you talking movingly about the decision to immunize your son, who was born prematurely. Has becoming a parent affected your

outlook at all?
A: I was absolutely in awe of what (Jimmy) Kimmel did (in talking about his infant son Billy's health) because it was so funny, so honest and something that I was physically incapable of doing. My wife had a really difficult pregnancy, my son was in intensive care for a while afterward, and it was very difficult and I just buried it.

When we did the piece about vaccines, I didn't want people to feel like I was just throwing information. ... I wanted to be sure there was some kind of emotional engagement in how scary it can be to have a child anyway. ... It wasn't easy to do, right? But it felt worthwhile because it was ... acknowledging the vulnerability that you feel and yet you should cling to the stability of science on this.

meredith.blake@latimes.com

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MOVIE RATING GUIDE

G-Suggested for GENERAL audiences
PG-Parental Guidance Suggested
Some material may not be suitable for children
PG-13 Parents Strongly Cautioned
Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13
R-Restricted Persons under 17 not admitted
unless accompanied by parent or adult guardian
NC-17 No children under 17 admitted

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CHICAGOLAND THEATRE DIRECTORY

Horoscopes



Today's birthday (Feb. 17): Your professional star is on the rise this year. Do the homework and coordinate plans with your team. Personal power surges this spring, for a physical energy boost next summer that revitalizes your health as well as your heart.

A partnership grows and blossoms.

Aries (March 21-April 19): Today is a 6. Nurture your spirit with peace and quiet. Reflect philosophically. Organize plans, with Mercury in Pisces. Dreams could seem prophetic.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): 9. Teamwork gets the job done. Avoid distractions. Your networks buzz and strengthen, with Mercury in Pisces. Grow your community by listening and participating.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): 8. Watch for career opportunities over the next three weeks, with Mercury in Pisces. Team up with a genius. Promote, share and connect.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): 8. Travel, communication and education flow with greater ease, with Mercury (plus the Moon, Neptune and Venus) in Pisces. Explore and discover.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): 9. For several weeks, with Mercury in Pisces, it's easier to track and grow your investments. Discuss finances together, and make important choices.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): 8. Communication flows easily in collaboration over three weeks, with Mercury in Pisces. Sign agreements and negotiate terms. You and a partner balance each other.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): 9. Listen to your own body, with Mercury (plus Moon, Neptune and Venus) in Pisces. Express excellence through physical action. Balance work, play and health.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): 8. The game gets more fun, with Mercury in Pisces. Express your heart. Romance charms and enchants. You're exceptionally persuasive, and others want to play.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): 7. Create your dream home over the next three weeks, with Mercury in Pisces. Talk about what you want with family. Settle into your nest together.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): 8. Your curiosity and intellect are wide awake. The next three weeks, with Mercury in Pisces hold high-powered communications and learning.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): 9. Begin a financially savvy phase for three weeks, with Mercury in Pisces. Profit through communication. You're smarter with shopping and financial decisions. Invest in success.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): 9. You're exceptionally brilliant over the next few weeks, with Mercury in your sign. Write, record and share your personal view. Network and share resources.

— Nancy Black, Tribune Content Agency

The Argyle Sweater



Bliss



Bridge

North-South vulnerable, South deals

North
 ♠ J8
 ♥ AKJ862
 ♦ J8
 ♣ 654

West
 ♠ 1074
 ♥ Q1094
 ♦ Q643
 ♣ 103

East
 ♠ Q965
 ♥ Void
 ♦ 10952
 ♣ QJ872

South
 ♠ AK32
 ♥ 753
 ♦ AK7
 ♣ AK9

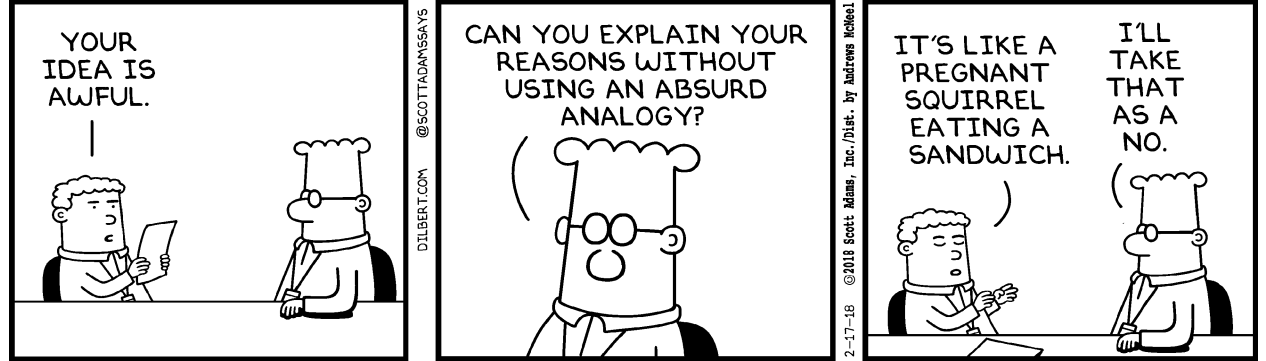
Today's deal was played in Australia about 20 years ago. West chose the aggressive diamond lead instead of a passive lead and paid the price for it. The jack of diamonds won the first trick and the ace of hearts revealed the heart position. A heart finesse later, declarer claimed his contract.

Several experts spent the evening trying to find a way for declarer to succeed on a club lead. They came up with a complicated line of play that resulted in a squeeze to make 12 tricks. Proud of their analysis, they showed the hand to the late Tim Seres the next day. Seres, a legendary card player, looked at the hand for a few moments, and agreed that their line of play would work. He volunteered, to the amazement of the others, that it would be much simpler to just ruff the losers and score all the trumps in dummy.

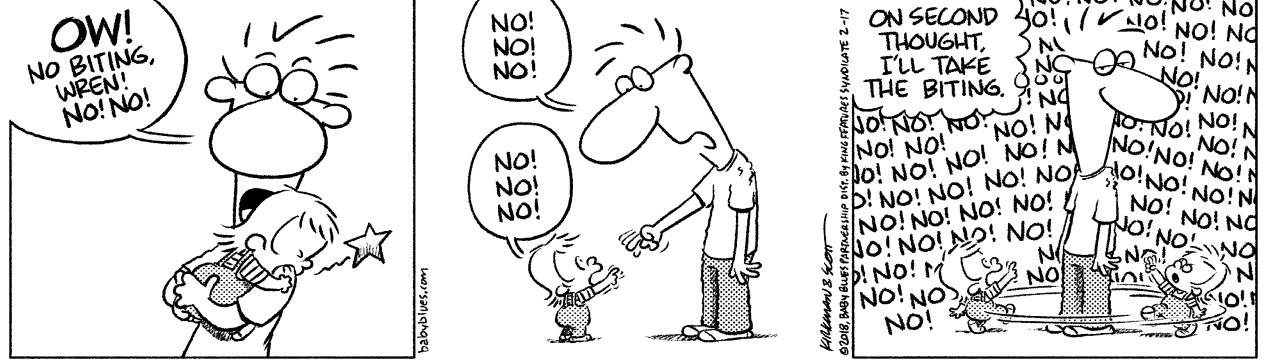
The Seres line of play: Win the club lead and lead a heart to the ace. Cash the ace and king of spades and ruff a spade, then a club to the king for another spade ruff. Should West ruff in, just discard dummy's club loser and take the heart finesse later for 12 tricks. Should West discard a diamond instead, ruff the spade and cross back to hand with the ace of diamonds for a heart finesse. Follow this with a diamond to the king and a diamond ruff. At trick 13, West ruffs East's queen of clubs for the only defensive trick.

— Bob Jones
 tcaeditors@tribpub.com

Dilbert



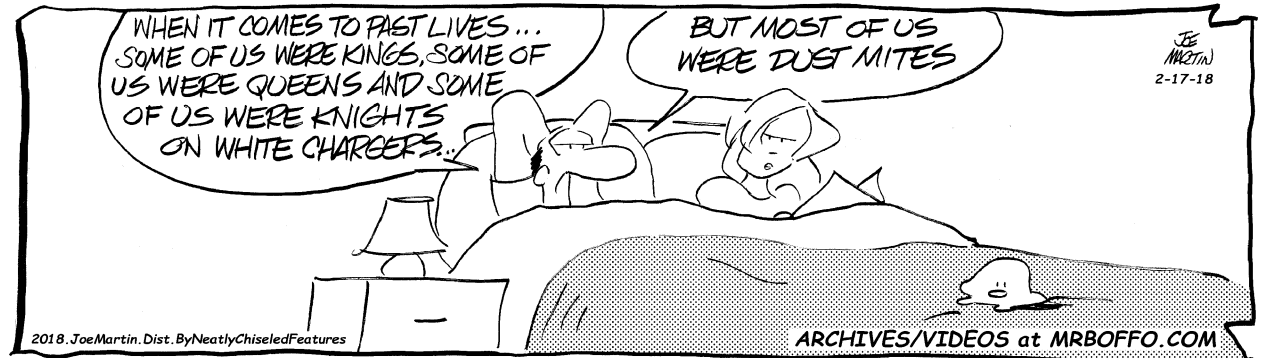
Baby Blues



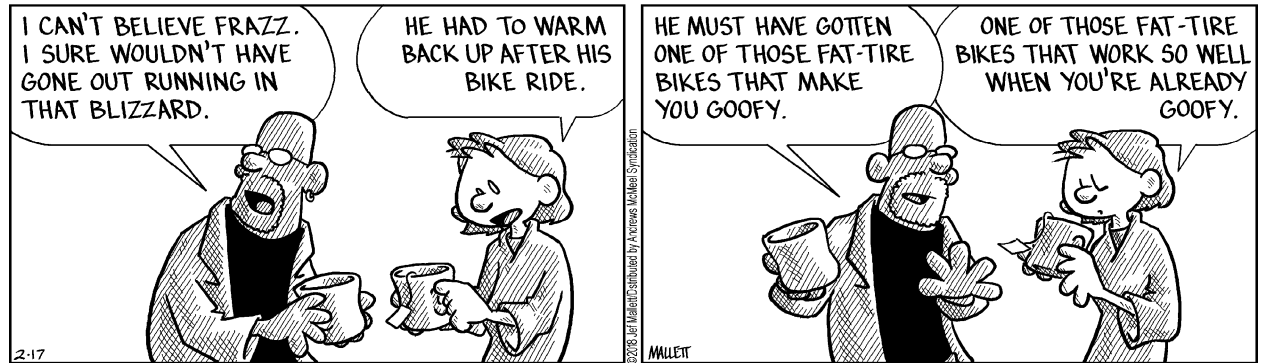
Zits



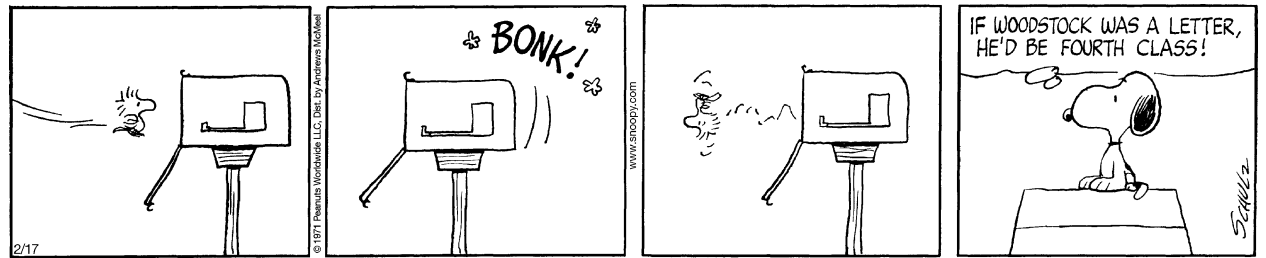
Mr. Boffo



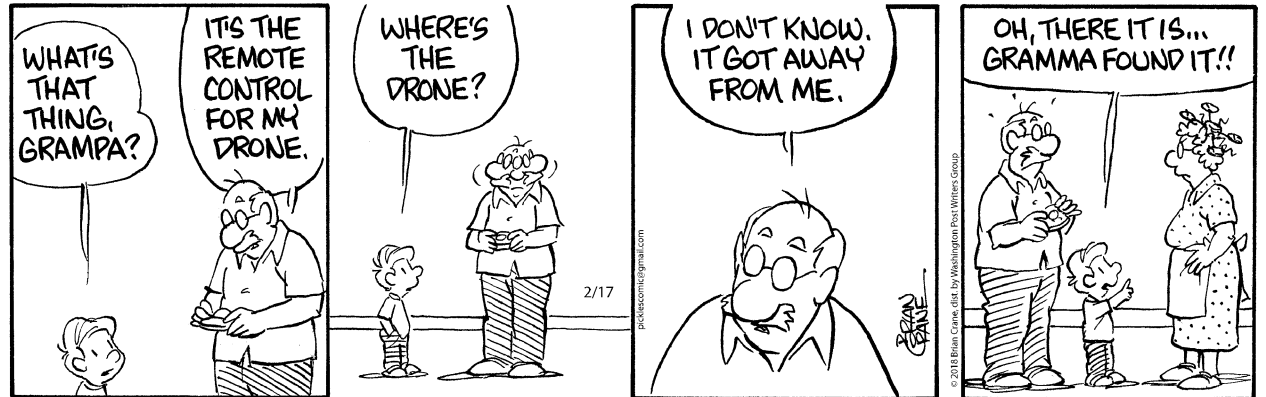
Frazz



Classic Peanuts



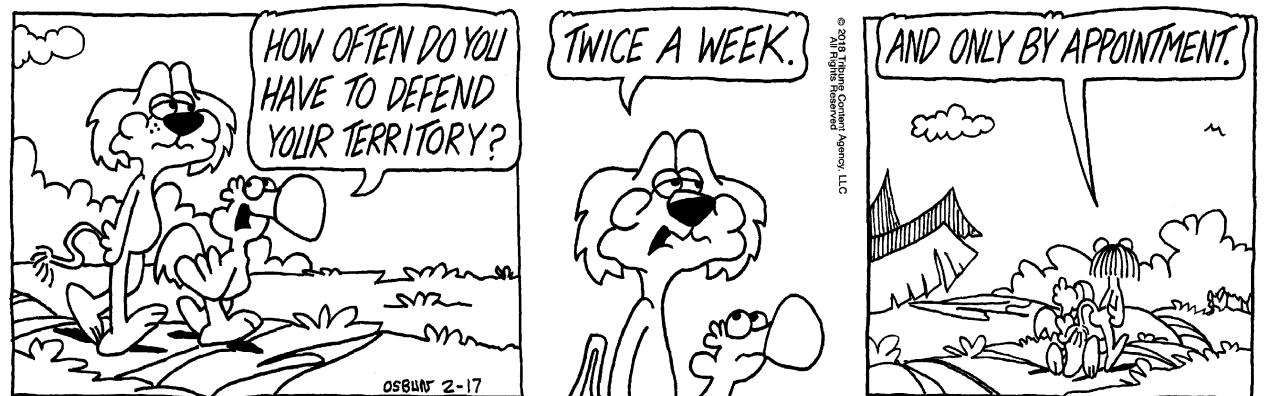
Pickles



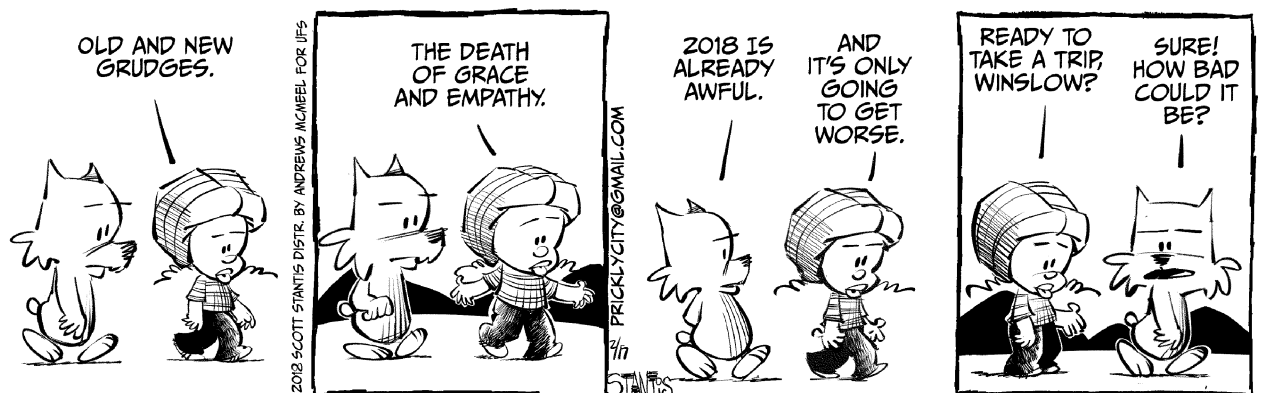
Dick Tracy



Animal Crackers



Prickly City



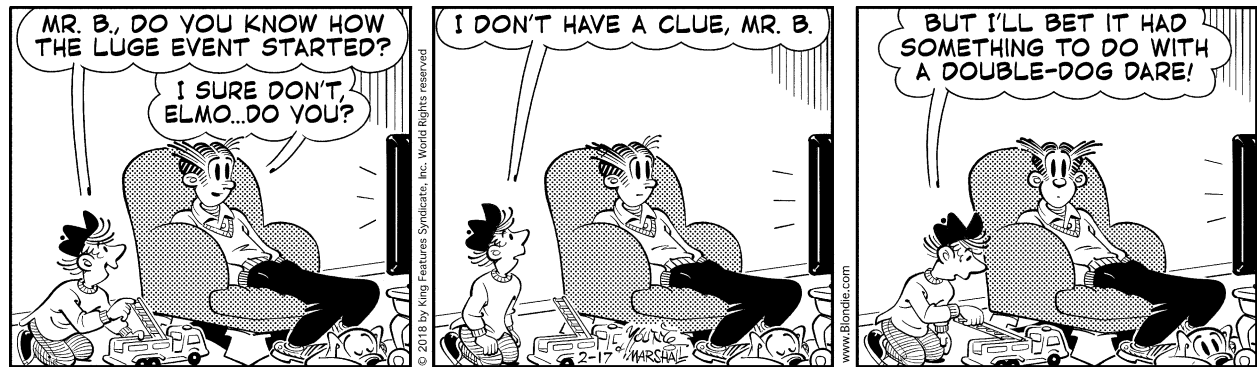
Dustin By Steve Kelley and Jeff Parker



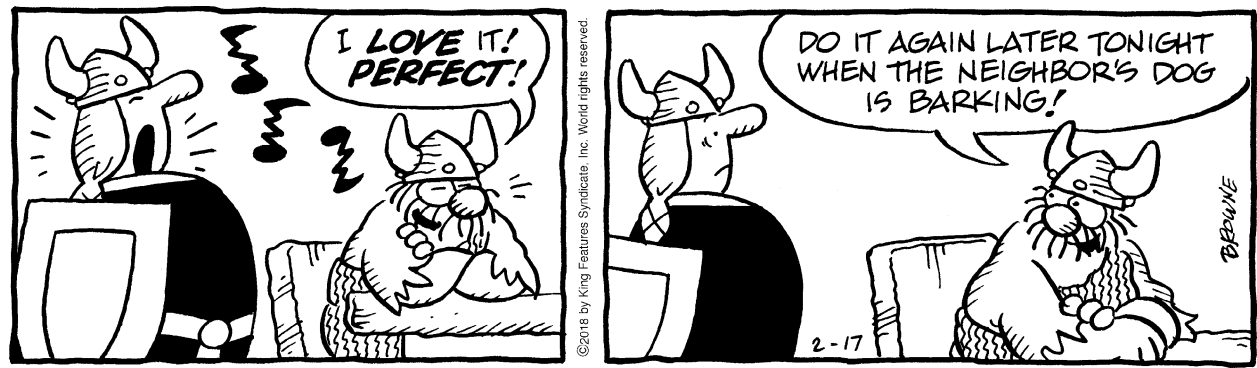
For Better or for Worse By Lynn Johnston



Blondie By Dean Young and John Marshall



Hägar the Horrible By Chris Browne



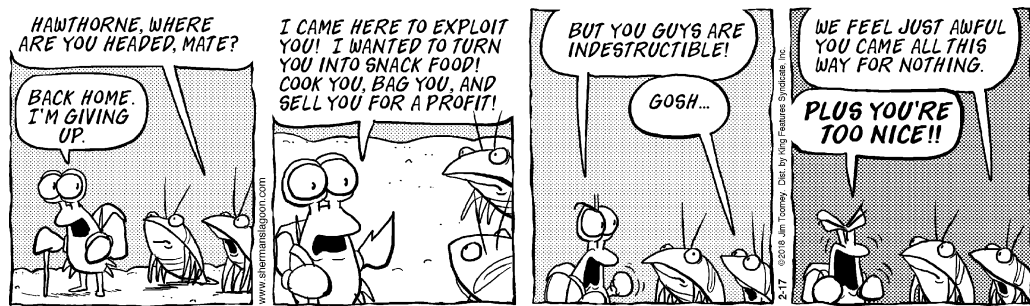
Mutts By Patrick McDonnell



WuMo By Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler



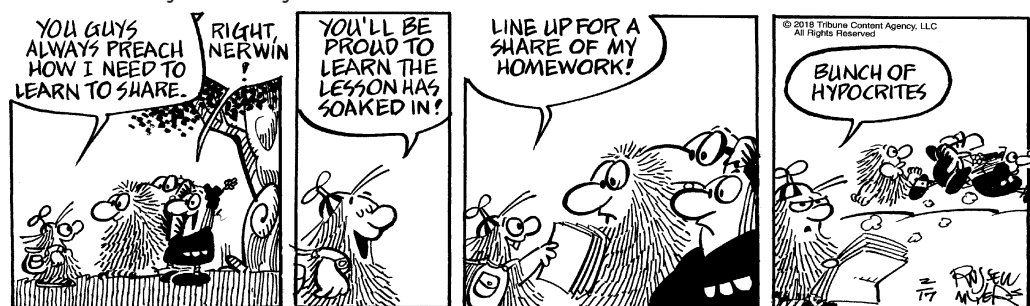
Sherman's Lagoon By Jim Toomey



Brewster Rockit: Space Guy! By Tim Rickard



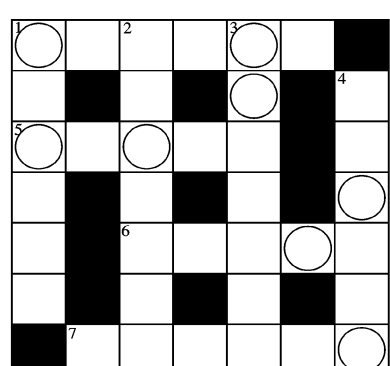
Broom-Hilda By Russell Myers



Trivia Bits

A breakaway republic in 1820s Texas and a fictional nation in the Marx Brothers' "Duck Soup" share what name (with slightly different spelling)?
A) Amerizonia
B) Fredonia
C) Libertonia
D) Portlandia
Friday's answer: "Looney Toons" fans know Acme Corporation makes giant rubber bands, earthquake pills, birdseed and anvils.
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Jumble Crossword



ACROSS
CLUE
1. Far East boat
5. Proportion
6. Old-fashioned
7. Trouble, difficulty
ANSWER
MAAPNS
IRAOT
DDEAT
DALEOR

DOWN
CLUE
1. Waited on
2. Bullfighter
3. One of 12
4. Flip-flop
ANSWER
REDEVS
OMARTDA
ELOSAPT
AALSND

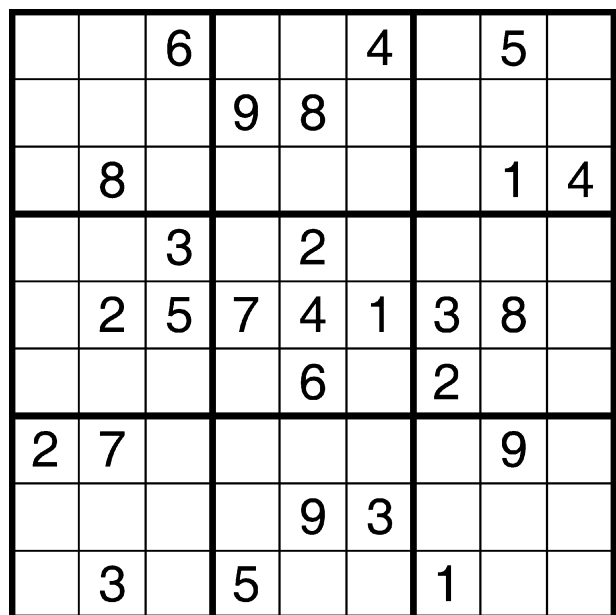
How to play - Complete the crossword puzzle by looking at the clues and unscrambling the answers. When the puzzle is complete, unscramble the circled letters to solve the BONUS.

DOUBLE BONUS
The circled letters can be unscrambled to form two different BONUS answers.
CLUE: Certain decorative containers
CLUE: Moves from one growing spot to another

I would love to hear from you... You can e-mail me at: DLHoyt@aol.com
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ANSWERS: 1-A-Sampson 5-A-Paragon 6-A-Portlandia 7-A-Floppy 2-B-Bullfight 3-C-Dodecahedron 4-D-Flip-flop

Sudoku 1 2 3 4

2/17



8	1	2	9	4	7	5	3	6
7	6	9	1	3	5	2	4	8
5	4	3	6	8	2	9	1	7
3	8	7	2	5	9	1	6	4
6	9	4	8	7	1	3	2	5
2	5	1	4	6	3	7	8	9
4	7	5	3	1	6	8	9	2
1	2	6	5	9	8	4	7	3
9	3	8	7	2	4	6	5	1

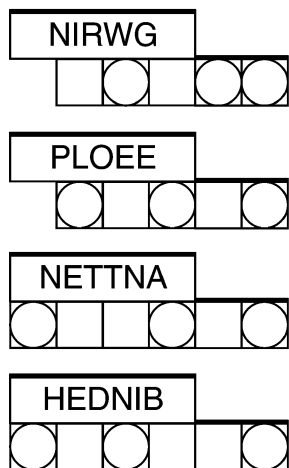
Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box in bold borders contains every digit 1 to 9.

Friday's solutions

By The Mephem Group © 2018. Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.

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.



Answer here



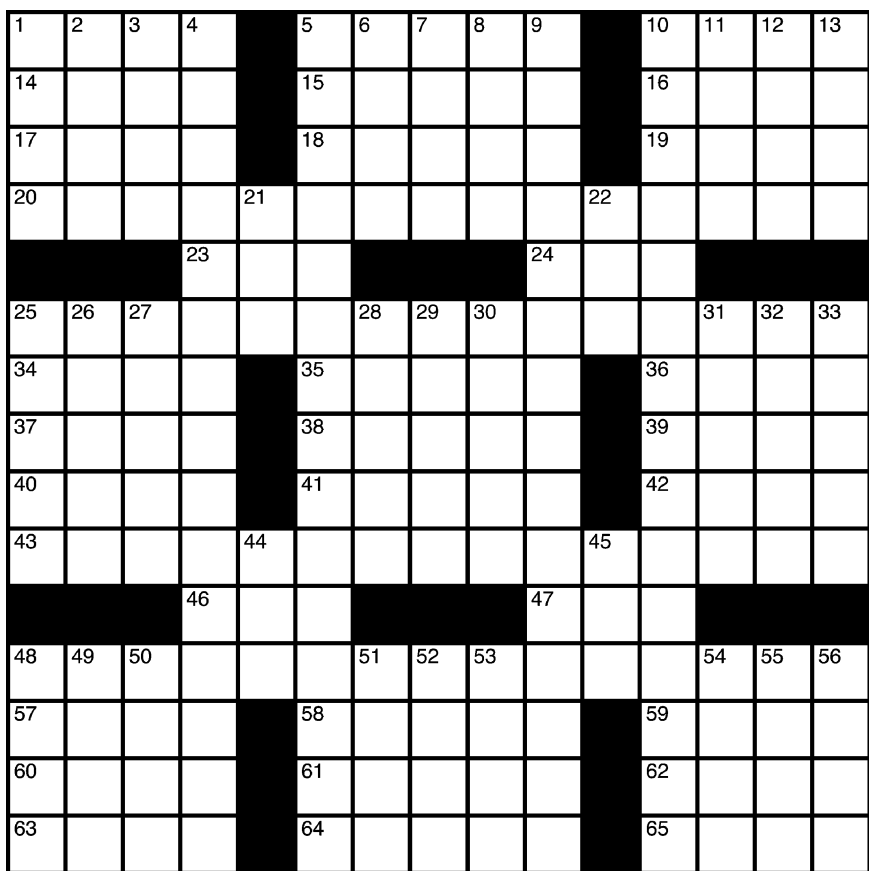
Friday's answers

Jumbles: TITLE SLANT VASTLY AVENGE
Answer: They knew the time of the author's reading because of the — TELL-TALE SIGNS

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek. © 2018 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.

Crossword

2/17



Across

- 1 Borrows without returning
- 5 Intestinal
- 10 Apple that's inedible
- 14 1966 N.L. batting champ
- 15 Drag-racing fuel, briefly
- 16 Very serious
- 17 Costner role
- 18 What tots might go after?
- 19 Many an RPI grad
- 20 Grasp
- 23 Atmo-kin
- 24 He served the fewest 20th-century days (83) as U.S. VP
- 25 Some drips
- 34 Somali-born model
- 35 Things for one to do
- 36 Blücher's title in "Young Frankenstein"
- 37 Swing improvisation?

- 38 Move like Miley
- 39 "___ it up and spit it out": "My Way" lyric
- 40 Learning ctr.
- 41 "Peg Woffington" novelist
- 42 Covered, in a way
- 43 Charter acquisition
- 46 Tailor's concern
- 47 H.S. hurdle
- 48 Markings on gridirons
- 57 Assorted mixture
- 58 ___ Bruni-Sarkozy, former French first lady
- 59 "Chocolat" actress
- 60 Title derived from "Caesar"
- 61 Early seal hunter
- 62 It's off-limits
- 63 Cease
- 64 Member of a 1969 MLB expansion team
- 65 Difficult situation

- 11 Flash Gordon foe
- 12 Mythical vessel
- 13 Random House co-founder
- 21 Layer
- 22 Tour finish?
- 25 Occupy, as a table
- 26 Firenze friends
- 27 2016 NFL returnee
- 28 Planter
- 29 City in southwestern New York
- 30 2013 Grammy winner for "Royals"
- 31 Sonicare rival
- 32 South African province KwaZulu-___
- 33 Kid stuff?
- 44 ___ Chess: video game
- 45 Train part
- 48 Clothes consumer?
- 49 Victor Laszlo's wife, in a classic film
- 50 Retro calling aid
- 51 Like a fantasy land?
- 52 Historic plaintiff Scott
- 53 Musical connector
- 54 One may be hatched
- 55 Strauss' "___ Alpinsinfonie"
- 56 Buffalo feature, often?

Friday's solution



Down

- 1 Value for your money, idiomatically
- 2 Film apiarist
- 3 A majority
- 4 Unrelenting attempt
- 5 Usury protection
- 6 He played Oskar in "Schindler's List"
- 7 Diminutive suffix
- 8 Realtor's measure
- 9 Land of Lincoln?
- 10 Airport agents see a lot of them

Want more puzzles?
Go to chicagotribune.com/games

NEWSPAPER
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OF COVERAGE INSIDE

Chicago Tribune CHICAGO SPORTS

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

BLACKHAWKS

Crawford's status unclear

Hawks still not sure when goalie will make his return to the ice

BY PAUL SKRBINA
Chicago Tribune

The goal all along has been to have Corey Crawford back in goal this season, Blackhawks coach Joel Quenneville has said many times.

But when he was asked Friday whether there was concern Crawford's injury, reported to be concussion-related, could be career-

UP NEXT
Capitals at Blackhawks
7:30 p.m. Saturday, WGN-Ch. 9

threatening, Quenneville was non-committal.

"Not sure about that," he said. "Too far out (to tell)."

A few things are for sure.

One, Crawford hasn't played since Dec. 23 when he was pulled during the first period of a loss to the Devils after allowing three goals on seven shots.

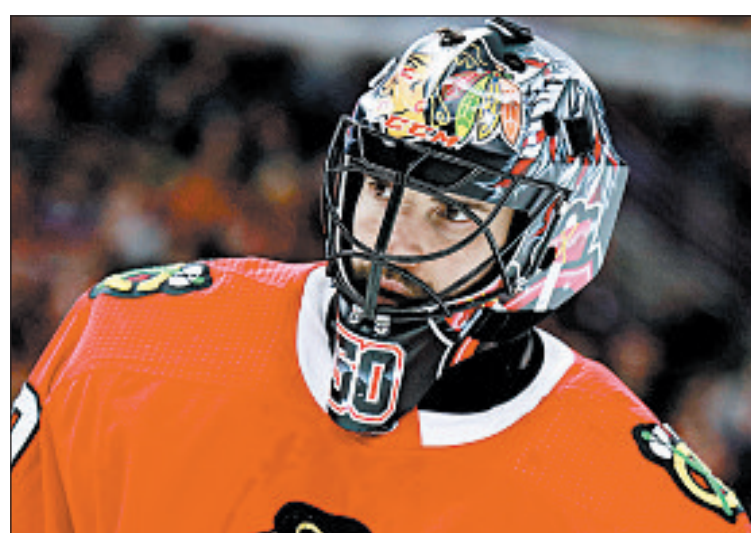
Two, Crawford has been on the ice with his teammates once since

then, on Monday when he sort of participated in the team's morning skate.

He has been absent from the ice since, and the Hawks — and Crawford himself — have revealed little about their future plans for the long or short term.

"Any competitor wants to be in," Crawford said Monday. "When your team is winning, you want to be a part of it. If it's the other way, you want to try to help. Either way, you want to be in there ... contributing in some

Turn to **Blackhawks**, Page 2



NUCCIO DINUZZO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The Blackhawks are not sure when, or if, goalie Corey Crawford will return to the ice. Crawford hasn't played since Dec. 23.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Growth spurt

Michigan State's Jackson sees draft stock rise with strong freshman season

BY SHANNON RYAN | Chicago Tribune

Jaren Jackson Jr. could have chosen a college where he would be the main star. Instead, he picked a deep and experienced Michigan State team on which players share the ball and the spotlight.

"I wanted to go in and have impact surrounded with players who have the same goals as me," Jackson said. "I would prefer to go where there are great players."

The freshman's skills were quickly appreciated on a talented Spartans squad that features five double-digit scorers and nine players averaging at least 10 minutes.

The 6-foot-11, 242-pound Jackson has established himself as arguably the best rim protector in the nation. He averages 3.39 blocked shots to go with his 11.6 points and 6.1 rebounds per game.

His draft stock is on the rise too. NBA draft.net currently projects Jackson as the No. 2 pick by the Hawks; until recently he was projected in the No. 5-7 range, where the Bulls appear likelier to be picking.

Several NBA scouts are sure to be on hand to see him Saturday when No. 2 Michigan State (25-3, 13-2 Big Ten) faces Northwestern (15-12, 6-8) at Allstate Arena.

It's Jackson's third trip to the state this season. Competing in the Champions Classic in November at the United Center — the second game of his college career — he showed his promise with 19 points on 7-of-10 shooting, seven rebounds and three blocks in just 24 minutes of an 88-81 loss to Duke.

Last month at Illinois, he was even more dominant, finishing with 21 points — shooting 5 of 6 from the field and 11 of 12

Turn to **Jackson**, Page 7

UP NEXT
Michigan State at Northwestern
1 p.m. Saturday, FOX-32

"He's a no-brainer," said one NBA scout said of Michigan State's Jaren Jackson Jr.

ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE



PAUL SULLIVAN
On the Cubs

Lester still king of Cubs' four aces

Cubs are counting on veteran to return to his No. 1-like form

MESA, Ariz. — Jon Lester believes the term "ace" is simply a word the media uses to differentiate starters and that there's no difference in the rotation once the season begins.

But the fact is the Cubs have three established ace-quality starters on their staff in Lester, Yu Darvish and Jose Quintana, with a potential fourth ace in Kyle Hendricks, who started their playoff opener in October against the Nationals.

Even without Jake Arrieta returning, it could be the best rotation the Cubs have had in more than a decade, assuming all pitch up to their capabilities.

"Everybody looks good on paper," Lester said Friday at Cubs camp. "With all these projections and computer programs now that people spit out about what you're going to do that season, yeah, it looks great."

"But we still have to show up and pitch, still have to do our job. The biggest thing is, especially early on, we put a lot of stress on our bullpen last year because of not getting deep into games and doing our jobs. So that's an improvement we need to do as a staff."

Could the Cubs have four aces?

The last time that happened on the North Side was in 2004 when Greg Maddux signed at the start of spring training to join Mark Prior, Kerry Wood and Carlos

Turn to **Sullivan**, Page 2

MORE BASEBALL

After a rough 2017 season, Sox shortstop Tim Anderson is more relaxed and confident heading into this year. **Page 3**



DIMITAR DILKOFF/AFP/GETTY

2018
WINTER OLYMPICS

Not so super: Vonn falls short of podium

A late mistake costs American skier Lindsey Vonn, above, a medal in the super-G. Japan's Yuzuru Hanyu becomes the first man since 1952 to successfully defend his figure skating title. **Pages 9-10**

BULLS

Markkanen, Dunn show what's to come for Bulls

Duo plays well during All-Star weekend's Rising Stars Challenge

BY K.C. JOHNSON
Chicago Tribune

The day after Lauri Markkanen almost made coach Fred Hoiberg pass out, the unflappable Bulls rookie acted as if nothing happened.

"He had a good spirit about him," Kris Dunn recalled. "He didn't brag or act cocky. He just came back to work."

NBA ALL-STAR GAME
7 p.m. Sunday, TNT

Markkanen and Dunn enjoyed the fruits of their first- and second-year labors Friday night at Staples Center in Los Angeles, competing against each other as the World team defeated the U.S. group 155-124 in the Rising Stars Challenge to kick off NBA All-Star weekend.

Markkanen finished with 15 points and six rebounds in 22 minutes for the World team, while Dunn, in just his second

game action since his nasty fall and concussion Jan. 17, had nine points, five assists and three steals in 19 minutes for the U.S.

But perhaps the defining moment of their season came just more than a month earlier all the way on the other coast, at New York's Madison Square Garden on Jan. 10.

That's the night Markkanen dunked all over Enes Kanter and sank eight 3-pointers en route to his season-high 33 points. That's also the night Dunn proved his perseverance and prowess at closing by sinking the go-ahead

basket in double overtime despite missing 14 of his first 17 shots.

And that was the night Hoiberg lightheartedly said Markkanen's highlight-reel dunk almost made him pass out.

"I'm surprised with his athletic ability," Dunn said this week. "You wouldn't think he could rise the way he can, (but) he has a lot of athletic ability. He's a phenomenal shooter."

"But what makes him good is his confidence. I mean, to do what he did at Madison Square

Turn to **Bulls**, Page 2

BULLS

Markkanen, Dunn up to challenge

Bulls, from Page 1

Garden, you're not going to find too many people who can do that off the rip being a rookie."

Dunn actually was more impressed with what happened the next day.

"He was ready to move on to the next one," Dunn said. "I think that's good about a player like Lauri — don't try to get too high, don't try to get too low."

"Of course you're going to look at the dunk a couple of times. Why wouldn't you?"

Markkanen, billed as a shooter, is more into dunks than one might think.

As the morning shootaround wound down that day at Madison Square Garden, he asked the yet-to-debut Zach LaVine to attempt a through-the-legs baseline dunk (that LaVine missed on his first try) so Markkanen could film it on his phone.

He takes pride in his athleticism.

"I don't think people were expecting that from me," Markkanen said.

To hear some say it, expectations were even lower this season for Dunn, who didn't get a sniff of the Rising Stars Challenge last season despite the Timberwolves selecting him fifth overall. Even second-round pick Malcolm Brogdon, the eventual Rookie of the Year, snagged an invitation.

There were plenty of armchair critics who already had labeled Dunn a bust after his underwhelming rookie season with the Timberwolves. Funny thing is, the president of basketball operations who traded him didn't fall in that category.

"I felt he was going to have a great year this year," Tom Thibodeau, also the Timberwolves coach, said.

Thibodeau based this on the exit meeting he had with Dunn after last season and Dunn's response to it, which basically was, in a decision that Thibodeau always chooses, to work harder.

"Kris is a very intelligent kid," Thibodeau said. "He's a tough kid, stubborn in a good way, and he was highly motivated."

"The defensive part of it, he had that coming in. The offensive part, he put a lot of work into it and he has played very well."

So well that Dunn has emerged as the Bulls' best closer.

"He has that clutch gene," Hoiberg said.

In the grand scheme of things, Friday night was a small cherry on the sundae. If the Bulls' rebuild is going to take flight, Dunn, Markkanen and LaVine need to start earning berths in the big-boy All-Star Game on Sunday.

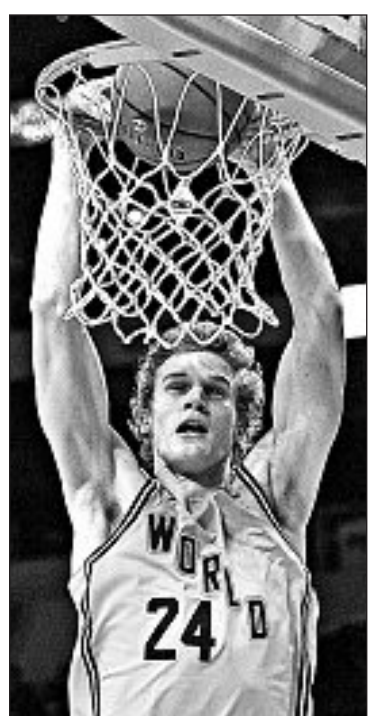
But Friday night also marked a measure of vindication for Dunn, which is why he took his family with him to enjoy All-Star weekend.

And the night also continued a seemingly seamless rookie season for Markkanen, 20, who never seems fazed by anything even as his exploits, such as his dunk on Kanter in January, cause a stir.

"He's a rock," Hoiberg said. "His overall confidence has been very impressive. The way he can bounce back from a tough performance and perform at a high level the next game, that's not easy to do when you're a rookie and you can't buy a drink yet."

"He does so many little things, and he's a great teammate. On some other teams, you could have some animosity for a rookie to get the attention he's getting. But guys are genuinely happy for him."

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KEVORK DJANSEZIAN/GETTY

Bulls rookie Lauri Markkanen dunks for two of his 15 points in Friday's Rising Stars Challenge.

BLACKHAWKS



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The Blackhawks' Ryan Hartman tangles with Josh Manson of the Ducks on Thursday at the United Center.

BLACKHAWKS NOTES

Hit with a 1-2 combo

Hartman winds up facing fists, then a penalty vs. Ducks

BY PAUL SKRBINA
Chicago Tribune

Ryan Hartman ducked while a few Ducks were hunting him Thursday night.

Just after Hartman had leveled Jakob Silfverberg with a clean hit during the second period of the Blackhawks' 3-2 loss, Ryan Kesler and Josh Manson made a mad dash in his direction.

Hartman ducked, causing Kesler and Manson, who had dropped his gloves, to collide.

Manson eventually landed a couple of punches on Hartman's face to earn himself a double-minor. Hartman was assigned a two-minute penalty on the play.

"I had my head on a swivel, not trying to get hit by three guys," Hartman said. "Kept my gloves

on, trying not to get punched in the face, which I did twice. ... I somehow got a roughing."

When asked whether he was surprised he was penalized for doing nothing wrong, Hartman considered his words carefully.

"You said it," he said.

History not his story: Duncan Keith made sure his name wasn't on the wrong side of history with some other Blackhawks on Thursday when he scored for the first time this season on his 139th shot on goal.

Keith was on pace to shatter the record for most shots on goal in a season without a score — 154 — set by former Hawks defenseman Gilles Marotte in 1967-68.

Mike McMahon Jr., another former Hawk, is second on that list with an 0-for-144 showing in the next season. A third former Hawk, Doug Jarrett, was 0-for-116 in 1968-69.

"Face it, it had been awhile,"

said Keith, who is second on the Hawks with 25 assists.

"I've had lots of shots, but it was nice to see it go in for sure. It would have been nice to be part of a win."

It was Keith's first goal since March 16, 2017, a span of 169 shots and 71 games, including four in the postseason.

He said it: "There was a moment of silence (Thursday) for a fallen police officer (Chicago police Cmdr. Paul Bauer). ... Stories like you hear (about) the school in Florida (where 17 died in a mass shooting). There are a million things you can use to try to keep things in perspective, to not just be down and negative (about losing). We're excited to come to the rink and to do our job. We can have fun with it and find ways to stay positive and get out of this hole that we're in." — Hawks captain Jonathan Toews.

Crawford's status remains unclear

Blackhawks, from Page 1

way."

Which he can't do from injured reserve, where he also was for three games earlier in December with an upper-body injury.

Crawford, who suffered a concussion at the end of the 2015-16 season, said he wants to play again this year.

"It's just a matter of getting to that point," he said Monday.

For all intents and purposes, the team is out of the postseason picture, the first time in 10 seasons that has happened.

Quenneville acknowledged as much Friday after his team practiced. They were 12 points out of the second wild-card spot behind four teams and had a 0.7 percent chance of qualifying for the postseason, according to hockey-reference.com.

"I don't know, even at the start of a season, if we've been in this spot," Quenneville said. "Uncharted waters. It's ugly when you're looking at the scenario we're at. There's nothing positive about it right now."

In other words, even if Craw-

CAPITALS AT BLACKHAWKS
TV/radio: 7:30 p.m. Saturday; WGN-9, WGN-AM 720.

Storyline: The Blackhawks have lost eight in a row and all hope to make the playoffs in the process. The Capitals (33-17-7) are in first place in the Metropolitan Division.

Trending: Patrick Kane has one goal in his last 12 games, and none in his last five. ... Alex DeBrincat has seven goals and three assists in his last 10 games.

ford did return, which doesn't seem likely any time soon, he couldn't save the season.

So what's the plan?

"As a coach you're always thinking in the short term, about the next game," Quenneville said. "If he can get healthy ... that would be the primary goal."

"From there you make your decisions. Right now we don't have any other decision other than trying to get him healthy."

Which would seem to bode well for the team's long-term plans.

Crawford has two years and \$11 million remaining on his contract before he becomes an

unrestricted free agent.

The 33-year-old was playing at an All-Star level before his latest injury sidelined him. He is 16-9-2 with a .929 save percentage and a 2.27 goals-against average.

But at this point, what's the point of him playing again? "When he's good enough to get back out there, he will," Quenneville said. "His health is going to dictate the answer to that question, and we'll go from there."

The Hawks, losers of eight in a row overall and seven in a row at home, have nowhere to go but up — or further down — from here.

They have scored two or fewer goals in 13 of their last 16 games.

They are 24-26-8.

"On a stretch when your team is down ... it's not easy to get everyone excited," Quenneville said. "We're all pros. You have to move on and look at being the best you can be for that game, that shift. We try to reinforce things by being positive and trying to get the most out of everyone."

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Lester king of the Cubs' potential aces

Sullivan, from Page 1

Zambrano — with Matt Clemen as the No. 5 — in what was called a dream-team rotation.

Maddux, then 37, was past his prime but still won 16 games that season. It didn't matter in the long run, however, as Prior and Wood combined for only 14 victories while battling injuries, and the Cubs blew a wild-card spot in the final week.

Like Lester said of this year's starters, everybody looks good "on paper."

The key to the 2018 rotation might be Lester. He's 34 with a lot of miles on his arm and is coming off a subpar season in which he posted a 4.33 ERA, his highest since 2012 with the Red Sox (4.82).

Lester went on the disabled list in mid-August with shoulder fatigue after allowing nine runs in an outing while recording only five outs. He became the only pitcher in 30 years to allow at least nine runs in an inning twice in one season.

Lester said the clunkers are long forgotten and he has a "hard time remembering what happened yesterday." He said he didn't have to do anything differently this offseason to prepare. Physically, he said, he feels as good as ever.

"He's absolutely focused, motivated, ready," manager Joe Maddon said. "He's not satisfied with last year and he's ready to do something about it. I'm really eager to see him play."

Was last year a blip or a trend? Lester is only one season removed from going 19-5 with a 2.44 ERA in 2016, when he saved the Cubs' season by winning Game 5 of the World Series and then came on in relief in the Game 7 clincher over the Indians in Cleveland.

No matter what he does the rest of his Cubs career, Lester's \$155 million contract already has paid off. But obviously Lester has too much pride to tolerate a 4-plus ERA, and he's not going to be satisfied playing out the final three years of his mega-deal being a midlevel starter.

In a long and wide-ranging news conference Friday, Lester touched on several topics. As usual, he didn't hold back — on anything.

He said playing without John Lackey as a teammate was "a little weird" and that no one on the staff has "that edge" Lackey exhibited. Quintana and Darvish are "pretty mellow," he noted, and "you don't even know if (Hendricks) is breathing half the time."

Lester called the sluggish free-agent market "alarming," saying he assumed a "mass signing" would happen in early February.

"We're not talking about middle relievers with 5 ERAs," he said. "We're talking about big guys — guys that need to be playing."

Lester saved his best for the proposed pitch clock, which he called a "terrible idea."

"The beautiful thing about our game is there's no time," he said. "To be honest with you, the fans know what they're getting into when they go to a game."

In other words, stop complaining about the pace and just enjoy the game.

"Every game has a flow, and that's what makes it special," he said. "If you want to go to a timed event, go to a timed event. I'm sorry I'm old school about it, but baseball has been played the same way for a long time, and now we're trying to add time to it."

"I think we're missing something somewhere." Amen.

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ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/TRIBUNE

"He's absolutely focused, motivated, ready," Joe Maddon says of Jon Lester, above.

WHITE SOX



ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Tim Anderson hopes to improve on his 2017 batting numbers, which included a .257/.276/.402 slash line.

Let's have fun

Anderson wants to enjoy himself more this season

BY CHRIS KUC
Chicago Tribune

GLENDALE, Ariz. — Tim Anderson has a main goal for the 2018 season and it is not based on gaudy numbers.

"Have fun, have fun, just have fun," the White Sox shortstop said from spring training Friday at Camelback Ranch. "The rest of the goals will get accomplished when I have fun."

There's a reason Anderson is stressing the fun part of playing baseball for a living: He didn't have much of it during a trying 2017 season in which the 24-year-old struggled after the murder of Brandon Moss, his close friend and godfather to Anderson's baby daughter, in May.

Anderson carried the emotional toll onto the field and the result was a roller-coaster season at the plate and defensively. He rallied late to finish with a .257/.276/.402 slash line, 17 home runs, 56 RBIs and 15 stolen bases while committing a major-league-high 28 errors.

That led Anderson to work on

"everything" during the off-season, and he plans to continue doing so throughout spring training and into the season.

"I have a lot of work to do," said Anderson, who is among a large group of position players at camp ahead of Monday's mandatory date. "I put everything I had on the table last year and it was a tough year, but it was just (one) season. It's a new season."

"It was a learning experience for me, and I'm excited about this year. I'm ready to go."

Anderson was full of smiles as he greeted teammates during the first three days of camp, and there is a calmness emanating from him.

"This is the most comfortable I've been," Anderson said. "I'm talking more, smiling more. I'm ... so honored and humbled and excited to be in the position I am."

Manager Rick Renteria has noticed a positive change in Anderson.

"He actually looks very, very relaxed — he looks very happy," Renteria said. "The situation he had going on last year takes hold of you a little bit and tugs at your emotions when you have a loss of a friend that you consider almost a brother. This year he's able to come in (with a) fresh mind to

compete and do the job he ended up doing the latter part of the season."

Even during his most ebullient moments Anderson is reserved, but teammates tend to gravitate toward him. That figures to equate to Anderson becoming more of a leader in a clubhouse filled with impressionable young players as the Sox continue their rebuild.

"I don't know what it is, (but) I attract a lot of people — I just love to rub people the right way," Anderson said. "I treat people how they are supposed to be treated and the rest comes with it. I definitely am planning to be more vocal and ready to step into a leader role."

Renteria has little doubt Anderson will continue to develop into a respected voice in the clubhouse.

"I wouldn't be surprised if he was able to express himself a little bit more," Renteria said. "He has another year under his belt."

"To be able to communicate with teammates, you can't force those things. The role of leadership (is) achieved by the way he goes about his business every single day."

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WHITE SOX NOTES

Castillo getting to know pitchers

BY CHRIS KUC
Chicago Tribune

GLENDALE, Ariz. — Working with a new group of pitchers presents challenges that **Wellington Castillo** has overcome previously during his eight seasons in the major leagues.

The White Sox are Castillo's fifth team since the catcher broke in with the Cubs in 2010 — other stops include the Mariners, Diamondbacks and Orioles — and each time he has learned to communicate with a new group.

"It's not easy, honestly, but ... I know how to manage that situation," Castillo said Friday during Sox training camp at Camelback Ranch. "The more I catch them, the more I talk to them, that relationship will come out. I don't worry about that. I know myself, and I'm going to try to get with everybody to get confidence out of them."

That is an important factor when it comes to a Sox pitching

staff that figures to include plenty of young arms both in the rotation and bullpen.

"They're really young, great arms," Castillo said. "All I'm thinking about now is trying to get in their mind, make them think (they) belong here, (they) can do this. It's not about just throwing hard; it's about staying focused and knowing what you want to do."

Sox manager **Rick Renteria**, who was with the Cubs while Castillo was there in '14, has kept an eye on how the veteran is interacting with young hurlers.

"When you're watching him work, it's the conversations, the questions he's asking them," Renteria said. "He's drawing out of them what it is they like (and) don't like, where they can set up, what kind of pitches they like to use in certain situations, things of that nature. It's just developing a relationship."

Starting anew: Dylan Covey

was thrown right into the fire after the Sox selected the right-hander in the Rule 5 draft before the '17 season. In 18 games — 12 of them starts — Covey struggled and finished the season with a 0-7 record and 7.78 ERA.

"It was a learning experience," Covey said. "I was a Rule 5 guy who went from Double A to the big leagues and there was definitely an adjustment period. Thankfully, the White Sox saw enough potential in me to keep me on the team all year and give me another opportunity this year in spring to make the team again."

Renteria said Covey will get plenty of opportunities during camp to prove he belongs in the majors.

"The reality of giving him the ball and knowing he had a look of wanting to have success, do his job, spoke volumes for him," Renteria said. "We're going to see if we can get him to make the next jump."

CUBS

Heyward ready to swing into action

Right fielder believes if he can stay healthy, his hitting will come along

BY MARK GONZALES
Chicago Tribune

MESA, Ariz. — There are no points of emphasis at the plate this spring for the Cubs' Jason Heyward as he tries to elevate his offense to the level of his Gold Glove Award-winning defense in right field.

"Play," Heyward said repeatedly Friday, three days before the first full-squad workout at spring training. "Everything else is going to take care of itself."

Heyward will get that opportunity to play, with certain provisions, manager Joe Maddon said.

"I know hitting is a topic of discussion," Maddon said of Heyward. "I totally concede that. But I don't look at it that way. He will get the big hits when it's necessary, but I think the stuff everyone is looking for is going to start showing up."

Maddon's optimism stems from his consistent confidence in Heyward, who raised his batting average 29 points last season from 2016 to .259, and the tutelage of new hitting coach Chili Davis.

But Maddon also spoke of the need to find at-bats for his young outfielders such as switch-hitter Ian Happ and Albert Almora Jr., along with versatile switch-hitter Ben Zobrist who can move to the outfield when Javier Baez starts at second base.

"There's so much to fit in," Maddon said. "It's almost that the other team's pitcher is going to dictate some of this that's going to help us sort this thing out."

That could mean that Heyward, who has been a big disappointment at the plate since signing an eight-year, \$184 million contract two seasons ago, might sit against a tough left-hander or a starter who doesn't pose a good matchup for him.

Heyward, 28, believes two hand injuries from diving for balls

hindered his progress at the plate last year after he altered his batting stance in response to a dismal 2016.

The Cubs have yet to see the run-producing ability they projected for him.

"Offensively, I know all the expectations," Maddon said of the 6-foot-5 Heyward, who has hit more than 18 home runs and hit higher than .277 only once in his eight-year career. "I've been very happy with him as he is. We have gone to the playoffs and won a World Series with him. Of course, you look for a higher average or more power or whatever. I like him on the field. I like him in the dugout and in our clubhouse."

"Working with Chili will present a different method, possibly."

The hiring of Davis is the latest effort to boost the offense and the left-handed hitting Heyward, who batted .304 in 22 games against left-handed starters, produced only seven extra base hits in 116 at-bats against lefties.

Heyward made an early connection with Davis this winter and likes the freedom he gives to hitters while stressing the importance of situational hitting.

"(Situational hitting) always has been the way I've played," Heyward said. "This is spring training No. 10. I came up with some veterans when the game was not talking about launch angles and exit velocity and all that stuff."

Heyward batted .274 with 49 RBIs with runners in scoring position, but he batted 11 points lower against right-handers than lefties.

Heyward believes he simply needs to stay on the field to be more consistent at the plate. He missed 26 games with injuries last year and that disrupted his hitting rhythm.

"When I play a lot of games in a season, I do a lot of good things," Heyward said. "I did a lot of good things last year, but I missed time. It takes away from (your game)."

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ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Right fielder Jason Heyward totes his equipment bag while he talks with Ian Happ as the Cubs get things rolling this week in Mesa, Ariz.

CUBS NOTES

Rizzo's heartfelt speech elicits positive reviews

BY MARK GONZALES
Chicago Tribune

MESA, Ariz. — **Jason Heyward** initially didn't realize **Anthony Rizzo** left spring training suddenly to help his Parkland, Fla., community heal from a mass shooting Wednesday.

But Heyward and manager **Joe Maddon** said they were proud of the way Rizzo represented his community.

"He's great at that," Heyward said of Rizzo, who spoke at a vigil Thursday night in the wake of a shooting at Stoneman Douglas High School that killed 17 people. "He wears his emotions on his sleeves and when he speaks, he knows what to say."

"But that's hard to go through. I can't imagine what it's like being a graduate of that high school, in that community. I couldn't imagine it in my hometown."

Maddon described Rizzo's actions as a "growth moment," adding he "could not be more proud of him" for reacting on short notice and delivering a heartfelt speech.

"And it also speaks to leadership," Maddon said. "There's a lot of leadership that should occur there — boots on the ground. People need to be there who are leaders, or supposed leaders."

Cruise control: Left-hander **Jon Lester** is happy that the introductory period is over with catcher **Willson Contreras**, who's entering his second season as the Cubs' full-time catcher.

"This spring training is so much easier," Lester said. "I would imagine it is for Willie as well. Nobody is making a big deal about who he's catching. **David Ross** isn't here and all that other stuff."

Lester, however, had to be corrected as Ross is serving as a spring instructor.

"He's here, unfortunately," Lester joked about Ross, his former personal catcher who retired after the 2016 season.

"But it's good for (Contreras) because now he doesn't have to catch my (bullpen sessions), doesn't have to catch in my spring training games."

Extra innings: Outfielder **Kyle Schwarber**, two years removed from reconstructive knee surgery, believes he will be asked to catch only in an emergency situation. ... Recently reliever **Shane Simmons** took the last spot on the 40-man roster, with left-hander **Drew Smyly** transferred to the 60-day disabled list. Smyly is recovering from Tommy John surgery and isn't expected to be recovered fully until August.

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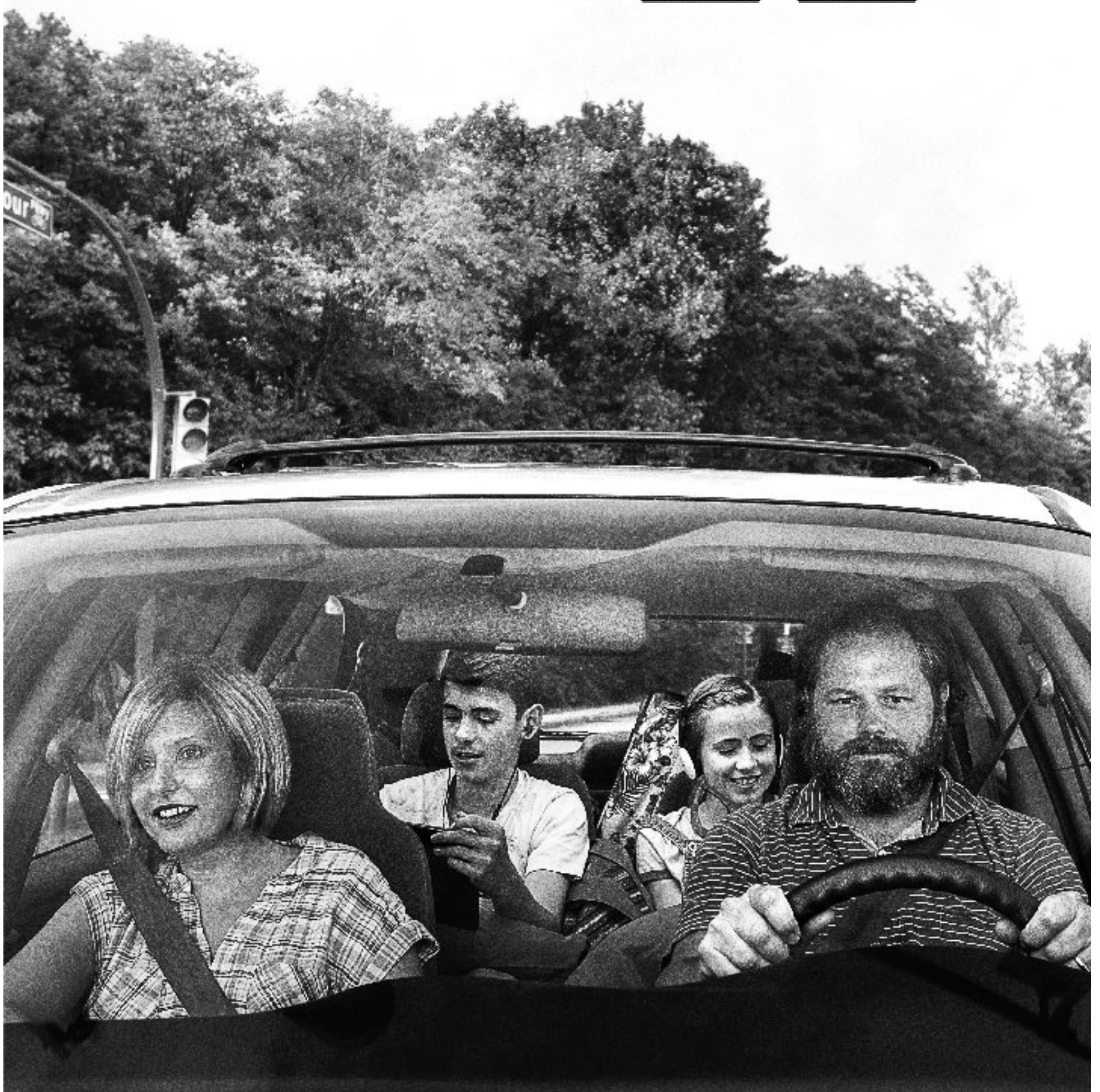
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NASCAR

Age makes Johnson sage

At 42, 7-time series champ a mentor for younger drivers



GEORGE DIAZ
On auto racing

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Jimmie Johnson is a man of many nicknames.

We used to call him “Mr. Seven Time,” which paid homage to his Cup season titles. His rapper buddy Snoop Dogg calls him “Double J.”

His Hendrick Motorsports teammates have another cute nickname for him: “Grandpa.”

Ouch!
“It’s all in fun,” Johnson said, chatting outside his motor coach at Daytona International Speedway. “There is no doubt about an age gap. ... I knew at some point it would be my turn, but now I’m getting it in spades with three of them.”

Old Man Johnson might need five kiddie seats this weekend at Daytona. There’s Genevieve and Lydia, his adorable baby girls. And there’s Chase, William and Alex, his adorable teammates.

The extreme shift from veterans to aspiring young drivers in NASCAR is best exemplified by the employees of Rick Hendrick, who has signed Chase Elliott, 22; Alex Bowman, 24; and William Byron, 20, to saddle up with the 42-year-old Johnson for the 2018 Monster Energy Cup season.

“My kids give me that shock value on my age,” Johnson said. “I’m in a good spot with my age and where I am with my career. There hasn’t been an eye-opening thing of, ‘Wow, I’m old.’ I know that already.”

“This is my 17th year. It’s been a long 16 seasons. With all the success, it’s still a grind.”

But a good grind.



BRIAN LAWDERMILK/GETTY

Jimmie Johnson, 42, has become a mentor to a few young drivers who are racing for Hendrick Motorsports.

Johnson’s seven Cup championships tie him with Richard Petty and Dale Earnhardt for most all time. Johnson would love to become “Mr. Eight Time,” but the clock is ticking.

Although he won three races and qualified for the playoffs, Johnson never found true speed

during the second half of last year. It was one of his most frustrating seasons.

“Usually the harder I work, eventually we find a conclusion, and last year we couldn’t,” he said. “That’s where the frustration really set in. This year there are a lot of new elements that will

change the mousetrap, if you will. We’ve got a ton of optimism and (we are) really looking forward to get it going.”

Positive spin. Here’s the flip side:

“Realistically, it was the worst season of his career,” said Larry McReynolds, Fox Sports racing

DAYTONA 500
1:30 p.m. Sunday, FOX-32
■ Lineup, Page 6

analyst. “From the time he won Dover in the spring to Home- stead, he only had one top-five finish. That’s one top-five in the last 23 races. Can they get that ship righted?”

So far it looks shaky. Johnson will start in a backup car for Sunday’s Daytona 500 after a blown tire caused him to wreck in Thursday’s qualifying races. He also crashed Sunday in the Advance Auto Parts Clash and wasn’t able to finish.

But Johnson’s individual competitive goals now morph into a more encompassing role as mentor for the Hendrick pack. They’ve found good speed already, with Bowman grabbing the pole for Sunday’s Great American Race and Elliott winning one of the qualifying duels.

“They have all come to me,” Johnson said. “Our touch points are just starting up now. I found myself leading the debrief and recognizing the tone that I set and how I led the meeting. Those guys are going to follow suit.”

“Most of the conversations have been more about off-the-track-related things and balancing life: what to get, what to buy — all the things it takes to live on the road week in and week out.”

Byron never lived in a motor coach. The Cup grind is harder than the other two major NASCAR series, so Byron — who looks as if he never has used a razor — can learn a lot from a veteran with a touch-of-gray beard.

“I’ve never seen anyone evolve as much as he does,” Byron said. “He’s so in tune with himself. He doesn’t really come across as a veteran; he comes across as someone willing to learn all the time. It’s special to see someone like that, and I feel there’s no generational gap there.”

New rules: Everybody buckle up — and listen to Grandpa.

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SCOREBOARD

CALENDAR

TEAM	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
		ALL-STAR GAME 7 TNT				PHI 7 NBCSCH AM-670	
	WAS 7:30 WGN-9 AM-720		LA 7:30 WGN-9 AM-720		OTT 7 NBCSCH AM-720		SJ 7:30 WGN-9 AM-720

SATURDAY ON TV/RADIO

COLLEGE BASEBALL	TIME	TEAMS	NETWORK
2 p.m.	Alcorn State vs. Prairie View A&M	MLBN	
6 p.m.	Alabama State vs. New Orleans	MLBN	
NBA			
7 p.m.	All-Star Saturday night	TNT, WMVP-AM 1000	
MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL			
10 a.m.	SMU at Central Florida	ESPNU	
11 a.m.	Syracuse at Miami	CBS-2	
11 a.m.	Texas at Oklahoma	ESPN	
11 a.m.	Virginia Tech at Georgia Tech	ESPN2	
11 a.m.	Providence at Butler	FOX-32	
11 a.m.	Bucknell at Holy Cross	CBSSN	
Noon	Iowa State at Kansas State	ESPNU	
1 p.m.	Michigan State at Northwestern	FOX-32, WGN-AM 720	
1 p.m.	Indiana at Iowa	ESPN	
1 p.m.	Alabama at Kentucky	CBS-2	
1 p.m.	Missouri at Louisiana State	ESPN2	
1 p.m.	Akron at Kent State	CBSSN	
2 p.m.	Memphis at Tulane	ESPNU	
3 p.m.	Texas A&M at Arkansas	ESPN	
3 p.m.	Florida at Vanderbilt	ESPN2	
3 p.m.	UNLV at San Diego State	CBSSN	
3:30 p.m.	Villanova at Xavier	FOX-32	
4 p.m.	Notre Dame at Boston College	WCUI-26.2, WMVP-AM 1000	
5 p.m.	West Virginia at Kansas	ESPN	
5 p.m.	Northern Iowa at Illinois State	ESPN2	
5 p.m.	Nevada at Utah State	CBSSN	
6:30 p.m.	Texas Tech at Baylor	ESPNU	
7 p.m.	Rutgers at Maryland	BTN	
7 p.m.	Oklahoma State at TCU	ESPN2	
7 p.m.	Morhead State at Belmont	CBSSN	
7:15 p.m.	North Carolina at Louisville	ESPN	
8 p.m.	Bradley at Valparaiso	NBCSCH	
8:30 p.m.	Yale at Harvard	ESPNU	
8:45 p.m.	Marquette at Creighton	WCUI-26.2	
9 p.m.	Utah at Washington State	ESPN2	
9:15 p.m.	Oregon at UCLA	ESPN	
10 p.m.	Oregon State at USC	FS1	
WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL			
11 a.m.	Nebraska at Indiana	BTN	
BOXING			
7 p.m.	Devon Alexander vs. Victor Ortiz	FOX-32	
9 p.m.	Danny Garcia vs. Brandon Rios	Showtime	
GOLF			
1 p.m.	PGA Genesis Open	Golf (more, 3 p.m., CBS-2)	
2:30 p.m.	Champions Chubb Classic	Golf Channel	
9 p.m.	Women's Australian Open	Golf Channel	
3 a.m.	Oman Classic	Golf Channel	
NHL			
Noon	Kings at Sabres	NHLN	
6 p.m.	Maple Leafs at Penguins	NHLN	
7:30 p.m.	Capitals at Blackhawks	WGN-9, WGN-AM 720	
AHL			
7 p.m.	Rampage at Wolves	WPWR-50	
COLLEGE HOCKEY			
4 p.m.	Ohio State at Minnesota	ESPNU	
4 p.m.	Penn State at Michigan State	BTN	
MOTORSPORTS			
8:30 a.m.	NASCAR Xfinity qualifying	FS1	
11 a.m.	NASCAR Daytona 500 practice	FS1	
1:30 p.m.	NASCAR Xfinity PowerShares 300	FS1	
7 p.m.	Monster Supercross at Arlington	FS1	
WINTER OLYMPICS			
6:10 a.m.	Men's hockey: U.S. vs. Russia	NBCSN	
6:10 a.m.	Men's hockey: Slovenia vs. Slovakia	USA	
7 p.m.	Skiing, skeleton, speedskating	NBC-5	
7 p.m.	Freestyle skiing	NBCSN	
9:10 p.m.	Men's hockey: Germany vs. Norway	NBCSN	
10:30 p.m.	Alpin skiing, freestyle skiing	NBC-5	
1:40 a.m.	Men's hockey: Czech Rep. vs. Switzerland	NBCSN	
FA CUP SOCCER			
6:20 a.m.	Swansea at Sheffield Wednesday	FS2	
11:30 a.m.	Manchester United at Huddersfield Town	FS2	
BUNDESLIGA SOCCER			
8:25 a.m.	Bayern Munich at Wolfsburg	FS2	
TENNIS			
7 a.m.	ATP Rotterdam semifinals	Tennis Channel	
6:30 p.m.	ATP New York semifinals	Tennis Channel	
TRACK AND FIELD			
4:30 p.m.	U.S. Indoor Championships	NBCSN	

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

TEAM	W	L	PCT	GB
PHI 7 NBCSCH AM-670				
OTT 7 NBCSCH AM-720				
SJ 7:30 WGN-9 AM-720				

LATEST LINE

COLLEGE BASKETBALL	TIME	TEAMS	NETWORK
3 p.m.	SMU at UCF	ESPN	
6 p.m.	Texas at Oklahoma	ESPN	
6 p.m.	Syracuse at Virginia Tech	ESPN	
8 p.m.	Providence at Kansas State	ESPN	
8 p.m.	Iowa State at LSU	ESPN	
8 p.m.	Missouri at Kentucky	ESPN	
8 p.m.	Illinois at Ball St	ESPN	
8 p.m.	Toledo at Boise St	ESPN	
8 p.m.	Air Force at Michigan St	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at N.western at Indiana	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at Iowa at LA Salle	ESPN	
8 p.m.	George Mason at FAU	ESPN	
8 p.m.	FIU at La-Monroe	ESPN	
8 p.m.	Memphis at Tulane	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at Ohio at Miami (Ohio)	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at s. Carolina at Auburn	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at Appalachian St. at Troy	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at Alabama at Coast. Carol.	ESPN	
8 p.m.	San Jose St. at Wake Forest	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at NC State at Arkansas	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at North Carolina at Florida	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at Vanderbilt at BYU	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at San Diego at San Diego St	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at UNLV at Va Commonwealth	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at Northeastern at Hofstra	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at Drexel at Michigan St	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at E. Michigan at Villanova	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at Xavier at UAB	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at S. Miss. at UC S.Barbara	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at UConn at Marshall	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at Richmond at Illinois St	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at N. Iowa at Tennessee	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at Georgia at Virginia	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at Duquesne at St. Joseph's	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at Utah St. at San Fran.	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at L.Marymount at Cornell	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at Pennsylvaniam at Columbia	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at Towson at Kent St	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at Akron at Dartmouth	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at Brown at Colostate	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at UMass at Dayton	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at Fordham at Elon	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at Delaware at Mid. Tenn.	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at Charlotte at UNC-Wil	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at UTEP at Texas Tech	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at Oklahoma St. at Washington	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at Colorado at Maryland	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at Rutgers at Georgia	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at Penn State at LA-LA	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at Texas-Arlington at W. Kentucky	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at Rice at Arkansas St	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at UALR at Louisville	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at N. Carolina at Michigan St	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at Bradley at Valparaiso	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at CS Northridge at Cal St.-Fullrt	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at Cal Poly at UC Irvine	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at Cal State at Creighton	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at Marquette at Utah	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at Wash. St. at Saint Mary's	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at Oregon at UCLA	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at Hawaii at Hawaii	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at UC Riverside at Pacific	ESPN	
8 p.m.	at Santa Clara at USC	ESPN	

SOCCER

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE	W	L	GF	GA	PTS
Man City	23	3	79	20	72
Man United	17	5	51	19	56
Liverpool	15	9	61	31	54
Chelsea	16	5	69	23	53
Tottenham	16	7	52	24	52
Arsenal	13	6	51	36	45
Burnley	9	9	21	24	36
Leicester	9	8	10	39	35
Everton	9	7	11	32	46
Bournemouth	8	12	11	41	31
Watford	8	6	13	37	47
West Ham	7	9	11	34	46
Newcastle	7	7	13	25	36
Brighton	6	10	11	22	36
Crystal Palace	6	9	12	25	27
Swansea	7	6	14	20	37
Huddersfield	7	6	14	23	47
Southampton	5	11	11	28	40
Stoke	6	7	14	27	28
West Brom	3	11	13	21	40

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Tottenham	16	7	52	24	52
Arsenal	13	6	51	36	45
Burnley	9	9	21	24	36
Leicester	9	8	10	39	35
Everton	9	7	11	32	46
Bournemouth	8	12	11	41	31
Watford	8	6	13	37	47
West Ham	7	9	11	34	46
Newcastle	7	7	13	25	36
Brighton	6	10	11	22	36
Crystal Palace	6	9	12	25	27
Swansea	7	6	14	20	37
Huddersfield	7	6	14	23	47
Southampton	5	11	11	28	40
Stoke	6	7	14	27	28
West Brom	3	11	13	21	40

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ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE	W	L	GF	GA
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HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING

Richards freshman makes more history

Palumbo rebounds from quarterfinal loss with 2nd win at state

By **MIKE CLARK** | Chicago Tribune

CHAMPAIGN — With six matches going on simultaneously, it's difficult for any one wrestler to capture and hold the crowd's attention at the IHSA state wrestling finals.

Mia Palumbo is the exception. When the Richards freshman won her first-round wrestleback match Friday morning at the State Farm Center, it was clear fans were aware of history in the making.

"Right after the match ... you hear everyone cheering, you just want to look up and soak it all in," Palumbo said.

A day after she became the first girl to win a state tournament match in the event's 80-year history, Palumbo bounced back from a 9-0 quarterfinal loss to top-ranked Landen Pfeiffer of Marengo to earn another victory.

Palumbo's 9-2 win over Woodstock North sophomore Carter Miller sends her to a Saturday morning Class 2A quarterfinal wrestleback against East St. Louis' Anthony King (35-2). A victory there would assure her of a medal and a top-six finish at 106 pounds.

The significance of that achievement isn't lost on Palumbo (30-4). "It would mean the world to me because I trained my whole life to get here," she said.

Considering she started wrestling 10 years ago at age 4, that's hardly an exaggeration. So Palumbo knows the drill

on the rare occasions in which she has to refocus after a defeat.

"Right after I lost, I put my music on, I went off and did my own thing," she said.

Relying on a playlist of rap and rock compiled by her older brother and fellow state qualifier Rocco, Palumbo found the right mindset for her second match of the day.



Palumbo

Up 4-2 after one period against Miller, she took control in the second with a pair of near falls.

"She responded really well," Richards coach Nick Grabarek said. "We talked (and told her), 'You deserve to be here, go and take it.' And she did."

"She's got a great heart."

In her opening match Thursday, Palumbo rallied from a 2-0 deficit after two periods to beat Springfield's Kaeden Kinison 4-2.

Palumbo is one of two girls to advance to state this season, doubling the total for the tournament's first 79 years combined. The other qualifier, Dunbar 106-pounder Quiovany Santos, dropped her Class 1A opener Thursday and did not get a wrestleback.

Santos, a senior who plans to wrestle for MacMurray College, had no regrets about a postseason run that included regional and sectional championships.

"I'll always remember this feeling," she said. "I got to wrestle against some tough kids."

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AL GOLDIS/AP

Michigan State's Jaren Jackson Jr., blocks a shot by Penn State's Nazeer Bostick.

Jackson's talent a 'no-brainer'

Jackson, from Page 1

from the line — 11 rebounds and six blocks in 30 minutes of an 87-74 victory.

He can defend around the rim, space the floor, pass effectively and shoot from the perimeter (44.3 percent on 3-pointers). In other words, he's the prototype for the modern NBA big man.

"He's a no-brainer," said one NBA scout, who spoke on the condition of anonymity.

"He's one of the more intriguing guys in the whole country," another scout said. "His ability to be an outside shooter (is impressive). That's almost in reverse of big guys. You usually work inside, then (improve on your game) outside. He's started outside, then worked toward playing inside. That's really what the NBA is about now. It's something that works in his favor."

With a 7-4 wingspan, Jackson can cause a lot of disruptions. While he ranks behind Marshall's Ajdin Penava (4.58) and Texas' Mohamed Bamba (4.08) nationally in blocked shots per game, Jackson averages only 22.5 minutes.

In a freshman class rich in big men, he will be compared with Bamba, Arizona's Deandre Ayton and Duke's Marvin Bagley and Wendell Carter. NBADraft.net has Ayton going first, Bagley fourth, Carter sixth and Bamba eighth to the Bulls.

"He's up there at the top," one scout said of Jackson.

Jackson has impressive basketball bloodlines as well. His father, Jaren

Jackson, played at Georgetown in the late 1980s before a 12-year NBA career that including a championship with the 1998-99 Spurs. His mother, Terri Carmichael Jackson, is director of operations for the WNBA players association.

His relatively modest offensive production doesn't worry scouts. He takes only the fifth-most shots on the Spartans. And his age — he won't turn 19 until September — indicates a high ceiling.

The main concern scouts point out is Jackson's penchant for fouls. He has accumulated four or five in 15 games this season. In last week's marquee game against Purdue, Jackson had only two points, five rebounds and a block while picking up four fouls in just 13 minutes of the Spartans' 68-65 victory.

Fouls "are typical for a freshman," one scout said.

After his freshman season last year, Michigan State guard Miles Bridges was a sure lottery pick. Almost everyone expected him to leave for the NBA, but Bridges stayed in East Lansing.

Jackson said Bridges has given him valuable advice about handling pressure and expectations.

"That's probably been the hardest thing to go through," Jackson said. "But I'm focused on the season. That's how Miles did it, and it worked out."

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Chicago Tribune Death Notices
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Death Notices

Bialek, Irving

Irving Bialek, 87, dearly beloved husband of Susan, nee Perlin; loving father of Mark (Cindy); caring stepfather of David (Lisa) Dickman; proud grandfather of Cara (Alex), Marissa, Brett, Ryan and Caroline; brother of Al (Sheila) and the late Joseph (Marilyn); dear friend of many. A special thank you to his cherished caregiver, Monica Jackson. Chapel service Sunday 2:30 PM at **Shalom Memorial Funeral Home**, 1700 W. Rand Road, Arlington Heights. Interment Shalom Memorial Park. For information or to leave condolences: 847-255-3520 or www.shalom2.com



Shalom
Memorial Funeral Home

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Blanton, Shirley Estelle

Mrs. Shirley Blanton, nurse, sister, aunt and friend went to be with the Lord on the evening of Feb. 11, 2018. Services will be held at Allegria at Ocean Grove- 70 Stockton Place, Ocean Grove, NJ. 2/21/18 at 2:00.

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Ciotola, Rita F.

Rita F. Ciotola nee Von Ville of Darien, IL died February 11, 2018. Beloved wife of Nicholas A. Ciotola Sr.; Loving Mother of Nicholas A. Jr. (Caridad) and Phillip J. "PJ." (Liane) Ciotola; Devoted grandmother of Josephine and Carolina; Dearest sister of Beatrice Von Ville (Larry Sellers), Phillip (Maria) Von Ville, Helena Von Ville (Siege Chavez) and Michaele Von Ville-Feuillerat (Robert) Feuillerat. Aunt of several nieces and nephews. Beloved daughter of Phillip E. and the late Frances Von Ville. Memorial Visitation Saturday, 3pm to 8pm at **Modell Funeral Home** 7710 S. Cass Avenue, Darien. For funeral info: 630-852-3595 or www.modelldarien.com

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Higgins, Andrea J

age 80, joined our lord February 14, 2018. Beloved wife of the late Bernard James "BJ" Higgins and treasured mother of Bernard "Jimmy" (Sandra) Higgins Jr., Patricia (Joe) Prino, Andrea Higgins and Marietta (Joey) Spillone. Cherished daughter of the late Dominic and Mary (Ferrara) D'Amore and baby sister to the late Frank, Charlie and precious sister Vivian Mendey. Special aunt of Jean (John) Gorman and proud grandmother of Michael Higgins, Philip Higgins and Natalie Ann Dunlap. Adored companion of 33 years to the late Ted Elliot. Andrea was a revered aunt, cousin, friend and teacher to countless others. In her desire to continue teaching, she donated her remains to the Anatomical Gift Assoc. Forever our Valentine. Funeral mass to be held at: Visitation Parish 779 S. York St. Elmhurst Saturday, February 24th at 11:00 am. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to the Blessed Virgin Mary Fund www.bvmcong.org

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Landsman, Suzanne Ellen

Suzanne Ellen Landsman, loving wife of Gerald Landsman; passed away January 16, 2018 at her home in Skokie following a long illness, just shy of her 88th birthday. In addition to her husband, she is survived by her daughter Ruth Landsman and son-in-law, Seth Harry of Woodbine, Maryland. She was preceded in death by her eldest daughter, Bonnie Nalbandian and sister, Lorraine Shield.

Born January 28, 1930, Suzanne was a life-long resident of the Chicago area and attended schools locally. She was a long-time employee of Marshall Fields, and involved in many local social and civic activities, including volunteering, along with her husband Jerry, as a docent for the Tara Museum. Suzanne was known for her sense of humor and insatiable curiosity. She and Jerry traveled widely throughout their life together, and she was always well informed and enjoyed discussing current events.

Her final resting place will be in a family plot at Westlawn Cemetery with her parents and maternal grandparents, as well as her daughter, Bonnie. An informal memorial service will be scheduled at a date to be announced. For further information: **Weinstein & Piser Funeral Home**, 847-256-5700.



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McGowan, Diane Marie

Diane Marie McGowan (nee Hertwig) - May 1, 1934 - February 15, 2018. Devoted daughter of the late Fred A. and Lucille Hertwig (nee Henry). Beloved mother of William (Leslie), Denise (Ed Tracy), Brian (Nance), Sean (Janet Riley), Kevin (Wendy) and Dan (Kelly). Cherished grandmother of Billy, Laura, Rene, the late Christian, Brian, Kylie, Bridget, Margaret, Sean Patrick, Meghan, Michael, Ryan, Rachel and Dani. Great grandmother to Charlotte Anne and William Joseph. Adored baby sister of Mary Lu Richardson (the late Robert) and Carol O'Brien (the late Bernard) who, with Diane, were "The Hertwig Girls". A favorite of many nieces and nephews. Friends and family will gather at **Smith-Corcoran Funeral Home**, 6150 N. Cicero, Chicago, IL on Sunday, February 18 from 4:00-9:00 PM. Prayers will begin at 9:30am at the funeral home for procession to church for Funeral Mass Monday, February 19th at 10:00 AM, Queen of All Saints, 6280 N. Sauganash Avenue, Chicago, IL. For info 773-736-3833 or visit Diane's memorial at www.smithcorcoran.com

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Smith-Corcoran Funeral Homes

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Michalski, Ronald

Ronald Michalski, 73, child of the late William and Jean Michalski; brother of the late William Michalski, passed away on January 17, 2018. He is survived by two daughters, Gina and Bozenna, and granddaughter Gwendolyn; sister Joan (Carl); brother Gerald (Sherri); sister-in-law, Irene. He was the favorite uncle of many nieces and nephews. Ron was very loyal to his family and friends. He enjoyed sharing his humor and many talents with everyone he met. A Memorial Mass will be held on March 3, 2018 at 10:00AM at St. Gerald's Church, 9310 S. 55th Court, Oak Lawn, IL and luncheon at 12:00PM at Barraco's, 3047 W 111th St., Chicago, IL.

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Roehrborn, Ernest Robert 'Ernie'

Ernie Roehrborn of Evanston, 93, passed away Feb. 10th. He taught Science at Chute Middle School. Survived by his children: Timothy, Louise, Hilary, and Matthew. Patricia, his wife preceded him in death (1993). Memorial service on February 20th at 1 pm at First Presbyterian Church of Evanston.

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Strain Gunn, Elizabeth Marie Meyer
Elizabeth Marie Meyer Strain Gunn, 95 years, passed February 14, 2018. She is survived by her children Douglas (Cindy) Strain and Elizabeth "Betsy" Strain (Ronald) Neurauter and extended family.

Visitation: 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 18, at G. H. Herrmann Madison Avenue Funeral Home, Indianapolis, IN. Funeral: Monday, February 19, at 11:30 a.m. at Zion Evangelical United Church of Christ.

You're invited to www.ghherrmann.com for full obituary and donation requests.

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Wilks, Gerald Walter

Gerald Walter Wilks, of Homewood, IL. February 14, 2018, Age 67. He was the cherished husband of Judith Wilks nee Rozkuszka, the beloved father of Erik and Aquila Wilks, fond grandfather of Julian and Adrian Wilks. He worked as Senior Metallurgical Engineer, at Citgo's Lemont refinery, where he was loved and respected by all his coworkers. He held 3 Engineering Degrees from IIT. He was a very active member of ASM, AICHE, NACE, and other professional engineering organizations. Resting at the **Tews-Ryan Funeral Home**, 18230 Dixie Hwy, Homewood, Friday, Feb. 16th from 2:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Funeral Saturday, Feb. 17th 9:00 a.m. to St. Joseph Church. Mass 9:30 a.m. Memorial donations may be sent to the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation. www.tews-ryanfh.com or 708-798-5300.



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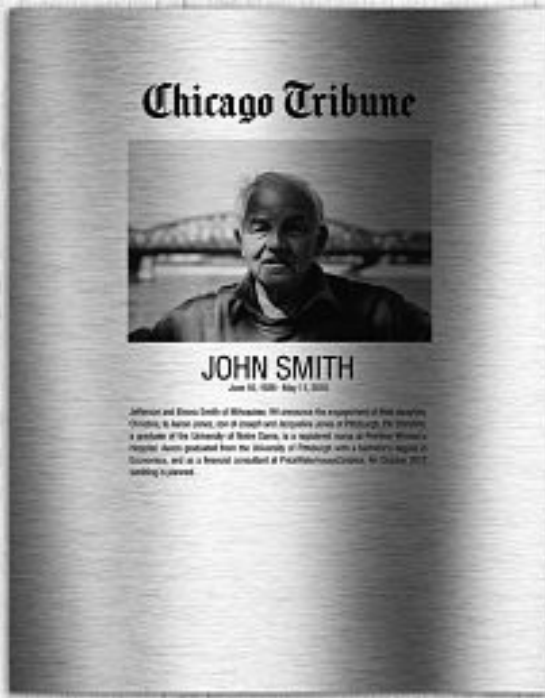
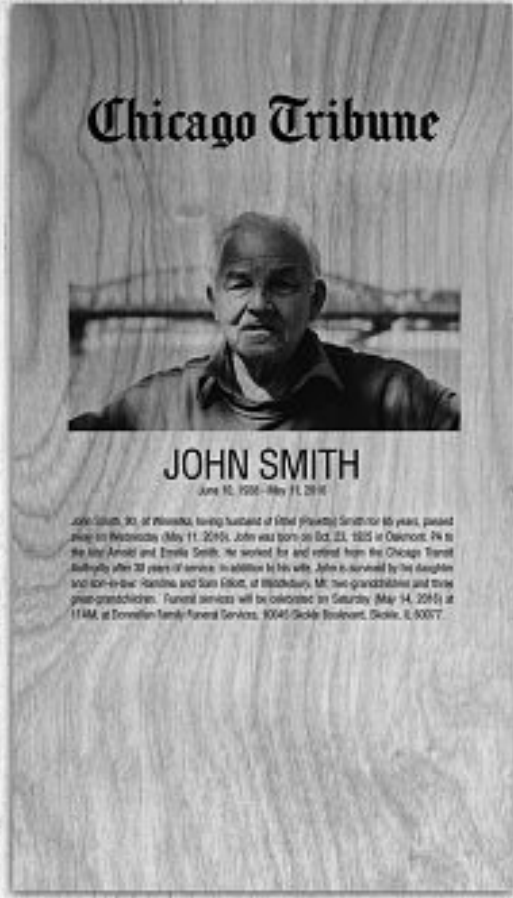
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F.H. Paschen Aviation Career Fair F.H. Paschen is hosting an Aviation Career Fair on February 23, 2018 for its Chicago Department of Aviation Passenger Security Checkpoint Expansion Project at Midway International Airport. The Career Fair will be held from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm in the Main Lobby at Daley College located at 7500 S. Pulaski Road, Chicago, Illinois 60652. Join the Construction Industry Service Corporation (CISCO) and representatives from Local 150 Operating Engineers, Local 474 Electricians, and Pipefitters Local 597 to learn more about careers in the trades. The presentation will begin at 10:00 am in room 1205. 773-444-3474

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LEGAL NOTICES

Alexis Hill, Jonathan Hill, Sebastian Hill: You have a right to claim funds on deposit in Civil Action No. 17-126-BAJ-RLB, United States District Court MD Louisiana. If you fail to appear or plead by April 19, 2018, the court will proceed as if you have been served with process. For additional information, call Virginia N. Roddy at 504-529-3600.

NOTICE TO DISADVANTAGED BUSINESSES

James McHugh Construction Co., 1737 S Michigan Ave, Chicago, IL 60616, 312-986-8000, is seeking qualified disadvantaged businesses for Construction Services for the METRA Rock Island District 47th Street Yard in Chicago, IL, IFB No. 232. Subcontracting opportunities available for new construction, additions and renovations of four buildings and the associated sitework. Specific trades/scopes and division contacts can be found on our website at <http://www.mchughconstruction.com/work-with-us/bid-opportunities/>. The project has a DBE project specific goal of 25%. For more information, submit your request to Brenda Stivers at bstivers@mchughconstruction.com. Information and instructions to access the documents will be emailed or faxed to you. All proposals must be submitted prior to 5:00 pm on Wednesday, February 28, 2018.

LEGAL NOTICES

VILLAGE OF STONE PARK NOTICE OF PROPOSAL TO SELL 1822 N. 39TH AVENUE, STONE PARK, ILLINOIS
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT the Board of Trustees of the Village of Stone Park, Cook County, Illinois, will receive sealed bids for the purchase of the property commonly known as 1822 N. 39th Avenue, Stone Park, Illinois, 60165, further identified as P.I.N. 15-04-101-045-0000. The property consists of a vacant single-family residential lot. Bids for the purchase of the aforesaid described property are invited and will be received at the Stone Park Village Hall at 1825 N. 32nd Avenue, Stone Park, Illinois, 60165 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday until February 27, 2018, at 2:00 p.m. The minimum bid price is \$2,000 and the property must be used for residential purposes. Proposals shall be addressed to: Village of Stone Park c/o Mayor Beniamino Mazzulla, 1825 N. 32nd Avenue, Stone Park, IL 60165 and shall bear the legend "PROPOSAL - SALE OF 1822 N. 39TH AVENUE, STONE PARK, ILLINOIS" with the name, address, and phone number of the bidder on the outside of the sealed bid. All bids received will be publicly opened and read aloud at the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Stone Park at 6:00 p.m. on February 27, 2018. A contract may be awarded to the highest bidder whose bid is found to be in the best interests of the Village of Stone Park. Copies of the bidding documents may be obtained at the Stone Park Village Hall beginning on January 24, 2018, at 9:00 a.m.

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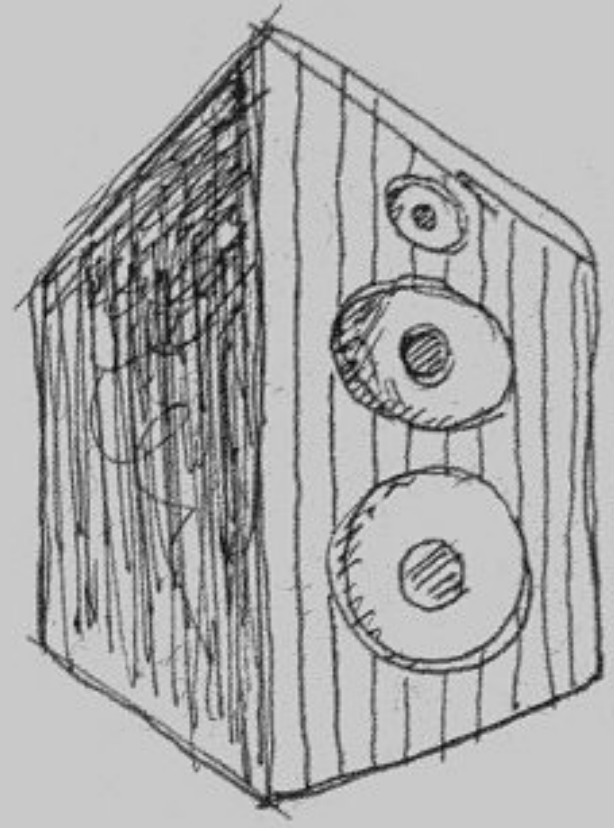
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2018 WINTER OLYMPICS

ALPINE SKIING

Late mistake sinks Vonn

1st out of gate in super-G, American star falters on turn, settles for tie for 6th

BY RICK MAESE
Washington Post

PYEONGCHANG, South Korea — Way back in 2010, Lindsey Vonn thought she had figured out the Olympics.

It was her third Winter Games, and she was certain she'd finally solved the puzzle. Not only did Vonn win gold and bronze medals in Vancouver, but she had learned how to juggle the pressures and logistics and intangibles inherent to her sport.

Injuries kept her from competing in 2014, and she had to wait a full eight years to apply those lessons.

But the Alpine courses are all different, and in her first race of these Pyeongchang Olympics, the 33-year-old skier — one of the most decorated female racers the sport has known — was bested by a late turn in Saturday's super-G.

Despite an otherwise medal-worthy race, the mistake proved costly, and Vonn opened her Olympics with disappointment, tying for sixth place.

Vonn tore through the top half of the course, but with the finish line almost in sight, she struggled on one of her final turns, skiing off her line and very nearly losing her balance altogether.

She recovered quickly and still posted one of the day's top times — 1 minute, 21.49 seconds — but a full 0.27 seconds separated Vonn from the podium. She appeared slightly stunned and surely disappointed after the race, shaking her head at the bottom of the course.

Because she was the first of 45 racers, she had to wait and watch, hoping her mistake wouldn't prove as costly as she feared. It took only six racers before Vonn was bumped out of the running for a possible medal.

Czech racer Ester Ledecka pulled off an upset to win gold with a time of 1:21.11, which was 0.38 seconds ahead of Vonn. Austria's Anna Veith won the silver, and Liechtenstein's Tina Weirather took the bronze.

Ledecka made a stunning run from back in the pack. She was the 26th racer to take the course.

Ledecka's effort shocked everyone, including herself.

"How did that happen?" she asked. Vonn was among those surprised.

"It's definitely shocking," Vonn said.



CHRISTOPHE ENA/AP

Lindsey Vonn reacts after finishing her run in the women's super-G on Saturday. She came in with medal hopes but tied for sixth.

"I wish I had so much athleticism as she has. I feel like in the Olympics a lot of weird things happen."

Vonn still has two more chances to nab an Olympic medal here. The downhill, her best event, is scheduled for Wednesday, and the combined is set for Friday. Vonn is considered a podium threat in both.

But she had high hopes for the super-G and was eager to kick off these Olympics with a cleaner race. Vonn entered Saturday's event ranked No. 10 in the World Cup super-G standings and had competed in five super-G races this season, winning Dec. 16 in Val d'Isere, France. But her best race in the other four was a sixth-place finish Jan. 21 in Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy.

Vonn was trying to become the first female racer to win Olympic gold in both downhill and the super-G. She was the downhill champion at the Vancouver Games, where she scored her bronze medal

in the super-G.

The super-G was added to the Olympic program in 1988 and is a speed event that requires bigger turns — and thus less speed — than downhill. No American woman has won gold in the super-G since Picabo Street at the 1998 Games.

Vonn won world titles in both speed disciplines in 2009 but has generally found more success in the downhill, where she has racked up 42 wins and 65 total podiums.

Even before Saturday's disappointing finish, these Games promised to be a particularly emotional Olympics for Vonn. It will likely be her final Winter Games, her last chance to compete on her sport's biggest stage.

While that might settle in later, Vonn has already shed tears here, discussing the impact of her grandfather, Don Kildow, who died last November at 88. He's the man who got the family started in the sport,

putting Vonn's father, Alan, in a pair of skis.

Vonn, of course, would come along years later and blossom into one of the winningest female racers the sport has seen — 81 World Cup wins and counting — and has dedicated these Olympics to her late grandfather.

"I want so badly to do well for him. I miss him so much," she said last week. "He's been such a big part of my life, and I really hoped that he would be alive to see me."

Vonn's finish was no more disappointing than Mikaela Shiffrin's a day earlier in the skier, who finished fourth behind gold medalist Frida Hansdotter of Sweden.

"Sometimes," the 22-year-old American said, "I feel like the only one who can beat myself in slalom is me. And I beat myself."

Hansdotter took advantage, winning her first Olympic medal.

Associated Press contributed



ANGELIKA WARMUTH/TNS

Lindsey Jacobellis takes a curve during the snowboard cross final. She finished fourth.

SNOWBOARDING

Ghost of finishes past: Jacobellis settles for 4th

BY MARK ZEIGLER
San Diego Union-Tribune

PYEONGCHANG, South Korea — Lindsey Jacobellis flew off the final jump, landed cleanly and charged ahead. The finish line was in sight. So was the podium.

Suddenly, France's Chloe Trespeuch, to her right and slightly ahead of her, twisted awkwardly in the air, wobbled, then fell when her snowboard hit the ground.

Jacobellis nimbly veered left and swerved around Trespeuch, avoiding her fate of the previous three Olympics.

She didn't crash. But in a cruel twist of fate that only snowboard cross seems capable of delivering, it probably cost her a medal — finishing fourth by three-hundredths of a second and perpetuating her tortured run of Olympic failures.

"Fourth place is fourth place," Jacobellis said. "I could be upset about it, but where is that going to get me?"

Jacobellis, you might recall, was leading the 2006 final by a staggering three seconds when she thought it would be fun to try a showboat method grab on the penultimate jump. She crashed, and a Swiss rider zoomed past her for the gold.

Four years later in Vancouver, she swerved to avoid another rider and crashed through a gate. In 2014, she led the

semifinal by a wide margin when she crashed on a lumpy section near the bottom and finished last.

Here, she had no crashes. But avoiding one kept her off the podium.

"I finished the best I could," said Jacobellis, 32. "If we ran the race tomorrow, it could be a whole different story. It's the winner of this day. It doesn't define me as an athlete. I've been doing this sport for 20 years, and that's a lot longer than some of these girls have been alive."

She has won five world championships, 10 X Games and 29 World Cup races.

Plus only one Winter Games medal, and one that history remembers as maybe the greatest blunder in Olympic history.

The question of legacy is complicated for everybody except Jacobellis.

"I just view the Olympics as another (event)," she said. "I think it's because most of the time people jump in and they see the sport once every four years, so, of course, that's how they would define me."

"But it's not how you should be defined because there are plenty of other athletes who have never acquired that Olympic gold but still keep coming back."

"Because what are they truly? They're Olympic contenders, they're Olympic athletes. They're role models and someone who wants to give back to the sport."

ROUNDUP

Figure skater Hanyu repeats; Chen rallies to grab 5th place

Associated Press

Japan's Yuzuru Hanyu became the first man to successfully defend his Olympic figure skating title since Dick Button in 1952.

Hanyu held off countryman Shoma Uno, who won silver, and Spain's Javier Fernandez, who took bronze, in Saturday's free skate.

Fernandez and Hanyu share the same coach, Brian Orser.

American Nathan Chen surged from a fiasco of a short program, where he was 17th. He won the free skate to wind up fifth overall.

Chen posted a historic free skate that included an unparalleled six completed quadruple jumps.

The 18-year-old Chen, a two-time U.S. champion, succumbed to the pressure and massive expectations in Friday's short program. He fell on all of his jumps in the short, plummeting to 17th place out of 24 to advance to the free skate.

But in the free skate he nailed virtually every element. He even tried a sixth quad, a loop, but put his hands down on the ice. Still, his 126.86 points for technical virtuosity put him in another stratosphere, and his 215.08 points for the free skate were a personal high.

At least he wasn't last: The "shirtless" Tongan, all covered up to keep warm this time, had only one thought as he maneuvered around the final downhill turn and headed toward the finish line of the 15-kilometer freestyle race.

"Please, God," the Olympic cross-country skier said to himself, "not in front of everyone. Don't give me my first fall."

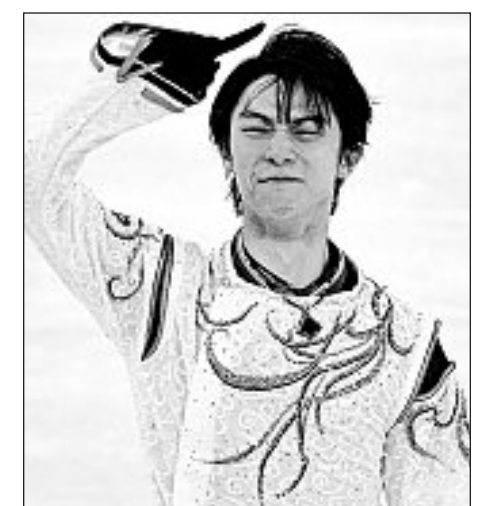
Pita Taufatofua made it to the finish line, all right, and he did it before they closed the course for the night — his other fear heading into the event.

The man who has marched shirtless and oiled up in the last two Olympics wasn't even last in Friday's race. Taufatofua was 114th of 116 finishers, about 33 minutes behind gold medalist Dario Cologna.

"I would rather finish toward the end of the pack with all of my friends than somewhere in the middle by myself," said Taufatofua. "We fought together, we finish together."

Cologna, of Switzerland, became the first cross-country skier to win three Olympic golds in the same event. He also won in Vancouver (2010) and Sochi (2014).

Dutch dynasty: Esmee Visser skated the race of her life to win the 5,000 meters and give the overpowering Dutch a sixth gold



ANTONOV MLADEN/GETTY-APF

Japan's Yuzuru Hanyu salutes the crowd after his free skate Saturday. Hanyu repeated as men's champion.

BY THE NUMBERS

MEDAL COUNT	G	S	B	TOT
Norway	6	8	5	19
Germany	9	2	4	15
Netherlands	6	5	2	13
Canada	4	5	4	13
Austria	4	1	4	9
United States	5	1	2	8
OA Russia	0	2	6	8
France	3	2	2	7
Japan	0	4	3	7
Sweden	4	2	0	6
Italy	2	1	3	6
Switzerland	1	3	2	6
China	0	3	1	4
Czech Republic	0	2	2	4
South Korea	2	0	3	5
Australia	0	2	1	3
Finland	0	0	3	3
Slovakia	0	2	0	2
Belarus	1	0	0	1
Liechtenstein	0	1	0	1
Slovenia	0	1	0	1
Britain	0	0	1	1
Kazakhstan	0	0	1	1
Spain	0	0	1	1

NOTE: 47 of 55 medal events

FRIDAY'S RESULTS

FREESTYLE SKI Women's Aerials
G Hanna Huskova, Belarus, 96.14.
S Zhang Xin, China, 95.52.
B Kong Fanyu, China, 70.14.
G Madison Olson, U.S., 47.23.

ALPINE SKI: Men's Super G
G Matthias Mayer, Austria, 1:24.44.
S Beat Feuz, Switzerland, 1:24.57.
B Jettli Jansrud, Norway, 1:24.62.
S Aksel Svindal, Norway, 1:24.93.
G Frida Hansdotter, Sweden, 1:38.63.
S Wendy Holdener, Switzerland, 1:38.68.
B Kat. Gellhuber, Austria, 1:38.95.
G Mikaela Shiffrin, U.S., 1:39.03.
S Megan McJames, U.S., 1:49.28.
B Alice Merryweather, U.S., 1:53.57.

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

Men's 15km Freestyle
G Dario Cologna, Switzerland, 33:43.9.
S Simen H. Krueger, Norway, 34:02.2.
B Denis Spitsov, OA Russia, 34:06.9.
S Scott Patterson, U.S., 35:28.0.
B Erik Bjornsen, U.S., 36:28.6.
G Noah Hoffman, U.S., 36:45.2.
B Tyler Kornfield, U.S., 38:17.9.

FIGURE SKATING

Men's Short Program
G Yuzuru Hanyu, Japan, 111.68.
S Javier Fernandez, Spain, 107.58.
B Shoma Uno, Japan, 104.17.
G Adam Rippon, U.S., 87.95.
S Niki Tretygov, OA Russia, 84.53.
B Vincent Zhou, U.S., 82.27.
S Nathan Chen, U.S., 82.27.
G Yuzuru Hanyu, Japan, 111.68.
S Niki Tretygov, OA Russia, 3:22.18.
B Dominic Parsons, Britain, 3:22.20.
G Yuzuru Hanyu, Japan, 111.68.
S Niki Tretygov, OA Russia, 3:24.39.
B Vincent Zhou, U.S., 3:25.35.

WOMEN'S SKELETON
G Jacqueline Loelling, Ger., 1:43.860.
S Janine Flock, Austria, 1:43.880.
B Eliz. Yarnold, Britain, 1:43.960.
G Katie Uhlenhuth, U.S., 1:44.729.

SNOWBOARD

Women's Snowboard Cross
G Michela Moioli, Italy.
S Julia Pereira, France.
B Eva Samkova, Czech Republic.
G Lindsey Jacobellis, U.S.

SPEEDSKATING

Women's 500m
G Esmee Visser, Neth., 6:50.23.
S Martina Sablikova, Cz Rep., 6:51.85.
B Nat Voronina, OA Russia, 6:53.98.
S Carolina Kostner, Italy, 7:13.28.

Men's Curling
G Denmark 6, Italy 4; Norway 7, S. Korea 5.
S Sweden 10, U.S. 4; Canada 7, S. Korea 6.
B Switzerland 6, Japan 5; U.S. 9, Denmark 5.

Men's Ice Hockey
G Sweden 5, OA Russia 4.
S Denmark 9, CAN 8; S. Korea 7, Switzerland 5.
B U.S. 2, Slovakia 1; Finland 5, Norway 1.
S Russia 8, Slovenia 2; Sweden 1, Ger. 0.

medal in seven speedskating events.

She beat two-time defending champion Martina Sablikova of the Czech Republic by more than a second. Further back in eighth place was three-time Olympic 5,000-meter champion Claudia Pechstein, the German who's almost 46 — more than double Visser's age of 22.

Pechstein tried to become the oldest woman to win a Winter Olympic title.

2018 WINTER OLYMPICS



DAVID J. PHILLIP/AP

Nathan Chen of the U.S. falls during the figure skating short program. His lackluster performance interfered with a key NBC storyline.

A ripped TV script

Chen, Shiffrin implode — and NBC scrambles



PHIL ROSENTHAL
On media

Mikaela Shiffrin threw up breakfast. Nathan Chen threw away his best chance for gold. And just like that, NBC had to throw out its Olympics script. What had been advertised as a medal march for U.S. Olympians Shiffrin and Chen

became something else altogether on NBC's broadcast and cable telecasts in the space of a few minutes Thursday night.

Something else, as in: Hey, coming up Friday, Team USA's Lindsey Vonn competes in the super-G! Hello, Adam Rippon!

Whether it was nerves, norovirus or whatever, Chen and Shiffrin were humbled. So, too, presumably, were those media folks who had jacked up what had seemed justifiable expectations under which they struggled to perform.

Chen, a two-time U.S. figure skating champion, wobbled, stumbled and fell to 17th place after his short program. Even with his strong performance in a challenging free skate on Friday night's broadcast, landing five quads cleanly and nearly a sixth, he was in the uncustomary position of needing big breaks just to get back into medal contention.

Between Thursday and his also stunningly shaky performance in the team competition, in which the U.S. skaters won bronze despite him, Chen's reputation had taken a beating. A onetime favorite became an underdog.

It was so bad, self-explanatory and pitiable that neither Tara Lipinski nor Johnny Weir, NBC's sharp-tongued figure skating analysts/critics, had much to say about it beyond calling it a disappointment.

Chen's failings were especially evident in that they came immediately after a performance by Japan's Yuzuru Hanyu, the defending Olympic champion who's back after losing part of the last skating season



MORRY GASH/AP

Mikaela Shiffrin's failure to medal in the slalom caused NBC to shift gears quickly.

WHAT TO WATCH SATURDAY

Ted Ligety defends his giant slalom title against a field that includes combined gold medalist Marcel Hirscher. The U.S. swept men's slopestyle in Sochi, and two of those medalists, Gus Kenworthy and Nick Goepfer, hope to make the final.

■ TV listings, Page 6

with a training injury.

Lipinski called Hanyu's skate "everything you could ever want in a short program," and Weir said it was "a masterpiece of epic proportion."

Rippon, Chen's outspoken U.S. teammate, is poised to receive attention that otherwise might go to Chen. Lipinski dubbed him "the prince of the Olympics."

As if to underline that, the NBC email newsletter for viewers who request it was headlined "Defining moments for Mikaela Shiffrin and Nathan Chen come tonight" in its nightly preview Thursday and "Adam Rippon skated into America's hearts last night amidst unexpected performances" in its morning recap Friday.

Shiffrin had been seen as a multimedial contender and cast as a shoo-in to at least place in the defense of her Olympic title in the women's slalom, considered her strongest discipline.

Certainty seemed only to grow after she took the gold the day before in the giant

slalom, although having to stay up late for the medal ceremony might not have helped her. After all, the reigning overall World Cup champ had won 26 of the last 32 slalom races.

Then Shiffrin finished fourth. She was a mere eight-hundredths of a second from a bronze medal.

The last time Shiffrin failed to reach the podium in a slalom race she finished was 2014.

Shortly before Shiffrin's first of two slalom runs, NBC ski reporter Steve Porino said Shiffrin had looked relaxed until "seconds ago (she) went behind my setting, vomiting heavily."

Skiing analyst Bode Miller told of how nerves affected him when he raced, as it was assumed that was what got to Shiffrin.

NBC's Heather Cox asked Shiffrin about it at the bottom of the course after her first run.

"I don't know," Shiffrin said. "That was kind of sudden. It almost felt like a virus, less about nerves."

After the event, Shiffrin told reporters she had come to realize that it was in fact the pressure getting to her, not illness. But the degree to which NBC had been dubious of her illness claims was disconcerting.

Miller, wisely leaving jokes aside or whatever that was about marriage on Wednesday night's broadcast, isolated the moment when winning slipped away from Shiffrin in her second run.

"Even after that mistake, it looked like she was tentative to take a risk on the bottom half of this course," Miller said.

Back at the skating arena, Rippon fielded a question from NBC's Andrea Joyce about his success at age 28, which puts him 10 years older than Chen.

Rippon, who has relished his star turn, cupping his hand to his ear after his short program to encourage more cheering from the crowd, said he's coming into his own, confident and having fun.

"I can't explain witchcraft," Rippon said. Who can? But it makes a good story.

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HOME TEAM

Tracking local Olympians competing in Pyeongchang



Kevin Bickner

Ski jumping/Wauconda

Bickner attended Wauconda High School until moving to Park City, Utah, to train. He is one of three Olympians from the Norge Ski Club in Fox River Grove. He finished 18th in the normal hill event. On Friday, he qualified for the first round of the large hill competition. Next: Large hill first round, Saturday



Michael Glasder

Ski jumping/Cary

Glasder, 28, is nearly six years older than any of his rivals. The 2008 Cary-Grove graduate trains at the Norge Ski Club in Fox River Grove. In the normal hill competition, he did not qualify for the final. On Friday, he qualified for the first round of the large hill competition. Next: Large hill first round, Saturday



Casey Larson

Ski jumping/Barrington

Larson, 19, is also a member of the Norge Ski Club. He first tried ski jumping at 6 years old at Norge — his family lived only minutes away from the ski hill. By high school he was gunning for the Olympics and training on the U.S. developmental team. He did not qualify in either the normal hill or large hill events. Next: Team large hill, Monday



Tony Granato

Hockey/Downers Grove

Granato, who coaches the U.S. men's team, is in his second season as head coach at Wisconsin, his alma mater. Granato, 53, graduated from Downers Grove North in 1982. Slovenia stunned the U.S. on Wednesday with a 3-2 overtime win. The U.S. rebounded Friday to beat Slovakia 2-1. Next: Olympic Athletes from Russia, Sat.



Lana Gehring

Short-track speedskating/Glenview

The 27-year-old earned a bronze medal at the 2010 Vancouver Games in the 3,000-meter relay less than a year after graduating from Glenbrook South. She is competing in two events in 2018. In the 500 meters, she finished third in her heat and did not advance. Next: 1,500 meters, Saturday

MEDAL WINNERS

■ **Bronze:** Alexa Scimeca Knierim

(Addison) for team figure skating

■ **Bronze:** Bradie Tennell

(Carpentersville) for team figure skating

■ More at chicagotribune.com/olympics

What passes for controversy strikes curling

BY KRISTEN GELINEAU | Associated Press

GANGNEUNG, South Korea — A rare moment of controversy in the typically ultra-polite sport of curling erupted Friday over a foul known as a "burned rock" in the Canada-vs.-Denmark women's match.

The drama unfolded in the fifth end, or period, of the already tense game when a Danish player touched a stone that was in motion. That is a foul called a "burned rock."

When burned rocks occur, the opposing team members have three choices: They can ignore the foul, rearrange the stones to whatever position they think they would have ended up if the stone hadn't been touched, or remove the stone from play.

Canada's captain, or "skip," Rachel Homan chose to remove the stone. While

such a move was within her rights, it is considered the most aggressive option. Canada, which was behind before the foul, then went on to score four points, taking the lead at 6-4.

In most sports, this wouldn't even be considered a controversy. But curling has a deeply ingrained ethos of good sportsmanship, and players are usually exceedingly polite to their rivals.

Tweets from curling fans immediately began to flow, with some criticizing the move as unsportsmanlike.

Denmark tied the score in the final end, forcing the game into overtime. Homan then flubbed her final shot of the match, giving Denmark a steal of one point and a 9-8 victory over the Canadians.

Afterward, Danish skip Madeleine Dupont said she disagreed with Canada's

decision to remove the rock.

"I wouldn't have done it, but we're different that way," she said. "I'm not going to be mad about it. She can choose to do whatever she wants."

Asked if it felt even better to win the game after the controversy, Dupont replied: "It does."

"I felt like we had a good game," she said. "I think we were just happy to be there, and they were just afraid to lose."

Homan said she was simply following the rules.

"There are options, and we've burned rocks in the past and they've come off," Homan said. "Burning a rock is not something that you can do. So obviously, we've done it in the past, and they just happened to do that then. So it's just the rules, I guess."

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eNEWSPAPER BONUS COVERAGE

DIFFICULTY,
DEFIANCE, DRAMA

Transgender high school wrestler is still fighting for acceptance

By BRAD TOWNSEND
Dallas Morning News

HURST, Texas — One year later, 5-foot-1 Mack Beggs wrestles at roughly the same weight, fluctuating between 112 and 117 pounds. His voice is slightly deeper. His wispy mustache is somewhat more pronounced.

His most distinct physical changes, which have nothing to do with the less than 1 milliliter of testosterone he injects each month, are two tattoos on his right arm and one on his left calf.

Entering the last two weeks of his high school career, Euless Trinity transgender senior Beggs knows his priority is defending his state 110-pound girls title. Meanwhile, though, he's weighing a college men's wrestling scholarship offer and awaiting a date for his "top surgery" by a Plano, Texas, doctor.

"I know it's going to happen," Beggs, 18, said of the surgery. "But if I stress about it too much, then I'm going to stress about it, so I'm just going with the flow."

Like last year, Beggs is undefeated on the mat (29-0), if not in the arena of public opinion, entering this weekend's Class 6A Region II tournament and, if he advances, the Feb. 23-24 state tournament.

Whatever hurdles await likely won't be more daunting than last February's ultimately unsuccessful lawsuit filed by a wrestling parent and the spectacle of two forfeitures by regional tournament opponents, which ignited national debate about competitive fairness and transgender rights.

This time, as of yet, there are no legal challenges. And win or lose these next two weeks, Beggs will eagerly move forward with life-altering steps in his at-times confusing and painful journey, from Mackenzie to Mack.

He'll leave behind his former haven, Texas high school wrestling, a culture that his mother, Angela McNew, credits for helping rescue him from suicidal thoughts by providing regimented structure and sense of belonging.

"Wrestling," she said, "is the sport where all the kids that don't fit into other sports come to."

Beggs and his family say most of the friendships have endured or strengthened. But when it became public knowledge last February that Mack was taking testosterone as part of his transition, a sizable portion of the wrestling community, mostly strangers, turned on him.

Those conflicting emotions spilled forth the moment Beggs' right hand was raised in victory following last year's title match in Cypress' Berry Center, enveloping him in a mixture of raucous cheers and boos and cold silence.

Nearly a year later, a naturally competitive teenager who says he has on occasion been taunted with homophobic slurs is, not surprisingly, defiant.

"People don't realize that what happened during state, that was really, honestly, nothing," Beggs said. "That didn't stop me from competing. That didn't stop me from being who I was."

"It sure as hell didn't stop me from doing what I wanted to do in the past, and it won't stop me from what I want to do in the future."

Fresh doubts

When Beggs' high school career ends during one of these next two weekends, he also will leave behind a governing body, Texas' University Interscholastic League, still grappling with what to do about the Pandora's box that Beggs knocked open last year.

Despite Beggs' often stated preference to compete against males, he and his family say he has remained in the girls division because of what they have deemed to be an ironclad UIL rule: that athletes must compete within the gender that is reflected on their birth certificate.

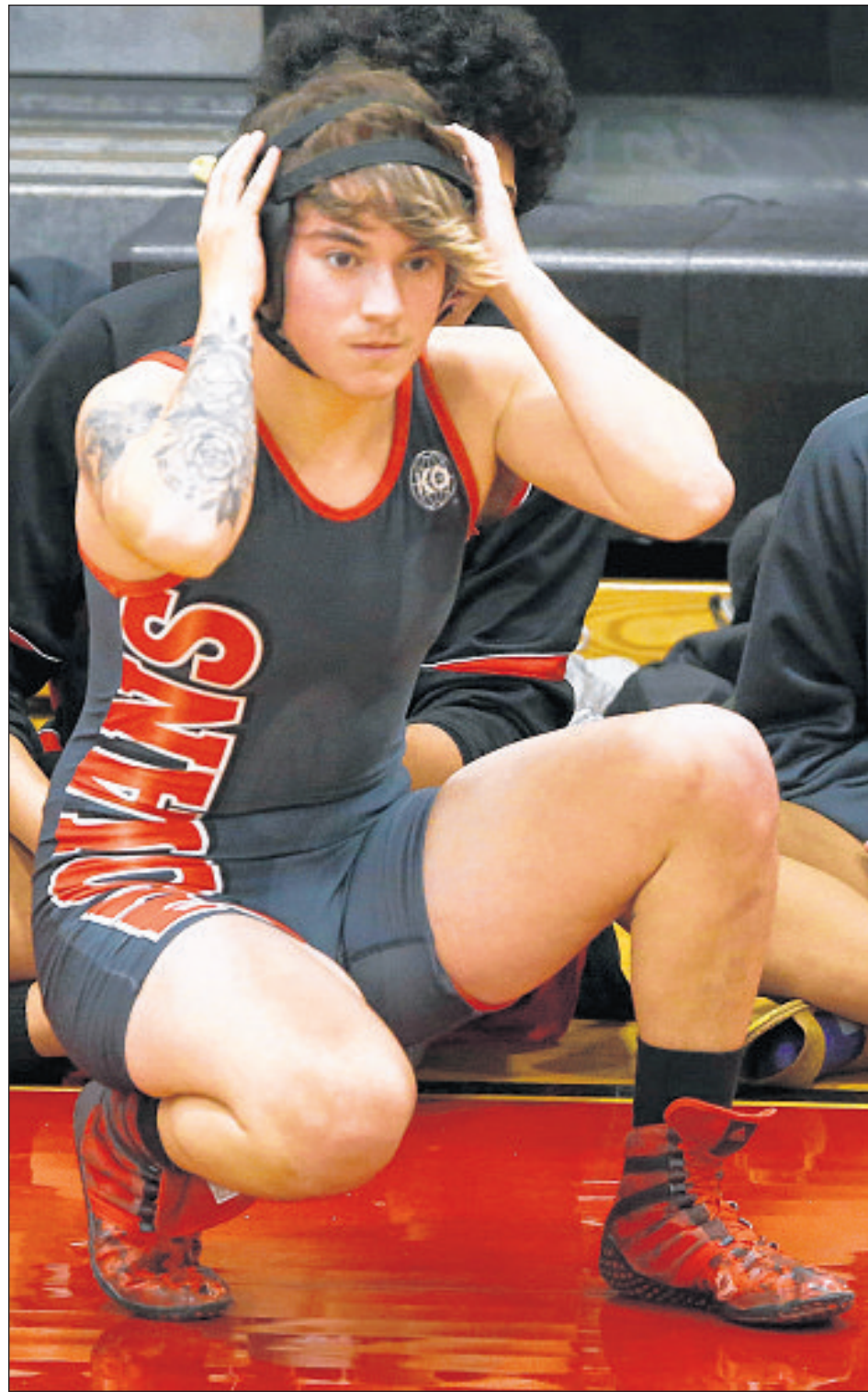
But now, in Beggs' waning days as a Texas high school athlete, there is a surprising twist in the narrative.

UIL deputy director Jamey Harrison, without mentioning Beggs by name, cast doubt to the Dallas Morning News about whether Beggs truly wanted to wrestle against high school boys — conjecture to which McNew replied with shock, anger and sharp rebuttal.

"I don't know how well that story has been told, to be honest with you," Harrison said. "We still have not received a request from any school or individual to wrestle in a different gender division than that which their birth certificate would qualify them for."

"I think it would be nice," Harrison added, "for those folks to know that at least certainly appears that every wrestler at the state meet last year was wrestling in the division they wanted to wrestle in."

Asked whether he was referring to Beggs, Harrison said he could not discuss specific student-athletes. Asked whether a transgender student's petition might in fact enable him or her to compete in a different gender division, Harrison said it's difficult to speak hypothetically because each re-



TOM FOX/DALLAS MORNING NEWS

quest has unique circumstances.

"We get requests for special consideration related to the rules all the time," he said. "And sometimes we're able to work through that and find a solution, where some rule is applied in a modified way. And sometimes we can't."

"So I can't tell you the outcome of that consideration, but, absolutely, a request like that would be given consideration."

McNew sounded incredulous upon hearing Harrison's comments, noting the numerous times in which Mack has told the News and other media outlets of his preference to wrestle males, most strongly last March to ESPN's "Outside the Lines," when he called upon UIL officials and state legislators to "change the laws and then watch me wrestle the boys."

"Boys wrestling is hard," he added. "It's really, really hard. But I'll do it. If it means wrestling with the guys, I'll do it. It doesn't invalidate how I wrestle and how my technique is. If I get beat, I get beat."

Just days ago he reiterated to the News: "Yes, of course. That's what I've always wanted." At the college level he'll be required to wrestle in the men's division because USA Wrestling and the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency already classify him as male because of his testosterone intake.

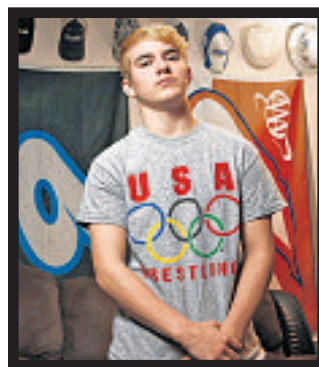
McNew and Mack's grandmother, Nancy Beggs, said they and Euless Trinity officials have consistently been told by the UIL that Mack's only avenue to compete was in the girls division.

Nancy Beggs estimated that she has communicated at least a dozen times with UIL officials during the last 18 months, including twice early this season, without being told or hinted to that Mack might have a path to compete against males.

"In all honesty, we never did petition the state because we read the birth certificate law and the law is very clear," Nancy Beggs said. "But the UIL knows. They knew Mack wanted to wrestle boys. But they also knew our hands were tied, just as theirs were."

Blaming the law

During the two days of last year's state tournament, the volume of reporters and



NATHAN HUNSINGER/TNS

Mack Beggs, state wrestling champion and 17-year-old transgender student from Euless Trinity, at his home in Hurst, Texas.

"If anything, the losses make you stronger than if you win."

— Mack Beggs

interview requests compelled the UIL's Harrison to hold three different news conferences.

Every question was Beggs-related. Harrison expressed disappointment that the hard work and achievements of the tournament's other 767 competitors were dwarfed by Beggs' controversial presence.

Harrison then told reporters that the Beggs conundrum had little to do with the UIL's birth certificate rule, which 95 percent of the state's district superintendents voted into policy on Aug. 1, 2016. He said the main issue is that the UIL is legally handcuffed to strictly abide by Texas' performance-enhancing drugs law.

The law includes a "safe harbor" exception that allows school-age students to take testosterone and other steroids if they are prescribed and administered by a physician.

Last May, Texas senators easily passed Senate Bill 2095, which would have allowed the UIL to disqualify a student for steroid use if it believes safety and competitive fairness are being jeopardized.

Senate Bill 2095 died, however, in the Texas House of Representatives' Public Education Committee because, its chairman said, it was received too late in the process.

Harrison told the News that the UIL will, if asked, work with lawmakers to review and consider changes to the current law. Of course, that changes nothing for this year's Region II and state wrestling meets.

"I think you realize the rock and hard place that we're in," Harrison said. "We understand a reasonable person can think that this is unfair and that we can change it. But given what we have, right now we don't have that authority."

But Jim Bauduin, the Coppell lawyer and wrestling parent who first petitioned the UIL last January, then filed a February lawsuit asking that Beggs be moved to the boys division or be removed from last year's tournament, blames the UIL for "kicking the can down the road, hoping the situation goes away."

A year later, Bauduin says, "I don't think anybody's learned a darned thing, other than there's a complete, abject failure of leadership at the UIL."

Making plans

On a recent evening, Beggs sat at the kitchen table, sipping his cherished Arizona Tea while his mother made tacos.

He had lost 3.8 pounds during that day's practice, taking him to 114.2. He estimated he would weigh 115 the next morning.

Such is the exacting nature of wrestling. Conversely, in the life of a trans person, some things are unquantifiable.

Such as: "So, Mack, where would you say you are in your transition?"

"There really isn't a given," he said. "Like if you were to compare me to another trans, they could already have had top surgery, but they might not be on T testosterone. It really depends on the individual."

Beggs can feel the stares of female opponents who don't know him well, and their parents, sizing his muscles, looking for evidence of testosterone enhancement.

In reality, Beggs' weekly injection of 0.18 milliliters (36 milligrams) is medically considered to be minimal, tailored to his body weight by his Children's Medical Center physician for the primary purposes of stopping his menstrual cycles and allowing him to grow body and facial hair.

By comparison, male body builders typically dose 500 to 1,000 milligrams of testosterone per week while stacking it with multiple other steroids.

Nancy Beggs sends her grandson's quarterly blood-test results to Leo Barnes, the UIL's legal adviser and director of policy and compliance, and to the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency.

She said that after her most recent correspondence with Barnes, she was told not to bother sending further test results unless Mack's testosterone dose was significantly increased, because UIL officials deemed his T-level to be well below the threshold for muscle building.

For a female transitioning to male, moderate to high testosterone doses are not considered medically safe because they can cause loss of bone density. That isn't an issue for men, who take testosterone shots because they already naturally produce testosterone.

"I'm going to increase my testosterone after state, so that way I can work my way up to the T-levels of 18-, 19- and 20-year-old boys that in college," Mack Beggs said.

Last summer, after serving a six-week USA Wrestling suspension for initially failing to inform USADA that he was taking testosterone while competing in girls USA Wrestling tournaments, Beggs wrestled in a male meet at Irving Convention Center.

Wrestling in the 121-pound class after pumping up his weight with liquids, he failed to place in freestyle but finished fourth in the Greco-Roman competition.

"I was kind of mad and impressed at the same time," he said. "I've lost matches before, so I wasn't tripping about it. If anything, the losses make you stronger than if you win."

One non-Division I school, which Beggs said he won't publicly identify until after the state tournament, has told him it would like him to wrestle at 138 pounds. He cannot, however, increase his testosterone doses until he gains corresponding weight.

Beggs said that means he almost certainly will have to redshirt his freshman year. Meanwhile, he plans to have top surgery (subcutaneous mastectomy and male-chest contouring) followed within a year by bottom surgery.

The college Beggs is considering has a neighboring hospital, and the wrestling coach has told the family he will accompany Mack to his doctor visits.

Mack has a 3.6 GPA at Euless Trinity and plans to major in kinesiology.

"I'm sure there are people right now who are saying the reason he's taking testosterone is so he can beat the girls," his mother said. "No, that has nothing to do with it."

McNew said her son's transition to college wrestling — and manhood — would have been easier had he competed against boys this season, gained weight and increased his testosterone doses. That is what most galls her about hearing the UIL's Harrison insinuate that Mack bypassed that possibility.

"This whole time he's had to kind of contain," she said of his weight and testosterone levels. "He was supposed to go up after state last year but couldn't. Because at that point if he had raised his T any more, he would have had an advantage over the girls — and he didn't want that."

"So he's been putting his life on hold of where he should have been just so he can wrestle per what Texas wants. It could have sent him on a totally different path."

She said she doubts most know that just to be considered for gender reassignment surgery, Mack was medically required to have at least three years of counseling; he has had five. He also was required to be on hormones for at least one year; yes, that means testosterone.

"I don't think people understand," she said. "Everybody is just looking at transgender people right now and saying, 'You want it like this.' I don't think people truly understand the decisions they have to make."

"Just to want to be female or male."

eNEWSPAPER BONUS COVERAGE



ERIC RISBERG/AP

Warriors President Rick Welts checks out construction of the Chase Center in San Francisco.

Right man to oversee the job

Welts closely watching Chase Center build

By JANIE MCCAULEY
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Standing in the rain seven stories above concrete, construction workers, steel and mud, Rick Welts is beaming at an arena project that is absolutely his baby.

"It's real," Welts said while wearing a bright yellow jacket and hard hat for the work-site tour. "It's happening."

After years in the making too. The chief operating officer of the Warriors has been entrusted by team owners Joe Lacob and Peter Guber to be the unofficial foreman as Chase Center goes up in the Mission Bay district of San Francisco for a scheduled opening in late summer 2019. The goal is to build one of the top entertainment venues in the world, right up there with The O2 in London and Madison Square Garden for attracting the best music shows.

Welts has been an NBA junkie since his early days growing up in Seattle, where he got his start as a SuperSonics ball boy at 16. Later, he got the keys to the Seattle Center Coliseum, specifically the laundry room.

Welts, who turned 65 in January and is the first openly gay NBA executive, can lean not only on that time with the Sonics but also his experience in the league office and with the Suns to see what things work and don't work when it comes to running a franchise and building an arena.

"I know his experience in the league and the league office has helped him immensely in understanding the business and how to operate a franchise," Warriors coach Steve Kerr said. "You can learn all that stuff, (but) you have to have the personal skills to make everything function. I think that's where Rick really has it. It's a combination of his vast NBA experience and just his humanity, his way with people."

There have been more meetings than Welts can count, and when the number 500 is thrown out as a guess, even that seems low to him.

"That was just last week," he joked. "And getting it done in San Francisco? Mission impossible, right? And it's happening."

While he's not spending his own money, Welts' name has been signed to many a big check in this process.

The arena will be topped out in steel by August and have a roof by Halloween if all continues on schedule. A tad superstitious at times, Welts will knock his fist on a metal beam if necessary to keep it all on track.

Far below his initial vantage point, Welts stands in the slick mud at what eventually will become center court. He points



ERIC RISBERG/AP

Warriors President and COO Rick Welts looks over a model of what the Chase Center will look like upon completion in 2019.

to the side that will be a theater entrance — so well thought out that those patrons arriving for a play won't necessarily know otherwise that they're inside a basketball arena.

"There's nothing like actually seeing it," he said. "It brings it to life."

Sure, Welts takes a lot of pride in watching the arena get built, but he quickly makes it clear: "We all do."

"I go down there two or three days a week, just to look," he said, grinning. "It's inspiring."

Modest, approachable and down-to-earth, Welts never makes it about him. His focus is first on all the people around him — the star players and everyone else in the franchise, from top to bottom, people in the community who have made sacrifices and even the construction crews working long hours through that rainy day last month.

"This is it! This is great!" Welts declared, raising his arms in the air and still smiling ear to ear on a dreary Bay Area day.

With All-Star weekend in full swing in Los Angeles, the Warriors hope they will soon be on the NBA's list to host the showcase event. The team boasts four All-Stars again this year: Stephen Curry, Kevin Durant, Draymond Green and Klay Thompson.

"Well, he spearheaded the arena project and he's had to do all the behind-the-scenes stuff with political leaders," Kerr said. "I've worked with Rick for 11 years now, starting in '07 in Phoenix, (and) he's one of my favorite people."

"He's an unbelievable leader because he is inclusive, he communicates, he makes everybody feel good about their role in things. He is strong and sure of himself without being a know-it-all. So he's got great qualities as a leader because he's really just a good person to be around and makes you feel good about what you're doing."

The first six months starting

Chase Center were spent digging down three stories to create an area for parking, the main arena structure and adjacent practice facility. By early next year, the building will be done and interior work will begin.

Welts can't wait, saying, "We're right on schedule for opening the summer of '19. No surprises so far, no issues with soil conditions or anything that could really delay the project. We're tracking really well."

"You see the growth and where he comes from — he worked his way up to this project," said Durant, a key face in the project's groundbreaking last year. "He's going to make it the best for the players, fans and anybody (who) comes in there to perform. He's going to make it the best arena in the world."

"(I'm) grateful I get to play for an organization with such high hopes and big dreams and people like Rick (who) are looking to push the culture forward, as a culture of basketball and sports. He's just a great example."

Welts first met Lacob and Guber more than six years ago, spending an afternoon at Lacob's home and having dinner when the discussion came up: "We think we would have a chance to move the Warriors back to San Francisco."

"I was like, 'Really?'" Welts recalled. "That more than anything else was like a 'Wow' for me. Imagine somebody saying, 'OK, you've spent 40 years doing this. Now you can take everything you think you've ever learned about your business, your industry, and (you will be) given a unique form that will never be duplicated, is going to last for decades, and have a chance to do it your way and better than anybody's ever done it.'"

"If you're lucky, it's a once-in-a-career kind of opportunity. And everybody here feels that because everybody contributes to it."

Tournament has kept baseball in their thoughts

MLB-sponsored event designed to raise interest among black athletes

By BRETT MARTEL
Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Hall of Famer Andre Dawson sees elements of his own story in the black college players converging in New Orleans this week for a tournament sponsored, promoted and broadcast nationally by Major League Baseball.

Before Dawson's two-decade career with the Expos and Cubs, he was a walk-on at Florida A&M. Scouts who'd been watching Dawson "disappeared" after his knee injury in high school, he recalled, but enrolling at a historically black university helped him continue playing.

"That's what these programs do," Dawson said, adding that historically black colleges and universities such as his alma mater "were the ones that really extended me that opportunity."

There's one considerable difference between now and the early 1970s, however: The talent pool from which black college programs primarily recruit has shrunk as football and basketball have grown in popularity, particularly in urban areas.

As part of an effort to address that, MLB has sponsored a now-decade-old tournament designed to highlight HBCU baseball programs, hoping to lure young black athletes back to the sport of Jackie Robinson, Willie Mays and Hank Aaron.

The tournament has yet to feature a single player who wound up in the big leagues, but MLB shows no signs of reducing its investment in the event — or in the urban youth academies around the country that are meant to provide inner-city youth with year-round places to train and play.

Last week, the tournament formally known as the "Urban Invitational" was renamed the "Andre Dawson Classic." This weekend, it'll feature six HBCUs: Alabama State, Alcorn State, Arkansas-Pine Bluff, Grambling State, Prairie View A&M and Southern.

The University of New Orleans, which is helping to host the event with the New Orleans MLB Youth Academy, also will play along with Illinois-Chicago.

For now, the tournament's legacy is embodied by former HBCU players such as Earl Burl, who played for Alcorn State and did some of his training at the New Orleans MLB Youth Academy.

Burl was a 30th-round draft choice by the Blue Jays in 2015. He spent two years in their minor-league system, followed by a short stint in an independent league. Now, he's involved in a MLB fellowship program training him for a potential front office career.

Burl asserts that the tournament changed his life.

"If you have a great game, it's going to be seen by somebody," he said. "A lot of scouts nowadays do a lot of video analyzing, so being put on the radar that way is a good cornerstone" for building a reputation with scouts.

"It hasn't produced a major-league baseball player, but my thing is someone's always keeping their foot in the door," Burl said. "So the more you have this, the further you'll have people going in the game."

Meanwhile, MLB's efforts to raise the profile of the tournament on MLB Network and online attempt to address some of baseball's perception problems among young black athletes, Burl said.

"If you're not seeing people who look like you playing, it's not something that you're going to gravitate to," he said. "It gives you that misconception that it's not for you."

Similarly, MLB's efforts to raise the profile of the tournament and its youth academies provides young black athletes role models and examples of people who parlayed youth baseball into full



BEBETO MATTHEWS/AP

A tournament for black players now bears Hall of Famer Andre Dawson's name.

"If you're not seeing people who look like you playing, it's not something that you're going to gravitate to."

— former Blue Jays draft choice Earl Burl on declining black participation in baseball

or partial college scholarships.

"Baseball is a very hard sport to market to kids of color because you see a LeBron James or football players on TV and shoe deals and commercials," Riggins said, noting that football was his favorite sport growing up.

But Riggins played baseball too and found out he was rather good at it. He played for Texas Southern, was drafted by the Blue Jays and later wound up in the Padres' minor-league system, making it as far as Triple A with the Portland Beavers.

Riggins said he also sees an additional opportunity for baseball to make inroads with children of parents who are concerned about concussion data surrounding football.

"The percentage (of blacks playing baseball) will go up," Riggins predicted. "I don't think it'll go up as fast as we want, but in due time it'll go up."

Tony Reagins, MLB's senior vice president of youth programs and the Angels' former general manager, contends that the Andre Dawson Classic doesn't necessarily have to produce big-leaguers to help the game.

"It would be great to see more of these kids reach the majors, but it is just as gratifying to help them get an education," Reagins said. "There's no doubt that we have seen the decline in participation of black players at the collegiate level, but I think our sport is doing a better job of getting more talented players recruited and signed to (HBCU) programs."

"Where this exposure takes the individual players is up to them, but we are proud to make the investment in creating opportunities like this."

For Dawson, who played in a youth league organized by his uncle, the college tournament named for him will succeed as long as it inspires greater participation by young blacks in MLB academies or youth leagues around the country. Performing in baseball requires refining skills over time, which is why it can be hard to take up cold in high school with much success.

"As blacks, we've got to be embraced again — and it starts from early on," Dawson said. "You've got to start at an early age and be encouraged."

"You don't want to put yourself in a potentially embarrassing situation, where you're set up to fail. It's not going to be fun, and if you're not enjoying it, you're not going to want to do it."

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TRUCKS REPORT

January top-sellers

Cars.com staff

Although it might look like 2018 is off to a sluggish start, most of the pickup trucks in our January sales chart are doing a little better than this time last year. In fact, the order of the chart changed a bit.

If you check our monthly sales chart regularly, you know the rankings usually don't change much: The Ford F-Series commands the top and either the GMC Canyon or Honda Ridgeline claim the bottom position.

But 2018 has started with some ranking changes and significant slips by Ram and GMC.

Ford seems unmovable from the top spot, while the hot-selling Toyota Tacoma has moved up to the No. 4 position, bypassing the entire three-truck GMC Sierra lineup (half-, three-quarter- and one-ton versions). Additionally, the mid-size Chevrolet Colorado started the year outselling the full-size Toyota Tundra. Although Nissan started the year strong, the Frontier and Titan/Titan XD pickups retain their year-end 2017 positions - Nos. 8 and 9 respectively. To start 2018, the Canyon and Ridgeline switched places, with the Canyon moving to No. 10 and the Ridgeline slipping to No. 11.

Many analysts expect sales to be down by the end of year, likely dipping just below 17 million units sold; however, some of these same analysts seem dumbfounded about the growth of pickup truck sales. We think it's likely that total pickup sales will grow this year, possibly selling more than 3 million units (pickup sales totaled 2.82 million units in 2017). For this all-important first sales quarter, much will depend on weather across the country during the next few months. Look for the pickup wars to heat up as we move into spring.



Top Best-Selling Pickups January 2018

RANK	MODEL	YTD YTD SALES	YTD VS 2017	YEAR-OVER-YEAR	MONTHLY SALES	MONTHLY CHANGE VS 2017
1	Ford F-Series	58,937	+1.6%	January 2018 January 2017	58,937 57,995	+1.6%
2	Chevrolet Silverado	40,716	+14.5%	January 2018 January 2017	40,716 35,553	+14.5%
3	Ram Truck	29,358	-13.1%	January 2018 January 2017	29,358 33,769	-13.1%
4	Toyota Tacoma	16,712	+33.6%	January 2018 January 2017	16,712 12,509	+33.6%
5	GMC Sierra	11,224	-18.3%	January 2018 January 2017	11,224 13,732	-18.3%
6	Chevrolet Colorado	8,011	+24.9%	January 2018 January 2017	8,011 6,413	+24.9%
7	Toyota Tundra	7,644	+15.3%	January 2018 January 2017	7,644 6,628	+15.3%
8	Nissan Frontier	5,901	+53.0%	January 2018 January 2017	5,901 3,857	+53.0%
9	Nissan Titans	4,051	+46.4%	January 2018 January 2017	4,051 2,768	+46.4%
10	GMC Canyon	2,171	+5.4%	January 2018 January 2017	2,171 2,059	+5.4%
11	Honda Ridgeline	2,106	-21.4%	January 2018 January 2017	2,106 2,681	-21.4%

Blackhawks Camaro takes center ice at CAS

Folks, meet this year's Chicago Blackhawks-themed Chevrolet Camaro at the 2018 Chicago Auto Show. This custom car has been a tradition at the auto show for some time now, and this year's version is just as wild as previous ones. The car started life as a plain — but not boring — Camaro SS convertible. Customizers have added custom pieces designed to let the world know that this car belongs to a fan of the NHL's Chicago Blackhawks.



Jonathan Toews (No. 19) and Patrick Kane (No. 88). The wheels have Blackhawks logos in the center. Along the sides are more carbon fiber pieces below red-and-black stripes over the car's white paint. At the rear, the trunk lid spoiler reads "Chicago Blackhawks" and there's another full-color Blackhawks logo next to the right rear taillight.

Inside, the interior is red, white and black leather in a custom pattern with Blackhawks logos stitched into the head restraints. There are additional Blackhawks details throughout the interior: Most notable are the logo-shaped gear selector and the plaque at the bottom of the steering wheel.

— Brian Normile, Cars.com

On the outside, the lower grille features an outline of the Chicago skyline and a full-color Blackhawks logo just above a carbon fiber lip spoiler. Flanking the grille on the front quarter panels are the numbers of stars



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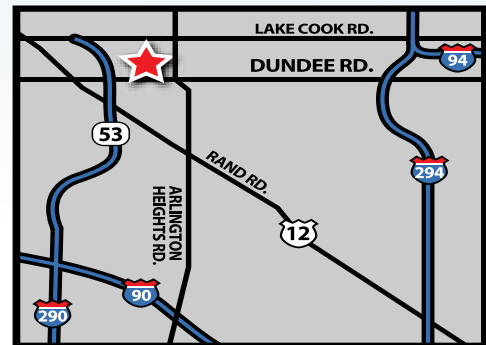
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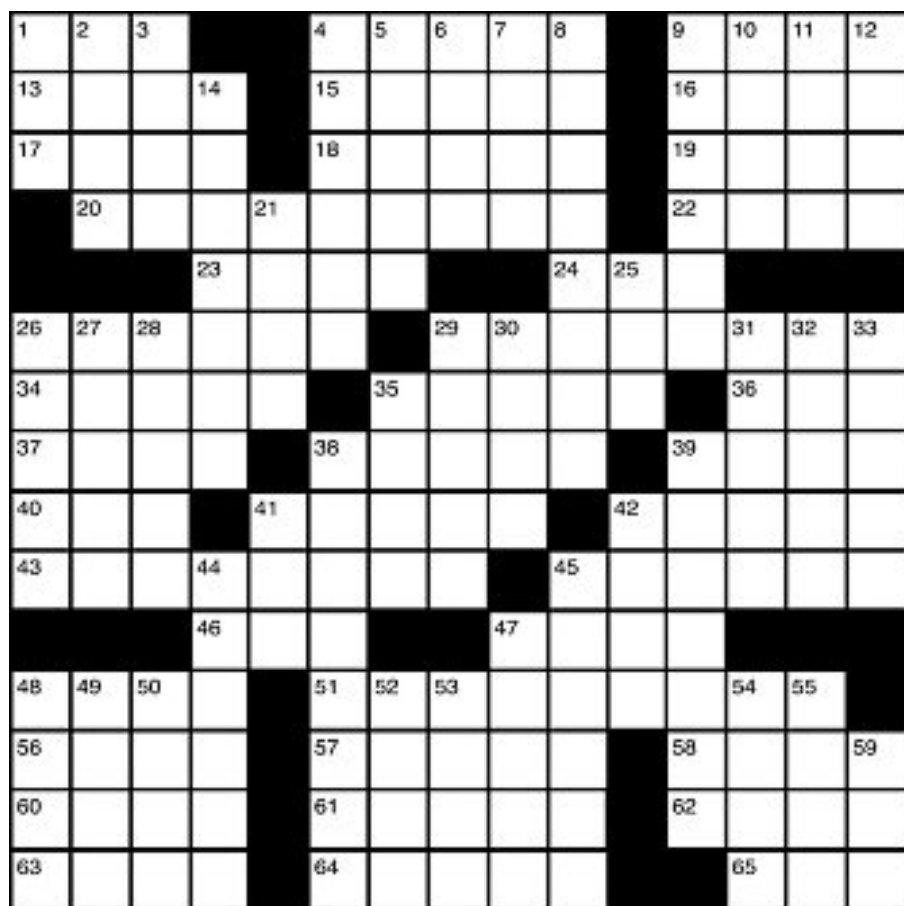
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Crossword



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2/17/18

ACROSS

- 1 Come what __; regardless
- 4 __ nothing; most extreme outcomes
- 9 Corncobs
- 13 Lamb bearers
- 15 Fabric
- 16 Exchange
- 17 Namby-pamby
- 18 "Andersen's Fairy __"
- 19 __ charge; assume control
- 20 Playwright
- 22 Black-__ peas
- 23 Georgia __; univ. in Atlanta
- 24 "You __ My Sunshine"
- 26 Wild shrill cry
- 29 Endeavors
- 34 Artist's medium
- 35 Lose vital fluid
- 36 Wrath
- 37 Breathing organ
- 38 Old-fashioned
- 39 Cover a period of time
- 40 "__ my party and I'll cry if I want to..."
- 41 Flag supports
- 42 Bishop and others
- 43 Adolescent
- 45 Like one with laryngitis
- 46 __ in a million; treasured friend
- 47 Michelob, e.g.
- 48 Bangkok native
- 51 Horrific
- 56 Fumbler's word
- 57 Baton __, LA
- 58 Orderly
- 60 Joy
- 61 Actress __ Pompeo
- 62 "__ move on!"; cry to a loiterer
- 63 Finds a sum
- 64 Barbie and Ken
- 65 Scout group

Solutions



- ### DOWN
- 1 Kitten's cry
 - 2 Floored
 - 3 2018, for one
 - 4 Lay into
 - 5 Reluctant
 - 6 "__ Marlene"; WWII song
 - 7 Spanish cheers
 - 8 Said again
 - 9 Great respect
 - 10 Run __; flee
 - 11 Gather leaves
 - 12 Drove too fast
 - 14 Rollerblading
 - 21 Sporting event

- 25 Blushing
- 26 Divide
- 27 Terre __, IN
- 28 Wash off soapsuds
- 29 Change slightly
- 30 Golf shop purchase
- 31 Actress Laurie
- 32 Cafeteria items
- 33 Good judgment
- 35 Actor Christian
- 38 Ragged, like page corners
- 39 Flying high
- 41 Skillet
- 42 Singer Billy __
- 44 Sounds
- 45 Hayes & Hunt
- 47 Baked donut-shaped roll
- 48 Caesar's robe
- 49 __ on to; save
- 50 Mimicked
- 52 Water __; Olympics event
- 53 Tug
- 54 Requirement
- 55 Fence door
- 59 Brown shade

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